

## Changes to business tax affects reporting, collections

Gov. Phil Bredesen proposed and the Tennessee General Assembly adopted changes regarding the reporting and collection of the business tax. These changes affect every city that levies a business tax.

Key provisions included in the legislation are:

- Businesses will continue to obtain a business license from the county clerk and /or municipal official
- Clerks and municipal officials will continue to administer transient vendor licenses
- Annual business tax returns will no longer be filled with county clerks and city officials, but will instead be filled with and taxes paid to the Tennessee Department of Revenue
- The Department of Revenue will also collect all delinquent taxes and handle all necessary audit functions.

"This legislation affords the department significant flexibility in implementing these changes," ex-

plains Reagan Farr, commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Revenue. "Our department will work closely with clerks and municipal officials to determine an implementation timeline and to ensure that we are able to share data and other critical information."

While the legislation is to take effect on July 1, 2009, Commissioner Farr recognizes that it will take some time to make the transition and has pledged that these changes will not be implemented until some time in the future.

During this transition period, a working group within the Department of Revenue is engaged in the following activities: identifying specific data fields or points of information that each municipality will be required to collect from the businesses it licenses; develop a simplified return; ensure that software is compatible so that a municipality can successfully transmit the required information to the department. See **BUSINESS TAX** on Page 8

## State-shared taxes down from last year

BY DICK PHEBUS  
MTAS Finance Consultant

The first session of the 106th Tennessee General Assembly adjourned on June 19. Faced with substantial shortfalls in revenues for both fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, and June 30, 2010, the general assembly made significant reductions to both years' original appropriations.

Many of the reductions affected state departments and state universities, which were forced to trim original budget requests.

The municipal statutory share of state shared taxes was unaffected except for revenue growth projections. Based on economic projections for FY 2010, municipalities are expected to receive approximately \$102.47 per capita for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009. Last year's projections were expected to be \$112.46 per capita.

Above is a breakdown of what municipalities can expect to receive in FY 2010. In cities that are in the process of adopting a budget or already have approved one, financial personnel should review this information to determine if adjustments to the budget document are necessary.

Also, there are:

- **The Hall Income Tax.** Statewide projections indicate very little growth due to economic conditions. Amounts to individual cities will fluctuate. Due to recent market volatility it would be prudent to be somewhat conservative in estimating your city's revenue.
- **The Corporate Excise Tax.** Statewide projections indicate little growth. This tax is based on bank profits and is distributed based on

See **PROJECTIONS** on Page 8

General Fund	
State Sales Tax	\$64.44
State Beer Tax	\$ 0.52
Special Petroleum Products	\$ 2.15
<i>(City streets and transportation revenue)</i>	
Gross Receipts Tax	\$ 9.89
<i>(TVA in lieu of taxes)</i>	
Total General Fund Revenue	\$77.00
State Street Aid Funds	
Gasoline & Motor Fuel Taxes	\$25.47
<b>Total Per Capita</b>	<b>\$102.47</b>
<i>(General and State Street Aid Funds)</i>	

## TDEC proposes fee increase

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) plans to increase fees to offset the reduction in state funding. In order for these changes to temporarily be in place by July 1, 2009, the department expedited the rules governing these changes.

Both the Water Quality Control Board (which considered the Environmental Protection Fee Increase Proposal) and the Water and Wastewater Operator and Certifications Board (which considered the increase in fees for the Fleming Training Center and Subsurface Sewage Disposal) met to initiate the process of making the proposed changes permanent rules.

Both boards voted to establish the proposal as "temporary rules" and to release the proposed changes for public comment. A series of public hearings will be conducted in August. After the public hearings, TDEC will evaluate and respond to the feedback and possibly make changes to the proposal before the rules may be adopted permanently by their respective boards.

Information for public hearings regarding the proposed increases to Environmental Protection Fees is as follows:

- Monday, Aug. 17, 5 p.m. (CDT) Jackson Environmental Field Office  
1625 Hollywood Drive  
Jackson, TN 38305  
(731)512-1300/1-888-891-8332
- Tuesday, Aug. 18, 5 p.m. (CDT)

Nashville Environmental Field Office  
711 R. S. Gass Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37243-1550  
(615) 687-7000/1-888-891-8332

- Thursday, Aug 20, 5 p.m. (EDT) Knoxville Environmental Field Office  
3711 Middlebrook Pike  
Knoxville, TN 37921-5602  
(865)594-6035/1-888-891-8332

Public hearing dates for changes to the proposed increase in fees for the Fleming Training Center and Subsurface Sewage Disposal have not been determined at this time, and we will notify you when we receive the information.

TML staff has worked with MTAS to identify the proposed increases affecting fees that are commonly paid by cities. We have received feedback from a number of cities and plan to submit comments on the proposals in August. We strongly encourage your city to either attend one of the public hearing sessions or make TML aware of your concerns by Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009. You may send your responses to Denise Paige at [dpaige@tml1.org](mailto:dpaige@tml1.org).

On the TML web site, you will find links to three EXCEL spreadsheets. Each document corresponds with one of the three areas impacted by the proposal. Each spreadsheet identifies the fees of interest to municipalities as well as the amount of the increase. Visit [www.tml1.org](http://www.tml1.org).

## Energy-efficiency grants available to municipalities for building upgrades

As part of a bill signing ceremony of the Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009, Gov. Phil Bredesen used the occasion to announce a separate \$9.3 million grant program for small and medium-sized cities and counties to be used for energy-efficiency upgrades in their local government facilities.

The grants will be funded by the federal Recovery Act and are subject to approval by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Preference for the new grants - up to \$100,000 for a city or county - will be given to local governments that commit to promoting community-wide energy efficiency efforts, including minimum standards for new home construction.

A major component of the Clean Energy Act includes establishing a statewide residential building code in local areas that do not currently have minimum residential building



Photo by Carole Graves

Gov. Bredesen signs the Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009 into law.

standards.

"Sound energy policy begins with a statewide commitment to efficiency and conservation," Bredesen said. "The fact is: The cleanest energy of all is the energy that we don't use. I look forward to working with

local governments to develop additional programs in the future that promote efficiency across our state."

The state Department of Commerce and Insurance will establish See **ENERGY** on Page 9

## TRA to participate in solar energy study

BY VICTORIA SOUTH  
Communications Coordinator

Tennessee is once again at the forefront in the quest for cleaner energy. The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) has been selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUS) to participate in a DOE funded study, "Solar Energy Analysis for the States," that will provide important research on the potential benefits of solar energy deployment.

The study will help identify the

technical, economic, and regulatory barriers facing solar energy. This research can be used to set informed renewable energy policy.

"The beauty of this project is that it is an independent assessment," said past TRA Chairman Eddie Roberson. "Some parts of the state may not be as successful with solar energy as in other parts. This study will identify the areas that will benefit the most from solar energy deployment and help in the early adoption of these projects. It will also identify problems that might need to go before the General As-

sembly."

One of 16 states to apply to participate in the project, Tennessee's application was reviewed by a team of utility and renewable energy experts from around the country. Tennessee, along with the project's other participants, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Georgia, Missouri, and Colorado will receive a tailored analysis of available solar energy deployment resources, which Roberson says should be complete within one year.

"The information will be shared See **TRA** on Page 8

## Summer jobs program a boon in the wake of spiraling youth unemployment



Among the faces of the nation's unemployed, teens and young adults have been experiencing the bleakest period of unemployment in history. Funded by the Federal Stimulus Act, the Summer Youth Jobs Program in Tennessee helped provide nearly 12,000 jobs for disadvantaged youth between the ages of 14 and 24. Pictured left to right: Franklin municipal interns: Blake Hargove, 17; Bryan Parkinson, 19; Robert Walden, 21; and Ashley Marange, 19.

BY VICTORIA SOUTH  
TML Communications Coordinator

A sluggish labor market isn't news to our nation's young people; it's the norm. Once shoe-ins for summer jobs in retail, food service, lawn care or burger flipping, many teens and young adults find themselves displaced, competing against mature more experienced laid-off workers for those same minimum wage jobs.

A report by Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies, "The Collapse of the National Teen Job Market and the Case for Immediate Summer and Year Round Youth Jobs Creation Program" reveals the face of unem-

ployment is growing consistently younger. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows last June through August, only 32.7 percent of teens worked, down from 45 percent for the same period in 2000 and the same goes for 20-24 year old adults, those without a 4-year degree in 2007, were substantially below those of 2000.

These trends could negatively impact the professional lives of America's youth, according to U.S. labor professionals, who stress that summer jobs do more than help young people pay for car insurance, college or provide pocket money; jobs provide important skills and work protocol necessary for youths to mature and succeed in the busi-

ness world.

Workers must find a way to arrive on time and be well rested, clean, and prepared to perform their job tasks. Working teens also learn important life skills that range from communication to problem solving. And in many fields—including fast-growing ones, such as healthcare and computers—a job that provides those skills might serve as a valuable steppingstone to a future career. — U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

"We are seeing more young people entering college age without a job, said Ellen Zinkiewicz, director of Youth & Community Services for the Nashville Career Advancement Center. "They will hit school See **YOUTH** on Page 3

# NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



## BY TML STAFF REPORTS

### BARTLETT

American Paper Optics LLC has opened a new office at 2995 Appling Road. The 3-D paper glasses manufacturer signed a seven-year lease for 27,500 square feet of office and marketing space. It is using 15,000 square feet for production, 5,000 square feet for warehousing and 7,500 square feet for office. It moved from a 12,500-square-foot facility.

### CHATTANOOGA

Gestamp Corp. plans to invest \$90 million to establish a new automotive parts stamping operation in Chattanooga, creating 230 new jobs. The new business will be located in the Enterprise South Industrial Park, and the jobs will be created over a three-year period. Gestamp has been contracted to supply structural components for the new mid-sized sedan designed for the U.S. market from Volkswagen. The company is a global supplier and provides a wide range of technologies and products for many other automotive companies.

### CHATTANOOGA

Some Tennessee military veterans remain concerned about a lack of space at the Chattanooga National Cemetery. Veterans don't want it to go the way of Nashville and Knoxville national cemeteries, which are closed to new burials except if the spouse is already buried at the cemetery. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration officials met with a group of about 50 veterans at the American Legion Post 95 in East Ridge recently to discuss the development of the national cemetery. Officials presented two short-term construction projects already proposed that would add more than 16,000 crypts and allow the cemetery to continue services until 2048. As of May, there were approximately 5,634 casket burial sites available at the cemetery. About 570 sites are used each year.

