

AG opinion addresses new gun law

BY JOSH JONES
MTAS Legal Consultant

When Public Chapter No. 16, commonly referred to as the guns in parking lots bill, passed early this legislative session, the bill's sponsors felt obliged to draft a letter of intent for inclusion in the Senate Journal. The letter sought to address the incongruity between the sponsors' statements that employees are protected from termination solely for carrying a firearm pursuant to the bill and the state's long-standing at-will doctrine.

The at-will employment doctrine states that either party to an employment relationship may terminate employment at any time with or without cause. Despite no such language in the bill, its sponsors stated in their letter that by creating a statutory right to store a firearm in a



private automobile on an employer's parking lot, that an employer who terminated an employee for exercising this right was subject to a claim for retaliatory or wrongful discharge.

State Attorney General Robert Cooper, however, disagreed. In the recently-published Opinion No. 13-41, the Attorney General correctly noted that the bill "does not address and thus has no impact on the employment relationship..."

However, in his analysis, Cooper said the new law does exempt holders of a valid handgun carry permit from criminal penalties.

Gov. Bill Haslam signed the bill in March. It takes effect July 1.

Supreme Court rules in favor of FCC authority in cellphone tower case

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled last month that the Federal Communications Commission has the authority to establish deadlines for local cellphone tower siting decisions, essentially putting to rest a five-year battle between local governments and the wireless industry.

In a 6-3 ruling, the Supreme Court voted to uphold a Federal Appeals Court ruling in favor of the Federal Communications Commission. The case hinged on a federal law requiring state and local governments to act on tower-siting applications within a "reasonable period of time."

In 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) unanimously adopted an order establishing presumptive deadlines of 90 days (for co-location applications) and 150 days (for all other wireless siting applications) within which a local government must act on wireless companies' requests for siting of new towers or co-locating on existing towers.

Several local governments, led by Arlington, Texas, challenged that "shot-clock" order, stating that it effectively preempts local zoning of cellular towers and infringes on their local zoning authority. They ap-

pealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, contending the FCC doesn't have the authority to interfere in local zoning decisions and to let the courts decide whether wireless facility applications were being handled promptly enough.

The Fifth Circuit Court ruled in favor of the FCC, thus sending local governments back to court, this time appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court opined that regulatory agencies could claim jurisdiction in situations where the law is ambiguous, according to *Reuters.com*.

In the majority opinion, Justice Antonin Scalia said there were many examples, endorsed by courts, in which federal agencies have made similar decisions about their decision-making authority.

"Where Congress has estab-



Supreme Court rules that the FCC has the authority to establish deadlines for local cellphone tower sitings.

lished a clear line, the agency cannot go beyond it," he said. But, "where Congress has established an ambiguous line, the agency can go no further than the ambiguity will fairly See FCC on Page 6



Immigration reform debate underway in U.S. Senate

BY LESLIE WOLLACK
NLC Federal Relations

With a 13 to 5 vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee, a comprehensive immigration overhaul bill is headed to the full Senate next month. National League of Cities (NLC) President Marie Lopez Rogers, mayor of Avondale, Ariz, called on local officials to support the legislation and urged them to call their Senators.

Mayor Rogers called the Senate committee action, "a critical step forward on a long journey toward adoption" and praised the bipartisan Senate effort that "championed the legislation through the process so far."

America's current immigration system hurts our residents and our cities. Local governments are stuck in the middle of a national debate while being forced to be on the front lines enforcing bad federal policy and trying to integrate immigrants into our communities.

The bill would create a pathway to citizenship for the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants currently in the United States, spend millions on new border security, increase workplace enforcement and set up several new categories for legal immigration.

Despite the bipartisan coalition that kept the bill close to the original tenets during the committee process, efforts to reform the current immi-

gration system will face many more hurdles in the House of Representatives.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) spent five days working through the 200-plus amendments offered by committee members to the bill. Four of the original members responsible for introducing the bill, Sens. Charles Schumer (D-NY), Richard Durbin (D-IL), Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Jeff Flake (R-AZ), serve on the Judiciary Committee and worked to maintain the integrity of the original agreement - hashed out over months - during the committee action to mark-up the bill.

Proponents of the Senate bill are more optimistic of changes for passage of the bill than the last time the Senate considered immigration reform. Avoiding a committee mark-up and bringing the bill directly to the Senate floor, led to a fractious debate and ultimate failure in getting sufficient votes to pass the bill.

The final decision of the committee came on a proposed amendment that would have allowed same-sex couples to be considered as family members. Sen. Leahy withdrew his amendment in the face of likely opposition in the Senate and the committee ended the final day of consideration after midnight with a lopsided vote in support of the committee action.

See IMMIGRATION Page 4

Water Resources Development Act considered by Senate

BY LESLIE WOLLACK

The Senate continued consideration of S 601, the Water Resources Development Act, with debate expected to continue next month. The bill would authorize 18 new U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) flood protection, navigation and ecosystem restoration projects while instituting a number of reforms to the process. Congress has not passed a WRDA bill in five years, and Senate Environment and Public Works Committee leaders have been working to maintain a bipartisan effort to gain Senate passage.

The legislation, which NLC supports, contains a provision that would increase flexibility for non-federal sponsors of Corps projects, including a pilot program aimed at improving the quality and speed of projects by allowing local and state governments to take over as project manager for Corps projects.

It also includes a five-year pilot

program to provide additional water infrastructure financing opportunities for local governments. Known as the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), modeled after the successful TIFIA program, the bill authorizes \$50 million annually to both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Corps for flood control, water supply and wastewater projects. Based on the TIFIA model, this level of authorization is estimated to support at least \$500 million annually in low interest loans for each EPA and the Corps.

The bill also provides that all of the proceeds from the Harbor Maintenance Tax be used for port maintenance.

In the House, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Bill Shuster (R-PA) has indicated that the House will develop its own bill rather than starting with the Senate bill; no timetable for introduction or consideration has been set.

Count down to Memphis; see Page 8 for the full conference agenda

Annual Conference June 22-25 in Memphis

It's count down to the TML conference in Memphis; but it's not too late to register!

TML's 74th Annual Conference promises to be one of the best yet.

Educational workshops, featuring 21 experts from across the country, will focus on such topics as performance-based budgeting, health care reform, retail recruiting, executive recruiting, grant writing, police liability, building healthy communities, and much more. See Page 8 for more information on the workshop sessions and for a complete conference agenda.

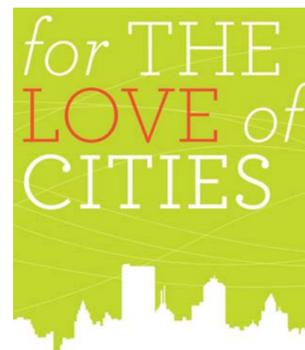
Be sure to arrive early. Aside from taking in all the sights that Memphis has to offer, on Saturday, June 22, there will be a welcome reception in the exhibit hall from

6:30 to 8 p.m. It will be a great opportunity to network with your peers while enjoying refreshments and live music...and you never know who might show up.

Other special events will include an evening of baseball and barbecue at the Redbirds Autozone Park on Sunday, June 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. And the Monday evening party, hosted by The Pool and featuring live music and refreshments, is fast becoming a do not miss event!

The conference will conclude on Tuesday morning with the Annual Awards Breakfast, that recognizes the very best Tennessee municipalities and city leaders from across the state.

To register go to TML's web site, www.TML.org.



TML Annual Conference
June 22-25, 2013
Memphis, TN

MTAS consultants blazing a trail in UT's Master of Public Policy Administration program

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

A unique interactive training opportunity between University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) consultants and graduate students of public policy may serve as the catalyst that one day draws younger workers into the local government field. Specialized knowledge meets real world experience in Dr. David Folz's Master of Public Policy Administration (MPPA) classes at UT's Howard Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy, where a growing number of MTAS consultants, along with speakers from UT's Institute for Public Service, County Technical Advisory Service, and other local government arenas, are serving as guest speakers on a variety of topics in the areas of local government and financial management.

Folz, an award-winning professor of political science and public administration and instructor of a public management course for more than 25 years, noticed increased interest among his students when professionals in the field stopped by to speak.

"I found the interaction portion of the class to be the most valuable to the students, he recalls. "It's the war stories students most often remember — professionals utilizing their knowledge and skills in their jobs and careers."

Today, the guest speaker portion

has blossomed into a wider array of class components covered by a number of speakers, 27 in all, who mostly hail from the Knoxville/ Knox County region—although others come from even greater distances. "As MTAS consultants, we've always instructed classes, but never so concentrated or so focused," said Alan Major, MTAS finance consultant and coordinator of the MTAS speakers. "It's really a lot of fun."

Folz admits, the partnership approach is fairly unique in graduate programs in public service. "The genuine partnership between the faculty and MPPA program and IPS and MTAS is really fulfilling the mission of public service with the University," he said. "You're putting together the best of academics with practitioners and professionals in their respective fields, to deliver professional training that's unparalleled in its value."

The program's faculty is specialized to the point that he can now offer a basic 18-hour combination of everything a student is required to take, including a financial administration course with a compressed Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) curriculum, MPPA 560, held this spring.

"I thought it would be a really nice core for a seminar and would help students who might wish to pursue CMFO credentials on their own, or pursue careers in financial management," Folz said.

In accordance with the Muni-



Photo by Victoria South

At the recent TCMA spring conference in Nashville, Dr. David Folz describes how UT MTAS consultants, as well as other local government professionals, are making a difference as lecturers in his Master of Public Policy Administration classes at UT Knoxville's Howard Baker Jr. Center.

pal Finance Officer Certification and Education Act of 2007, passed by the Tennessee General Assembly, each municipality must have in its employ a Certified Municipal Finance Officer. MTAS currently offers CMFO credentialing in an 11-course program, which includes a graduation ceremony in Nashville.

