



Pre-conference activities planned for Saturday, June 10, in Murfreesboro

Two special outings are being planned for Saturday, June 10, as part of TML's pre-conference offerings.

The Miracle Field at McKnight Park is a new facility specially designed for children with mental and physical disabilities. The complex features a baseball field with a smooth rubberized surface, an accessible playground for children of all abilities. The grand opening was just featured on *NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt*. (See Page 2 for more information on the facility.)

Then travel to the Adams Tennis Complex, and indoor tennis facility built in partnership with Middle Tennessee State University. Explore and discover how public-private partnerships helped these facilities come to life, and relate to similar opportunities in your own community.

If you are interested in participating in this workshop, space is still available but is limited to the first 22 people who register. Please RSVP to Sylvia Harris at sharris@tml1.org. Transportation will be provided from the Embassy Suites Hotel. The mobile workshop is scheduled from 1 to 4 p.m.

Also on Saturday is an encampment reenactment at the

Stones River National Battlefield. If you've never visited the Stones River Battlefield, Saturday, June 10 is the perfect opportunity.

Volunteers portraying soldiers and civilians will share stories and demonstrations designed to shed light on everyday life and key events in occupied Murfreesboro. At 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m., they will have presentations throughout the day, with cannons and muskets shot on the hour.

For more information and to view a complete schedule go to <https://www.nps.gov/stri/planyourvisit/event-details.htm?event=981CE870-1DD8-B71B-0B21A0632668261B>. Admission is free and a perfect event for the entire family!

Registration for the conference must be done online. There are two forms: a delegate registration form for municipal officials/staff and a spouse/guest form for non-municipal registrants.

Each municipality will be able to use a single form to register all city attendees. Forms are available on the TML website on the 2017 Annual Conference page under the Conferences tab on the left.

If you have any questions throughout the registration process, contact Sylvia Harris at (615) 425-3903 or sharris@tml1.org

TN municipalities hold elections

BY KATE COIL

Results are in for spring municipal elections held in cities and towns across the state of Tennessee. Between April 7 and May 10, 18 municipalities across the state have held elections to elect new leaders as well as pass ballot measures.

ALAMO

Challenger John Avery Emison unseated incumbent Tommy Green for the mayor's seat in Alamo. Voters also selected four aldermen for the city's board of mayor and aldermen including incumbents John Reddick, Paul B. Conley IV, and Larry Conder as well as challenger Kenneth L. Bodkins, who unseated incumbent Alderman Johnny Maddux.

BELLS

Joe M. Williams retained his seat as the mayor of Bells in a race against Alderman John Pigue. The five open aldermen seats in Bells were filled by incumbent candidates Eric Jordan, Dabney Long, Bob Pigue, and Scotty Runions as well as challenger Lee Overton.

BRENTWOOD

Three incumbents retained their seats in Brentwood municipal elections. Regina Smithson, Mark Gorman and Rhea Little were all re-elected to their at-large seats on the Brentwood City Commission.

CHATTANOOGA

Two new faces will be sitting on the Chattanooga City Council after a runoff election held on April 11. Erskine Oglesby Jr. won the District 7 race over incumbent Councilman Chris Anderson while

Demetrus Coonrod won her election over incumbent Councilman Yusuf Hakeem in District 9. Both incumbents received the most votes in their respective races in the March 7 election, but neither achieved the required majority to win outright by city law, forcing them into runoffs with the runners-up.

FRIENDSHIP

The mayor's seat in Friendship went to incumbent candidate Casey Burnett, who faced two challengers in the race. The town's four open aldermen seats went to incumbents John D. Marvin, Bob Garrett, and Johnny Elmore and challenger Rickey Ange, who unseated incumbent James Roberson.

GADSDEN

Alderman Randall S. Smith ran unopposed for the mayor of Gadsden and will take the seat formerly filled by Linda Milam. The four open aldermen seats in Gadsden were filled by incumbents Lynn Reasons and Tracy Reasons Rinks and challengers James Milam and Angela McLemore.

JACKSBORO

The city of Jacksboro elected a new mayor and two aldermen. June Forstner was elected mayor of Jacksboro, taking the spot previously held by Mayor Jack Cannon. Forstner was first elected to the Jacksboro Board of Mayor and Aldermen in 2005 and has also served as Jacksboro's vice mayor. Shayne Green and J.C. Miller were also elected to fill two aldermen seats, one left vacant by Forstner's bid for mayor and a second to replace

See **ELECTIONS** on Page 6

Legislature passes \$37 Billion budget; first session of 110th adjourned

Tennessee lawmakers concluded their business of the first session of the 110th Tennessee General Assembly, adjourning May 10 until January 2018.

Among the actions taken was the approval of a \$37.1 billion state spending plan, which makes significant investments in teachers, K-12 schools, higher education, state employees, the state's Rainy Day Fund and the tax cuts included in Gov. Bill Haslam's key piece of legislation, the IMPROVE Act. The IMPROVE Act was crafted to increase transportation revenue across the state by raising the fuel taxes while reducing a variety of other taxes.

The legislature adopted three main changes to the Act that impact municipalities:

- increases the gas tax to 6 cents per gallon and the diesel rate to

10 cents to be phased in over a three-year period;

- reduces sales tax on food by 1 percent, from the current rate of 5 percent to 4 percent; and
- cuts the Hall Tax by 1 percent over the next three years with the legislative intent to totally eliminate the Hall by 2022.

The IMPROVE Act also includes reducing the franchise and excise tax on manufacturers.

Other session highlights include the passage of a proposed rule change requiring online vendors with more than \$500,000 in sales within the state to collect and remit sales tax at the time of purchase. Officials in Tennessee and other states are pushing similar remote-seller sales tax collection rules and laws in hopes of ultimately pushing the U.S. Supreme

Court to revisit its 1992 *Quill* decision involving remote sellers.

Other actions that affect local governments include:

- Delayed action on the "Short-Term Rental Unity Act" until 2018.
- Delayed final action on a bill related to de-annexation, which was approved in the Senate but not addressed in the House. The measure is expected to be taken up again next year.
- Approved legislation that places additional burdens on municipalities that ban guns on city-owned property, like parks and stadiums. The measure requires local governments that implement gun bans in buildings to have additional security requirements, such as metal detectors or security guards.

Mayor Barry rolls out plan for light rail

BY KATE COIL

TML Communications Specialist

Nashville Mayor Megan Barry has announced a proposal for city's first light-rail line along the Gallatin Road corridor, one of the first major municipal transportation projects proposed since the passage of Gov. Bill Haslam's IMPROVE Act.

The IMPROVE Act gives municipalities with a population of at least 165,000 as per the last U.S. Census the ability to hold local public referendums to raise funds for transit projects by imposing surcharges on sales tax. Barry was one of several municipal leaders and transportation advocates who supported the act, and proposed the \$6 billion light rail project at the State of Metro Address.

The project will also be the first modern light-rail project undertaken in the state. Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, and Knoxville all once had street car systems during the late 1800s or early 1900s with Memphis being the last to close its heritage trolley car service in 2014.

Like the historic streetcars, modern light rail often runs on electricity. The urban rail service relies on dedicated rights-of-way separate from vehicle traffic, providing one or three passenger cars that move faster than vehicles in high-volume areas of traffic.

The city of Nashville's nMotion report suggested light rail lines should run from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m., and that the typical train is 80 to 90 feet long and carries



Nashville Mayor Megan Barry called for investment in a light rail line along Gallatin Pike during her annual State of Metro Address. The proposed project would be the first modern light-rail project in the state.

about 150 to 220 people. Gallatin is already the location of some of the busiest Nashville MTA bus lines, though the nMotion plan states light rail service is usually more rapid and stops more frequently than bus lines.

Barry said Gallatin Pike was picked among the other corridors considered for the project for a variety of reasons.

"I know we could spend the next year studying and debating where to build first, but there are many good reasons to start on Gallatin Pike," she said. "It already carries the most mass transit riders in the region. Development See **RAIL** on Page 5



Nashville Mayor Megan Barry

Bipartisan group of Senators introduce Marketplace Fairness Act of 2017

Allows states to close sales tax loophole

U.S. Senators Mike Enzi, R-Wyo.; Dick Durbin, D-Ill.; Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.; and Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D.; introduced the Marketplace Fairness Act of 2017 – legislation that would give states the right to collect the sales and use taxes they are owed under current law from out-of-state businesses or online retailers.

"The Marketplace Fairness Act is about internet fairness and it is about two words: states' rights – and no state should have to play 'Mother, may I?' with the federal government when deciding whether to collect, or not collect, a state tax that is already owed," Alexander said.

"Congress should provide Tennessee – and every other state that wants to collect state sales taxes that are already owed – with a legislative solution that will make collection efficient and simple for small businesses. The Senate passed this legislation in 2013 with 69 votes, and I'm hopeful we'll pass this legislation with an even larger bipartisan margin in this Congress," said Alexander.

The Marketplace Fairness Act of 2017 would grant states the right to require that out-of-state

businesses, such as those selling online or through catalogs, collect state sales taxes on purchases sold into their states. Currently, states are unable to collect these taxes on purchases from remote businesses so the tax is often not paid. This sales tax loophole treats out-of-state retailers different than local brick-and-mortar businesses, creating a price disadvantage.

"The Marketplace Fairness Act is about supporting jobs and services we have in our towns while ensuring states have the ability to collect taxes they are owed, if they choose to," Enzi said. "Right now, thousands of local brick and mortar businesses are forced to do business at a competitive disadvantage because they have to collect sales and use taxes and remote sellers do not. This legislation promotes internet fairness by putting Main Street businesses on a level playing field with online retailers. In 2013, the Senate passed this bill with bipartisan support. It's time to give states the right to enforce their own laws without having to get permission from Washington."

"By ensuring Internet retailers meet the same tax responsibility as local businesses, the Marketplace

Fairness Act creates a level playing field and gives small business owners – our nation's job creators – a real shot at success," Durbin said.

"No North Dakota brick and mortar business should ever have to close their doors because they lack a tax advantage online retailers have," Heitkamp said. "Since serving as North Dakota's Tax Commissioner, I've been working to make sure mom and pop shops are not discriminated against through unfair tax policies that favor retailers doing business remotely with customers in our state. We can level the playing field for our local businesses by giving states the option to make sure the marketplace – online or in stores – is fair."

Senators Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., Roy Blunt, R-Mo., Jack Reed, D-R.I., Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., Mark Warner, D-Va., Ben Cardin, D-Md., Tim Kaine, D-Va., Edward Markey, D-Mass., Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., and Mike Rounds, R-S.D., are also cosponsors of the legislation.