### COLLIERVILLE

The old Town Hall is history. It took a track hoe only a few hours to erase the building that served as the town hall from 1965 to 2003 in downtown Collierville. A new home for the municipal court will rise on the spot, at 101 Walnut, as part of a \$5 million

expansion of police and court facilities. The contract allows 24 months to complete the project, but contractors are anticipating a completion date of August or September of next year, according to Chip Petersen, assistant town administrator. A dedication for the old "city hall" building and former branch library next door to it was held in 1965. The former library branch, now the police annex, is also slated for demolition, at the end of the expansion project.

### HENDERSONVILLE

*Family Circle* magazine ranked Hendersonville among the top 10 cities for families. The communities featured in the magazine's annual roundup of perfect places to call home combine affordable housing, good neighbors, green spaces and A+ public school systems. In its feature on Hendersonville, the magazine praised the city of about 47,000 for the way parents watch out for one another's children. It also gave schools high marks for routinely passing state and national averages.

### JACKSON

The Jackson Sun has eliminated 15 full-time and six part-time positions to offset declines in revenue due to difficult economic conditions. The cuts coincide with reductions at other newspapers owned by The Jackson Sun's parent company, Gannett. About 1,400 jobs are being eliminated among Gannett newspapers across the country.

### JASPER

New flood maps from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are drawing protest in Jasper from people who say they're wrong and they're going to force people into insurance trouble. The federal government uses the maps to calculate flood dangers and set insurance rates for the Federal Insurance Administration, a component of FEMA. Developers must design buildings according to what the maps say. A FEMA spokeswoman said map changes are made for various reasons, but most cases require property owners to hire a licensed surveyor or professional engineer to produce an elevation certificate for FEMA to review. Developers fill in low spots near creeks and flood plains to level land for construction, which means maps must be updated, since development changes the way

floodwater spreads when creeks and rivers run out of their banks. FEMA requires flood insurance for people living in a flood plain but suggests it for anyone who lives in an area that has even a moderate chance of flooding.

### LA VERGNE

Quality Industries Inc. has laid off 111 people from its La Vergne facility. The company is a sheet metal manufacturer and makes parts for truck manufacturing companies. Quality made truck parts for Peterbilt Motors Company.

### LAWRENCEBURG

Ford Motor Company's shuttering of a local dealership, Steve Williams Ford, is costing the community about 20 jobs and hundreds of thousands of dollars in sales tax revenue. The Ford dealership generates about \$600,000 in local sales tax revenue. The dealership also has been a supporter of local activities, such as high school football, the chamber of commerce and other local nonprofit organizations.

### MOUNT JULIET

Nissan North America is consolidating its Middle Tennessee distribution centers, moving the operations from Smyrna to Mount Juliet. Plans to build a 717,000-square-foot industrial building for the company in the Couchville Pike Business Center were announced by the center's owner and developer. The move will combine Nissan's operations now housed in two buildings in Smyrna in the Alamaville Road area, and no additional jobs are expected to be added. The tentative opening date is April 2010.

### MURFREESBORO

A phone service that has helped Rutherford County students with their homework for the past five years will be cut in the coming school year because of a lack of funding. Rutherford County Schools will no longer offer Homework Hotline, which provides one-on-one tutoring to children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Last school year the district spent \$8,000 on the service, which was made available free of charge to students calling the number, according to information from the program. Donors provided an additional \$11,000. A little more than 3,000 calls were answered at a cost of 30 cents a minute to the school system.

### NASHVILLE

Eight Metro Nashville schools have landed federal grants to give kids free fresh fruits and vegetables. The food purchased through the grants will be fresh—not canned or frozen, and provided throughout the school day. Schools with the greatest percentage of economically disadvantaged students were given the highest level of consideration. Grant funding levels range from \$3,206 to \$40,030. Funds were secured through the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and were awarded based on factors including staff commitment, efficient use of resources and innovative promotional efforts. Hattie Cotton Elementary; Glenview Elementary; Haywood Elementary; Hermitage Elementary; KIPP Academy; Murrell School; Shwab Elementary; and Una Elementary.

### NASHVILLE

The Davidson County Criminal Court Clerk's office has enhanced its Web site to allow the public to get detailed criminal histories of people in Nashville. Officials at the clerk's office believe the revamped site will be among the best in the nation to allow citizens to dig up someone's criminal past. And the information is free. Now, with just a few clicks of a mouse, people can type in a name and get a summary of someone's entire criminal history in Nashville. The site also tells whether someone



Photo courtesy of the Memphis Commercial Appeal

A track hoe demolishes the building that served as the town hall from 1965 to 2003 in downtown Collierville. A new home for the municipal court will rise on the spot, at 101 Walnut, as part of a \$5 million expansion of police and court facilities.

was convicted of a crime and gives details about the punishment. Search at <http://ccc.nashville.gov> and see records dating back to 1980.

### UNION CITY

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber plant is giving out buyout checks to 550 employees. The employees are part of a plant-wide buyout agreement between Goodyear and United Steel Workers Local 878.

### VONORE

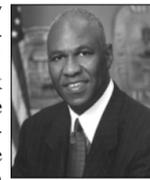
Mastercraft has resumed production and began re-hiring 175 workers who were laid-off. The boat maker's recent restructuring prompted the rehiring. The Vonore facility will have 218 employees on the job. According to the company's President and CEO, John Dorton, Mastercraft is now backlogged with orders and he hopes production stays steady indefinitely.



## PEOPLE

### BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Following nearly 18 years of service, Memphis' first elected black mayor, **Willie Herenton**, has resigned to devote his energy to a run for Congress. Herenton said he will join his son Rodney Herenton at his Memphis-based holding company focusing on the institutional investment management business. His departure will leave City Council Chairman Myron Lowery to serve as mayor until a special election in October. Herenton will leave as the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.



Herenton

**Dr. Kenneth C. Hill** has joined The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA). Dr. Hill has been elected director and will serve the remainder of the term vacated by Tre' Hargett who now serves as the Secretary of State. Hill has been active in communications and broadcasting for over three decades in various aspects of television and radio. His term will end June 30, 2014. **Sara Kyle** will serve as chairman of the agency which is responsible for regulating the state's privately-owned utilities. Kyle, who was originally nominated on February 29, 1996, was reappointed in 2002, and again in 2008, to serve another six year term. She succeeds former Chairman Eddie Roberson.



Kyle

Haywood Community College Vice President **Janice Gilliam** has been pegged by Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Charles Manning to lead Northeast State Community College in Blountville. Gilliam is currently vice president of student development services at Haywood. She would replace Dr. Bill Locke.

### Rep. Curt Cobb

Shelbyville, was appointed as Bedford County Clerk and Master by 17th Judicial District Chancellor J.B. Cox. Cobb submitted his letter of resignation from the General Assembly to succeed Pat Finney, who retired after a 38-year career in the Bedford County legal community. Cobb has



Cobb

served as state representative for the 62nd District representing Bedford and parts of Lincoln and Rutherford Counties since 2002.

### Rebecca Hargrove

president and CEO of the Tennessee Education Lottery, has been named chair of the Powerball Group of the Multi-State Lottery Association. Hargrove will oversee the management and marketing of the group, its budget, its rules and new membership. A 24-year lottery industry veteran, Hargrove has served as the chief executive of four U.S. lotteries and was hired in 2003 to launch Tennessee's lottery.



Hargrove

**Kevin Bratton** has been hired as Johnson City's new director of Human Resources. Bratton served as Bristol's HR director for four years and was Johnson City's training and development specialist from 1999 to 2005 where he also served as liaison to the Public Building Authority as well as managed projects for the office of the city manager. Bratton also has prior military service and healthcare experience.

Jackson City Councilman **Ernest Brooks, II**, has been selected by the National League of Cities (NLC) to attend an Emergency Management Training Program in Mobile, Alabama. In the wake of recent disasters, such as Hurricanes Rita and Katrina and the Minneapolis bridge collapse, the National League of Cities has created the NLC-Emergency Management Training Program, to provide in-depth emergency management training to local officials. The Department will solicit input on critical infrastructure; grant making, interoperability, and intelligence collection and dissemination and emergency services.

### Don Thornton

city manager of Union City since 1979, will retire at the end of July. Thornton's tenure is currently the longest in the state. A retirement reception will take place in Thornton's honor July 28, at the City Hall in Union City, 408 South Depot Street, from 2 to 4 p.m.



## NATIONAL BRIEFS



### BY TML STAFF REPORTS

**Faced with wide losses and a long slide in mail volume, the Postal Service is considering eliminating Saturday deliveries and closing more post offices.** The challenge will be getting consumers, unions and lawmakers, who have fought even small changes in mail delivery, to go along with the plan. The volume of first-class mail, the Postal Service's most-lucrative business, has been eroded by the migration of bill payments and individual correspondence to the Internet. The Postal Service reported a nearly \$2 billion loss for the second quarter ended March 31, with mail volume

down nearly 15 percent from the year before. Postal officials predict it will handle about 180 billion pieces of mail this fiscal year, down by 32 billion pieces two years earlier.

**The nation's Social Security numbering system has left millions of citizens vulnerable to privacy breaches, according to researchers at Carnegie Mellon University, who have used statistical techniques to predict Social Security numbers solely from an individual's date and location of birth.** The findings, published in The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, are further evidence that privacy safeguards created in the era before powerful computers and ubiquitous networks are increasingly failing, setting up an "architecture of vulnerability" around personal digital information.

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# Youth employment an important link to success

YOUTH from Page 1

taking on debt, move on from there, apply for internships and hit the work world needing to pay bills and student loans without any prior work experience. Teens with jobs are learning the difference between work and school. At school, when you're sick, you can call the school for any notes or homework, miss two or three days and return bringing a note from home. If you show up for work having gone missing for three days, you probably won't have a job anymore. Without exposure to the work world, kids don't always understand that they have to make sure things are taken care of if they're going to be away. Employers are more forgiving of teenagers when they make mistakes because they're learning. Things are far different if you're fired as a 15-year old rather than as an adult."