"Every student that goes See CONSULTANTS on Page 7



BRISTOL

UPM Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Baltimore-based, independent drug development and contract manufacturer serving the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, recently announced the purchase of the Pfizer operation in Bristol. The acquisition of the Pfizer facility will provide UPM with large scale commercial capabilities for manufacturing and packaging of solid oral dosage tablets and capsules, as well as semi-solid manufacturing of creams and ointments. The facility will also provide for comprehensive tech transfer support, pilot plant scale-up capabilities, analytical and microbial testing, as well as dedicated suites for potent compounds. As part of the purchase, UPM will continue to manufacture Pfizer's current portfolio of products within the facility for two years. The acquisition will allow UPM Pharmaceuticals to offer a full range of development, testing and manufacturing capabilities to its existing and new clients.

CHATTANOOGA

As the Scenic City's population continues to swell, Chattanooga is getting closer to edging out Knoxville as the most populous city in East Tennessee, U.S. Census Bureau estimates show. Chattanooga grew 2.15 percent from 2010 to 2012, reaching a population of 171,279 last year. Knoxville grew 1.85 percent to reach 182,200 residents. But annexation by Chattanooga should bring in another 6,500 residents in coming months, which further will close the gap with Knoxville. Chattanooga's growth has outpaced the U.S. average over the past two decades, reversing shrinkage in the 1980s from declines in the textile, foundry and nuclear power industries.

CLARKSVILLE

After almost a decade of work by federal, state and local officials, the Tennessee State Veterans Home is on its way. A ground breaking ceremony was held at the future site located off 101st Parkway, attended by Gov. Bill Haslam and U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander, as well as House Speaker Pro Tem Curtis Johnson, Sen. Mark Green, Rep. Joe Pitts, Mayor Kim McMillan, County Mayor Carolyn Bowers, Tennessee Veterans Home Director Ed Harries and other city and county commissioners. Construction on the new site is scheduled to begin in August. The application to begin the process began in 2004. Since then, officials considered and evaluated 13 different sites before the property was purchased for approximately \$475,000. The project is expected to open in the first quarter of 2015.

HENDERSONVILLE

Residents might have some of the best tasting tap water around. The Hendersonville Utility District, for the third time in seven years, has won the title of best-tasting water for Region 5, which includes all of Sumner, Wilson, Robertson and Davidson counties. The honor was part of an annual statewide contest to determine which municipal system or utility district has the best-tasting drinking water. According to Tom Atchley, general manager for HUD, the annual contest is held between 11 Tennessee Association of Utility Districts. HUD, along with winners of 10 other regions, will face off in August in Gatlinburg for the state title.

HUMBOLDT

Humboldt Utilities, through the use of The Elster EnergyAxis System, is preparing to implement a new "pay-as-you-go" system, which allows customers to pay for utilities as they use them. This system will collect hourly data from the nearly 13,000 electric, gas and water and calculate the customer's daily usage. This daily usage will help determine the dollar amount a customer owes, and then deducts that amount from the customer's pre-paid account. The city is also looking at offering to its approximately 4400 customers the new time of use (TOU) rates recently implemented by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). EnergyAxis retrieves the actual TOU data from the meter, rather than calculating it. The meters collect and store the customer's energy consumption based on the customer's TOU rate, and also can collect interval data in parallel. The process simplifies system management, minimizes the IT resources needed to stand-up and

manage the system, and reduces the total cost of ownership.

KNOXVILLE

Gerdau officials announced expansion plans for an additional facility in WestBridge Business Park. The facility will take steel rebar manufactured at the current Lonsdale mill and apply finishing services for original equipment manufacturers (OEM). The plant will have a capacity of about 120,000 tons of finished steel per year. This expansion represents a multi-million investment by Gerdau and will create approximately 40 new jobs.

KINGSPORT

Eastman Chemical Co. will put \$1.6 billion into an expansion called Project Inspire, that will create 300 new jobs. Eastman management announced the company will invest in new growth opportunities, safety and environmental projects, increased warehouse space, building renovations and expansion of its corporate campus in Kingsport. The new jobs will be added over seven years. Eastman is the largest employer in northeast Tennessee with more than 7,000 employees.

KNOXVILLE

The effort to revitalize the city's waterfront took a big step forward with the announcement that a Georgia developer will create residential, office and retail space on the old Baptist Hospital site. Blanchard & Calhoun, of Augusta, announced plans for a redevelopment of the site that will include up to 350 apartment units, an additional 250 units of student housing and a 150-room hotel. Most of the hospital property to the east of Henley Street will be demolished, although an office building on the site will remain in operation. The hospital was closed in 2008 and has been largely unused since then, but with its high-profile blufftop location overlooking Fort Loudoun Lake, it has long been considered a linchpin of the city's effort to bring new life to the South Waterfront.

LAKELAND

City officials hope to better communicate with residents through two new initiatives launched this month. The city announced a new anonymous ethics and anti-fraud reporting hotline and a new mobile phone app. The 24-hour hotline service allows citizens to pass on concerns with the purpose of reducing "potential for fraud, waste and abuse." Residents can call or submit a report through the system at lakelandtn.gov. "It's all confidential," said Lakeland City Manager Robert Wherry. "We don't know who reported it, but it gives us a chance to investigate it." Wherry said the Board of Commissioners moved forward with the hotline service after several citizens said they wanted to give tips to city officials without having their names attached. The hotline, operated by North Carolina-based Ethical Advocate, allows city officials to correspond with the tipster following the initial report.

MANCHESTER

Automotive supplier Van-Rob Manchester is adding 104 jobs to its Coffee County facility as part of a \$16.8 million expansion. The expansion will take place in two separate phases. The first phase will allow Van-Rob to consolidate two plants, both located on Volunteer Parkway, under one roof. The 42,500 square foot addition will bring Van-Rob's manufacturing space to 112,000 square feet at its Coffee County facility. This expansion is scheduled for completion in December 2013. The second phase will add 36,000 square feet to the facility's press shop. This addition will allow for larger transfer presses for future growth. The second phase is scheduled for completion in 2014/2015.

MANCHESTER

It's estimated that this year's 12th annual Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival will generate more than \$51 million for the town, Coffee County, and the state, according to a study by New York-based Greyhill Advisors based on the 2012 festival's impact. The small and usually quiet town, will be transformed into the seventh-largest city in the state when 80,000 Bonnaroo attendees from all 50 states and overseas

come to the festival's 700-acre farm site for the festival.

MEMPHIS

Literacy Mid-South announced thousands of dollars in new funding toward local literacy initiatives and a July move to United Methodist Neighborhood Centers at 3000 Walnut Grove in East Memphis. In July, the nonprofit group will use \$50,000 in new funding for its Collaborations Fund, which will provide money to education and literacy groups. Literacy Mid-South will also distribute \$17,500 in funds to Shelby County literacy groups for technical training programs. Literacy Mid-South will also launch a new project called "Read Memphis," which will certify nonprofit groups, churches and government organizations to provide pre-literacy GED programs. About 120,000 adults in the Memphis area read and write below a third-grade level, according to the agency.

MEMPHIS

Kruger Inc., the North Memphis plant that began by manufacturing automobile parts and eventually producing the bodies and wings for B-25 bombers, celebrated a milestone recently with a \$300 million expansion near Mud Island in Downtown. Gov. Bill Haslam, Memphis Mayor A. C. Wharton Jr., Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell, and Kruger owner, chairman and CEO Joseph Kruger – gathered to laud the massive investment and expansion of the plant in the heart of the city. Kruger Inc. is a manufacturer of paper, tissue, lumber, corrugated cartons and other wood products.

MORRISTOWN

Sonoco Flexible Packaging officials announced the company will expand its Morristown facility. The announcement represents a \$9.7 million investment and will create 26 new jobs in Hamblen County. The Morristown expansion will include facility improvements and the addition of a new rotogravure press in its flexible packaging division. Sonoco is a global provider of consumer packaging, industrial products and protective packaging for a variety of industries and many of the world's most recognized brands. Headquartered in Hartsville, S.C., the company has 349 operations in 35 countries and has had a presence in Morristown since 1992.

MORRISTOWN

Dental and cosmetic products manufacturer Team Technologies Inc. is expanding its facility in Morristown, adding 200 jobs in the process. The company plans to upgrade its existing Hamblen County facilities, in what amounts to an \$11 million investment. Morristown Mayor Danny Thomas says the company is bringing back jobs that had been moved to China. Team Technolo-

**Williamson County officials
"Share a Ride" to Nashville**



Williamson County officials and leaders used public transportation to travel to two regional meetings in Nashville in celebration of Transit Week held last month. Officials rode the RTA Express Service to Nashville. At the conclusion of their meetings, they returned to Franklin using the regional commuter vanpool, VanStar. Left to Right: Officials who participated in the event are Williamson County Economic Development interim Director Jeremiah Pyron, Spring Hill City Administrator Victor Lay, Williamson County Mayor Rogers Anderson, Franklin Mayor Ken Moore, Franklin Planner Kelly C. Dannenfelser and Spring Hill Mayor Rick Graham.

gies is a custom contract manufacturer of dental, medical, cosmetic and industrial products. The corporate headquarters and main production facility is located in Morristown.

MURFREESBORO

Automotive seat manufacturer NHK Seating of America Inc. plans to expand its facility in Murfreesboro, adding 94 jobs in the process. The company's expansion represents a \$6.8 million investment in Rutherford County. NHK makes seat frames for cars and trucks. Nissan is its biggest customer; and it's plant is located just down the road from the Japanese automaker's massive facility in Smyrna. Fred Myers, plant manager of NHK's Murfreesboro facility, says the company is adding employees and capital equipment to support increasing production volume. NHK also plans to add a robotic weld cell that will use robots to make automotive seat structures at the facility.