For more information, go to: https://www.enzi.senate.gov/uploads/MFA_Summary_115th_Congress_2017.pdf



Now in its fifth year, Infrastructure Week, May 15-19, is a national week of education and advocacy that brings together American businesses, workers, elected leaders, and everyday citizens around one message: It's #TimeToBuild. For tips on how to celebrate the week in your community, go to <http://infrastructureweek.org/>

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BAXTER

Plans are underway to open a new park in Baxter through a partnership with the Putnam County Parks and Recreation Department. Baxter Seminary Park will be located between Cornerstone Middle and Baxter Primary schools on the former site of the Baxter Seminary. The land is owned by the Putnam County Board of Education and the name of the park was chosen to honor the alumni of the defunct seminary school. The park is being funded through an initial \$10,000 Rural Access to Health and Healthy Active Environments grant from the Tennessee Department of Health. When combined with the existing Baxter City Park, the Seminary Park will bring a total of six acres of parkland to the city. Long-term plans for the park include construction of an amphitheater, picnic areas, walking trails, and playground equipment.

COLUMBIA

Columbia's James K. Polk Home will be featured on one of PBS' most popular shows in May when Chef Walter Staib presents an episode of "A Taste of History" filmed at the presidential residence. More than 70 million viewers tune in for the award-winning program, which will feature scenes filmed at the Polk home and at Puckett's in downtown Columbia. A segment of the episode will also deal with the city's downtown revitalization. The Polk episode included recipes like frontier lamb stew, Southern fried chicken, chess pie and collard greens, all cooked in the refurbished kitchen located behind the Polk Home. There are also interview segments with James K. Polk Memorial Association president Beth Gilbert, Polk Home director John Holtzapple and Polk Home curator Tom Price.

DYERSBURG

The Dyer County E-911 Board has approved \$1.8 million worth of renovations and upgrades to the city of Dyersburg 911 Communications Center. The project is expected to cost between \$800,000 and \$900,000 with an interest rate of 4 percent projected over 15 years. The board also approved a measure to reimburse the city of Dyersburg \$60,000 per year or roughly 33 percent of the project cost – whichever is less – for the 15 years or when a turnkey completion of the communications center improvements were presented. The measure stated further that the reimbursement was dependent on the continued availability of 911 funding.

GALLATIN

Gallatin's Triple Creek Park will soon be home to an outdoor fitness area featuring seven pieces of free-to-use workout equipment. The \$80,000 project will include equipment such as a pendulum, accessible chest press, static combo, rowing machine, leg press, elliptical, lat pull down, and vertical press. The area is also wheelchair accessible. The fitness area will be covered by sunshade, have a rubber surface floor, announcement board, benches, and trash cans. The outdoor fitness area is expected to be complete and open in the park by this summer.

JOHNSON CITY

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded Johnson City with its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 16th

year in a row. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the individuals or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

KNOXVILLE

A new, self-driving passenger shuttle will be coming to Knoxville through a partnership with the city, Visit Knoxville and the Local Motors Knoxville Micro-Factory. Olli is a self-driving, cognitive, fully electric vehicle created and manufactured by Local Motors, a Knoxville-based technology company that designs, builds and sells vehicles. Visit Knoxville will roll out Olli in the fall on a limited basis for events at venues including World's Fair Park and Chilhowee Park and Exposition Center. During this testing phase, a Local Motors operator will be aboard the vehicle. Olli drives itself using sensors and cameras and can carry up to 12 passengers. Local Motors says Olli can react faster than a driving human. Because it is electric, it has the promise of reduced carbon emissions and noise pollution. Visit Knoxville plans to make Olli available for conventions and paid tours of the city in late 2018.

LEBANON

A new terminal has opened at the Lebanon Municipal Airport after more than a year of construction. The new terminal is two stories and features a large reception area, operator's office, airport commission room, quiet rooms for pilots, conference rooms designed to hold public or private meetings and offices. The Wilson County Joint Economic and Community Development Board will occupy a portion of the terminal building. The terms of the agreement include a \$33,500 annual lease for the group to exclusively occupy 1,508 square feet of the 9,600-square-foot building for five years. Part of the city's South Hartmann Drive corridor, the airport is also close to the Music City Star.

LORETTO

The Loretto Police Department recently installed a Tennessee Dangerous Drugs Take Back bin at the lobby of Loretto City Hall. Residents can deposit Schedule II through V controlled and non-controlled substances they no longer want or need at the bin rather than wait for a drug-take back event. Pills in bottles and liquids in their original container or bottle that do not exceed 4 ounces can be deposited. The department acquired the bin through a partnership with the Lawrence County Substance Abuse Coalition as part of efforts to curb drug abuse as well as ensure residents safely get rid of unwanted, unused or expired medications.

MEMPHIS

The Memphis International Airport has announced plans for a \$214 million redesign and modernization of its B Concourse. The project is \$100 million more than what was initially proposed in 2014, but officials said this new price includes improvements required for other concourses so that B Concourse can be closed down for the entirety of its renovations. No local tax dollars will be used for the project, and airlines serving the airport have already approved the plans. The redesign was unveiled after the airport board approved about \$5 million in projects to clear the way for Delta gates to be relocated to the A Concourse while B is reconfigured.

MEMPHIS

The city of Memphis has been named one of the top 10 cities for jobseekers in the nation, according to a new report by job-search web-

Murfreesboro dedicates Miracle Field

Tour available during TML Annual Conference June 10 from 1 to 4 p.m.



The city of Murfreesboro has unveiled its new Miracle Field, located at Sports*Com in McKnight Park. The Miracle Field consists of a custom-designed, special rubberized baseball field built for children and adults with special needs and accommodates wheelchairs and other assertive devices, as well as an all-inclusive playground for children and adults of all abilities. Other features include a standard baseball/softball field, an open synthetic turf area, and an inclusive playground. The complex also includes a main plaza with a central kugel ball water feature and two donor walls. Additionally, the complex includes picnic tables and benches throughout. The David Price Foundation, Project One Four, and city officials gathered for an official grand opening ceremony that included a ball game between members of the Miracle League. As part of the TML Annual Conference in Murfreesboro, a special outing to tour the new facility is planned for Saturday, June 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. See Page 1 for more information on the mobile workshop and how to register.

site Indeed. Metro areas across the nation were ranked using factors including job market favorability, salary weighted for cost of living, employee rankings for work/life balance, job security, and advancement opportunities. All of the top 10 cities on the list were in the American South or California. Memphis ranked 10th on the list and was the only Tennessee city on the list's top 25.

OAK RIDGE

The city of Oak Ridge recently dedicated an eighth, new rowing lane as part of one of the biggest rowing weekends of the season in the city. The new lane will aid with several rowing events hosted in the city, including the Dogwood Juniors Regatta and the Governor's Cup and Mayor's Cup races. First Place Finish, Inc., was awarded \$548,350 contract for the project. Previously, the course utilized seven rowing lanes, taking Oak Ridge out of the running for any event requiring eight lanes for competition. Part of the waterway was widened and a retaining wall installed in order to create the additional lane. Construction of the lane was funded by a combination of \$250,000 from the state, City Capital Improvement funds and a grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The Oak Ridge Rowing Association (ORRA), Explore Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge Economic Development Initiative, and Visit Knoxville also contributed funds to the project. Rowing activities have an estimated annual economic impact of more than \$2 million for Oak Ridge and surrounding communities.

SMYRNA

Topre America Corp. will be expanding its Smyrna facility, investing approximately \$38.2 million and creating 35 new jobs. The automotive parts manufacturer opened its \$50 million facility in Smyrna two years ago, creating 100 jobs in the area. Construction on this expansion will add 40,000-square-feet to the original facility. Work on the expansion will begin in July 2017, and is set to begin operating in 2019. Topre America provides automotive stamping and body structure assemblies for Nissan, Honda, and Toyota. Headquartered in Tokyo, Topre was founded in 1935 as a manufacturer of pressed components for auto equipment.

TOWNSEND

City officials and community leaders have come together to create a new nonprofit aimed at boosting tourism and economic development in Townsend. The Townsend Together group has been replaced by a new 501(c)3 known as the Townsend/Cades Cove Gateway Alliance. The purpose of the new nonprofit will be to help attain grants and programs designed to help preserve Townsend's heritage, enhancing recreation opportunities, fostering more festivals in the city, pursuing public Wi-Fi and broadband internet, launching a new website and aesthetic projects such as new city signage, a welcome mural and other projects. The organization will be working with the city and the Smoky Mountain Tourism Development Authority to help further develop Townsend's image and projects to attract tourists, residents and businesses to the area.

Mt. Pleasant celebrates downtown revitalization



Residents gather in downtown Mt. Pleasant to celebrate the unveiling of the city's new logo and several downtown revitalization projects recently completed or underway in the town. Formerly known as the "Phosphate Capitol of the World," local leaders decided to rebrand the municipality with a new logo featuring a magnolia flower and dubbing Mt. Pleasant "The Hub of Reinvention." The community recently welcomed five new businesses to its downtown through competitive incentives, partnerships with building owners, rebranding and remodeling of several downtown structures.

Jefferson City dedicates new downtown festival park



More than 100 people attended a ceremony dedicating the new Mossy Creek Station Festival Park in downtown Jefferson City. The park was inspired by the former Mossy Creek Train Station once located in the community and was made possible through an 11-year collaboration between the city, citizen volunteers, and The Mossy Creek Foundation. The park features a Veterans Plaza with bricks inscribed with the names of 560 local veterans, pavilion, and restroom area. Future phases of construction call for the addition of benches, steps, handrails, a train-themed playground, and amphitheater seating.

Loudon opens shuffleboard court at area senior center



Photo by Jeremy Nash/Loudon County News Herald

Wendell Curtis with the city of Loudon's Parks and Recreation Department demonstrates the new shuffleboard court constructed near Loudon County Senior Center. Representatives from the city and senior center were present for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new court on April 19.

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Preservation project protects Niota's city hall, state's oldest-standing train depot

BY KATE COIL

Restoration of Tennessee's oldest train depot are complete after efforts by Niota citizens and city officials worked to save the historic building.

Originally known as the Mouse Creek Station, Niota's city hall is housed within the former train depot that dates back to 1855. After surviving occupation by both Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War, the depot was sold to the city in 1980 and became Niota City Hall.

Niota Mayor Lois Preece said the building is a strong link to the city's past.

"It's our city hall, but trains still go by at least 10 times a day," Preece said. "It is Niota's claim to fame. We were a railroad community for a while. It is really important that this depot is preserved. The people who live here know the history of the building. People have been in it, walked by it for years, and it's a part of their lives."

The former Mouse Creek station is the only remaining train depot from the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad. Originally incorporated as the Hiwassee Rail Company, the ETGC connected Dalton, Ga. and Loudon with further spurs between Loudon and Knoxville and then Chattanooga and Cleveland. The line today is owned by Norfolk Southern.