This summer, a \$25 million allocation for the state's Summer Youth Jobs Program by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) has provided work experience for a large number of disadvantaged youth ages 14-24. They can be spotted at places such as state parks, city and county government offices, and non-profits all across Tennessee.

"The money provided by the ARRA is helping re-instate a valuable program that will help train, educate and enrich our youth," said Gov. Phil Bredesen. "We want the participants in this program to walk away with actual workplace experience that will help to better their future."

The program, which runs from June to August or September for most participants, is available to youths ages 14 to 24 who are low income and have one or more of the following barriers: deficient in basic literacy skills, school dropout, homeless, runaway or foster child, pregnant or parenting, offender, or an individual (including a youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment.

"The current economic downturn is making the possibility of summer employment very difficult for disadvantaged youth," said Commissioner James Neeley, Tennessee De-

partment of Labor and Workforce Development. Statistics from the department show the number of unemployed youth since 2007 has more than doubled resulting in more than 45,000 unemployed youth in 2009."

"We've counted 11,000 participants in the program right now," said Jeff Hentschel, communications director, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. "We're not through counting. Our goal is 12,000 and we're very close to that goal."

According to Hentschel, each Local Workforce Investment Area received a portion of the funding that matched the unemployment rate in that area, music to the ears of local officials, citizens and youth in Linden, where 60 young people are combining their talents and efforts to help revitalize the economically-strapped community in Perry County.

"We have accomplished things we wouldn't have been able to without the Summer Youth Program," said Linden Mayor Jim Azbill. "Kids are cleaning up, painting, power washing and creating a lot of public art. Trained by resident artists, the interns have created one-of-a-kind mosaic garbage receptacles and murals in clay that have been distributed across downtown.

"They are really changing the face of our community," said Azbill.

In May, Gov. Bredesen announced a plan to employ 300 residents by using federal stimulus dollars, cutting employment in the county by 40 percent, after Perry County garnered the state's highest rate of unemployment at 25.4 percent.

"We are very appreciative for what the governor has done for us," Azbill said. "It was really a shot in the arm."

A town that once had all its eggs in one basket, the automotive industry, massive layoffs at two of the largest employers in the region have forced the community to explore modern methods of diversifying its economy by creating a brand distinctly its own. No one would have foretold that the town's youth would play such a vital role.

"They are also working on numerous projects from historical research, web design



Linden youth worker Leah Primm sculpts a concrete mural for a series of public art projects that will grace the town's downtown area.

and journalism to surveying business trends and talking with local business owners and videotaping the town's older citizens for historical promotional spots while cranking out press releases daily to promote Perry County," said Michael Dumont, administrator of Linden's program. "We are creating our brand in the arts community while giving our interns a summer job program that's unlike any other in the country."

According to Dumont, 80-90 percent of the participants have never held a job.

"As the Main Street coordinator, I am the liaison for Vision Perry," said 18-year old Daniel Killian, who will be starting Bethel College as a music business major this fall.

"I think the program is exceptional and love what I am doing, working toward one goal, to utilize the stimulus funds used to create this job program wisely by acting as a resource to bring business and industry to our town, which was dead."

"A lot of kids are saying that they wouldn't have found a job if it wasn't for this," said Stacy, a future pre-med, biology major interning as the town receptionist. "We are gaining valuable experience and many of the younger kids have become more mature as they learn what's required of them to work a real job."

"One of my articles has been picked up by the *Wall Street Journal*," said an ecstatic Troy Duncan, sophomore journalism major at UT Martin. "It was all over the wires."

In Franklin, Blake Hargrove, 17, is working as a summer intern for the city's cable station, Channel 10. "I have learned a lot about T.V. ...and about having to be awake at 8:00 for work," he said. Hargrove has expanded his knowledge base by videotaping the city meetings, transcribing programs and operating the teleprompter. "It's been a great experience and a lot of fun," he said.

With the stimulus funds administered through Workforce Essentials, Franklin's workers are paid \$7.25 an hour and were required to attend job readiness workshops focusing on customer service, work ethics, basic financial literacy, work safety and living "green" in today's world.

"Tennessee is a resource-rich area," said Zinkiewicz. "I am very hopeful that the program will be continued if the private sector does not pick up. "When we help our young people learn and connect with community resources, we've done our job."



Chris Lane, a worker with the city of Chattanooga's innovative summer youth program, The Chatt City Erasers, paints over graffiti. The program provides employment opportunities and activities for teens and young adults while keeping the city graffiti free.

## Water conservation is "souee-t" in Franklin

BY VICTORIA SOUTH

TML Communications Coordinator

Franklin is taking important steps to ensure that their city's water supply doesn't go to the hogs—Water Hogs, that is. The "Don't be a Water Hog, be a Water Hero" campaign, administered through Franklin's Water Management Department, is engaging children and families with fun and informative tips on the proper way to conserve water for both indoor and outdoor usage.

"This is a great way to raise awareness about our water usage," said City Administrator Eric Stuckey. "Both our city and citizens are working to be good stewards of our resources and that includes water conservation."

The smiling, blonde-haired piglet, complete with pink lipstick and blue cape, was first introduced at the city's 26th Annual Main Street Festival with stickers and kids' coloring pages along with important tips on how to conserve water. The campaign will accelerate in the fall, as students from Belmont University's Students in Free Enterprise program serving as mentors to 7th graders from the Franklin Special School District, will help the school produce a public service announcement video to be shown on the city's local channel 10 and develop a coloring book and story around the water hog-hero theme.

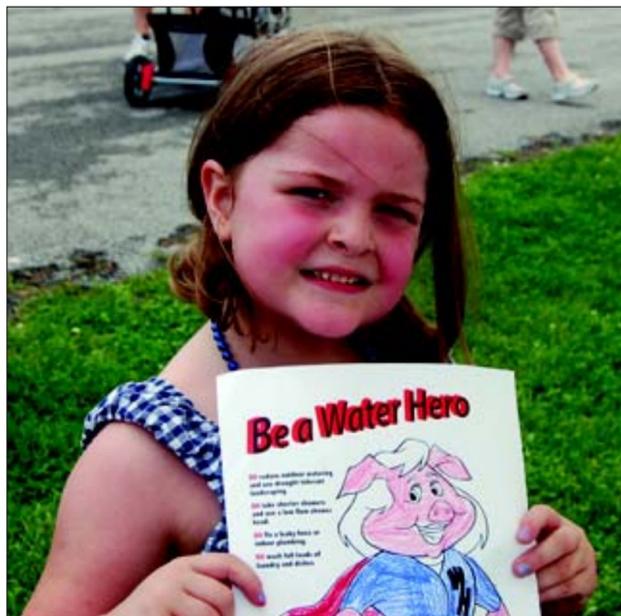
"This campaign is a great educational opportunity and partnership with the city," said Patty Littlejohn, 7th grade science teacher at Freedom Middle School. "It will be a lesson not only in water conservation, but in writing, designing, and video production."

"The water hog-hero campaign is a lighthearted theme with a serious message," said Mark Hilty, Franklin Water Management director. "Now that summer is upon us, the demands for water increase significantly and we want our customers to be mindful of this and use water conservatively."

The 2007 droughts had some cities across the state seriously scouting for water, prompting the state Department of Environment and Conservation to conduct a pilot program with the mission to bring together every city with a water system and connect them better. Sumner County, the pilot region, hopes to have a finalized plan in 2010 that could possibly be used as a model for other counties throughout the state.

"There wasn't much discussion between utility districts during the drought period," said Hilty. "Everyone was struggling, for the most part, and not a lot of options other than conservation."

In addition to the new campaign, the city of Franklin will be sending a letter to residents outlining ongoing measures taken by the Wa-



Franklin's "Don't be a Water Hog, be a Water Hero" campaign teaches children and families about the importance of both indoor and outdoor water conservation.

ter Management Department to conserve the city's water supply including a new leak detection program and rehabilitation of the city's raw water reservoir.

"We hired a contractor to perform a survey to cover our entire system on a five-seven year schedule," said Hilty, who encourages sustainable methods of conservation. "We're very excited about the new campaign and enjoying our new role in public relations."

### ARRA funds distribution by County provided by the Dept. Of Labor and Workforce Development:

- Carter, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington — \$1,276,202
- Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Green, Hamblen, Jefferson, Sevier, and Union—\$2,162,228
- Knox—\$1,062,556
- Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Cumberland, Loudon, Morgan, Monroe, Roane, Scott—\$1,863,899
- Bledsoe, Bradley, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie—\$2,197,182
- Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, Lincoln, Moore, Warren—\$931,890
- Cannon, Clay, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, VanBuren, White—\$1,162,019
- Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Stewart, Sumner, Williamson —\$1,893,565
- Davidson, Rutherford, Trousdale, Wilson—\$2,732,945
- Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Marshall, Maury, Perry, Wayne —\$1,549,267
- Benton, Carroll, Chester, Decatur, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Madison, McNairy, Weakley—\$2,088,341
- Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Lake, Lauderdale, Obion, Tipton—\$1,247,064
- Fayette, Shelby—\$4,931,958

# TML welcomes new exhibitors at 2009 annual conference



Aquafund



Aquaterra Engineering, LLC



Artech Design Group



BioDiesel Logic, Inc.