NASHVILLE

As ABC TV's Nashville looks toward a new season and a new producer, a key question remains: Will the series be filmed in Music City next season? The filming this year was estimated to have a \$40 million impact on the local economy, and state and city officials say they are open to a deal to keep the production in Nashville this fall. The first season's production was able to recoup 32 percent of its production

costs in the form of a 17 percent grant from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development to reimburse production costs and a 15 percent refundable tax credit from the Tennessee Department of Revenue. Under current law, however, reimbursement would be limited to a grant that covers 25 percent of costs. Representatives for the production have asked the state to have it exempted from that cap. Producer Loucas George had voiced confidence in the show being filmed in Nashville, but his own contract has not been renewed.

THOMPSON'S STATION

Hoping to benefit from an anticipated wave of growth from the completion of State Route 840 and the rebounding of the local housing and job markets, town officials voted to create a 516-acre commercial district spanning the state roadways and running through the small bedroom community. The new zoning district, a recommendation from the town's Economic Development Advisory Committee, means commercial projects normally needing rezoning approval, will skip the process, as long as they are within the proposed district. The long-term vision is to continue as a village, ensuring large commercial businesses are near major thoroughfares and far away from the town center.

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PEOPLE

Jackson native **Larry Martin** will serve as interim commissioner of the state Department of Finance and Administration (F&A) following Commissioner Mark Emkes' May 31 retirement. Martin first joined the Haslam administration as a special assistant to the governor to oversee the implementation of Haslam's civil service reform, the Tennessee Excellence, Accountability and Management (TEAM) Act; and to review state employee compensation. From September 2006 to December 2011, Martin, 65, served as deputy to the mayor in Knoxville. He was responsible for Finance, Public Works, Community Development, Information Systems, Purchasing and Risk Management for the city. Prior to joining city government, Martin retired as the chief operating officer for First Tennessee Financial Services with responsibility for all Tennessee Regional Bank Markets; Merchant Services Processing; Hickory Venture Capital; and the Commercial, Corporate, and Middle Market Divisions of the bank.



Martin

tries worldwide. He is a board member of the Tennessee Municipal League.

Gallatin resident **Walter Durham**, Tennessee's state historian for the past decade and author of 24 books on Tennessee history, died recently at the age of 88. A longtime Gallatin businessman and scholar of Tennessee and Sumner County history, Durham was appointed state historian in 2002 by Gov. Don Sundquist. He served as president of the Tennessee Historical Society, and founding president of the Tennessee Heritage Alliance, later renamed the Tennessee Preservation Trust, and chair of the Tennessee Historical Commission and received numerous recognitions for his writing.



Durham

Bristol Deputy City Manager **Mike Sparks**, after 40 years of government service, including 16 years in Bristol, will retire at the end of June. Sparks plans to serve in a part-time basis until a permanent successor is selected.



Sparks

Bill Hammon, Alcoa assistant city manager, recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. To receive the ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development. With more than 35 years of professional local government executive experience, Hammon serves on several working committees and task forces, including the ICMA International Committee, which interacts with ICMA members and different coun-



Hammon

Chattanooga native **Wade Hinton**, attorney for the Volkswagen Group of America, has been named city attorney. Hinton has worked as counsel for VW and also worked at the law firm Miller & Martin for years.



Hinton

Joe D. Casey, former chief of the Metro/Nashville Police Department for 16 years, was honored recently, as more than 100 supporters were on hand to name the West Precinct building in his honor. The building is located at 5500 Charlotte Pike.



Casey

Judge Gregory Smith completes TN Municipal Judges Benchbook

Pleasant View City Judge, Gregory D. Smith, recently completed the Tennessee Municipal Judges Benchbook which is being printed and published by the Tennessee Administrative Office of Courts.

Judge Smith was hired by the Executive Officers and the Board of Governors of the Tennessee Municipal Judges Conference to write the book.

This 257 page book will be distributed to every municipal judge in Tennessee, about 300 judges, as a guide for how the judge should conduct himself/herself on the bench. Also, Judge Smith is slated as a presenter for the Tennessee Judicial Academy in August.

The Tennessee Judicial Academy, presented by the Tennessee Administrative Office of Courts,



trains new judges throughout Tennessee at all levels of the state judiciary. There are approximately 1500 state judges in the Tennessee Judiciary System.

Judge Smith has been the part-time Pleasant View City Judge since 1997.

Tom Fleming assesses retirement life

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Retiring after 44 years in the field as a Certified Assessment Evaluator (CAE), Tom Fleming, assistant to the state Comptroller for Assessments, has always relied on a structured path to get where he was going. Even the day he was born—Feb. 1, 1940, held the most value, because parents of “first day of the month” babies in Maury County/Columbia, were feted with gifts of blankets, diapers—even live chickens—if you were lucky. And in those days, the bare necessities were greatly appreciated by hard working families of modest means, like Fleming's.

Always a focused and determined child, by 6th grade, Fleming learned to channel his strong work ethic and attention to detail into tangible results. He mowed lawns in the summer, delivered groceries, and eventually bought a bicycle and motorbike with his earnings as the neighborhood paperboy; a route he still remembers to this day. He also purchased the family's first TV.

It was during those intervals of hard work and development that Fleming decided

“Local government is the backbone of Tennessee. It's the engine that makes government work. And the closer you get to the people, the better.”—Tom Fleming, CAE

that young people, who were dedicated and willing to work, should be given a fair chance. So with that mindset, he set off to meet his own destiny with the state of Tennessee.

“I knew from day one that I wasn't necessarily the smartest or brightest person; I knew I had to work harder,” Fleming said in retrospect. “If there was a job to be done, while some may take 30 minutes to do it, it might take me two hours. But I had the advantage—because I was willing to invest the two hours.”

Following a two-year stint at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Fleming dropped out of school for awhile to help out his family after his father suffered a heart attack. When his dad recovered, he transferred to Auburn University, where, in 1962, he not only earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, he gained a lifelong affinity for “The Tigers” football team. It's also where he started his trademark lapel pin collection. Today, he owns hundreds of them and is rarely seen wearing the same one twice.

When he started his career in 1963 as an accountant with the Tennessee Public Service Commission, Fleming already knew a life of debits and credits would not be his path, so he dabbled in rate and carat work along with property assessments and utilities. After five years dealing with regulatory and assessment matters related to local governments, his hard work led to becoming the first director of Assessments for all Public Utility and Railroad assessments/appraisals. The then 27-year-old, would oversee \$3 billion in assessments, that generated a \$100 million in revenue for local governments and municipalities, for the next 15 years.

“The most challenging time was setting up the public service division,” he said. “I recognized the

value of developing and maintaining a good staff, which I have been fortunate along the way to have,” he said. “None of the things I have done professionally would ever have been possible without a good staff.”

Fleming also recognized the importance that professionalism and training played in maintaining a stable economic tax base.

“As a licensed real estate appraiser, when I started at the Public Service Commission in the area of appraising utilities, I saw we needed professional recognition,” he said. “It wasn't necessarily going to make it (the division) any better to have it—but it was the process of getting there that made you better.”

He left state government for a short period of time to serve as director of community relations and public affairs for a gas utility company, before returning to the state in 1989 to duo positions—director of the Office of Local Government in the Comptroller's Office and director of the Division of Property Assessments. Fleming also decided to set his sights on a new personal goal, to become president of the International Association of Assessing Of-



Tom Fleming

million program for low income and elderly and disabled veterans. In 2003, the income level for eligibility was increased from \$12,000 to \$20,000 and in 2004, it increased from \$20,000 to \$24,000. It's made a huge difference.” Appointed to his final designation as assistant to the Comptroller of the Treasury of Assessments, Fleming has been responsible for monitoring and overseeing all local government assessment appraisal programs in the state. Those assessments form the financial base which generate the major portion of revenues needed to operate local governments. He served in that capacity until 2013.

With a Senate Joint Resolution announcing his retirement under his belt and a fabulous retirement party with all his colleagues, legislators, staff, wife Judy, sister Barbara Jones, and all his friends behind him, Fleming has reached his first impasse—how to navigate an unstructured path.

“All my life I always thought you had to have a structured retirement plan. But I found out that you don't,” he said. “I'm just going to let it come to me. I'm still trying to learn how to slow the train down because it's been running wide open for all these years. I'll probably just get on another track and keep on going.”

Knowing he has just enough work to keep him occupied at home for about six months, Fleming looks forward to spending more time with his family, Judy, his two sons Tommy and Steven, his sister and her daughter Sherry Terry and his grandchildren Kylie, Luke, Hannah and Amelia.

He will also keep his part-time job at Vanderbilt University as a guest services representative ushering football, basketball, and baseball games on the weekends. His heart overflows with gratefulness that the state took a chance on a hard working young man all those years ago.

“My career with the Public Service Commission and the Comptroller's Office has given me opportunities that I would not have otherwise had,” Fleming said. “I want to thank all of those who gave me a chance and helped me along the way.”