In 1862, a Union spy recorded the Mouse Creek Depot and the surrounding town in his report of a Confederate company having garrisoned in the depot. When Union Gen. Ambrose Burnside occupied East Tennessee in 1863, he seized the railroad and the depot.

"During the war, they cut gun ports into the side," Preece said.

"They knocked out bricks so they could use them as gun ports. We still get a lot of Civil War buffs who come in and want to learn more about the depot. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and on one of the Civil War trails."

When the war ended, regular rail service returned to the community of Mouse Creek until 1897. When the community applied for a post office, they were told they were too close to another community called Mossy Creek and it would cause confusion. Postmaster John Boggess then submitted the name "Niota," the name of a character in a novel he was reading. The name was accepted and the Mouse Creek Station and city became Niota. Mossy Creek would later change its name to Jefferson City.

Regular passenger and freight stops at the Niota Depot ceased in 1972, but the depot was placed on the National Register of Historic Places two years later. After sitting abandoned several years, the depot eventually became Niota's city hall. While the depot had survived the Civil War and the decline of rail traffic, it had a harder time overcoming the ravages of time.

The Niota Depot was listed on Tennessee Preservation Trust's Ten Most Endangered list in 2009 and again in 2015. That year, a chimney fell through the roof leading some to believe it was time for the building to be demolished. However, the city received a \$182,000 grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation to make the repairs instead.

"We had to repair the inside of the building and the roof," Preece said. "During that time, we had to relocate to another building. Once those repairs were done, we moved

back in."

This second renovation is focusing on the exterior of the building. Preece said the city received a \$196,500 Tennessee Department of Transportation enhancement grant for the repairs.

"The depot needed to have the bricks repointed, better drainage and guttering, and new decking and railings. Its awnings needed to be replaced," she said. "There is a lot of exterior work. We also had to put in new storm front doors because of the fire marshal. When you renovate a structure like this you have to bring it up to code. That was a condition for the grant money."

In addition to funding from the state, Preece said county officials and local residents also chipped in to save this piece of local history.

"Our 20 percent match was paid for by the McMinn County Hotel/Motel Tax," she said. "We cannot thank them enough. This is a major tourist attraction for us. The Niota Depot Preservation Committee also helped us pay other fees like for engineering and architecture and roofing repairs we already completed. None of the cost of this project came out of our citizen's tax money."

Construction started in December and Preece said city employees continued working in the building during the renovations.

"Part of the agreement for these repairs is that we didn't want to move," she said. "You have to move everything from your phone lines to your internet service. We have been working in the building since the construction began in December. We have a ramp that takes us up into the building. They keep moving it from place to place as the construction continues, but



Construction crews work on the restoration of the historic Niota train depot, which also houses Niota City Hall. The depot dates back to at least 1855 and is the oldest-standing train depot in the state of Tennessee.



Niota native and then State Rep. Harry T. Burn meets with suffragettes at the Niota Train Depot in 1919. Burn greeted the women after returning home from casting the vote in the Tennessee legislature that allowed for the Nineteenth Amendment to be ratified. Burn originally intended to vote "nay" on the measure, but a letter from his mother in Niota persuaded him otherwise.

the construction company has been very, very good. We've been able to stay open every day."

The construction on the building finished April 28. Preece said the city will be showcasing the building at several upcoming events.

"We are having an Eclipse Concert on the new decking on Aug. 21 because we are in the line of the solar eclipse," she said. "The depot is also the centerpiece of the Sixth Annual Fried Green Tomato Festival on Sept. 10."

Dunlap glides toward a sustainable future, energy cost savings

BY ALLE CRAMPTON
TDEC Sustainable Practices

Dunlap, a town of around 5,000 people, is located in scenic Sequatchie County and is well known for both its historic coke ovens and hang-gliding. Recently, the city entered into a contract with NORESKO, one of the largest U.S. energy services companies, to do some much-needed energy efficiency upgrades.

These upgrades include new LED street lighting for 130 street lights, high-efficiency LED interior and exterior lights at all city buildings, water meter upgrades, and solar arrays on the roofs of city buildings in nine locations.

These projects are estimated to cost the city about \$2.75 million, which includes the cost of new roofs to support the solar panels. Brian Stone of NORESKO said "it only makes sense to replace the aging roof of the city buildings before mounting the solar arrays on them, so they will not have to be disturbed at a later date."

According to Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land "NORESKO has guaranteed that these upgrades will pay for themselves" over a period of several years. The idea is for Dunlap to borrow the money, use it to finance the construction, and then use energy savings from the improvements to pay back the loan. According to NORESKO's calculations, the two roofs are the only part of the plan the city will have to pay for, about \$500,000, out of their own fiscal resources.

The solar panels will be installed at city hall, the fire department, the police department, the city park, a 30,000-square-foot maintenance facility, a water treatment plant, a water lift station, a wastewater treatment plant, and a sewage lift station.

In a working session on Oct. 4, 2016, Stone pointed out to Mayor Land and the city commission that the city is already approved to sell electricity back to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for 25 years, at a locked-in "market value." Stone said that the income from the energy sold back to TVA would cover the expenses of these energy efficiency upgrades.

"This is a deal that makes sense both for business and for the environment," Mayor Land said, "It is a win-win situation, as it is good for Dunlap now and in the future. It is also good for the next mayor, and hopefully it starts a cul-

ture change here - where we think about the environment more."

Along with these energy efficiency upgrades, Mayor Land also aims to implement a curbside recycling program for about 3,000 homes, which will be free of charge to the residents. This program will be funded by the savings seen from the energy efficiency upgrades.

Mayor Land and his staff have been very active about going after grants. Since 2010, Dunlap has received more than \$5.2 million in grant funding. These funds were used for various large projects, including streetscape and greenway projects, a housing rehabilitation in 2013, and a stormwater project in 2016.

Dunlap also focuses on small-scale changes. The city's National Guard facility was even awarded a Clean Tennessee Energy Grant from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Office of Sustainable Practices for energy efficiency upgrades to the potable water heater.

In July 2014, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) awarded a grant of \$591,141 for the second phase of the Coops Creek Greenway project. Mayor Land announced in July 2016 that TDOT again awarded the city grant funds of almost \$1 million for more streetscape improvements.

Together, these funds will finance the construction of walkways connecting Harris Park to Coops Creek Trail and a walkway crossing Rankin Avenue near Coops Creek Bridge. The plans for the city's greenways and streetscape project will eventually create a path that loops through the city.

Also in 2016, Dunlap received a \$500,000 Local Park and Recreation grant from TDEC, which goes toward Phase II of the development of Harris Park. This grant will help fund a new splash pad, restrooms, a family pavilion, and a civic plaza space that could host additional community events like a farmers market.

"These developments will help Harris Park continue to be a popular area for residents and others outside the community," TDEC Commissioner Bob Martineau said. "We're grateful to be able to help fund these projects, which will pay dividends for our communities now and in the future."

It takes hard work and determination to secure grants and other funding, but Dunlap is striving



In 2016, Dunlap received a \$500,000 Local Park and Recreation grant from TDEC, which goes toward Phase II of the development of Harris Park. This grant will help fund a new splash pad, restrooms, a family pavilion, and a civic plaza space that could host additional community events like a farmers market.



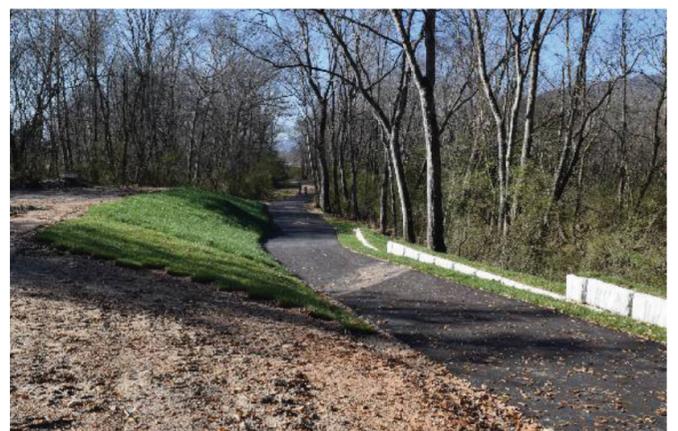
Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land outside of city hall, one of several city locations where solar panels will be installed.



Solar panels will also be installed at the fire and police departments, the city park, a 30,000 square-foot maintenance facility, a water treatment plant, a water lift station, a wastewater treatment plant, and a sewage lift station.

At right: Almost a decade in the making, the greenway has paved segments connecting Harris Park to Coops Creek Trail and a walkway crossing Rankin Avenue near Coops Creek Bridge. The plans for the city's greenways and streetscape project will eventually create a path that loops through the city.

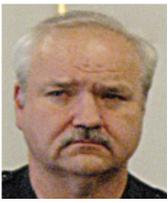
toward sustainability, beatification, and continual improvement. Through all of these efforts, the city is definitely setting some great examples that other towns and cities can follow.





PEOPLE

Dickson Police Chief **Rick Chandler** will be retiring on July 3 after 33 years of service with the department. Of the



Rick Chandler

33 years Chandler has served in Dickson, he has spent 25 of them as the city's police chief. From 2005 until 2009, he also served as the city's public safety director. In addition to serving as the city's police chief, Dickson works security part-time at Tri-Star Horizon Medical Center in Dickson and has taught criminal justice and criminal psychology at Freed-Hardeman University's satellite campus in Dickson.

Chattanooga Police Chief **Fred Fletcher** will retire from his position with the city in July at the end of his contract.



Fred Fletcher

Fletcher was selected as the city's police chief in 2014 and previously served as a police commander in Austin, Texas, before coming to Chattanooga. Fletcher began his police career with the Austin Police Department in 1994, going on to serve in executive, command and supervisory roles for 12 years. During his tenure with the department, Fletcher has overseen operations that put the department in the national spotlight including a rescue effort from a nine-vehicle interstate crash, a domestic terror attack in 2015, and a bus crash involving students from Woodmore Elementary.

Keith Harrison has been named assistant commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Consumer and Industry Services division. Harrison has more than 30 years of experience in agriculture, working in the market development division for TDA from 1984 until 2000 and then for the La Vergne-based Tennessee Farmers' Cooperative since 2001. Harrison earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture business from the University of Tennessee Knoxville and a master's degree in business administration/marketing from Middle Tennessee State University. In addition to his work with various farm organizations, he also raises beef and hay on his family farm near Watertown.