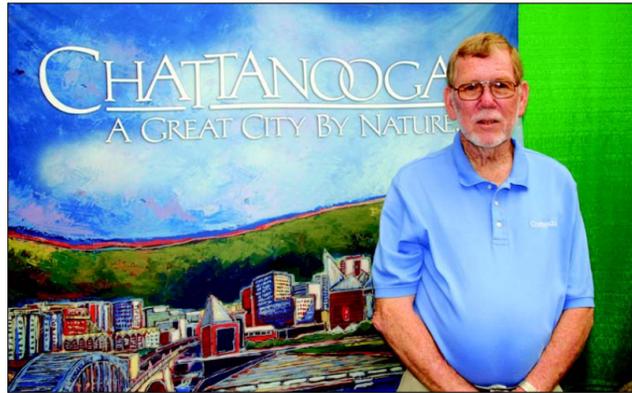
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee



Cannon & Cannon



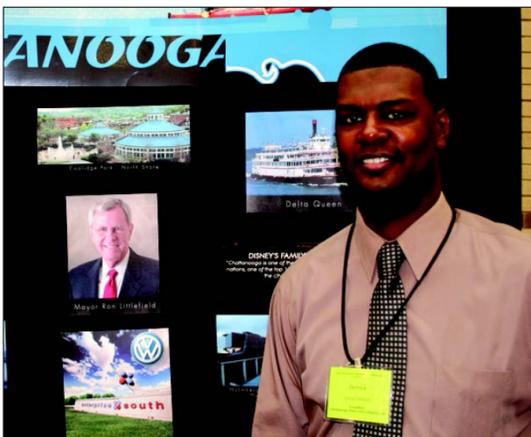
Carraway Computer Systems, LLC



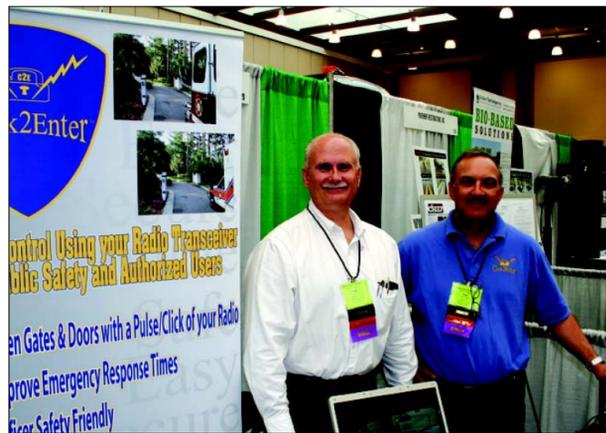
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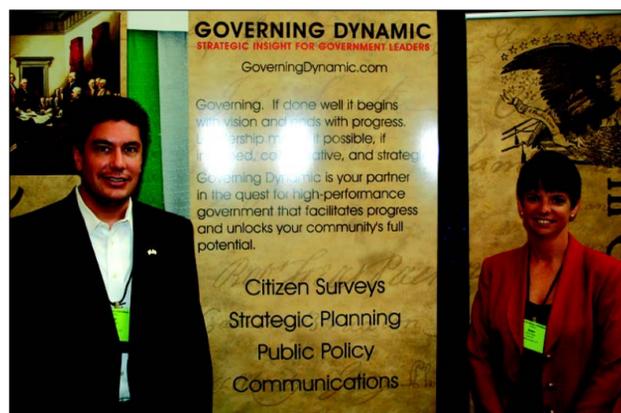
Collier Engineering Co., Inc.



epb Electric and Communications and Fiber Optics



Global Connect



Governing Dynamic



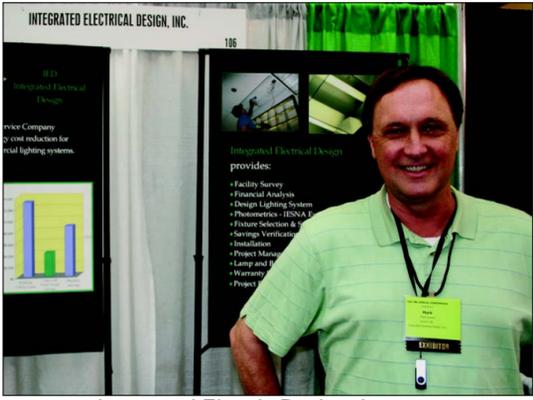
GVM Snow Equipment

*The Tennessee Municipal League thanks all participating exhibitors at the 2009 Annual Conference in Chattanooga. Your contribution helped to make this year's conference an outstanding success.*

*TML looks forward to seeing everyone next year at the 71st Annual Conference in Gatlinburg!*

Photos by Mark Barrett

# TML welcomes new exhibitors at 2009 annual conference



Integrated Electric Design, Inc.



International Town & Gown Assoc.



Komatsu American Corp.



Michael Brady Inc.



National League of Cities Prescription Discount Card



One Source Document Solutions



Shop 4 U



Stillpoint Health & Assoc.



Syntech Systems/Fuelmaster



Table 2 Grill and Lounge



TEL Tennessee Electronic Library



The Silver Link



Third Rock Consultants



Tennessee Consolidated Retirement Systems



Traffic Safety Corp



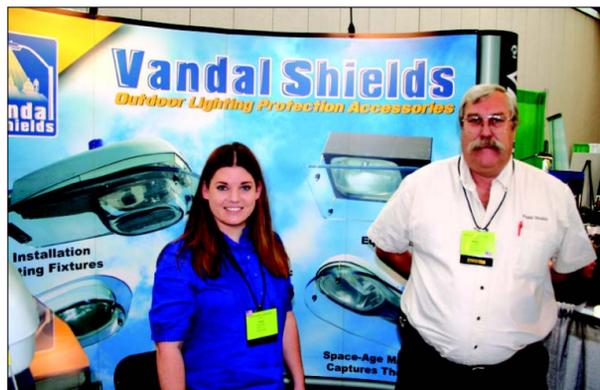
TriGreen Equipment



Trilec



Wayne Manufacturing



Vandal Shields



Pictured to the right: winners of this year's rent free booth, Click 2 Enter.

New 2009 exhibitors not pictured: NetAlliantTechnologies, LLC; Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks and Recorders (TAMCAR) and Waterhouse Public Relations.

# STATE BRIEFS

## BY TML STAFF REPORTS

**A bill extending unemployment benefits in the state for up to 20 weeks is now official.** With 14,000 Tennesseans applying for unemployment benefits every week, the state's unemployment office says thousands are running out of benefits every month and the extension gives them hope. With the extension Tennesseans can get up to 79 weeks of unemployment. The maximum payment is \$300 a week. Benefits are paid by the Federal government, but the money will stop at the end of this year and the benefit will go back to 26 weeks. Everyone who receives unemployment must keep a log of their job search and prove they are looking for a job. Under the extended benefits if they turn down a job that pays more than their unemployment they will lose their benefits.

**Gov. Bredesen has signed into a law a merger of the Tennessee Ethics Commission and the state Registry of Election Finance.** The new law closes down the state's first stand-alone Ethics Commission, created in response to the FBI's 2005 Tennessee Waltz undercover bribery sting operation, which led to the convictions of five former lawmakers. Sponsors say the newly merged Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance streamlines operations and saves up to \$300,000 per year.

**Tennessee cities have the power to allow dogs to be brought to restaurants' outdoor dining areas under a proposal signed by the governor.** The law is limited to cities with a population of at least 100,000, and business owners have the power to decide whether to allow dogs at their establishments. The measure goes into effect July 1.

**Gov. Bredesen has vetoed a bill that would prohibit Tennessee cities and counties from requiring restaurants to provide calorie counts on menus.** A recent report from Trust for America's Health research group shows 30 percent of Tennessee's adult population is obese, the fourth highest percentage in the country. In the case of the state's children, 37 percent are obese, which is the fifth highest percentage of obese children nationwide. The governor said the prohibition would "irresponsibly limit the state's ability to fight this epidemic."

**The Environmental Protection Agency has selected the Tennessee Department of Transportation to receive a \$2 million American Reinvestment and Recovery Act discretionary grant to begin equipping truck stops across the state with truck stop electrification (TSE) technology.** Truck stop electrification systems provide heating and cooling for sleeper cab compartments and power to run electrical appliances, such as computers and microwaves. TSE systems also allow trucks outfitted with on-board equipment to "plug in" to operate necessary systems without idling the engine. The project titled, "Reducing Idling Emissions from Heavy-Duty Diesel Trucks: Tennessee's Green Corridor Approach to Truck

Stop Electrification," will also save trucking companies the cost of fuel that would be used when idling. The EPA estimates that annual fuel savings could exceed \$3,240 per truck parking space.

**A home for poor and disabled Confederate soldiers and the cemetery they were buried in at The Hermitage have become part of the Civil War Trails program.** Historical markers were installed at the home of President Andrew Jackson and at the site of its Confederate Soldiers Home and Cemetery. The trails program is designed to raise awareness of the state's role in the war by creating driving tours of both the great campaigns and lesser-known Civil War sites.

**City councils across Tennessee are moving to reaffirm their bans on handguns in parks following passage of a new state law that lets people with carry permits bring handguns into parks.** But people opposed to handgun restrictions are mobilizing to block their efforts. The law is meant to let handgun permit holders carry their weapons into every park in the state, wiping out local policies governing handguns. But in a compromise to smooth the law's passage, legislators included a provision that gives local governments the power to ban guns in some or all of their parks by passing a new ordinance. Now, many local governments in Tennessee are moving to do just that before the state law goes into effect Sept. 1.

**Now, anyone with a federal student loan can apply for a program that caps monthly payments based on income and forgives remaining balances after 25 years.** The new payment option is intended to provide relief for those who earn modest salaries and struggle under the weight of student loans for years on end. Eligibility for income-based repayment is determined by a person's income and loan size. A calculator at [www.ibrinfo.org](http://www.ibrinfo.org) can help borrowers determine their eligibility for the plan. The program stems from the Education Department's College Cost Reduction and Access Act, signed in 2007, which authorized the creation of a new income-based repayment plan for Federal Family Education Loan and Direct Loan borrowers on all Stafford and graduate PLUS loans.

**A proposal to expand who would be eligible to attend charter schools in Tennessee has become law.** Under the proposal, children in school systems with at least 14,000 students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches will be eligible to enroll. Preference will be given to students with failing grades or those from failing schools. The measure also caps the number of charter schools in the state at 90.

**Farmers are expected to plant 55,000 more acres of cotton this year than they did in 2008, which will reverse a two-year decline in Tennessee cotton acreage planting.** Farmers have told the Tennessee Department of Agriculture that they intend to plant 340,000 acres of cotton this year, a 19 percent in-

crease over 2008. The pendulum to cotton swung around April 1, according to the TDA, as farmers watched low but stable cotton prices. Farmers also expect late summer and fall price rallies in cotton as drought conditions in West Texas persist, according to the TDA.

**TDOT's HELP program is celebrating ten years of service in Tennessee's urban areas.** Since 1999, when the program launched in Nashville and Knoxville, TDOT's HELP drivers have responded to more than a million calls for various types of assistance, including one driver who helped deliver a baby. Each minute that a lane is blocked can translate into five minutes of delays for motorists. Delays can be dangerous for drivers and can lead to chain reaction accidents that further tie up Tennessee interstates. TDOT's HELP program works to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety and assist motorists who may be stranded on roadways. More than 50 trucks are in service each day around the state.