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BUILDING OFFICIAL

GALLATIN. The city is seeking applicants for the position of Building Official. The position reports to the mayor, and is responsible to the city council. The Building Official manages the codes department; supervises staff; performs field inspections; interprets various codes and ordinances; acts as the appeal step when there are issues between customers and inspectors; works closely with local contractors and builders in enforcing building ordinances; interfaces daily with planning and engineering departments. Minimum qualifications include any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university in a relevant area coupled with significant supervisory experience. Considerable related leadership experience (5-10 years or more preferred), and preferably five (5) of these years in the public sector. Certification as a building official through a recognized certification program required, or the ability to become certified within 18 months. At a minimum, must be a certified building inspector. Must possess a driver's license valid in the State of Tennessee. Current salary range is \$53,145 to \$84,960 with excellent benefits. To apply, please submit cover letter summarizing reasons for interest and qualifications, a detailed resume including salary history, and three professional references. Mail Resumes to City of Gallatin, 132 W. Main Street, Gallatin, TN 37066, Attn: Amy Summers, Interim Personnel Official. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, July 10, 2013. EOE.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

MUNFORD. The city is seeking resumes for the position of City Administrator. This position is under the general guidance of the mayor and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. This position is responsible for overseeing an annual budget, exercising responsibility for planning, organizing, leading, and controlling (through department managers) the activities of all employees providing a broad range of services for the city through the departments of: Finance & Administration, Police, Fire, Public Works, Recreation, Human Resources, and Customer Service. Responsible for the development and implementation of operating policies and procedures and for monitoring compliance. Insures that city programs operate within state and federal laws. Works with the Mayor and Aldermen in overall program planning and policy development for the city. Must be able to positively interact with community leaders, the public, media and a variety of governmental boards and organizations. Requires a minimum B.S. or M.S. in Public Administration or a related field plus 10 years of successful experience in a senior management position, such position having had fiscal responsibility, human resource responsibility, and long range planning responsibility. Looking for accomplished assertive and forward thinking individual; strong emphasis on current knowledge of issues; strong interpersonal and communication skills. Requires proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, Publishing, etc.) The City of Munford offers competitive salary and a full benefit package, including health, dental, and life insurance, retirement, vacation, and sick leave. Candidate must pass a physical and post-employment offer drug screen. Resumes may be sent to Mayor Dwayne Cole, City of Munford, 1397 Munford Avenue, Munford, Tennessee 38058 or e-mailed to dcote@munford.com. The deadline for accepting resumes will be at the close of business (4:00 p.m.) on June 14, 2013. The City of Munford is an EEO/Affirmative Action employer and does not dis-

criminate on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, color, disability, or national origin.

CITY MANAGER

CROSSVILLE. The city is seeking résumés for the position of City Manager. This position is under the general guidance of the Mayor and four member city council. Position is responsible for overseeing an annual budget. This position exercises responsibility for planning, organizing, leading, and controlling (through department managers) the activities of 165 full-time employees providing a broad range of services for the city through the following departments: Finance; Administration, Police, Fire, Public Works; Recreation; Human Resources, and Customer Service. Responsible for the development and implementation of operating policies and procedures and for monitoring compliance. Insures that city programs operate within state and federal laws. Works with mayor and council in overall program planning and policy development for the city. Must be able to interface with industry heads, the public, media and a variety of governmental boards and organizations. Requires a minimum B.S. or M.S. in Public Administration or a related field plus 10 years of successful experience in a senior management position, such position having had fiscal responsibility, human resource responsibility, and long-range planning responsibility. Looking for accomplished assertive and forward thinking individual; strong emphasis on current knowledge of issues; strong interpersonal and communication skills. Salary is market competitive (range minimum \$72,933 to a maximum \$109,400). Salary negotiable DOQ. The city of Crossville offers a full benefit package, including health, dental, and life insurance, retirement, vacation, and sick leave. Candidate must pass a physical and post-employment offer drug screen. Moving expenses negotiable. Résumés may be sent to Sally Oglesby, City Clerk, City of Crossville, 392 N. Main St., Crossville, TN 38555 or emailed to sally.oglesby@crossville.tn.gov. The deadline will be at the close of business, 4:00 pm, June 14, 2013. The city of Crossville is an EEO/Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, color, disability, or national origin.

CITY MANAGER

EAST RIDGE. The city is accepting qualified applicants for the position of City Manager. Required qualifications are a bachelor degree in Public Administration and a minimum of three years municipal government experience. If applicants do not have the degree and municipal experience, they need not apply, as this is a city charter requirement and cannot be waived. Proven management and leadership, team building, communications skills, municipal finance and economic development experience preferred. City offers competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Closing date is July 1, 2013. Send resume to: City Attorney Hal North, Chambliss, Bahner, & Stophel, P.C., Liberty Tower, 605 Chestnut Street, Suite 1700, Chattanooga, TN 37450 or hnorth@cbslawfirm.com. EOE and TN Drug Free Workplace. The city website is www.eastridgetn.gov.

CITY PLANNER

GALLATIN. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of City Planner. The position reports to the mayor, and is responsible to the city council. The city planner manages the planning department; supervises staff; is responsible for current and long-range planning; coordinates and takes part in plans review processes; prepares elements of the Comprehensive Plan related to a variety of elements; makes presentations to boards and commissions; works closely with other city departments and interfaces daily with the Codes and Engineering departments. Minimum qualifications include any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with major course work in urban planning coupled with significant supervisory experience. Considerable professional planning experience (5-10 years or more preferred). Must possess a driver's license valid in the State of Tennessee and AICP professional planner certification. Current salary range is \$53,145 to \$84,960 with excellent benefits. To apply, please submit cover letter summarizing reasons for interest and qualifications, a detailed resume including salary history, and three professional references. Mail Resumes to City of

Gallatin, 132 W. Main Street, Gallatin, TN 37066, Attn: Amy Summers, Interim Personnel Official. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, July 10, 2013. EOE.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

LA VERGNE. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Director of Human Resources. The position reports to the mayor and city administrator and is responsible for all strategic human resources functions for the city. The HR Director works closely with the city administrator, the mayor and department heads and performs a variety of complex administrative, technical and professional work in directing and supervising the personnel systems of the organization, including classification, compensation, coordination of benefits and insurance administration, recruitment, selection, labor relations, employment law, compliance, training and development and performance review administration. Detailed job description and benefits information found by applying online at the city website www.lavergnetn.gov

PERSONNEL OFFICIAL

GALLATIN. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Personnel Official. The city employs approximately 350 full-time and an additional 150 seasonal and part-time employees. Reporting to the mayor, the Personnel Official oversees the city's personnel management programs including classification and pay, employee relations, affirmative action, recruitment and selection, performance appraisal, and benefits administration; should be proficient in developing policy and procedures; does related work as required; attends all City Council meetings. Minimum qualifications include any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university. Applicant must possess a driver's license valid in the State of Tennessee. Current salary range is \$53,145 - \$84,960 with excellent benefits. A detailed job description can be obtained by emailing rosemary.bates@gallatin-tn.gov. To apply, please submit cover letter summarizing reasons for interest and qualifications, detailed resume including salary history, and three professional references. Applications will be received through June 26, 2013. Send applications to: Rosemary Bates, Special Projects Director, Mayor's Office, 132 West Main Street, Gallatin, TN 37066 or rosemary.bates@gallatin-tn.gov. Phone: 615-230-7953. The City of Gallatin is an EOE, drug-free employer with policies of non-discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or military service.

TAEDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The TAEDC Executive Director is a full-time position that reports to the Board of Directors of the Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation (TAEDC) under an agreement between the TAEDC and the city of Tullahoma. This position is directly responsible for the recruitment, retention and growth of all of the diverse economic sectors within the city. The Executive Director is a full-time position which performs a variety of administrative, technical and professional functions in the administration, management and implementation of the plans and programs of the TAEDC. Annual salary is within the range of \$57,211 - \$85,817. Please forward a resume with a letter of interest to Ms. Casta Brice, Human Resources Director, City of Tullahoma, P. O. Box 807, Tullahoma, TN 37388 or email to cbrice@tullahomatn.gov by close of business June 13, 2013. For more information, go to the Employment section at www.tullahomatn.gov. A job description is available upon request. EOE

POLICE CHIEF

NEWBERN. The town is accepting résumés for the position of Police Chief. Applicants should have a minimum of eight (8) years police experience, with a minimum of three (3) additional years of command experience. The applicant must be POST certified, possessing a degree in criminal justice, or a related field, preferable but not required. Successful applicant must satisfy all the requirements of the Charter of the city of Newbern. Salary range \$45,000-\$50,000, depending on experience and qualifications. Applications accepted until July 1, 2013. No phone calls please. Only successful candidates will be notified on or before July 15, 2013. Résumé's should be sent to: "Resume" — Mayor Olen Parker, Town of Newbern, P.O. Box 460, Newbern, TN. 38059. EOE

August MTAS classes

2013 Legislative Update

This course will provide a summary of legislation passed by the Tennessee General Assembly during the 2013 session that will impact municipalities. Public acts touching every aspect of municipal operations will be discussed. Of particular concern to cities this year were bills related to land use, eminent domain, annexation, firearms and many other issues.

This course will be conducted by MTAS legal consultants and will offer participants the opportunity to ask questions about any new legislation.

Who should attend: elected and appointed municipal officials who are responsible for implementation and monitoring state legislation.

Time: All classes are from 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Schedule of Sessions

Aug. 6: Nashville—TBI Headquarters, 901 R.S. Gass Blvd.

Aug. 7: Jackson—West Tennessee Research and Education Center, 605 Airways Blvd.

Aug. 22: Knoxville—University of Tennessee Conference Center, 600 Henley St., 4th Floor



Aug. 28: Kingsport—Northeast State Community College, Kingsport Center for Higher Education, 300 West Market Street

Cost: Municipal Employees – \$50/person/class. All other participants – \$65/person/class.

Will qualify for three hours of CMFO continuing education hours (financial). Planning board member continuing education credit eligible.

MTAS will accept registration and payment by credit/debit card through your Solution Point account. To register, go to the website, www.mtas.tennessee.edu and click "register for a class." MTAS needs to receive payment in order to confirm your attendance. For assistance with registration or payment, contact MTAS at 865-974-0411.

For more information, contact Kurt Frederick at 615-253-6385 or e-mail kurt.frederick@tennessee.edu

Immigration reform underway

IMMIGRATION from Page 1
prehensive bill.

A bipartisan group has been working in the House for years to introduce immigration reform, but have been unable to reach final agreement.

Mayor Rogers called the Senate action a major step in reform

and helping cities benefit from the economic contributions of immigrants to the nation and cities. "We look forward to working with and encourage all the members of the Senate to enact immigration reform and give the American people in our cities the best possible result while welcoming immigrants to our nation."

TML Board to meet June 22

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 3 pm., local time, in the Nashville Room of the Memphis Marriott Downtown, 250 North Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, June 17, at the TML offices, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 701, in Nashville. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained at 615-255-6416.