Keith Harrison

Betsy Knotts has been appointed executive secretary to the Tennessee Board of Equalization following the retirement of long-time executive secretary Kelsie Jones after 40 years of service in state government. Knotts joined the Comptroller's Office in 2013

and most recently served as deputy executive secretary to the board. She has also served as counsel to the Utility



Betsy Knotts

Management Review Board and Wastewater Financing Board with a focus on tax incentive programs and local government financial transactions. Prior to joining the Comptroller's office, Knotts practiced public finance law in the Texas Attorney General's Office and worked for the Tennessee Attorney General's Financial Division. She holds a bachelor's degree in music and German literature from Tulane University and attained her juris doctorate and bachelors of civil law from the Paul M. Herbert Louisiana State University Law Center.

M. Denis "Pete" Peterson, the city manager of Johnson City, has been awarded with the East Tennessee State University National Alumni Association's Alumni Award as part of the university's spring commencement festivities. Peterson was presented with the award for Distinguished Alumnus in Public Service, having obtained a bachelor's degree in construction engineering technology from ETSU in 1987. Peterson began working with the municipality of Johnson City in 1991 as a development specialist, becoming assistant city manager four years later. He returned to ETSU to obtain his master's in city management and was named Johnson City's interim city manager in 2004 before being appointed city manager in 2005.



Pete Peterson

Daniel Speer, former alderman and mayor for the city of Pulaski, on April 20 at the age of 67. A Pulaski native, he attended Columbia Military Academy and earned both a bachelor's and master's degree from Middle Tennessee State University. Speer was selected as TML's Mayor of the Year in 1994 and president of TML in 1997. He was first elected an alderman for the city of Pulaski in 1984 and then was elected mayor in 1990. He held the office of mayor for 21 years, stepping down in 2010 to become executive director of the Pulaski-Giles County Economic Development Commission. During his tenure as mayor of Pulaski, Speer oversaw the revision of the city charter, the creation of sidewalks and trails, the development of a second industrial park, the restoration of Sam Davis park and stadium, and the renovation of public housing.



Daniel Speer

Paris Councilman Tharpe retires as principal

Paris Councilman and long-time educator Sam Tharpe will be retiring from his position as principal of Paris' E.W. Grove School this summer.

During his 34-year career in education, Tharpe has also served as a principal at Henry Elementary School in the town of Henry and assistant principal of Lakewood Elementary School in Paris.

"There comes a time in your life where you have to decide to retire, and 34 years in education, I think it's a good time," Tharpe told the *Paris Post-Intelligencer*. "One thing I will miss is the friendship with students, with teachers, colleagues and community members, but I'm not going anywhere. I'll be around. I'll still be in the community doing a lot of volunteer work and helping the community where I can."



Sam Tharpe

Tim Mason, who currently serves as assistant principal of the Grove School, will become the new principal of the school upon Tharpe's retirement June 30. Ma-

son thanked Tharpe for his support during the years they have worked together.

In addition to his position as Paris' mayor from 2008 until 2014, and has been on the city council since 1991, where he presently serves as a councilman.

He is currently serving his sixth term on the city council, which continues until 2018. Tharpe was also the first African-American vice-mayor elected to the Paris City Council.

Tharpe also served as president of the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors in 2001 and again in 2011. He currently serves on the board as a past-president. He also served on the TML Risk Management Pool Board of Directors and the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Board.

Wildfire victims receive surprise from Dollywood Foundation

Recipients of the Dollywood Foundation's funds for victims of the Sevier County wildfires received a final surprise when the last checks were handed out on May 4.

For the past five months, the 921 beneficiaries of the "My People Fund" have received a check of \$1,000. The final check distributed in May totaled \$5,000 each.

"We had a surplus with the

money we raised and have been talking about doing this for the last couple weeks," said David Dotson, president of the Dollywood Foundation.

Funds for victims of the November 2016 blaze were raised by country music legend Dolly Parton through her foundation and from donations made by some 80,000 people. A Sevier County native,

Parton launched the fund shortly after devastating wildfires that killed 14 and caused millions of dollars of damage to homes and buildings.

Officials say the fires damaged or destroyed a combined total of 2,545 buildings in Sevier County, Pigeon Forge, and Gatlinburg, including businesses, homes, and public buildings.

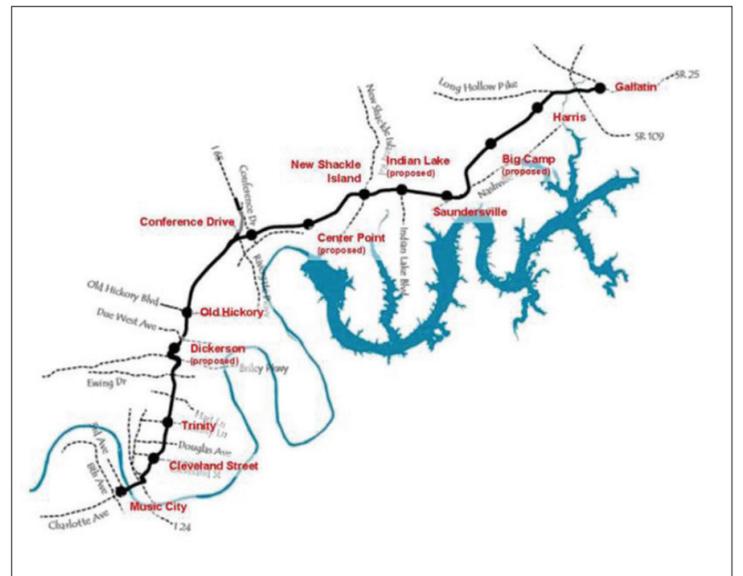
Mayor Barry rolls out plan for light rail

RAIL, from Page 1

along that corridor has demonstrated a market for the mixed-use, transit-oriented type of development that will be necessary to make light rail successful. Many of the neighborhoods that surround Gallatin Pike have extensive sidewalk networks. And the nMotion planning process showed those neighborhoods support comprehensive mass transit along the corridor."

The Gallatin Pike Corridor Plan is based on the 2011 Nashville Northeast Corridor Mobility Study conducted by the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. The path of the train would stretch from downtown at Main Street through East Nashville, Madison, and Rivergate. The study said light-rail on the corridor would not only ease commute congestion but would also decrease single-occupant auto trips related to leisure activities like shopping and dining. Additionally, the study found that light rail could make an area more attractive to businesses and residences who want to "live, work, shop, or go to school within walking distance of a station." New jobs created by both the operation of light rail as well as associated retail and business created near light rail stations could total \$64 million, also enhancing state and city property, income and sales taxes.

While Barry expressed her own eagerness to "drive across the river and put a shovel in the ground," she acknowledged that



A map of proposed stops along the Gallatin Pike light rail line from the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's 2011 Northeast Corridor Mobility Study. The \$6 billion light rail project is one of the first major transportation projects proposed following the passage of the IMPROVE Act in the state, which allows for municipal referendums to help fund local transit projects.

the process to bring light rail to Gallatin may not be an easy one.

"We have plenty of work to do before we send that first train down the line," Barry said. "This process won't be quick or easy. It will involve detailed planning and land acquisition. There will be some arguments, there's going to be some hiccups, and there's going to be some headaches. We'll have to have honest conversations, and some people aren't going to be happy with every decision."

During her address, Barry also emphasized that the time to move on transportation projects cannot wait.

"We have to move forward," she said. "We have to act now to

prevent congestion from threatening our prosperity and compromising our quality of life. Nashville cannot wait any longer to embrace our future. We will be a 21st-century, transit-oriented city, and we are not going to look back 10 years from now and say we failed when we had to succeed."

Gallatin Pike is not the only corridor the city of Nashville has considered for light rail. In the next 25 years, Barry said there are also plans to further the city's light rail network on Charlotte Pike, Murfreesboro Pike, Nolensville Pike, and the Northwest Corridor between north Nashville and Clarksville.

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STATE BRIEFS



A record number of Tennessee students are going to college directly from high school and are better prepared, according to two reports recently issued by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The reports reveal the number of college-going high school graduates increased by 16.4 percent between 2012 and 2016. Fewer students are requiring learning support courses, likely attributable in part to the Seamless Alignment and Integrated Learning Support (SAILS) program. The number of first-time freshmen requiring learning support in math went from 71.1 percent in 2011 to 53.7 percent in 2016; overall remediation dropped from 76.8 percent of first-time freshmen in 2011 to 62.4 percent in 2016. Data show that students enrolled in co-requisite remediation at the college level, such as adult learners, are seeing similar success.

More than 1,000 acres of land has been added to South Cumberland State Park, connecting more than 7,000 acres of protected public land along the Fiery Gizzard Trail. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), in partnership with The Conservation Fund, The Land Trust for Tennessee and the Open Space Institute, announced the addition of 1,058 acres to the park, which conserves forestland and cove habitat from future development and protects scenic views. The newly acquired land is adjacent to the Fiery Gizzard Trail, which has been ranked as one of the top 25 backpacking trails in the U.S. by *Backpacker* magazine. Approximately 600,000 visitors enjoy South Cumberland State Park annually, with many attracted to the 12-mile Fiery Gizzard Trail.

Tennessee motorists collectively spend about \$6 billion a year because of deteriorated infrastructure, congestion and a lack of safety features on roads around the state, according to a new report from a national transportation research group. Conducted by Washington, D.C.-based TRIP, the "Tennessee Transportation by the Numbers: Meeting the State's Need for Safe, Smooth and Efficient Mobility" study took into consideration factors such as vehicle operating costs, lost time and fuel due to congestion-related delays, traffic crashes and con-

gestion-related delays. The report ranked 18 percent of the major state and locally maintained urban roads in poor to mediocre condition, producing an annual cost of \$192 million to motorists. Five percent of bridges in the state were found to be structurally deficient.

A newly formed conservancy group aims to aid visitor offerings at state parks around Tennessee. The recently-formed nonprofit the Tennessee State Parks Conservancy will partner with Tennessee State Parks and TDEC to enhance health, education and other specialized offerings in parks. Funds raised through the conservancy will help fund field trips, outdoor classrooms and special projects like new playgrounds and museum exhibits. Donated funds will be available to the state's 56 state parks on a grant-based system.

Tennessee's preliminary unemployment rate for March was 5.1 percent, according to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The department also revised February's unemployment rate to 5.3 percent, matching the U.S. preliminary rate's decline of two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.5 percent. Since last year, Tennessee's unemployment rate increased by half a percentage point to 4.6 percent while, the national rate of 5 percent decreased by half a point. From February 2017 to March 2017, the total nonfarm employment increased by 8,600 jobs. The largest increases occurred in administrative services, support, services, waste services, local government, and state government.