**The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has been honored for supporting employees deployed as citizen soldiers.** The department received the "Patriot Award" from the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve organization. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is an agency within the Department of Defense that works to promote cooperation and understanding between reserve component members and their civilian employers.

**State environmental authorities have granted the Tennessee Valley Authority approval to use four East Tennessee landfills as test sites for coal ash disposal, though the agency has no current plans to do so.** The nation's largest public utility is in the process of determining how to dispose of more than five million cubic yards of coal ash that breached an earthen dike last Dec. 22 at its Kingston Fossil Plant. TVA



Gov. Bredesen and the family of Eddie Newcomb, a HELP Supervisor in Knoxville who died in May 2009, plant the first Tennessee Groves flowers at the I-81 Welcome Center in Bristol.

conducted test runs in May of ash loading and offsite disposal with railroad cars at landfills in Mauk, Ga., and Uniontown, Ala., and has plans to send to the Alabama site about three million cubic yards of ash being dredged from the Emory River next to the plant.

**Tennessee Groves is a recently launched program that provides people with a way to memorialize loved ones, commemorate special events and beautify the state.** The program is a partnership between TDOT and the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council. Through Tennessee Groves, individuals or groups may purchase trees or flowers for planting at one of four Welcome Centers in the state: I-81 in Bristol, I-55 in Memphis, I-75 in Chattanooga and I-65 in Giles County south of Nashville beginning in the fall of 2009. Each donor will receive a certificate denoting the type of tree or flower to be planted, the donor's name and the name of the person or event being honored. Trees will be planted each year between November and March which is the optimum time for tree planting. TDOT hopes to expand the program to more areas, such as state rest areas, in the future.

**Caves located on state lands in Tennessee will be closed for a year in an effort to prevent the spread of White-nose Syndrome (WNS) among the state's bat population.** State agencies agreed to close all caves on public property after receiving a request from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The Nature Conservancy has also agreed to follow the state's lead to close all caves located on Conservancy property. The closures temporarily close public access to all caves, sinkholes, tunnels and abandoned mines on state land managed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Department of Forestry. These lands include state parks, forests, and wildlife management areas. The closure extends through May 2010 and follows similar steps taken elsewhere in response to a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service advisory asking for a moratorium on cave visitations in WNS-affected states and adjoining states. State agencies will work with The Nature Conservancy and cavers and caving groups to share information and answer questions.

## TDOS begins issuing driver's license with easier to read dates of birth

On July 1, the Tennessee Department of Safety (TDOS) began issuing driver licenses with the date of birth in larger red type designed to make it easier for retailers to read. "We are pleased to announce that the type size of the date of birth on the Tennessee driver license has been enlarged to comply with the 'Gus Kampas Act,' which was adopted by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Bredesen in 2008," stated Department of Safety Deputy Commissioner Greta Dajani.

Public Chapter 638 of the Public Acts of 2008 required that the size of the type for the date of birth on the Tennessee driver license be the same size as the driver license number. The legislation was sponsored by Sen. Tim Burchett and Sen. Doug Overby, Rep. Kent Williams, Rep. Dale Ford and Rep. Eric Watson. Prior to the new law, the

driver license number was already a larger font size than most other personal information on the plastic laminated card. Senate Bill 3116 of 2008 also re-

quires that the date of birth be in red.

The Gus Kampas Act is named for the owner of Kampas Liquors on Alcoa Highway in Knoxville. The purpose of the legislation was to make it easier for retailers to see the date of birth on the Tennessee Driver License to quickly determine eligibility for the purchase of merchandise based on age requirements.

The provisions of the amend-



ment to TCA 55-50-331(b) applies only to the issuance of new or renewed driver licenses. Public Chapter 638 does not require driver license holders to obtain a new driver license unless the person is applying for a new license, a replacement driver license or renewing an existing Tennessee driver license.

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# 2009 Summary of Public Acts of Municipal Interest

BY JOSH JONES  
MTAS Legal Consultant

Alcoholic Beverages

**Chapter No. 208 (SB1947/HB1580). Retailers may not sell to persons visibly intoxicated.** Amends T.C.A. §§ 57-3-406 and 57-5-301 by stating that a retailer may not sell alcoholic beverages to any person who is visibly intoxicated or accompanied by a person who is visibly intoxicated. This revises the previous prohibition of selling to a person who is drunk or accompanied by a person who is drunk. Also prohibits a person with a permit to sell beer from selling beer to any person who is visibly intoxicated. *Effective July 1, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 273 (SB0944/HB1549). Grape and Wine Law amended.** Amends T.C.A. Title 57, Chapter 3, Part 2 in an attempt to bring the state's wine laws into compliance with the U.S. Constitution's commerce clause. Allows out-of-state wineries to be issued a Tennessee winery license. License allows a winery to manufacture wine, exchange wine in bulk with other wineries without constituting a taxable sale, sell juices and wine related items on premises and participate in wine festivals. Removes the limits on the amount of wine that a winery may sell at retail, except that it retains the limit of five cases or 60 liters of wine per customer per day for in-state wineries. *Effective May 21, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 314 (SB0531/HB0347). Background checks on beer permit applicants.** Amends T.C.A. § 57-5-103 by authorizing a city or county to seek criminal history background or fingerprint checks on beer permit applicants. A city or county may enter into an agreement with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation to conduct searches, and the bureau may assess a fee for the service. *Effective July 1, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 348 (SB0166/HB1155). Direct shipper license for in and out-of-state wine sales.**

Amends T.C.A. Title 57, Chapter 3 by creating a state-issued direct shipper license allowing in or out-of-state holders to ship wine to persons over twenty-one (21) years of age. Creates a felony offense for shipping wine without license. *Effective for purposes of rulemaking May 21, 2009; for all other purposes effective July 1, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 434 (SB1184/HB0434). Alcohol in dry counties.** Amends T.C.A. Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 7 and Title 57, Chapter 3 by allowing the transport of up to five (5) gallons of alcoholic beverages or wine for personal use in counties and municipalities and counties which have not permitted the sale of alcoholic beverages or wine. Authorizes transport in excess of five (5) gallons if purchased from a licensed retailer, wholesaler or winery. *Effective June 12, 2009.*

Animals

**Chapter No. 508 (SB0605/HB1603). Pet dogs allowed in certain outdoor dining areas.** Amends T.C.A. Title 6, Chapter 54, Part 1 by authorizing certain local governments to permit the presence of pet dogs in outdoor dining areas of restaurants. Local adoption permitted in municipalities with a population of at least one hundred thousand (100,000) or in Blount, Sevier or Fentress County by ordinance. Local ordinance must provide for compliance with state health laws and contain other health-related provisions. *Effective July 1, 2009.*

Annexation

**Chapter No. 374 (SB0169/HB0309). Process for amending comprehensive growth plan revised.** Amends T.C.A. § 6-58-104(d) allowing a growth plan to be amended after an initial three (3) year period following adoption. The process requires a city or county mayor to propose an amendment by filing notice with the county mayor and the mayor of each municipality in the county. Upon this notice, the county mayor must reconvene or re-establish the coordinating committee within sixty (60) days. The com-

mittee must forward its recommendation either for or against to the county legislative body and the legislative body of each municipality in the county within six (6) months of the date of the first meeting of the committee on the proposed amendment. The amendment becomes part of the growth plan upon approval by the governing bodies of the county and each municipality in the county and by the local government planning advisory committee. *Effective June 9, 2009.*

Boards, Commissions and Authorities

**Chapter No. 59 (SB0059/HB0114). Nashville Regional Council powers.** Amends § 64-7-110. Allows Greater Nashville Regional Council to own and lease property as necessary to fulfill their duties and responsibilities. *Effective April 2, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 84 (SB0445/HB0957). Industrial development corporation amendments.** Amends T.C.A., Title 7, Chapter 53, by permitting a municipal officer, city manager or chief administrative officer to serve as the director of a corporation jointly owned by two (2) or more municipalities. Additionally, this bill allows an industrial development corporation to secure the indebtedness of its lessees. *Effective April 13, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 158 (SB0653/HB1115). Revisions to laws governing regional megasite authorities.** Amends T.C.A. Title 13, Chapter 16, Part 2 and Title 64, Chapter 6, by revising numerous provisions relative to regional megasite authorities. Among the notable changes is the allowance of proximate but noncontiguous property to be part of the authority in addition to the minimum one-thousand contiguous acres. Additionally, the bill limits municipal participation in the authority to the largest municipality in the megasite county and any contiguous county. Allows a municipality to delegate the authority to create a megasite authority to other entities including an industrial de-

velopment corporation. This bill also creates an alternative method for creating an authority by the department of economic and community development. *Effective May 7, 2009.*

**Chapter No. 446 (SB0857/HB1122). Dissolution of airport authorities.** Amends T.C.A. Title 42, Chapter 3, Part 1 by creating a new method for dissolving an airport authority. A county legislative body which has created a municipal airport authority may dissolve that authority by a two-thirds (2/3) vote if they determine such action to be in the best interest of the county. The resolution must state whether the governing body of the municipality shall become the governing body to operate the airport. Also provides new provisions for removal and appointment of airport authority commissioners. *Effective June 23, 2009.*



**July 24 - July 26: Tomato Festival**  
Rutledge. Featuring Grainger County tomato wars, Mater Madness 5K, art & history exposition, agricultural antiques. For more information, call 423-231-5954.

**Aug. 1: Summer Jam Arts Fest**  
Linden. Celebrate Linden's revitalized historic arts district featuring art exhibits and music by local artists. For more information, contact the Perry County Chamber of Commerce at 931-589-2453.

**Sept. 7: Harrogate Labor Day Celebration**  
Harrogate City Park at 3 p.m. with kids' games, live bands, food, crafts and business fair. Spectacular fireworks display. For more information call Harrogate City Hall at 423-869-0211.

## University of Tennessee 2009 Urban Forestry Workshop Municipal, Utilities and Planning

This course provides an overview of the purpose and importance of a municipal urban forestry utilities and planning workshop.