TMBF Board to meet June 22

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 10:30 a.m., local time, in the Knoxville Room of the Memphis Marriott Downtown, 250 North Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. Some members of the board may participate in such meeting by telephonic means, which will be audible to any member of the public attending such meeting. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, June 17, at the offices of TMBF, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 502, in Nashville. Additional information may be obtained at 615-255-1561.



WHY BELONG TO NLC?

NLC members enjoy distinct benefits beyond those afforded by membership in the state municipal leagues, including:

- Representation and advocacy on the federal level,
- A vast pool of geographically diverse members to connect with,
- Its own unique set of solutions and programs,
- Abundant NLC resources, publications, and technical assistance



See for yourself what it's all about! Have your city join today and begin the NLC experience! Contact memberservices@nlc.org or (877) 827-2385, or visit www.nlc.org for more information.



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ASSOCIATE PROFILE

Bank of America Merrill Lynch is pleased to support the important work of the Tennessee Municipal League and the towns and cities of Tennessee.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch recognized the uniqueness of the work of local governments and because of this uniqueness we have people who are specialized and dedicated to supporting Tennessee municipalities. This team of specialized and dedicated individuals is led by Tom Boyd.

Tom and his team have worked with Tennessee towns and cities for many years. One of the most prominent ways Bank of America Merrill Lynch has worked with Tennessee towns and cities is through providing financing for the needs of municipalities. Bank of America Merrill Lynch operating then as NationsBank in 1994 began a relationship with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund (TMBF) by underwriting, remarketing, and credit enhancing with the Bank's letters of credit TMBF's bonds. Since 1994 the Bank has provided over \$1.4 billion of credit to towns and cities through this relationship with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund. This relationship has saved towns and cities hundreds of millions of dollars in interest during this nearly 20 year relationship.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch is always interested in providing savings, improving efficiency and increasing revenue for municipalities. To accomplish these benefits for municipalities Bank of America Merrill Lynch has organized a Consortium of Tennessee municipalities to offer a service to pay vendors

Bank of America Merrill Lynch

electronically. A large Tennessee city is the "parent" of the Consortium. The "parent" city negotiated the contract with the Bank and allows other municipalities to "piggy-back" on their contract.

Vendors may be paid with a purchase card (plastic present) or virtually with a "ghost" card where no municipal employee actually has a plastic card. The virtual or ghost card payment method is termed ePayables. Today there are 5 municipal participants in the Consortium.

There are a number of significant benefits to paying vendors electronically with a purchase card or virtual, "ghost" card. Among these benefits are:

1. Revenue sharing – Bank of America Merrill Lynch shares between 1% and 1.6% of the purchase amount with the municipality. The amount depends on the aggregate spend of all of the Tennessee Municipal Consortium members, and the payment cycle and grace days chosen. A minimum of one million dollars of spend in a year is required to receive an incentive. The incentive is paid beginning with the first dollar of spend on the purchase card or ePayables. As an example a municipality spending \$5 million per year using either or both the purchase card and virtual card would earn between \$50,000 and \$80,000 annually.
2. Increased efficiency - the payment process and reconciliation process is automated. The Bank works with all major financial software providers and has developed mappers to automate payment processes for the municipality.



3. Elimination of 1099 reporting – The municipality is no longer required to issue 1099's if a vendor is paid with a purchase or virtual card. This is the responsibility of the vendor's bank which processes the card payment.
4. Reduction in check payments and their related costs – The estimated cost savings of a card payment compared to a check payment is \$2.99 based upon a conservative industry estimate assuming a highly automated check production process. Bank of America Merrill Lynch is paid once per cycle for all card payments even though vendors are paid as frequently as the municipality chooses. This process is like your personal credit card where charges are made throughout the payment cycle, but the payment to the bank is only made at the end of the cycle and grace days.
5. Fraud prevention – The significant potential of check fraud is prevented by making payments using a plastic or "ghost" card rather than a check. Unlike with a personal credit card, many spending controls may be placed on purchase cards to greatly reduce the chances of abuse or fraudulent use of the purchase card.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch is pleased to be a long-term sponsor of the Tennessee Municipal League. Please contact Tom Boyd at 615.749.3618 or at thomas.boyd@bamll.com, if you have questions or would like to discuss the services mentioned in this article or other banking services.



June 20-22: Lynchburg Frontier Days
Lynchburg Town Square, Wiseman Park. Family fun as the festival kicks off with a carnival, rides and music on the square. Other activities include: a rodeo, parade, games and contests, auction, a street dance and food, arts & crafts. Saturday contests for babies, homemade apple pie and watermelon eating and a dog and goat contest. A western re-enactment, music and dancing and the continuation of the PCA 8 Event Rodeo and fireworks show during the rodeo's intermission. For more information, visit <http://www.lyncburgtn.com>.

June 21-22: Oak Ridge Secret City Festival
Promotes the history of the city and unites its World War II heritage with the technological advancements that are ongoing within the city. Tour exhibits such as the ORNL Graphite Reactor, "Japan 1945: Images by U.S. Marine Photographer Joe O'Donnell"; arts & crafts, children's activities, juried art show, Concert headliners Rick Springfield and The Dirty Guv'Nahs. For more information visit www.secretcityfestival.com or call 865-425-3610.

June 28 -29: Tullahoma 150th anniversary of the Tullahoma Campaign of the American Civil War
A free living history event on the grounds of the South Jackson Civic Center. Features demonstrations of artillery and musketry, walk-through exhibits, cavalry and infantry re-enactments, a sutler/military camp and battlefield hospital, where actors portray period doctors and nurses helping the wounded. Historians, crafts, period dancers and children's games along with a lantern tour of the Maplewood Confederate Cemetery on June 28. A one act play, "Soldier Come Home" performed by the South Jackson Civic Association, period fashion show and the Tennessee Fiddle Orchestra, closes the event at 5:30 p.m.

June 29: Alcoa FreedomFest 2013
Independence Day celebration at the Alcoa Duck Pond. Take Alcoa Hwy. to Hunt Road, to Springbrook Road to the Pond. Entertainment stage, food vendors, and entertainment begins at 6 pm with Nuthin Fancy, a southern rock band. Headliner is the Air National Guard Band of the Smoky Mountains at 7:30 pm playing jazz, patriotic music and rock & country. Fireworks show at 9:40 pm, then the band returns for dancing until 11 pm. The city is currently taking applications for food vendors. Information and applications can be obtained online at www.cityofalcoa-tn.gov/freedomfest or by calling Special Projects Coordinator Tricia Tipton at 865-380-4787.

ASSOCIATE PROFILE SERVPRO provides disaster recovery and cleanup restoration services

Founded in 1967, the SERVPRO® Franchise System is a national leader and provider of fire and water cleanup, restoration services, and mold mitigation and remediation.

SERVPRO's professional services network of more than 1,600 individually owned and operated franchises responds to property damage emergencies ranging from small individual disasters to multi-million dollar large-loss events.

Providing coverage in the United States and Canada, the SERVPRO® System has established relationships with major insurance companies and commercial clients, as well as individual homeowners.

SERVPRO franchise professionals are available 24 hours/7 days and are ready to restore damage to your home or commercial structure caused by fire, water, mold, or storm and flood damage.



Water Damage Restoration
Basement flooding or storm damage doesn't wait for regular business hours and neither do we. We respond to your residential or commercial water removal and cleanup needs. Our fast response time and advanced drying methods help prevent secondary damage and mold.

Fire Damage Restoration
We understand that smoke and fire damage is both devastating and disruptive to your family or business. SERVPRO franchise professionals respond quickly to repair fire, smoke, and soot damage.

Mold Remediation
Mold can present serious health concerns and can spread quickly

through your home or business if left unchecked. SERVPRO franchise professionals utilize proven mold remediation techniques and state-of-the-art equipment to protect you and your property.

Biohazard Remediation
Exposure to biological and chemical contaminants can pose serious health consequences. SERVPRO franchise professionals are trained to safely remove biohazardous substances and dispose of them properly in accordance with OSHA and health regulations.

SERVPRO officials recently announced plans to expand the company's corporate headquarters on Industrial Blvd. in Gallatin, Tenn. The expansion represents a \$6.7 million investment by SERVPRO and will create 90 new, full-time jobs in Sumner County.

For more information, visit us at booths 314, 316, & 912 at the TML conference. Or visit our website at www.SERVPRO.com.

No loan is too large or too small



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.
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STATE BRIEFS



State building new Nissan Training Center

The state will build a Nissan Training Center as part of a branch of Tennessee Technology Center of Murfreesboro on property across from the Nissan manufacturing plant in Smyrna. Technology Center Director Lynn Kreider said the state is in the process of purchasing 22 acres of a former retail site off Nissan Drive for a 154,000-square-foot educational facility to be built by the Board of Regents. Gov. Haslam put \$35.4 million in the fiscal 2014 budget for a Nissan Education and Training Facility that would house an extension of the Technology Center in Murfreesboro and replace Nissan's 30-year-old training center to offer auto manufacturing education for a 10-county area. Nissan would rent 79,000 square feet from the state for employee training and use, according to the governor's budget plan. Nissan will reimburse the state for the land purchase, according to Kreider. Land fronting Nissan Parkway remains for sale for retail outparcels.

First Gold Star Family Day pays tribute to soldiers killed in action

Gov. Bill Haslam paid tribute to the memories of Tennessee troops killed in action and to their surviving families, including a Korean War soldier missing for 62 years, as he proclaimed the first Gold Star Family Day in state history. Haslam was joined at a ceremony at the War Memorial Plaza in Nashville by the state's first lady Crissy Haslam, state Veterans Affairs Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder, and Adjutant General Max Haston, commander of the Tennessee National Guard. The ceremony honored Sgt. Jacob M. Schwallye of Clarksville, Pfc. Glenn Shely Schoenmann of Grundy County, and Staff Sgt. Christopher Michael Ward of Oak Ridge—all soldiers who died in conflicts ranging from the Korean War to the war in Afghanistan.