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) has officially been renamed the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (TPUC). Gov. Bill Haslam recently approved the name change based on legislation sponsored by Sen. Jack Johnson, R-Franklin, and Rep. Pat Marsh, R-Shelbyville. In addition to changing the name, the measure also redesignates five members of the board as commissioners rather than the previous title of director. The change was made to align Tennessee with several states across the nation who refer to their commissions providing regulatory oversight to investor-owned public utility companies as public utility commissions.

Three municipalities awarded Healthier Tennessee designations

As part of Healthier Tennessee Day on the Hill, nine communities received Healthier Tennessee Communities designations from Gov. Bill Haslam and Governor's Foundation for Health and Wellness CEO Richard Johnson.

The cities of Cookeville, Clarksville and Collegedale and Bradley, Dickson, Macon, Maury, Rhea and Wilson counties were recognized for their work to improve the health of their citizens. The communities were recognized at an awards breakfast.

"We must encourage and enable community-led efforts like the ones we're celebrating today if we want to improve the health and quality of life of Tennesseans," Haslam said. "I congratulate these communities on their efforts to improve the health of their citizens, and I hope more communities will strive to do the same."

To be designated, the communities established wellness councils and developed sustainable community-wide events and activities that support physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco abstinence.

They then tracked and measured outputs and accomplishments of the programs. The Foundation launched the Healthier



Three municipalities and six counties were recognized as Healthier Tennessee Communities by Gov. Bill Haslam and Governor's Foundation for Health and Wellness CEO Richard Johnson as part of Healthier Tennessee Day on the Hill. Cookeville, Clarksville, and Collegedale are now among the nine other Tennessee municipalities who have been recognized as Healthier Tennessee Communities.

Tennessee Communities initiative in March 2015 with nine pilot communities.

Presently, 84 communities are engaged with the program, and 24 have now received the designation.

In Tennessee, one in five adults smokes, and one in five high school students uses tobacco. Approximately 34 percent of the population is classified as obese, and type-2 diabetes and high blood pressure are at near epidemic levels.

Other cities that have earned Healthier Tennessee designations include Arlington, Collierville, Crossville, Franklin, Germantown, Kingsport, Manchester, Spring Hill, and Tullahoma.

More information about the communities program, including a list of participating cities and counties, and other Healthier Tennessee initiatives is available at www.healthierTN.com.

TN receives \$13.8M for state opioid crisis

The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services has been awarded \$13.8 million through the 21st Century Cures Act, which was passed in 2016 to help combat the prescription opioid epidemic in the state.

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, M.D., said this is the largest single federal funding increase for opioid treatment in the state's history. Price recently wrote a letter to governors across the country addressing the opioid crises many states are facing.

"As I begin my tenure as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), I do so with a profound commitment to addressing this public health crisis as one of our top three Departmental priorities," Price wrote. "Opioids were responsible for over 33,000 deaths in 2015; this alarming statistic is unacceptable to me. We cannot continue to lose our nation's citizens to addiction. Through a

sustained focus on people, patients, and partnerships, I am confident that together we can turn the tide on this public health crisis."

Sen. Lamar Alexander spoke in support of the funding and how it could help communities deal with opioid addiction.

"Opioid abuse or overdose kills more Tennesseans every year than gunshots or car wrecks, and this funding will send a substantial boost to those on the front lines of a battle that is being waged state by state, county by county, doctor's office by doctor's office," Alexander said.

In Tennessee, it is estimated that 69 out of 100 individuals are addicted to prescription opioids and require treatment for prescription opioid abuse. Another 151,900 Tennesseans are using prescription opioids in ways that could be harmful, and they may benefit from early intervention strategies.

"This announcement creates great optimism as we build upon the efforts already underway to

address the opioid epidemic in our state," said Gov. Bill Haslam. "Far too many Tennesseans have been impacted by opioid abuse and this substantial increase in funding is vitally important as we continue to fight this public health crisis in Tennessee."

Marie Williams, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, said the funds will help with measures already being taken across the state to help those suffering from addiction.

"We are extremely grateful for this historic opportunity to transform the lives of so many Tennesseans impacted by the opioid epidemic," Williams said. "We have been working closely with our federal and community partners to ensure that these new dollars will be used to expand the much needed services to as many Tennesseans struggling with opioid substance use disorder as possible. In Tennessee, we know what works. We have a statewide network of community providers standing by, ready and able to do what is needed now that we are taking a monumental step toward closing the gap in funding."

Treatment services that will be funded from these new dollars will include but are not limited to: continuum of care treatment services, treatment for pregnant women, tele-treatment in rural Tennessee counties, medication assisted treatment, and recovery support services.

These new resources will be leveraged to continue building upon the efforts of Tennessee's 2014 strategic plan to combat the opioid crisis, Prescription for Success: Statewide Strategies to Prevent and Treat the Prescription Drug Abuse Epidemic in Tennessee.

Revenues fell below state's March projections

Department of Finance and Administration Commissioner Larry Martin has announced that Tennessee tax revenue fell short of budgeted estimates in March.

March sales tax revenues reflect retail activity occurring in February, and overall March revenues were \$993.6 million, which is \$100.9 million less than we collected in March of 2016 and \$70.1 million less than the budgeted estimate for the month.

"March sales tax revenues recorded negative growth and were also below our budgeted expectations," Martin said. "This is due in part to having one less day of retail activity this February compared to February 2016 and also growing over an extraordinarily high base from last year. In addition, the Department of Revenue implemented a new tax administration system this month and extended the sales tax filing deadline. The April report should capture any March outstanding liability taxpayers owe."

Franchise and Excise tax recorded negative growth for March and were also below the monthly budgeted estimate. All other revenues combined marginally exceeded the March estimate.

On an accrual basis, March is the eighth month in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

General fund revenues were less than the budgeted estimates in the amount of \$71.5 million while the four other funds that share in state tax revenues were \$1.4 million more than the estimates.

Sales taxes were \$48.2 million less than the estimate for March and were 6.26 percent less than March 2016. For eight months revenues are \$170.6 million higher than estimated. The year-to-date growth rate for eight months was 2.8 percent.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$20.8 million less than the budgeted estimate in March, and the growth rate was negative 20.23 percent. For eight months revenues are \$246.2 million more than the estimate and the year-to-date growth rate is 13 percent. However, adjusting for one-time payments received in the current year the underlying growth rate is negative 1.84 percent.

Gasoline and motor fuel revenues for March increased by 4.55 percent compared to March 2016 and were \$5.1 million more than the budgeted estimate of \$61.2 million. For eight months revenues

have exceeded estimates by \$31.6 million. Tobacco taxes were \$5.1 million less than the March budgeted estimate of \$19.8 million. For eight months they are \$2 million less than the year-to-date budgeted estimate.

Inheritance and estate taxes were \$700,000 less than the March estimate. On a year-to-date basis revenues for eight months are \$3.3 million more than the budgeted estimate.

Privilege taxes were \$2.2 million more than the March estimate, and on a year-to-date basis, August through March, revenues are \$6.3 million more than the estimate.

WAUFORD

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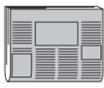
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is currently accepting applications for an administrative assistant I in the planning department. Applicants must have a comprehensive knowledge of standard office practices, procedures, equipment and secretarial techniques. Applicants must have a high school diploma/equivalent with an associate's degree in administrative assistant or related field. Must have five years recent work experience in clerical/office work, including office software products, preferably working directly with executive level positions. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position with no weekend work required. The hourly rate is \$17.11 per hour + excellent benefits. For a more detailed description and to apply, please visit our website at www.gallatinonthemove.com and click on the employment tab at the top. Applications received by June 5, will receive first consideration. EOE.

CITY COURT CLERK

LA VERGNE. The city of La Vergne Human Resources Department is accepting employment applications for a city court clerk. Responsible for the overall operation of the La Vergne City Court, including data collection and interpretation, case flow management, records management, clerical and administrative support services. Performs the duties of Clerk of the Court in compliance with state regulations as directed by the city administrator/city recorder. Must have a minimum of two years experience in a court situation, such as court clerk, bailiff, legal secretary, or court reporter, and have experience with office procedures. Must have or quickly acquire an understanding and application of court procedures, functions, and purpose. Must acquire and maintain professional knowledge relating to the legal environment and operations of the Municipal Court. Please visit www.lavergnetn.gov to review the job posting and complete an online employment application for consideration for this position. Rate of Pay: \$17.01 hourly. Open until filled. EEO/Drug Free Workplace.

CITY MANAGER

LOUDON. The city of Loudon is seeking applications for a skilled manager to lead its dynamic city operations. The desired candidate will be a proven manager with excellent, communication and problem solving skills. A bachelor's degree in engineering, public administration, business administration or a related field is preferred. Ideally the candidate will possess a minimum of five years of experience in upper level city administration. The position reports to the city mayor and a five person Utility Board of Directors. The city of Loudon employs a staff of more than 150 in utilities, including electric, gas, water, and wastewater as well as police, fire, parks and recreation, and public works. The city of Loudon offers a competitive salary and complete benefits package including participation in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. Please email your resume and salary requirements to: John Canada at john.canada@loudonutilities.org. EOE

CITY MANAGER

SOUTH FULTON. The city of South Fulton (population 2,500) is seeking a city manager to oversee and manage the police, fire, and public works departments which includes the water, wastewater, and gas departments. The position of the city manager reports directly to a five-member city commission, one of them being the elected mayor. They will also be in charge of an approximately \$3.5 million budget, 22 full-time employees, and 3 part-time employees. The successful applicant should have at least a bachelor's degree in public administration, or any field relevant to the position, and at least three years of experience (negotiable with appropriate references) in order to manage a budget of this size. The applicant must also have excellent communication and motivational skills. Salary will be dependent on qualifications. Application deadline: May 19, 2017. Please send a resume plus three references to Mayor David Lamb at: City of South Fulton; 700 Milton Counce Drive; South Fulton, TN 38257. EOE

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I

GALLATIN. The City of Gallatin Public Works Department is currently accepting applications for an Equipment Operator I in the Streets Division. The purpose of this position is to perform semiskilled work in a variety of construction, repair and maintenance assignments involving the use of specialized tools. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position with some weekend work required. The starting rate is \$12.16 + excellent benefits. Duties include performing general street, utility, building and grounds work; operating dump truck and light to medium construction equipment. Applicants must have knowledge of the traffic laws and regulations governing equipment operation, skill in the operation of a variety of small, medium and heavy equipment, and the ability to understand and effectively carry out written and oral instructions. At the minimum, applicants must possess a high school diploma and must have 1 year of recent work experience in installation, concrete, or asphalt services. A Class A-57 CDL is required. To see a more detailed description and

to apply, go to www.gallatinonthemove.com. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis to fill current and future vacancies. EOE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MTAS. The University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service is searching for an executive director of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service as the agency's current executive director has announced retirement. The position may be based in Knoxville or Nashville, and will require extensive statewide travel. The executive director is responsible for leadership of the agency including 50+ employees, a nearly \$6.7 million budget, strategic planning, workforce development, stakeholder relations, human resources, performance measures, and private fund raising. The executive director must establish and maintain relationships with cities through an advisory committee and with the TN Municipal League and its affiliate organizations, state government and various professional associations. The executive director is responsible to the vice president of Public Service for overall agency management. Qualifications require a master's degree, preferably in public administration, city management, or a related field. A minimum requirement of 10 years' experience as a senior leader in a complex organization, preferably in a local or state government or nonprofit organization with similar work goals, is also required. Experience as a city manager and/or managing staff in remote locations is a plus. Applicant must have strong oral and written communication skills, ability to lead a multi-talented, multi-disciplined municipal consulting agency, and ability to manage budget and human resources. Applicants must apply electronically and attach a cover letter, resume, and at least four references with contact information. For full consideration, application must be received by May 17. Salary commensurate with education and experience. For more information on the position and the statewide UT Institute for Public Service, visit www.mtas.tennessee.edu. To apply, please access the following link: https://ut.taleo.net/careersection/ut_system/jobdetail.ftl?job=17000000IU. EOE.