Topics covered include an overview of the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program administered by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry; an overview of urban forestry programs, benefits and values; utility pruning concepts; and an introduction to Interface Forestry and the problems and opportunities urban growth and expansion present.

**Time**  
8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Dates and locations**  
Aug. 4 Germantown  
Aug. 5 Nashville  
Aug. 6 Pulaski  
Aug. 10 Morristown

**Training Facilities**  
**Germantown Athletic Club**  
1801 Exeter Road  
**Nashville, Tennessee State University School of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences Ag IT Building**

**Pulaski City Hall**  
203 South First St., Pulaski  
**Morristown City Hall**  
100 West North St., Morristown

To register by mail or fax, please visit the MTAS web site at [www.mtas.tennessee.edu](http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu) or contact Elaine Morrisey at [Elaine.morrisey@tennessee.edu](mailto:Elaine.morrisey@tennessee.edu) or 865.974.0411. Fees are \$25 per person. Please submit payment with registration. MTAS will need to receive payment in order to confirm your attendance for the class. (Make checks payable to the University of Tennessee).

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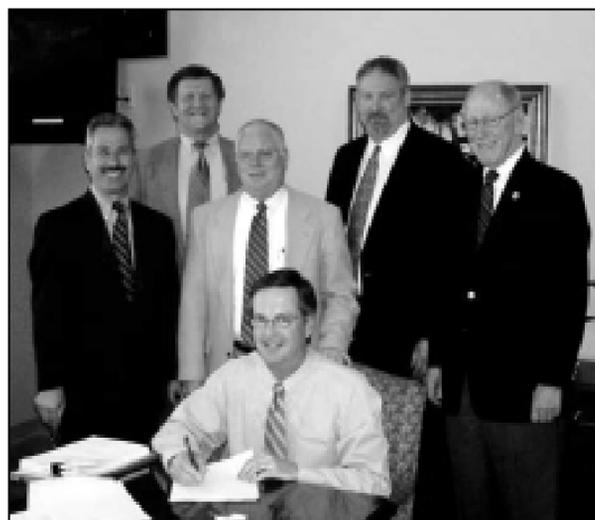
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The city of Murfreesboro closes a \$103 million loan, the largest in TMBF history.



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

## Changes to business tax affects reporting, collections

**BUSINESS TAX** from Page 1  
ment; develop the various processes and procedures that are to be involved; and, educate the business community and tax practitioners

In an effort to facilitate a smooth transition for all parties, TML staff have been directed to establish a process to gather questions and comments concerning the implementation of these changes. Cities should have already received an email from TML requesting your input.

### Summary of Changes

#### Implementation of Changes

- Commissioner Farr has acknowledged a number of issues to work through prior to implementing the transition to new process.
- Future transition date will be determined and announced well in advance.
- In the interim, municipalities and counties are to continue to issue licenses, register taxpayers, and collect tax returns and payments.
- TML is establishing an internal process intended to provide a forum for questions and comments and to facilitate a smooth transition.

#### Minimum Tax

- \$22
- Less \$7 recording fee remitted to municipality.
- Effective minimum of \$15.

#### Returns /Payment of Tax

- Business files return with the state and remits tax due to the state.

#### Distribution of Revenues

- Distribution based on situs.

- Municipalities will receive \$7 recording fee per return; 5% collection assistance payment per return; and 56% of the remaining tax paid.
- The state will distribute municipalities' share of the business tax in the same manner and roughly within the same timeframe as local option sales tax revenues.

#### Recording Fee

- Clerks do not collect a recording fee. State deducts \$7 "off the top" from the taxes paid and remits to the municipality for recording expenses.
- State remits \$7 recording fee, per return, to municipality after processing the return.
- This represents a \$2 increase from the current fee of \$5 per return.

#### 5% Compliance Assistance Payment

- Municipality receives 5% of the sum of tax paid, less \$7 reduction for recording fee.
- This payment is to offset cost municipality incurs in licensing and policing the licensing of businesses within its corporate limits. Payment is in lieu of 5% commission county clerks received for collecting.
- Although municipalities have never received the 5% commission, the 5% payment provided under the new system will be paid to municipalities.

#### Authority to Issue Business License

- Licensing of businesses remains the domain of municipalities and counties.
- Municipality required to issue license to qualified business op-

erating within corporate limits.

- Municipality required to transmit license data to the state. State will utilize this data to determine situs.

#### Transient/Temporary Vendor License

- Transient Vendor licenses, also known as temporary licenses, will remain the domain of the municipalities.
- Municipalities will issue transient licenses and collect all monies associated with such licenses.

#### License Fee

- Clerks collect \$15 license fee on original license **only** – renewals not subject to any fee.
- **"Original license"** includes license for any new business as well as reinstatement of license.
- Currently, the \$15 licensing fee is credited to the taxpayer and treated as tax paid. Or, said another way, the taxpayer's total tax liability is reduced by the \$15 licensing fee.
- Under revised system, \$15 licensing fee assessed on original licenses will be collected and remain with the municipality and will not be credited to the taxpayer or otherwise reduce the taxpayer's total tax liability.

#### Delinquencies/Audits

- The state will handle collection of delinquencies and auditing of business tax.
- The Department of Revenue has been granted authority to enter into contracts with municipalities and counties, when necessary, for the collection of delinquencies.

## TRA pegged to participate in U.S. solar energy study



Karen Cochran, a Historic Franklin Sustainability Task Force member, installed 64 solar panels taking up 847 square feet of space on the roof of her business property on Main Street. The city recently held a "Flipping the Switch" ceremony. Pictured left to right: Rogers Anderson, Williamson County mayor; Ken Moore, Franklin alderman; Karen Cochran; Dan Klatt, Franklin alderman and Franklin Mayor John Schroer.

#### TRA from Page 1

with all states," said Roberson. "Hopefully a best practices guide will come from it. We can take those lessons learned from other states and develop a national blueprint for solar energy."

The study serves as a continuum of the state's ongoing initiative toward green jobs and cleaner energy with Gov. Bredesen signing into law the 2009 Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act, dubbed "the cornerstone for all future energy policy" in Tennessee by the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance.

Geared to make sweeping changes in the state's approach to energy efficiency and conservation and clean energy job growth, the bill requires state government to do a better job "leading by example" in managing its buildings and vehicle fleet. A grant program, funded by the federal Recovery Act, will help facilitate this effort for small and medium-sized local governments wanting to make energy-efficiency upgrades in their municipal buildings and facilities.

The measure also promotes residential energy efficiency with a limited statewide residential building code.

Some citizens are starting early. Karen Cochran, a Historic Franklin Sustainability Task Force member, is already taking advantage of state and federal incentives, installing 64 solar panels on the roof of her downtown

Franklin building.

"Karen is a good environmentalist and is doing more than installing solar panels, she's also retrofitted her lighting, installed programmable thermostats and provided other energy efficient features for her tenants," said Alderman Ken Moore. "If we can get Franklin property owners and businesses to follow Karen's footsteps, we'll easily make our goal of being a top 25 sustainable community in the nation."

As one of the top three states in clean energy job creation, Tennessee outperformed the national averages in terms of number of green jobs and growth rate.

According to a study released by the Pew Charitable Trusts, in the past three years, the state has attracted more than \$16 million in clean technology venture capital.

"Our footprint in clean energy technology, specifically solar energy, continues to expand, said Gov. Bredesen. "This is especially due to new entrants like Hemlock Semiconductor and Wacker Chemie – two companies that have each made billion-dollar investments in Tennessee and our solar industry during the past year. Not to mention the increasingly bright prospects for existing solar firms like AGC Glass in Northeast Tennessee and Sharp Solar in Memphis."

For more information on the TRA, visit the website at [www.state.tn.us/tra](http://www.state.tn.us/tra).

## Investing In Tennessee Grant Awards awarded

The Tennessee Arts Commission has announced the recipients of Investing in Tennessee (IIT) grant awards. These funds provide federal assistance for the sole purpose of protecting and preserving jobs in the non-profit arts sector that are threatened by the current economic downturn.

The funds are available as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), through the National Endowment for the Arts and the Southern Arts Federation. According to Gov. Bredesen, 13 Tennessee arts organizations will receive a total of \$326,550 in IIT funds.

"Like many other segments of our economy, the arts have struggled during these tough economic times. These grants will allow us to speed economic recovery by saving jobs, including jobs in our highly-regarded arts industry where Tennesseans make immeasurable contributions to their communities, our children's education, and our state's culture," said Gov. Bredesen

According to Rich Boyd, executive director of the Tennessee Arts Commission, organizations that had previously received funding from the Commission in the current and past two fiscal years in the Major Cultural Institution (MCI) and General Operating Support (GOS) grant categories, and with the administrative staff to comply with the strict reporting standards, were eligible to apply. The Commission received 48 applications.

"We are pleased to make this one-time opportunity available to our arts organizations across the state, and look forward to the positive impact these funds will have on the economic vitality of our communities," said Boyd.

The funds are to be used specifically for jobs preservation. Threatened positions may include full-time permanent staff or contracted artists, technicians, or part-time staff whose elimination impedes the organization from fulfilling its mission.

Organizations may also use funding to re-contract with performing groups or exhibiting artists who were canceled due to the economic downturn.

#### Organizations receiving IIT grant awards include:

- Johnson City Area Arts Council — \$28,000
- The Renaissance Center, Dickson — \$26,750
- Arts and Education Council, Chattanooga — \$26,000
- Association of Visual Artists, Chattanooga — \$26,000
- Knoxville Museum of Art — \$25,500
- Theatre Memphis — \$25,500
- Jackson Arts Council — \$18,800
- Nashville Shakespeare Festival — \$25,000
- Country Music Foundation, Inc. Nashville — \$25,000
- Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga — \$25,000
- Memphis Black Arts Alliance, Inc. — \$25,000
- Nashville Children's Theatre — \$25,000
- Knoxville Opera — \$25,000

## State-shared taxes down from last year

**PROJECTIONS** from Page 1  
situs in lieu of intangible personal property taxes. Cities must levy a property tax in order to receive revenue from this tax.

- **The Mixed-Drink Tax.** The state-wide projected increase is 4 percent.

• **The state appropriations bill** (HB 2392/SB 2355) was adopted by the General Assembly near the end of the session. The public safety salary supplements for firefighters and police officers are to be funded at the same rate as for FY 2008. Upon

completing certain in-service training requirements, qualified police officers and firefighters are eligible for annual bonus salary supplements of \$600 each.