TN awarded Silver Shovel for economic development

Area Development Magazine's 8th Annual Gold & Silver Shovel Awards recognizes Tennessee for excellence in economic development. States are acknowledged for their achievements in attracting high-value investment projects that will create a significant number of new jobs in their communities. Each of the 50 states was invited by *Area Development* to submit information about its top-10 job creation and investment projects. Only those projects that began to materialize in 2012 were considered. Tennessee stood out based on a combination of weighted factors including the number of new jobs to be created in relation to the state's population, the combined dollar amount of the investments, the number of new facilities and the diversity of industry represented. Tennessee was recognized for excellence in economic development for states in the 5 to 10 million population range.

TN Dept of Labor awarded grant

The United States Department of Labor awarded the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development \$697,963 for exceeding all performance goals that were set for the state's workforce development and education activities. To qualify, a state must have exceeded all negotiated performance levels for Workforce Investment Act (WIA Title I), and Adult Education (Title II). The several statewide achievements include: 81.3 percent of adults who came in without a job were employed within the first three months after completion of the program; 92.2 percent of dislocated workers were placed in jobs and still had the jobs nine months later; 76.3 percent of youth participants attained a diploma or credential within six months after completion of the program, and 36,808 WIA participants were served in the state during the one-year period ending in June 30, 2012. Tennessee is one of only 15 states in the nation to qualify for the incentive grant, and the amount of the state's award is the fifth highest in the qualifying states. The incentive award will be shared with the divisions of Workforce Services and Adult Education within the Department of Labor & Workforce Development.

Master plan nearly complete for historic state prison

A master plan outlining development options for the old Tennessee

Prison could be complete this summer, according to the architect leading the work. The prison, off Centennial Boulevard in west Nashville, opened in 1898. It housed inmates for nearly 100 years before closing in 1992 and is a Gothic Revival landmark for the city. Not only did it once house some of Tennessee's most notorious criminals, but it served as a movie set for films including "The Last Castle" starring Robert Redford and "The Green Mile" with Tom Hanks. But the prison has been deteriorating for years, and state officials have long contemplated its future. In 2011, Historic Nashville listed it among its "Nashville Nine" of most endangered historic buildings. A renovation could cost as much as \$27 million, and the State Building Commission in August set aside \$800,000 for the master plan.

Litter campaign combines arts and music

If you're cleaning up litter, why not do it the creative way? The nonprofit group Scenic Tennessee is promoting an anti-litter campaign that combines music, scenic photography and community cleanups with online videos and social networking. The effort began June 1 with a month-long "Pickin' Up Tennessee" tour designed to drive home the campaign's message: "Love the land. Lose the litter." Pickin' Up Tennessee has enlisted musicians in 20 tour locations to provide a soundtrack for the campaign. Organizers are seeking volunteers for the cleanups. The schedule of events is online at www.PickinUpTN.org.

State moves from Chattanooga office buildings

The state will move from landlord to tenant next February when the offices for nearly 400 Tennessee employees in Chattanooga are moved out of two state-owned buildings that consultants say are "functionally obsolete." The two buildings are among a half dozen the state Department of General Services is disposing of because the projected costs of maintaining the structures is too much for state offices. Fixing problems in the aging state buildings in Chattanooga is projected to cost nearly \$12 million. But while state offices will vacate the downtown structures, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga — is eager to acquire the buildings, or at least the land. UTC has approached the state about transferring the seven-story Chattanooga State Office building on McCallie Avenue and the James R. Mapp office building on M.L. King Boulevard to the university for future growth. The state is seeking 10-year leases for offices with at least 51,000 square feet of contiguous, usable space.

State outsources office property management

The state is outsourcing the management of its portfolio of its office properties, a move that will require about 125 employees to apply for jobs with the vendor taking over that work. Officials expect to save roughly \$50 million over the next five years from Chicago-based real estate services firm Jones Lang LaSalle taking over facilities management for 10.5 million square feet of state-owned and leased office properties statewide starting July 1. Under a previous contract, Jones Lang LaSalle conducted an assessment of 33 major state properties that led to the recommendation that the state should reduce its footprint to 1.4 million square feet by the second quarter next year. That will come from a combination of moving some employees to space in underutilized state-owned buildings and completely leaving state-owned properties deemed as too costly to maintain and operate. "We're having an expert handle the facilities management for us," said Steve Cates, the state's General Services commissioner, who in addition to the \$50 million in savings sees Tennessee avoiding \$25 million in one-time costs, plus \$3 million annually, by not having to purchase and maintain the necessary technology and equipment, as well as set up a call center.

TN among states with high number of disability recipients

The number of Americans receiving disability insurance from the Social Security Administration more than doubled over the last 20 years and Tennessee is helping to lead the way. In 2001, about 5.2 million U.S. citi-

zens were on disability roles. In 2011, the number had increased to 11.7 million, according to 24/7 Wall Street. Tennessee has contributed significantly to that tally. Tennessee had more than 6.5 percent of its working age population drawing disability payments. The state had more than 260,000 Social Security disability beneficiaries between the ages of 18 and 64 at the end of 2011. Tennessee's disabled workers received a total of \$261.5 million in December 2011 from the Social Security Disability Insurance.

State hosts pilot program to increase college grads

A pilot program beginning this fall at many Tennessee universities and colleges will give students and faculty a chance to use learning technology created by a national provider, and may help Tennessee gain more college graduates. Schools in the University of Tennessee and Tennessee Board of Regents systems will partner with Coursera, a provider of massive open online courses, or MOOCs and use the company's technology and format with the schools' educational material developed by their faculty. If the experiment works, online classes could help Tennessee increase the number of residents with college education, said TBR Chancellor John Morgan. Currently, fewer than 35 percent of adult Tennesseans have postsecondary degrees, Morgan said. Gov. Haslam hopes to increase that number to 55 percent within the next 10 years.

TDOT chooses to widen SR 126 in Kingsport/Sullivan County

After more than a decade of planning, the Tennessee Department of Transportation announced plans to widen State Route 126, from roughly East Center Street to Interstate 81, choosing a modified option that was presented to Kingsport and Sullivan County in December 2012. The option, dubbed Alternative B-Modified, widens the road without affecting East Lawn Cemetery or taking property from the historic Yancy's Tavern. In addition, the option is the cheapest of the three under consideration and displaces the fewest residences and businesses. The work is being done in an effort to improve safety and access along the 8.4 mile stretch of Memorial Boulevard, while minimizing impacts to the environment and the community. The estimated cost is \$97 million (the least of the three build options) and construction could begin as early as late-2017.

State Briefs are comprised from media reports and press releases from across the state.



The state of Tennessee will build a Nissan Training Center as part of a branch of Tennessee Technology Center of Murfreesboro on property across from the Nissan manufacturing plant in Smyrna. The state is in the process of purchasing 22 acres of a former retail site off Nissan Drive for a 154,000-square-foot educational facility to be built by the Board of Regents. The facility will replace Nissan's 30-year-old training center to offer auto manufacturing education for a 10-county area. Nissan will reimburse the state for the land purchase.

Middle Tenn has state's lowest jobless rates in April

Williamson County continued to have the state's lowest unemployment rate in April despite rising from the previous month, according to figures released today.

An estimated 5,380 people, or 5.3 percent of the county's labor force, were jobless in April, the Tennessee Department of Labor and Development reported. That's up from 5.1 percent in March but unchanged from the April 2012 figure.

That helped the Nashville region post the lowest rate among major metropolitan areas with 6.4 percent, ahead of Knoxville's 6.7 percent. Seven of the state's 10 lowest rates were in the Nashville region.

Despite rates in 62 of the state's

95 counties falling from March to April, Tennessee's jobless rate rose 0.2 percentage points to 8 percent. One likely reason for the discrepancy: The state figure is seasonally adjusted, while the county figures are not.

Scott County at Tennessee's highest rate, at 16.1 percent.

Below are selected Middle Tennessee counties' April rates, and how they compare to the previous month and in April 2012:

Davidson: 6.5 percent, +0.3 percentage points, unchanged
Rutherford: 6.3, +0.1, -0.2
Sumner: 6.5, +0.2, -0.1
Williamson: 5.3, +0.2, unchanged
Wilson: 6.5, -0.1, +0.1

Court ruling favors FCC

FCC from Page 1

allow," he added.

Reuters stated that the case was closely watched by government agencies and those who are regulated by them because it touched on the question of how much deference agencies have to interpret the law.

The National Federation for Independence Business (NFIB) also weighed in on the issue, and filed an amicus brief in the case arguing that courts must exercise their constitutional duty to determine the scope of an agency's powers, and they should not abdicate that responsibility to agencies who will inevitably seek to expand their authorities.

The upheld FCC order states that municipalities have 90 days to approve applications to collocate

antennas on existing towers and structures and 150 days to approve new cellular towers and antennas.

If the local government fails to act before that deadline, then the local government is presumed not to have acted within a "a reasonable period of time" within the meaning of Sec. 332(c)(7)(B)(ii) of the Communications Act, and the wireless applicant is entitled to take the local government to court. As a standard operating procedure, the FCC made clear that once in court, the local government is entitled to prove that its failure to act within the FCC's deadline was reasonable and thus not contrary to Sec. 332(c)(7)(B)(ii).

For more information about this issue, go to the Hometown Section of TML's website at www.TML1.org

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TACIR report finds TN, US may not reach pre-recession employment peaks until 2022

According to a new staff report released by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR), the recession that began in 2007 was one of the worst general economic declines that most Americans have ever experienced. Starting in the construction sector, the decline spread to the financial sector and eventually rippled throughout the economy, causing significant collateral damage.