FIRE CHIEF

ARLINGTON. The town of Arlington is seeking a motivated and committed fire professional to serve as the town's fire chief. Under the direction and supervision of the town administrator, the chief plans, directs, coordinates, and evaluates the firefighting, prevention, safety, EMS, inspection, and fire service activities for the town of Arlington. Must have the ability to supervise, manage, direct, coordinate and affect confidence in fire department personnel. The chief will also support community education efforts and represent the department on a local and regional basis. The Arlington Fire Department provides fire suppression, rescue, EMS, prevention, and inspections; is staffed with 16 full-time employees and a volunteer program, responding from one station. The department currently holds a Class 3 ISO rating. Requirements include four years of college with course concentration in fire science, public administration, business management, or closely related field; Certification as an Emergency Medical Technician or higher, and Executive Fire Officer (EFO) graduate from the National Fire Academy, preferred; 15 years of fire service experience with eight years of progressively responsible administration and supervisory experience in fire service, EMS and life safety emergency response work, Community Risk Reduction, or equivalent experience. A complete job description and application can be found at www.townofarlington.org. Applications will be received in the office of the Town Recorder at Bowens@townofarlington.org or Town of Arlington P.O. Box 507, 5854 Airline Road, Arlington, TN 38002, until the position is filled. Salary range begins at \$60,000 and tops at \$90,000. EEO/Drug Free Workplace.

FIRE CHIEF

JOHNSON CITY. The city of Johnson City is looking for an innovative and committed fire professional to serve as the city's next fire chief. Under the general direction and supervision of the city manager, the chief plans, organizes, directs, coordinates and evaluates the firefighting, prevention, EMS, and fire service activities of the Johnson

City Fire Department. The chief will maintain the highest level of ethics, integrity, and accountability. He/she will be an effective and impartial leader with outstanding interpersonal skills, a talent for communications at all levels of the organization, and strong management/organizational skills. The new chief must have the ability to direct, manage, and affect confidence in Fire Department personnel at all levels. The chief will provide leadership and drive the vision for the Johnson City Fire Department. The position supervises two assistant chiefs who are assigned to the Operations and Administrative divisions of the department. The chief will also support community education efforts and will represent the division in the local community and on a regional basis. The position is open due to the impending retirement of the current fire chief. The Johnson City Fire Department provides fire suppression, rescue, EMS, prevention and inspections. It is staffed with 120+ full-time employees with 110 members dedicated to fire suppression. The department responds from nine fire stations, operating nine pumpers and three ladder trucks. The fire suppression department works a 24-hour shift schedule. The department currently holds a Class 1 ISO rating. Requirements include a bachelor's degree, in a related field (Fire Science, Engineering, Business Administration, Emergency Management, etc.) from an accredited university or college, and a minimum of seven to 10 years of command level officer experience. Completion of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer (EFO) program or a master's degree is preferred. Applications will be received on-line at www.johnsoncitytn.org until the position is filled. Salary range begins at \$71,356 and tops at \$115,653. EEO /Drug Free Workplace.

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES CONSULTANT

MTAS. The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is accepting applications for a Fire & Emergency Services Consultant in its Nashville or Knoxville office. The Fire & Emergency Services Consultant provides technical advice and assistance on a wide range of fire management, emergency medical service (EMS), and other emergency service issues to Tennessee municipal officials. Examples of work to be performed include: consulting; developing service and equipment proposals; conducting staffing, organizational, and fire station location studies; making personnel recruitment and selection recommendations; and developing and instructing technical classes. Requires a bachelor's degree or equivalent in public administration, fire science, and fire administration, emergency management or related fields. A master's degree in a related field of study is preferred. Graduation from the Executive Fire Officer (EFO) program at the National Fire Academy is also preferred, and research conducted as part of the EFO may be reviewed. Requires five years experience with fire or emergency services departments, preferably in a position comparable to chief or assistant chief. Experience with EMS delivery in the fire service, and experience working with a city manager, mayor, and other elected officials is desirable. Must be experienced in emergency management and response planning. Each employee that drives a vehicle for work related business must have and maintain a valid driver license and insurance. This position requires extensive travel with overnight stays to municipalities across the state to deliver on-site consultation and training. Salary is based on a combination of professional experience and qualifications. Applicants must apply electronically and attach a cover letter, resume and three references with contact information. Please apply at <http://humanresources.tennessee.edu/recruitment/>. EOE.

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is currently accepting applications for a part time Human Resources Assistant. The purpose of this position is to provide administrative support to the Human Resources Director on all personnel matters. Performs intermediate skilled clerical and responsible administrative work preparing employee records and files and providing clerical support; does related work as required. Any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from high school and considerable experience in secretarial and office work. Experience in records management preferred. This is a 25 hours per week, day shift position with no week-

end work required. The hourly rate is \$17.11 per hour + excellent benefits. For a more detailed description and to apply, please visit our website at www.gallatinonthemove.com and click on the employment tab at the top. Deadline for applications is June 9. EOE.

MUNICIPAL COURT SPECIALIST

MTAS. The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is accepting applications for a Municipal Court Specialist in its Knoxville or Nashville office. The Municipal Court Specialist provides training, continuing education, and technical assistance to court clerks and other appointed and elected officials, developing lesson plans and delivering training in a classroom setting. The position concentrates on one-on-one and regional field-based training; it provides onsite instruction and training in the operational processes of municipal courts and also includes researching and drafting informational documents on municipal issues. The position works with the training team by producing and facilitating classes as requested in addition to providing technical assistance to MTAS consultants to support their work with cities. Applicants should have a practical knowledge and understanding of the problems faced by municipal court officials. The position performs other duties as assigned. This position requires a master's degree in public administration, criminal justice, or a closely related field. A law degree is preferred. It also requires at least two years employment in court administration, local law enforcement or a law department preferably as a court administrator, state or city attorney, city prosecutor, or senior administrative police officer. Prefer training experience. It requires someone with the ability to communicate effectively with both experienced municipal court officials and with city officials who may be new to court operations. The person in this position must be able to quickly acclimate to a new work environment and quickly become well-versed in municipal courts and legal requirements of municipal court clerks in Tennessee. Each employee who drives a vehicle for work related business must have and maintain a valid driver's license. This position requires extensive travel to municipalities across the state to deliver on-site

Municipalities hold elections

ELECTIONS, from Page 1

outgoing member Avery Burden. Miller previously served on the board 30 years ago when he was elected Jacksboro's mayor from 1986 to 1988.

DAYTON

Three incumbent candidates won uncontested seats in Dayton's municipal election. Mayor Gary Louallen, Vice Mayor Steve Randolph and Councilman Bill Graham were all re-elected to their posts.

In addition to seats on the council, voters approved package alcohol sales with 274 votes in favor and 138 votes against or 66 percent of voters. Dayton voters previously approved liquor-by-the-drink in 2012 and the sales of wine in grocery stores in 2016.

DUNLAP

Incumbent Dwain Land retained his seat as mayor of Dunlap. Jeff Harmon and Judy H. Layne were also elected to the Dunlap City Commission, each in an uncontested race. Both are incumbent candidates to the commission.

HALLS

All incumbent candidates representing the town of Halls were also re-elected to their posts. Mayor Eugene Pugh Jr. ran unopposed for his seat. The six at-large alderman seats on the Halls Board of Mayor and Aldermen were also filled with incumbent candidates including: James Tyus, Dale McCaslin, Wayne Belton, David Jennings, Rosie Lemons, and Terry Lents. All six incumbent aldermen won their seats against a seventh challenger candidate.

MAURY CITY

Incumbent Rayce Castellaw ran unopposed for Maury City's mayoral seat. Voters also elected five aldermen including incumbents Billy Gibson, Bobby Jean Williamson, Danny W. Vaughn Sr. and George E. Simmons and challenger Letha S. Johnson.

MORRISTOWN

Three seats on the Morristown City Council were up for election. Councilman Tommy Lee Pedigo was re-elected to his at-large position while incumbent candidate Bob Garrett defeated his opponent to retain his Ward 1 seat on the council. Incumbent candidate Kay Senter also won the Ward 3 seat on the city council, running unopposed.

PARKERS CROSSROADS

Two incumbent candidates retained their seats on the Parkers Crossroads Board of Mayor and Commissioners. Mayor Kenneth Kizer and Jamie Simonton were elected to the two open seats available on the council. No other candidates ran in the election.

consultation and training. Salary is based on a combination of professional experience and qualifications. Applicants must apply electronically and attach a cover letter. To be seriously considered, applicants are also requested to attach a resume and three references with contact information. Please apply at: <http://humanresources.tennessee.edu/recruitment/>. EOE.

WATER TREATMENT MANAGER

COLLIERVILLE. This is highly responsible managerial work in the operation, maintenance, and development of the Town's water treatment plant facilities and in the maintenance, repair, installation, operation and minor construction of the municipal water production system and related facilities. Requires a High School Diploma or GED; supplemented by five years' experience in the operation and maintenance of a water treatment plant; at least one year of which must have been at a Grade III Water Plant; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience, which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must be in compliance with TDEC Rule 0400-49-01 and remain in compliance throughout employment. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. This is a Grade III Water Treatment Facility. The work of this job requires sufficient physical strength, stamina, and ability to pass a work related physical proficiency test and pre-employment examination. The work is physically demanding, may require lifting heavy objects, and may require working in inclement weather. Work environment at times could involve toxic or caustic chemicals, risk of electrical shock or work around moving parts. For full job description call (901) 457-2296. SALARY: \$46,845 - \$84,347 (DOQ) annually with excellent benefits package. Open until filled. Submit an original Collierville application to the following address: Human Resources, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017 Applications are available to download at www.collierville.com under Employment Opportunities, or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office. Applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. The Human Resources Office is open Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. We are unable to accept faxed or emailed applications EOE / DRUG FREE WORK PLACE.