The city of Pikeville closes a \$1 million loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to be used for downtown improvements. Pictured are Mayor Greg Johnson (right), City Recorder Debra Barnett, and TMBF Representative Joe Muscatello (standing).

## Good Risk Management is just Good Management



Cities and municipal agencies have joined together to create in the TML Pool what has grown to be the largest municipal insurer in Tennessee.

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER MURFREESBORO.** The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Assistant City Manager. Bachelor's degree required, degree in public or business administration preferred. Master's degree preferred. Five years of experience in local government, municipal preferred. As part of a management team, this individual will provide support to the city manager in all aspects of day-to-day operations, assist in policy development and preparation of budget and CIP, handle citizen complaints, staff boards and commissions, and have responsibilities in economic development. Monthly salary is \$6,805.16 - \$8,455.33, DOQ&E, with excellent benefits. The required application form and job description is available at: [www.murfreesborotn.gov](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov) or the Personnel Department, 111 West Vine Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37130. Phone 615-848-2553, TDD 615-849-2689, Fax 615-904-6506. Must submit resume, cover letter, professional references, and complete city's full-time job application by Fri., August 7, 2009. EOE.

### TOWN PLANNER

**COLLIERVILLE.** The town is seeking applicants for the position of Town Planner. This position performs responsible, complex professional work in a variety of current and long range planning studies. This position requires a Bachelors degree in Urban Planning, landscape architecture or a closely related field from an accredited college or university with major course work in urban planning and 2 years experience in a municipal planning office; or a master's degree in Urban Planning and 1 year experience in a municipal planning office, or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Experience with Microsoft Office, Photoshop, AutoCAD, landscape architecture, and AICP Certification preferred. Must possess and maintain a valid operators license. Salary range is \$34,209.00 - \$54,178.00 (DOQ) plus full benefits package. Applications may be obtained at the Human Resources Department, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, Tennessee, 38017, Monday through Friday. Applicants must fill out the official Town of Collierville application to be considered for this position. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. This position will remain open until filled. EOE.

### IPS CONSULTANT III/MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service has an opening for a Municipal Management Consultant in our Knoxville office. Provides professional advice and technical assistance primarily to elected and appointed municipal officials. Develops and instructs multiple training courses for city officials. Position researches, drafts, and maintains publications on critical issues. Develops and teaches multiple municipal training courses. This organization is one of a kind in the nation serving Tennessee cities by providing elected & appointed officials one-on-one help with all facets of local government. The municipal management consultant serves as key contact for 30-40 cities. The job involves answering questions from city officials, frequently traveling to cities in the consultant's territory, performing research, conducting training sessions, writing publications, attending occasional council meetings, and requires some overnight trips. No two days are the same and independent judgment is a must. This position requires a Master's Degree in Public Administration or equivalent degree and at least five years employment in local government and including three years as a city manager or six years as an assistant city manager. Preference is given to experience as a city manager or assistant city manager in a city with a minimum of 10,000 in popula-

tion. Position is located in Knoxville. Please send letter and resume to: Municipal Management Consultant Search; UT-MTAS; 120 Conference Center; Knoxville, TN 37996-4105 or email to: [teresa.davis@tennessee.edu](mailto:teresa.davis@tennessee.edu). Position open until filled. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. For more about MTAS and the position, visit the website: [www.mtas.tennessee.edu](http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu).

### IPS CONSULTANT II/TRAINING CONSULTANT

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service has an opening for a Training Consultant in our Knoxville office. Conducts formal and informal needs assessments, meets with customers and subject matter experts to develop course content and determines the best methodology for delivery of courses to appointed and elected municipal officials throughout the State of Tennessee. This organization is one of a kind in the nation serving Tennessee cities by providing elected and appointed officials one-on-one assistance with all facets of local government. The training consultant conducts needs assessments, develops courses, and determines delivery methodology for municipal training programs. No two days are the same, independent judgment is a must, and travel is required. Creates training classes from conception by conducting research; exploring resources; developing exercises, course content, PowerPoint presentations, and student manuals. Curriculum development includes classroom versions and web-based versions. Ensures quality control of all curriculums that are developed by implementing standard formats for lesson plans and course material. Assures that courses comply with International Association for continuing Education and Training (IACET) standards. Meets with MTAS subject matter experts to ensure standards are understood and met. Occasionally facilitates training classes or programs. Also, serves on IPS CEU accreditation committee as an approving member. This position requires a Master's Degree in Adult Education, Human Resource Development, Organizational Development, or a related field. This position also requires a minimum of five years in developing curricula, needs assessment, evaluating training programs, performing logistical development, and delivering training programs is essential. Prefer three years in a local government environment. Also requires thorough knowledge of training methodology, techniques and principles, a thorough knowledge of Adult Learning techniques, knowledge of research methodology as applied to adult education and training, ability to write clearly and concisely, ability to use teaching aids and techniques, ability to coordinate multiple programs simultaneously, ability to speak effectively before groups, ability to work effectively with colleagues, city officials and university staff, and ability to obtain certifications through American Society of Training and Development or other related professional organizations. Position is located in Knoxville. Please send letter and resume to: Training Consultant Search; UT-MTAS; 120 Conference Center; Knoxville, TN 37996-4105 or email to: [teresa.davis@tennessee.edu](mailto:teresa.davis@tennessee.edu). Position open until filled. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status. For more about MTAS and the position, visit the website: [www.mtas.tennessee.edu](http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu). All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.

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# Cities to receive money to retrofit buildings for energy efficiency

## ENERGY from Page 1

the International Residential Code (IRC), a commonly accepted code that sets minimum standards for new construction of one and two-family dwellings as it relates to basic measures like energy efficiency. (As a safety matter, the department already provides electrical inspections in areas without a residential code.) County commissions or city councils in areas without codes may vote to "opt out" their communities from the new state provision by a two-thirds vote, and will be required to renew their action from time to time. State officials anticipate most communities without codes will participate in the program.

"I'm hoping we won't see much opting out," Bredeesen said. "It's not just about energy savings; it's about safety, consumer protection and quality of life."

Lower energy costs in the home are expected to offset any additional upfront costs and inspection fees.

Among other changes, the Clean Energy Future Act requires state government to do a better job

"leading by example" in managing its buildings and vehicle fleet; makes the clean-energy technology sector eligible for Tennessee's emerging industry tax credit; and promotes residential energy efficiency by streamlining the distribution of federal funds for weatherization of low-income homes.

Bredeesen was joined by key lawmakers who were instrumental in passing the Clean Energy Act, as well as members of the Governor's Task Force on Energy Policy whose recommendations served as the basis for the new law. More than 50 lawmakers co-sponsored the legislation, with key sponsors including: Sens. Jim Kyle, Andy Berke, Randy McNally and Ken Yager, and Reps. Les Wingham, Phillip Johnson, Kevin Brooks, Jim Hackworth, Joe McCord and Mike Turner.

"This landmark bill is the product of year-long talks on how best to position the Volunteer State as a leader in energy efficiency and conservation and clean-energy jobs," Bredeesen said. "Coupled with financial commitments to new solar en-

ergy and electric vehicle initiatives, this new law helps set the stage for a brighter clean energy future in Tennessee."

The new law enjoys broad support among business and environmental groups ranging from the Home Builders Association of Tennessee to the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance. SEEA, a regional coalition of business, government and environmental interests, called it "the cornerstone for all future energy policy in Tennessee."

Separately, the 2009-2010 state budget authorizes the Volunteer State Solar Initiative, a comprehensive solar-energy and economic-development program that will use federal Recovery Act funds to advance job creation, education, research, and renewable-power production in Tennessee. Also, the budget includes energy-related funds for state government to partner with Nissan and Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the future deployment of charging stations for electric vehicles.

## Recovery Act Implementation Webinars to be held by the federal government July 20

The Recovery Act contains unprecedented transparency and accountability requirements. Section 1512 of the Act requires recipients to submit reports that include information about who is receiving Recovery Act funds and the amounts, the projects and activities being funded, and the status of the project and its impact on job creation and retention.

The White House Office of Management and Budget issued additional guidance to the federal agencies for carrying out the Act's

reporting requirements on June 22. The guidance contains important information about the reporting framework that cities and towns that receive recovery funds will be expected to follow.

To view a copy of the guidance, visit <http://www.recovery.gov/?q=node/579>.

Based on the feedback from many city officials, the National League of Cities (NLC) encouraged the Office of Management and Budget to host training opportunities re-

garding the Act's reporting requirements.

As a result, a series of webinars will be held the week of July 20 to provide grant recipients information regarding implementing the June 22 guidance.

To find out more information regarding the webinars, including the schedule and registration, visit <http://www.recovery.gov/?q=content/timeline>

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# Cleveland Councilman David May is all business

BY GAEL STAHL

As a boy, as a city employee, in his construction business, as city councilmember, as a family man, and in conversation, David May II is all about business. It's his hobby; no other interest compares. He gave 100 percent to his first career as firefighter and fire chief. That fierce devotion resulted in a successful upgrading of the department and fed his love for the department. For the last 13 years, the same dedication has helped him achieve success in the construction industry. His after-work hobby has been improving or restoring houses. Currently, after a day of building or restoring houses for others, May heads home to help his wife restore a beautiful old home where they now live.

Cleveland Mayor Tom Rowland says May, his good friend and colleague in city government since 1996, is also 'all business' in relating to others. "He's got humor, but it's dry humor. You have to listen to it for a second and you catch that he's trying to be funny."

May's every morning schedule as a Cleveland councilman invariably sees him swinging by a local Chevrolet dealer where he gets his first look at the morning newspaper, drinks coffee, and drinks in the dealer's take on the news of the previous day. Afterward, Rowland says, May never fails to visit him at least once a day to let him know the talk at the Chevrolet dealership, what they've gathered from the day before. Rowland says May, a lifelong resident of Cleveland, knows the city and its unities intimately. "Ask him about any sort of out-of-the-way place in town and he can drive you straight to it," says the mayor.

David May II represents a family of firefighters. His father, David May, was a Cleveland firefighter before him, and his son David May III also worked for the department.