Employment in Tennessee dropped by 220,000 and in the US by 8.7 million. Almost six years after the recession began, employment has yet to fully recover. Some job sectors were insulated from the damage—most notably education and health services. Others, like the state and local government sectors, were able to postpone some of the recession's effects. Job growth during the recovery has varied by sector, as well as between Tennessee and the US and by region within Tennessee. Recent employment forecasts predict that several sectors of both the US and the Tennessee economies may not reach pre-recession peaks for another 10 years or more.

A changing employment environment puts some of the job loss in perspective. Experts now believe that the housing construction and finance bubbles that precipitated the last recession hid underlying structural changes in the labor market that were occurring during the 2000s. Many pre-recession jobs existed only because of excesses occurring in the construction and finance sectors of the economy. Had these sectors grown more moderately, structural problems that were developing in the labor market may have been identified earlier.

There were only slight differences in timing between the recession's effect on US employment and its effect on employment in Tennessee, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment peaked in the US in January 2008 and one month later in Tennessee. Employment continued to fall

nationally through February 2010 before beginning a slow recovery.

The decline in Tennessee's employment ended much earlier, bottoming out in mid-2009. Tennessee began a consistent recovery in April 2010, two months later than the national recovery began. By December 2012, US employment was 2.4 percent less than its previous peak and Tennessee's was 2.5 percent less. Between December 2012 and February 2013, the nation added 480,000 jobs and the 2.4 percent difference fell to 2.0 percent, while Tennessee added nearly 19,000 and its 2.5 percent difference fell to 1.8 percent.

Recent estimates from the University of Tennessee's Center for Business and Economic Research show total employment in both the US and Tennessee regaining or exceeding their previous peaks by 2015. For some employment sectors in Tennessee, however, the outlook for recovery is dismal. The retail trade, wholesale trade, financial activities, and information sectors are not expected to return to their peak employment levels until after 2022. Manufacturing may never return to its peak which occurred in 1979 for the US and in 1978 for Tennessee.

The strength of the recovery varies considerably across the state as well as by sector. Looking at data for the most recent 12 months, it's apparent that the sector hit hardest by the recession—mining, logging, and construction—has been recovering, but not in three of the four big regions: Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga. Memphis is the only one of the four with growth in that sector. The sector has also declined in Clarksville and Kingsport. A similar story emerges for the financial sector, in the Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Kingsport-Bristol, and Johnson City areas.

The full report is available on TACIR's web-site at www.tn.gov/tacir/pubs_by_date.html. For more information, contact Stanley Chervin at 615-741-3012 or Stanley.M.Chervin@tn.gov.

Pool Board to meet June 22

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. local time in the Knoxville Room at the Memphis Marriott Downtown, 250 North Main Street, Memphis, TN. 38103, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before the Board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling The Pool's office at 800-624-9698.

UT MTAS consultants blazing a trail as masters of public policy class lecturers

CONSULTANTS from Page 1

through this particular seminar, I think, comes through with an understanding of how local government subsidies and financial administration processes work and how to make sure that the commitment to professionalism is present for everyone to see, said Folz.

While not Tennessee specific, MPPA 560 offers a general overview of topics in financial reporting and internal control. The development of a budget and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) accounts for 40 percent of the students' final grade.

"I talk about the composition of the CAFR report over the period of two classes, for two hours each, and try to help them identify information to prepare their class report," said Ralph Cross, MTAS Finance consultant. "For the most part, we're trying to expose them to the financial reporting environment, not necessarily in Tennessee, but any state or local government. They're great kids, they come to class prepared, wanting to learn, and ask great questions."



At the recent TCMA Spring Conference, former MPPA student, turned guest lecturer, Seth Sumner, now Savannah's assistant city manager, expresses concern that students completing UT's MPPA programs are choosing public service career paths outside of local government.

Richard Stokes, MTAS Human Resources consultant, approaches the finance class from an HR perspective. "The first time I taught the class, we spent time discussing pensions and GASB. There are also financial issues that impact employment with reports that have to be filed, as well as benefits. The benefits and pension portion, while a lot of that is global, there are some components that are specifically Tennessee related," he said.

Folz has worked with MTAS consultants and other government officials for years, championing opportunities for students' growth through state legislative internships, graduate student internships and post-graduate internships. Now, he is tracking the data on how many MPPA students are choosing to enter local government careers.

"We've had very few graduates, since I've been tracking the data, but we do have several in the pipeline interested in local government careers," he said.

According to the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), "the largest 'replacement talent gaps' will be in public sector managerial and administrative ranks. Employment in state and local governments is projected to increase eight percent between 2006 and 2016, with job growth stemming from the rising demand for services, an increasing population and the retirement of baby boomers."

"It's not likely that one would walk out of the Baker Center with an MPPA degree for city management, unless you specifically have a career path and work your way up," Folz notes. "One of the best ways to do that is through a post graduate fellowship with MTAS."

Since February 2006, MTAS has partnered with several cities to develop and offer a post-graduate internship program. Entering into an inter-local agreement, MTAS and the cities recruit and hire recent Masters of Public Administration graduates who work for up to 24 months in the cities, one to three months at a time in each city on a rotating basis.

MTAS also enters into a contract with TML or a respective development district. The goal is that after two years in the program, interns will be positioned to enter local government as city managers or assistant city managers.

"The reason I went through the MPPA program was to make a difference. I wanted to be a city manager," stressed Seth Sumner, Savannah assistant city manager at the recent TCMA Spring Conference in Nashville. Sumner has also served as a speaker for the MPPA classes.

"In the past years, it's been a little alarming that some of the folks going through the program aren't even thinking about local government and cities are missing out on a lot of talent," he said.

Folz agrees that his concern in training the next generation of public service employees is "making sure that the developing talent have some place to go here in Tennessee."

"I would like to see more post-graduate fellowship program oppor-



Richard Stokes, MTAS Human Resource consultant, discusses financial reporting from an HR perspective, as a guest lecturer in Dr. Dave Folz' masters of Public Policy and Administration classes at the University of Tennessee Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy.

tunities worked out through MTAS, which is a fabulous program. It's a fast track to a city management career," he added.

For those who choose an internship program, having MTAS staff members in class is a win/win for the consultants and students, according to Melissa Ashburn, MTAS Legal consultant, who guest lectures in the local government management class.

"I'm not sure how many of us come into contact with graduate college age students. This is a wonderful platform for us to see how many are out there who might be interested in city government," she said. "It's also wonderful that we have the ability to have a hand in getting them prepared for this work. As our internship programs ramp up, it's good when they have already had interaction with our consulting staff and have an idea of what we do."

Ashburn's topic is the legislative process. As she explains the structure of the General Assembly and the cycle of elections and bills that get passed, she and the students always discuss a few bills that passed during the immediate session that impacted cities; what the bill looked like when it was first filed, and what it looks like now after going through a committee and adoption by the General Assembly.

"I discuss at least a couple of issues that have impacted cities in the recent legislative session, whether it was the telecommunications law, or the debate with handguns or annexation, a hot button issue, where cities might take a hit," she said. Ashburn is already gearing up for the fall session with a focus on the annexation moratorium.

MTAS' involvement with the university's graduate classes marks the department's growing visibility and influence across campus and beyond. "We currently have relationships with departments at the University that we didn't have 10 years ago," Ashburn observes. "My father, who retired as head of UT's Agriculture Extension had never even heard of MTAS, when I started my career here."

"Beyond us working with different departments at the University level, generational, I feel this is important," Ashburn continues. "We hire experts in the field, so they're going to have to get some years under their belt working with cities before they can come work for us. But we're ensuring there's still going to be a crop out there in the future."

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2013 TML Annual Conference, June 22 - 25 in Memphis

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

3 – 5 pm
TML Board Meeting Nashville Board Room
Marriott

5:30 - 6:30
Registration Entrance to
NW / SW Exhibit Hall

6:30 - 8 pm
Welcome Reception NW / SW Exhibit Hall

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

9 am – 4 pm
Registration Entrance to
NW / SW Exhibit Hall

11 am
Exhibit Hall Opens NW / SW Exhibit Hall

12 – 1 pm
TCMA Lunch Meeting Room 202

11:30 am - 1 pm
Buffet Lunch
11:30 am – 1 pm
J.R. Wauford & Co. Ice Cream

1 - 1:45 pm **District Meetings**

District 1 Room L-2
Margaret Feierabend, Councilmember, Bristol

District 2 Room L-3
Dot LaMarche, Vice Mayor, Farragut

District 3 Room L-4
Bo Perkinson, Councilmember, Athens

District 4 Room L-5
Hoyte Jones, Alderman, Sparta

District 5 Room L-6
Kevin Helms, City Manager, Oak Hill

District 6 Room L-10
John Hickman, City Manager, Waynesboro

District 7 Room L-11
Vance Coleman, Mayor, Medina

District 8 Room L-12
David Gordon, Mayor, Covington

2 – 3:15 pm Ballroom CD
Opening General Session
Presiding: Ken Wilber, Mayor Portland, TML President
Presentation of Colors: Memphis Fire Department
Welcome: Memphis Mayor A.C. Wharton
Keynote Speaker: Peter Kageyama

There is a gap between the city people desire and the city taxpayers can afford. And solutions may not always come in a predictable package. Peter Kageyama will share his insights on what motivates citizens to connect with their cities.



Kageyama

3:30 - 4:30 pm
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 1 Ballroom E
Identifying Your City's "Love Notes"
Speaker: Peter Kageyama

In his keynote address, Kageyama addressed the importance of citizen engagement, emotional attachment and creative "placemaking." In his breakout session, he will go into more details on how to use that excitement and energy and turn it into tangible actions. Nearly every city or town has something that local residents can connect with on an emotional level. Tapping into that emotional attachment can be a powerful tool and open up new possibilities in community, social and economic development.

Workshop 2 Room L-2 & L-3
Affordable Health Care Act / Health Care Reform
Speaker: Mark Morgan, President, Sherrill Morgan

Overwhelmed by health care reform and confused about what it means for your city and your employees? This informational workshop will feature the latest updates in health care reform. With so many aspects unknown and the rules constantly changing, it's all but impossible for employers to stay up-to-date. This session will take you on a crash course of everything you need to know including hot topics such as "pay or play penalties," SBC requirements, and insurance exchanges.