PIGEON FORGE

Three seats on the Pigeon Forge City Commission were up for election, two in contested races.

Incumbent Kevin McClure retained Commission Seat A in a contested race. McClure also serves as the vice mayor for Pigeon Forge.

In the Commission Seat C race, challenger Tony Watts beat out fellow newcomer Jeff Dodgen for the seat previous held by Commissioner Joyce Brackins, who served the city for 16 years. Commissioner Jay Ogle ran unopposed for the Commissioner B seat.

SEVIERVILLE

Three candidates ran unopposed for seats on the Sevierville Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Incumbent candidates running unopposed included Bryan C. Atchley, who retained his seat as mayor, and Aldermen Robert W. Fox and Jim McGill, who retained their seats representing the city's second and fourth alderman seats respectively.

SNEEDVILLE

Incumbent William Pat Riley won the mayoral seat in Sneedville. Five aldermen seats were also up for grabs in Sneedville. Incumbents Janet Cose, Michael S. Gibson, and Matthew G. Waddell retained their seats while newcomers Janet Marion Collins and Troy C. Collins were also elected to open seats. Vice-mayor Scott Shipley and challengers Kenny L. Reed and Michael "Bull" Johnson did not garner enough votes to win an at-large seat.

SPRING HILL

Spring Hill citizens voted to retain Mayor Rick Graham for another term and elected three new aldermen to the city's Board of Mayor and Alderman. Challenger Jeff Graves unseated incumbent Alderman Jonathan Duda for the city's Ward 2 seat while challenger Kevin Gavigan won over incumbent Alderman Keith Hudson in Ward 3. Vincent Fuqua was elected to represent the city's Ward 4. Former Spring Hill Mayor Brandon McCulluch had been serving in the Ward 4 seat as an interim alderman after previous Ward 4 Alderman Kayce Williams took a job with Spring Hill as the city's new economic development coordinator.

WAVERLY

Three incumbent candidates for the city of Waverly Board of Mayor and Aldermen retained their seats after running in unopposed elections. Ward 1 Alderman Philip "Scoby" Fowlkes, Ward 2 Alderman Thomasine Hill, and Ward 3 Alderman Mike Goodman - who also serves as Waverly's vice-mayor - were all re-elected to their seats.

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City Manager, Savannah (District 7)

Mike Werner

Mayor, Gatlinburg

PAST PRESIDENTS**Curtis Hayes** (2016) Mayor, Livingston**Tom Rowland** (2015) Mayor, Cleveland**Dale Kelley** (2014) Mayor, Huntingdon**Ken Wilber** (2013) Mayor, Portland**Kay Senter** (2012) Morristown Vice Mayor**Sam Tharpe** (2011) Commissioner, Paris**Tommy Pedigo** (2010) Council, Morristown**Tommy Green** (2007) Mayor, Alamo**Bob Kirk** (2004) Alderman, Dyersburg**AFFILIATE DIRECTORS****Karen Johnson**, Council, Nashville (NLC)**Rob Lyons**, City Manager, Murfreesboro (TCMA)**TML AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

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FCC advances new proposals to restrict local infrastructure review

BY ANGELINA PANETTIERI
National League of Cities

Last month, the Federal Communications Commission advanced several proposals to "streamline" state and local reviews of telecommunications infrastructure, such as fiber broadband pole attachments or wireless structures.

On April 20, the FCC approved opening a formal regulatory proceeding on two items, one focused on wireline infrastructure deployment and one on wireless infrastructure. The items seek comment on "local laws inhibiting broadband deployment," as well as shortening the shot clock that applies to local government review of wireless facilities applications and restricting local

fees levied on telecommunications infrastructure applications or sites.

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, who voted to concur with the proposals, noted during the FCC's April meeting that she was troubled by "strong talk surrounding preemption that takes place even before we lay out a clear path to work with communities through other processes, such as the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee," (BDAC) which has been tasked with providing recommendations for how state and local governments can reduce barriers to broadband infrastructure deployment.

The BDAC held its first meeting on April 21, during which FCC Chairman Ajit Pai tasked the group with developing state and municipal model codes to encourage

broadband infrastructure deployment and make recommendations for promoting competitive access to infrastructure and rights of way.

NLC urged the FCC at the announcement of the BDAC earlier this year to include a robust representation of local government in its membership. However, only one member of the 52-person committee is an elected official or local government representative – Mayor Sam Liccardo of San Jose, Calif. The BDAC is expected to provide the FCC with model codes and recommendations in late 2017.

NLC plans to comment on these new regulatory proceedings. Comments will be due 30 days after the items' publication in the Federal Register, which has not yet occurred, and reply comments will be due 60 days after publication.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

The U.S. economy has expanded at its slowest pace in three years during the first quarter of 2017, according to new government data. Spending by consumers has grown at a slower pace and government outlays fell. America's gross domestic product, a broad measure of economic growth, grew at an annualized rate of just 0.7 percent in the first three months of 2017, a significant slowdown from the previous quarter. Consumer spending expanding in the quarter, though it grew at just 0.3 percent, the slowest pace since 2009. Reduced spending at all levels of government, as well as a strong dollar that weighed on exports and increased imports, brought down the official estimate.

However, **the U.S. added 211,000 jobs in April with the unemployment rate falling to the lowest level in a decade**, despite negative economic reports in other sectors in the past

month. The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.4 percent, the lowest level seen since May 2007. Average hourly earnings rose by 2.5 percent from the previous year to \$26.19, slightly slower growth than was seen in previous months. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the change for March was revised down further, to 79,000. The change for February was revised up from 219,000 to 232,000, translating into a net downward revision of 6,000 jobs for the two months in total.

Auto sales are on the decline for the fourth straight month, the longest decline in the industry in the past seven years. The auto industry has helped drive the American economy upward through billions in profits and worker bonuses as well as record high dealership sales. However, automakers are now reporting a fourth straight month of retreating sales, the longest decline since 2009. All six of the top automakers in the American market reported declines from over

a year ago with 1.43 million cars and trucks sold in April 2017, as opposed to 1.5 million in the same month of 2016.

A new analysis has found states that spend more per child on education tend to have better outcomes in public education, health and social services. The Urban Institute conducted the study that found the average state spends \$7,900 per child with 14 states spending less than \$7,000 per child and nine spending more than \$10,000 per child yearly. Children living in the South and Western regions of the country are most likely to have less spent on them while the Northeast spends the most on its children. Researchers say the data is worrying because the states that spend the least on education per child are also states predicted to have larger child growth. The study also found educational success can also depend on how much a state spends on social services and health programs for children.

UT-MTAS JUNE MAP CLASSES

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PRINCIPLED NEGOTIATION

This class focuses on styles of negotiation and how to reach an agreement that is beneficial to all parties involved. Specifically, soft negotiation and principled negotiation are covered as well as common barriers to negotiating agreements.

Dates/Locations/Times:**June 5 Jackson****8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT****June 6 Nashville****8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT****June 8 Knoxville****8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT****Credits****4 CPE/CMFO (Other) (LM)**

To register for a course, go to www.mtas.tennessee.edu, or fax to 865-974-0423. Credit card payments must register online with the Solution Point System: <http://www.solutionpoint.tennessee.edu/MTAS> or by invoice. For registration assistance, call 865-974-0413. Or for more information, contact Kurt Frederick, training consultant, at 615-253-6385.

No loan is too large or too small



The town of Dover recently closed a general obligation refunding bond, a refunding capital outlay note issue, and a \$550,000 note issue for paving. The town has used the TMBF program since 2012. Pictured standing are Town Administrator Kim Wallace and TMBF representative Linda Mooningham. Seated are Mayor Lease Fitzhugh and Town Clerk/CMFO Carla Anderson.



The city of Three Way recently closed a \$2 million fixed rate loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to finance various projects, including a new city hall, street and road improvements, and equipment. Pictured are Mayor Larry Sanders and City Recorder Susan Rogers.

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



May 25-29: Adamsville Buford Pusser Festival
 Annual festival to honor the memory of legendary Sheriff Buford Pusser. Held at Buford Pusser Park, the festival features art, crafts, antique car show, 5K run, softball, food and games. For more information, call 731-632-1401

May 28-29: Brownsville Exit 56 Blues Festival
 The West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center invites blues fans from around the globe to attend the 6th annual Exit 56 Blues Fest May 28-29. For the first time, the festival will expand to two full days of entertainment. The Exit 56 Blues Fest features live music from an eclectic gathering of blues men and women, arts and crafts, car and motorcycle cruise-in/Corvette car show, and the famous deep-fried barbecue eating competition. For more information about the event visit www.Exit56Blues.com or call or contact the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center, 731-779-9000 or info@westtnheritage.com.



May 23-24 TDEC, TDOT, and the Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition will host the Sustainable Transportation Awards and Forum in Nashville at the downtown public library. Topics to be discussed will include:

- Behavior Change - Transportation demand management and the utilization of alternatives to single occupancy vehicles
- Mobility Planning - Improved efficiency in the delivery of goods and services, reduced congestion, and improved access to alternative transportation
- Energy and the Environment - Alternative fuel use for reduced emissions, improved air quality, and resiliency
- Green Fleets Certification and Exhibit of Alternative Fuel Vehicles - Presented by the Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
- Awards Luncheon and One Big Idea Panel to highlight award projects

To register for more information go to <http://tn.gov/environment/article/energy-sustainable-transportation-awards-forum>

Be sure to visit the TML Marketplace at TML's Annual Conference

— June 11-12 at the Murfreesboro Conference Center —

The Exhibit Hall will be open Sunday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and on Monday, June 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The TML Annual Conference is fast approaching and the Exhibitor's Program plays a significant role in the entire conference experience. The services and products presented by the Conference Exhibitors help city officials solve problems and serve their community. Many city and town officials look to convention exhibitors for the latest information about the techniques, products, and services their municipalities need. Be sure and check out some of this year's highlighted vendors. By scanning the QR code with your smartphone app, you can learn more about each company listed below and featured in our on-line TML Marketplace showroom.