After his 30 years as a city employee on the fire department, the last 15 years as fire chief, he focused on construction, says Rowland. "One of David's home building expertises is remodeling and restoring old homes."

May was born in 1944 and grew up a few blocks from the house he lives in now. It is now an historic downtown neighborhood. May's mother and father, David "Wilsie" and Lucille May, ran a neighborhood grocery next door to their home. Many of May's early childhood memories are connected with that store. He worked in it even before he went to school and attributes his work ethic to his father, the defining relationship of his life.

When his parents closed the store and his father went to work for the Cleveland Fire Department, David hung out there and learned the ins and outs of life around the hall before beginning his own firefighting career as a volunteer.

On graduating from Bradley High School in 1962, he worked at a couple of jobs before going with the department. He remained there for three decades and, on retiring as chief in 1996, went into the home construction business with his son. In that same year, 1996, May ran for and won an open city council seat that he still holds.

Cleveland has a long history of Tennessee Municipal League participation. Its mayor, council, police chief and municipal successes have been featured in this newspaper over the years. The city has won its share of TML awards for excellence. So it was no surprise that after a few years on the council, May was elected to a Tennessee Municipal League district board seat and last year to be an at-large board member.

Rowland says, "David is a great advocate of TML. In fact, he was a little heartbroken - I mean that seriously - when his term was up as a district director. He's very loyal, very supportive of TML and loves to attend the functions. His wife Linda also participates. Her father, Milford Miller, had been a Bradley County justice-squire-commissioner for 43 years.

Working for the county school system, Linda taught several grades at several schools over 31 years before retiring. She loves working in the yard and is happiest when weather permits her to be outside in the yard working with flowers and other landscaping. The Mays also have a daughter, Darlia, who was born a couple years after David.

Five grandchildren also keep them occupied.

**TT&C: What did you do working in your parents' grocery store?**

**DM:** I remember putting up stock before I could read by going by the pictures on the cans. Besides stocking shelves, I checked out groceries at the cash registers, swept up, and worked in my dad's butcher department. He ran a wholesale meat operation out of the store. I remember being taught how to cut chickens up when I was about eight years old. I've always been pretty good with math and I always thought it was because of my experience in the grocery store from working the cash register and doing other retail and wholesale functions. That stayed with me. Math was my favorite subject in school. My better grades were in math. When I was 11 or 12, my mom and dad closed the store and my dad, who had been a volunteer on the fire department all his adult life, went on the department full-time. So, I began to hang out around the fire department when my dad would be on duty.

**TT&C: What was your first job after high school?**

**DM:** Actually, I had a job through high school working for a glass company, the Cleveland Glass Company. I cut and installed glass, made keys, sold sporting goods as well as hunting and fishing equipment, and hardware. I did a little bit of everything there. My next job was at Olin Chemical where I stayed until I could get on at Bewater. Even though Bewater was the better paying job, when the fire department had an opening, I went to work there. I remember taking a pretty good cut in pay but the department was something I loved. I started at the bottom, which at that time was the engineer who drove the pumper truck. I worked my way up to chief.

**TT&C: You were married by then?**

**DM:** I married my high school sweetheart. We met in school and got married very young, when she

"I remember the TML Risk Management Pool's founding because Cleveland had the first major claim after the Pool started. When a snorkel truck wrecked, the insurance pool rebuilt it. Restoring one was a major claim - around \$100,000, which was huge back then. So for me, it was memorable that we celebrated the insurance pool's 30th year at the June conference along with TML's 70th anniversary."

was 16 and still in school and I was working for the glass company. After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Lee College she began her teaching career. We were blessed with David III in 1966 and Darlia in 1969. We've been married 47 years, since 1962, and we are still sweethearts.

**TT&C: Firefighting is a family tradition -- your father, you, and your son?**

**DM:** My father was a really dedicated guy. He loved the department, talked it, breathed it, and he left with the rank of captain.

We had been married five years when our first child came along - David III. After he graduated from Tennessee Wesleyan in accounting, he went to work for the fire department for about eight years. He loved it, but when I left the department in 1996, we formed a construction company, 3-D Construction.

My son and I have renovated several older homes and built several new homes. We used to move about every one to two years. We would live in a home while building another, sell it and do another one. Along the way we also bought some older homes, restored them and sold them. We really enjoy the home where we are now. The Hardwick House is a Georgian style house that was built in 1939 for Frank and Mary Hardwick of Hardwick Clothing. We intend to stay. It's a grand old home with five bedrooms, five bathrooms, and six fireplaces. The house had been vacant for several years and needed lots of work. We love to work on it. It's been an on-going project; we just completed the kitchen.

**TT&C: Did you enjoy the fire department?**

**DM:** I loved the profession and loved the department. Living so closely together we were like a



David May

family. The department began the state certification program and was first certified while I was chief. I set up programs to screen applicants in areas of basic knowledge, physical strength, agility, and psychological fitness. During my tenure as chief, the ISO rating was lowered from a 5 to a 3. I was there from 1966 to 1996, the last 15 years as chief. During my time there, the department progressed from a good old boy style to a very professional one.

**TT&C: Years ago, a Brentwood fire chief of an innovative, prize-winning department, said in an interview that the profession had moved from fighting fires to preventing them.**

**DM:** Inspections and prevention are extremely important. You try to maintain safe conditions to avert an emergency. But fires happen and there were lots of sad events over 30 years, people losing their homes or businesses and even a few fatalities. Those are the things I try to forget.

**TT&C: Why did you and your son call your company 3-D Construction?**

**DM:** We called it that because my father was David, I'm David, and my son is David. Although my father was never part of the company, he was a jack of all trades. A lot of the construction skills I have today I learned from him. He could do almost anything. In the summer on his days off from the hall, we did renovations of old homes. He provided an on-going learning experience for me as I have tried to do for my son. We included his name to honor his influence in our lives.

**TT&C: How did you get interested in municipal office?**

**DM:** By accident. I never thought to run for office. One morning, weeks after I retired as chief, I was listening to the news when Cleveland was changing its form of government from a commissioner to a mayor-council form. There was an opening in the 4th District where I live. Linda and I were getting ready for work. I looked at her and asked what she thought about me picking up a petition to run for city council. She sort of grinned and said, "Why don't you?" I did and was first elected in 1996. What possessed me to run, I don't know. As chief I'd attended a lot of the city commission meetings. I yearly presented them my budget for approval. I knew a lot about the city and how it ran - how the total budget was put together and funded.

I'm now into my fourth four-year term, 13 years so far. Tom Rowland has been here longer. He was mayor when we had the commission form and has now served more years as mayor than anybody in Cleveland history.

While I was chief, he was on the city commission and was appointed commissioner of fire. That made him my boss. He was an excellent boss. The first thing he wanted to know was what one thing would be

of most benefit to the men. He was on board to build the department up not tear it apart. He knew about morale and how to get men motivated. He's very intelligent. We had a good working relationship then and still do.

**TT&C: What did you hope to accomplish as a councilmember?**

**DM:** One thing I really wanted to see was a compensation study for the employees. I felt that the system we had was generally good for our employees, but I wanted to see a company do a comp study that would specify job descriptions, pay schedules, and qualifications. We did that about eight years ago. The city of Cleveland has excellent employees. I think we pay them well, they have good benefits, and that it shows. Cleveland consistently gets good marks for its professionalism and innovations in various departments. I say that I wanted it done, but it took a vote of the city council to do it. We have good people on the city

council. We work together well to obtain the greatest benefits for our taxpayers' dollars. Teamwork results in the quality of life our city residents enjoy. I have been instrumental in getting roads and bridges widened to improve traffic flow. I have seen new schools, fire and rescue facilities, a new public works building, and new and improved parks. I had also hoped to see a better working relationship between the city and county governments. We are still looking forward to a new airport as well.

**TT&C: What roles have you played on the council?**

**DM:** I've served on lots of city council committees. I have served on the planning commission for 12 years of 13 years. I've served on site committees for building two new

schools, a middle school and a new elementary school in my Fourth District. I also served on the Tree Board. Cleveland was one of the early national Tree Cities. Our tree committee is working on a new ordinance we can all live with. I served on the 911 board at its conception. I served on the Habitat for Humanity board. I am currently in a second term on the Economic Development Council with the Chamber of Commerce. I am serving on the Library Board as we are in the process of upgrading and building new facilities to better serve the public.

**TT&C: When did you first serve on the TML Board of directors?**

**DM:** Six years ago, maybe longer. I was elected to be a district board member and last year, I was first elected as an at-large director. This June, I was re-elected. In all, four years on the board so far. Cleveland has as good a record of involvement in TML as any municipality in the state. We participate in the annual and legislative conferences and work on TML legislative committees and boards.

The late Mayor Harry Dethro was a TML fixture when he was mayor. Councilmember Avery Johnson has served on the board. Of course, Tom Rowland has been on the board for years as a member, a TML vice president for three years, and TML president for a year. At the state/local level, he is currently vice chair of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations where he has represented cities for years as a TACIR member and officer.

**TT&C: Mayor Rowland says you love TML and were sorry when your term as a district TML board member ended?**

**DM:** Yes, I enjoyed serving. TML is a great organization and does so much for small towns including speaking for cities on the state level. As fire chief, I remember well when TML started the TML Risk Management Pool. In 1979. I know how much money our Pool has saved small towns in insurance costs. The Bond Fund has also been great for the small towns - and large towns too. I was enthused with TML from the start.

I remember the Pool's founding because Cleveland had the first major claim after it started. When a snorkel truck wrecked, the insurance pool rebuilt it. A snorkel, by the way, is the fire department vehicle that has a bucket on it. Restoring one was a major claim - around \$100,000, which was huge back then. So for me, it was memorable that we celebrated the insurance pool's 30th year at this year's June conference along with TML's 70th anniversary.

**TT&C: As a TML board member, what interests and issues affecting Tennessee towns and cities do you especially pursue?**

**DM:** My main interest is that the board keeps the members apprised of any upcoming legislation and allows us to lobby our representatives to uphold the best interest of our cities at the state level. As always I am interested in economic development for our area. I appreciate what the Risk Management Pool can do for us. Providing legal representation for our city is very important to me.



May with Cleveland Councilman Avery Johnson, left, and Cleveland Mayor Tom Rowland, center, at the TML Annual Conference.