Workshop 3 Room L-5
Fraud in Municipal Government
Speaker: Sharee Brewer, MTAS Financial Consultant

This session will provide an overview of the fundamentals of fraud including the nature and types of fraud, prevention of fraud, and techniques to detect fraud in organizations. A discussion of current examples and resolutions will also be included.

5 – 8 pm **Host City Reception**
Baseball & Barbecue Redbirds Autozone Park

MONDAY, JUNE 24

8 am – 5 pm Room L-10 & L-11
TN Municipal Attorneys Association Meeting

7:45 - 8:30 am Grand Lobby
Continental Breakfast
9 am – 2 pm NW / SW Exhibit Hall
Registration / Exhibit Hall Opens

8:30 – 9:30 am
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 4 Room L-2
Fiscal First Aid: Becoming the Picture of Fiscal Health
Speakers: Jon Johnson and Chris Fabian
Center for Priority Based Budgeting

Communities across America are struggling to develop meaningful and fiscally prudent budgets under financial pressures unknown in modern times. Revenues are down while demand for services are up. Citizens believe governments are "fat" and that there is ample waste to cut. Civic leaders believe fiscal policy



Johnson

should center on spreading the pain with equal cuts across the board with no appreciation for unintended consequences, optimization of budgets, or alignment of financial resources with community priorities. By applying the wrong treatment, you will discover that you can make matters worse. This workshop will help attendees determine the best approach for reaching and maintaining long-term financial stability.



Fabian

Workshop 5 Room L-3
How to Create Aggressive Recruiting Strategies
Speaker: C. Kelly Cofer, The Retail Coach

Retail IS economic development and should be a component of your community's comprehensive economic development strategy. Your success will bring increased sales and property tax revenue; new jobs; more shopping and eating options; and reduced outflow of dollars to other communities. Retail choices also enhance your community's quality of life, which is a component in recruiting businesses and a capable workforce. As U.S. retail competition continues to heat up, it is becoming increasingly urgent and important for Tennessee cities to take a greater role in the recruitment process. This workshop will focus on 10 steps that should be a part of every Retail Economic Development Plan and can help give you the competitive advantage you need in today's economy.



Cofer

Workshop 6 Room L-4
Identifying the Best Candidates for Local Government Positions
Speaker: Ron Holifield

In his book, *Good to Great*, Jim Collins emphasizes the importance of getting the right people on the bus. Unfortunately, the local government hiring processes has not consistently produced superstars. This session will provide practical strategies for dramatically improving your hiring and selection processes at very little cost. Utilizing proven hiring and selection practices will result in higher performing organizations with improved morale, and greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Workshop 7 Room L-5
Understanding Municipal Financial Statements
Speaker: Mike Hewitt, CPA, Alexander Thompson Arnold

The annual financial report should be much more than a legal document that sits on a shelf in your office. This is a useful tool that provides citizens, elected officials, and municipal staff important financial and statistical information needed for effective municipal management. This session will provide an understanding of the contents of the annual financial report and provide skills necessary to obtain basic financial information from this document.

9:45 - 10 am Break

10 - 11 am
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 8 Room L-2
Fiscal First Aid (continued)



Rooney

Workshop 9 Room L-3
Avoiding Municipal Communication Mishaps
Speaker: Jim Rooney

What would you say if you could reduce relationship tension with staff, city council members, and your citizens and at the same time enhance your city's image? This workshop will help you develop interpersonal communication skills to become a more successful leader and improve your influence with those you interact with. Simple communication concepts will become the bedrock skill that helps you significantly improve your professionalism, influence and effectiveness.

Workshop 10 Room L-4
Sustainable Competitiveness of TN Municipalities
Speakers: Dr. Meg Streams and Dr. Soumen Ghosh
Tennessee State University

In an economy characterized by uncertainty, even as positive signs of recovery begin to emerge, Tennessee local jurisdictions face ongoing challenges. Some are experiencing the demands of rapid growth while others must cope with the pressure to maintain basic services. Rural and urban areas alike recognize the needs for educational improvement, maintenance of infrastructure, and economic development, yet must draw on different resource bases to meet these needs. An ongoing research collaboration with TACIR helps us understand more about the assets that counties already possess, and how those assets might best be deployed to sustain services and improve economic viability. This workshop will also discuss results gathered from focus groups with elected officials.

Workshop 11 Room L-5
GASB Updates
Speaker: Mike Hewitt, CPA, Alexander Thompson Arnold

This session will provide an overview of the accounting changes from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and what is required by the latest update.

11 am – 11:45 pm Ballroom C
Second General Session
Changes in TN Annexation Laws
Speaker: Chad Jenkins, TML Deputy Director

Before the Tennessee General Assembly adjourned, among the last issues approved was legislation that affects how municipalities can annex residential or agricultural property. Public Chapter No. 441 imposes several provisions including a 13-month moratorium on annexations by ordinance and requires TACIR to conduct a comprehensive study on the efficacy of current annexation related laws (PC1101) and report back to the speakers of each chamber on or before Jan. 14, 2014. TML staff will provide a brief overview of the current law and review possible changes currently being discussed.

12 - 12:30 pm Ballroom C
Annual Business Meeting
President's Annual Report: Ken Wilber, Portland Mayor
Executive Director's Report: Margaret Mahery
Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Report:
Charles G. "Bones" Seivers, President & CEO
The Pool Report: Dawn Crawford, President

12 – 2 pm Room 202
MTAS Advisory Lunch
12:30 – 1:30 pm NW / SW Hall
Buffet Lunch
12:30 – 2 pm NW / SW Hall
J. R. Wauford & Co. Ice Cream

2:15 – 3:15 pm
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 12 Room L-2
Updates to the Tennessee Business Tax
Speakers: David Gerregano, Deputy Commissioner, and Billy Trout, Taxpayer Services Manager, TN. Dept. of Revenue

Officials with the Department of Revenue will discuss changes to the business tax. The Tennessee Legislature approved the "Uniformity and Small Business Relief Act of 2013," that restructures and revises the business tax including the distribution of the tax and various deductions, credits, and exemptions of the tax.

Workshop 13 Room L-3
Building Healthy Communities with Community Gardens and Walking Programs
Speakers: Carl Wayne Hardeman, master gardener
Dan Popovic, director, Atlanta BeltLine Running Series

In the past 20 years, obesity has risen in the United States to an epidemic level. Communities across the nation are recognizing the need to take a community-wide approach for combating obesity by promoting healthy and active lifestyles. Encouraging people to eat healthier becomes easier when people have access to fresh, high-quality fruits and vegetables. Engaging your community in fitness activities can be fun and rewarding through community challenges. Master gardener Carl Wayne Hardeman will provide essential information on how to launch a community garden in your area. And Dan Popovic, tri-athlete and event director for the Atlanta BeltLine Running Series, will provide information on how to launch a community walking program to encourage your residents to engage in more physical activity.

Workshop 14 Room L-4
Memphis Best Practice Public Works Projects
Speakers: Benny Lendermon, President
Riverfront Development Corporation
Michael Carpenter, City of Memphis,
Office of Intergovernmental Relations



Lendermon

• Beale Street Landing
Memphis and the Mississippi River are synonymous, and both locals and tourists come to the riverfront for communion, recreation, and respite. With the completion of Beale Street Landing, the Memphis riverfront will be the place to live, work and play. Join RDC President Benny Lendermon to hear more about the newest riverfront amenity and all it has to offer.

• Main St. to Main St. Multi-modal Connector
Mr. Carpenter will discuss the process for applying for and securing a TIGER IV grant and how multi-jurisdictional cooperation led to the construction of the Main Street to Main Street Multi-modal Connector. The presentation will include criteria for grant selection, strategies for securing matching dollars, and unique aspects of the project that made it appealing to Federal evaluators.

3:15 – 3:30 pm Break

3:30 – 4:30 pm
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 15 Room L-2
Getting Your Share of the Pie
Speaker: Valerie Mann



Mann

A successful grant writer for 35 years, Mann will discuss every step of the grant process, enabling both the novice and experienced grant writer to successfully pursue grant money. There is an enormous amount of money available for nearly any kind of non-profit, municipality, police department, fire department, and water and wastewater facility. This workshop will discuss the "dos and don'ts" of grant writing and will include all stages of the grant seeking process. This session will give attendees a crash course on the most basic rules for success in obtaining grant funding.

Workshop 16 Room L10 - L11
Minimizing Your Exposure to Police Liability
Speakers: John Burleson and Dale Conder
Rainey, Kizer, Reviere & Bell, P.L.C

Police officers often interact with the public in situations that are tense and stressful, and in which split-second decisions must be made. This workshop will review police liability cases, both state and federal, in Tennessee and the 6th Circuit, and use them to illustrate how to avoid or decrease liability. Lessons learned from the review of court decisions can help cities and police departments in their training programs, and in instituting policies and procedures that will help avoid or minimize exposure to this fertile area of liability.



Burleson

Workshop 17 Room L-5
An analysis of audit findings in Tennessee
Speaker: Sharee Brewer, MTAS Financial Consultant

The session will explain the current audit finding processes and updates to those processes, which includes contracting for the audit, what goes on during the audit, and the follow up process with possible findings, including current examples. This session is informative and interesting and will remind everyone present of the need to remain vigilant of financial matters involving municipal government.

6:30 – 11 pm Ballroom CDE
The Pool Party

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

8 – 10:30 am Ballroom B
Annual Awards Breakfast
TML Achievement Awards
TCMA Excellence in Governance Award
TCAPWA Murphy Snoderly Award
TML Annual Awards
Stand by Your Spouse Award
City Manager of the Year
Mayor of the Year

Installation of 2013-2014 TML Board of Directors