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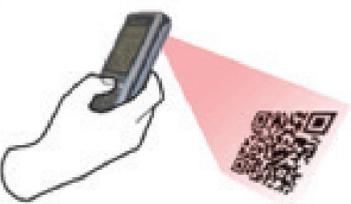
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78th TML ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Murfreesboro Conference Center

at the Embassy Suites

June 10 - 13, Murfreesboro, TN

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

1 - 5 pm
Registration

1 - 4 pm
Mobile Workshops

Murfreesboro Miracle Field and Adams Tennis Complex

Facilitator: Thomas Laird, athletics superintendent, Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department

Visit the Murfreesboro Miracle Field, a new facility for children with special needs. Then travel to the Adams Tennis Complex, an indoor tennis facility built in partnership with Middle Tennessee State University. Explore and discover how public-private partnerships helped these facilities come to life, and relate to similar opportunities in your community.

Stones River National Battlefield

Come discover the Battle of Stones River and explore what the soldiers did more than 150 years ago. Volunteers portraying soldiers and civilians will share stories and participate in demonstrations designed to shed light on everyday life and key events in occupied Murfreesboro. Presentations throughout the day are scheduled for 11am, 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm, with cannons and muskets shot on the hour. Admission is free and a perfect event for the entire family!

2 - 4 pm
TML Board Meeting

7 - 8:30 pm
Welcome Reception

Light refreshments and beverages will be served. Come mix and mingle with your peers.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

7 am - 1 pm
Golf Outing

10 am - 5 pm
Registration / Exhibit Hall Open

10:30 - 11:30 am
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 1

What do Millennials Want?

Panelists:

- Drew Danieley, sales manager, Nashville Convention & Visitors Corp
- Courtney Brandon, SGA president, MTSU
- Hannah Leyhas, SGA attorney general, MTSU
- Dhilan Ramaprasad, Morristown West High School 2017 graduate and student council president

Facilitator:

- Pat Hardy, MTAS management consultant

As the new Millennial generation is coming of age, they are entering the workforce in record numbers. Millennials will transform young adulthood as America's new junior citizens, but will they be engaged in civic life and find purpose in their communities? Come hear from a panel of 18 to 25-year olds discuss what they want from their communities and elected leaders as they make decisions about where they want to work and live.

Workshop 2
Census Bureau

Speaker: Sabrina McNeal, Census Bureau

The 2020 Census is fast approaching, and the U.S. Census Bureau needs your help to ensure that everyone in Tennessee is counted. The 2020 Census Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) is the only opportunity offered to local governments to review and comment on residential address lists prior to the 2020 Census. Come discover how you can participate and help your community plan for future needs.

Workshop 3
The Carrot Principle

Speaker: Dana Deem, MTAS Consultant

Learn how the best managers use recognition to engage people, retain talent, and accelerate performance. This popular book is packed with valuable insights.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Buffet Lunch

12 - 1:30 pm
J.R. Wauford & Co. Ice Cream

1:45 - 2:15 pm
District Meetings

District 1: Pete Peterson, Johnson City
District 2: Daniel Brown, Knoxville
District 3: Bill Graham, Dayton
District 4: Hoyt Jones, Sparta
District 5: Richard Driver, Lafayette
District 6: Betsy Crossley, Brentwood
District 7: Garry Welch, Savannah
District 8: Paula Sedgwick, Bartlett

2:30 - 4 pm

Opening General Session

Speaker: Mark Funkhouser,
Publisher, *Governing* magazine
Key Trends and Challenges in Local Government

As publisher of *Governing* magazine, Mark Funkhouser has a bird's eye view of the various challenges facing government leaders at the local level. He will share those insights with us as well as discuss how municipal leaders are grappling with providing essential services while driving innovation and investing in positive change for their communities.



Mark Funkhouser

Mayors' Forum

Panelists:

- Shane McFarland, Murfreesboro Mayor
- John Clark, Kingsport Mayor
- Jill Holland, McKenzie Mayor
- Curtis Hayes, Livingston Mayor

Facilitator: Mark Funkhouser

Come hear from a handful of mayors from across the state who represent urban and rural and large and small municipalities as they discuss urgent challenges government officials are facing at the local level. What does good leadership entail in 21st century government? What are successful strategies for municipal leaders to effectively manage community needs, citizen expectations, and political considerations?

4 - 5 pm

Affiliate Roundtable Discussions

Do you have a burning questions you need answered about police, fire, or public works? Come to the exhibit hall where TML Affiliate Organizations will be set up to respond.

6 - 9 pm

Host City Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 12

8 - 8:30 am

Continental Breakfast

8 am - 4:45 pm
TMAA Meeting

8:30 am - 3 pm
Registration / Exhibit Hall Open

8:45 - 9:45am

Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 4

Combating Tennessee's Opioid Crisis

Panelists:

- Dr. Stephen Loyd, TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
 - Dr. Mitchell Mutter, TN Department of Health
 - Karen Pershing, executive director, Metro Knoxville Drug Coalition
- Facilitator:
- David Rausch, Knoxville Police Chief

We've all read about it and seen it on the news - the epic opioid crisis sweeping the nation with Tennessee one of the hardest hit states. The problem can be found in large urban cities as well as small, rural towns - pain and addiction know no boundaries. A top-notch panel of experts in the field will help shed some light on the magnitude of the crisis in Tennessee and what can be done to address the problem.

Workshop 5

Making Effective Communication a Core Value in Municipal Government

Speaker: Beth Levine
Smart Mouth Communications

Communication is the currency of our success - it's how we inform, motivate, persuade, influence, reassure, and collaborate, to name just a few. Communication skills and styles impact individual careers, organizational effectiveness, public perceptions, and public process outcomes, yet few organizations - let alone municipalities - make effective communication a core value or performance imperative. This presentation will illustrate five key principles of effective leadership communication - audience-centricity, transparency, graciousness, brevity, and preparedness. In addition to sharing strategic insights on the organizational value of excellence in communication and making the case for it, the workshop will also offer a simple roadmap for how to get started.



Beth Levine

Workshop 6

Community Revitalization Resources for Tennessee Towns and Cities

Panelists:

- Nancy Williams, TNECD Main Street Program
 - Jane-Coleman Harbison, Tennessee Historical Commission
 - Mackenzie Ledet, State Historic Tax Credit Program
 - Mayor Jill Holland, City of McKenzie.
- Facilitator:
- Dr. Bridget Jones, TN Preservation Trust

Cities and towns across Tennessee are actively involved in community revitalization initiatives and are seeing great success from these efforts. Now more than ever city leaders are supporting economic and business development and creating great quality of life and places for their citizens, investors, and visitors through these efforts. Come discover about new resources and success stories that can advance your revitalization and preservation programs from a panel of leading experts that are in place to provide resources and support to your efforts.

Workshop 7

Keeping Your Council Meetings on Track

Speaker: Margaret Norris
MTAS Management Consultant

Learn how to use Robert's Rules of Order for efficient and effective meetings. This session will cover roles, responsibilities, proper motion making and other basics including decorum in debate.

10 - 10:45 am

Annual Business Meeting

11 - 11:45 am

Second General Session

Speaker: Astronaut Rhea Seddon
Explore, Discover, Soar

Let's compare our children's lives to a spaceflight. We prepare them to launch into their chosen orbit and hope they will land back where their journey began - in the towns and cities of Tennessee. Astronaut Rhea Seddon will tell us how that happened in her own life



Rhea Seddon

12 - 1:30 pm
Buffet Lunch

12 - 1:30 pm
MTAS Advisory Lunch

1 - 2:30 pm

J.R. Wauford & Co. Ice Cream

2:30 - 3:30 pm

Concurrent Workshops

Workshop 8

Streetscapes & Roundabouts

Speakers:

- Stephanie Livingston
- Steve Drummer, LDA Engineering

Aesthetically pleasing streetscapes and strategically placed roundabouts that improve public safety can actually contribute to a city's bottom line. Businesses and individuals are choosing to live, work, and play in areas that offer quality-of-life benefits with engaging public spaces. In this workshop you will explore what type of implemented design factors will optimize economic growth in your community.

Workshop 9

Stakeholder Communications

Speaker: Beth Levine
Smart Mouth Communications

Building community. Improving public spaces, roads and byways. Managing growth and/or downturn. Providing basic services. These - and so many other of the undertakings of municipal governments - are efforts that seek to do good. However, informing and persuading stakeholders can get tricky. Selling ideas or change can be fraught with peril - even when doing good. In this interactive workshop session, participants will gain specific insights and tips that will help them be better, more efficient and effective communicators. We'll begin with a look at the audience experience and then dive into some tools and strategies that will give participants an offensive game strategy.

Workshop 10

Open Records Policy

Speaker: Al Major, MTAS Finance and Accounting Consultant

Every municipality is now required to adopt an open records policy. Come find out what it's all about.

3:45 - 4:45 pm

Concurrent Workshops

Workshop 11

Fraudulent Lien Scheme

Speakers:

- Tre Hargett, TN Secretary of State; and Louis Kuykendall, TBI Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge

"Paper terrorism" has become a common tactic of members of the so-called "sovereign citizens" movement, comprised of people who believe that they do not have to pay taxes or obey most laws.

After a year-long investigation, 10 people who are considered to be sovereign citizens were arrested in four East Tennessee counties and charged with more than 320 counts in a fraudulent lien scheme. Come hear about what happened with the filing of false liens and how new legislation passed into law this year will help prevent it from happening in the future.



Tre Hargett
Secretary of State

Workshop 12

Perspectives in Placemaking

Facilitator: Angela Jackson, director of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department, with a panel of placemaking specialists.

Great cities are defined by their destinations. Re-envision your parks and greenspace as vibrant places, from a panel of perspectives: design, engineering, arts, wellness, public safety, and parks professionals. Think outside the ballpark, and consider how a community makes places that serve the community through infrastructure, amenities, and programming.

Workshop 13

Transportation Funding and Project Delivery: Federal/ State Perspective

Speakers:

- Pamela Kordenbrock, FHWA TN Division Administrator
- Whitney Sullivan, TDOT Local Programs Manager

Speeding up the delivery of needed transportation projects is high on everyone's agenda—from the traveling public who desire timely improvements to the local communities that rely on scheduled delivery of goods and services. Transportation agencies are being challenged to deliver projects with greater efficiency and speed at the same time that funding and staffing are decreasing and transportation needs are growing. Come hear how early coordination with transportation agencies can help achieve timely project delivery as well as improved project decisions.

Workshop 14

Linking Performance Appraisals to the Balanced Scorecard

Speaker: John Grubbs
MTAS Human Resource Consultant

How do you know how you are really doing? Learn about tying performance appraisals to what you measure.

6:30 - 11 pm

Pool Party

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

8 - 10:30 am

Awards Breakfast

Schedule At-A-Glance

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

1 - 5 pm Registration
1 - 4 pm Mobile Workshops
7 - 8:30 pm Welcome Reception

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

7 am - 1 pm Golf Outing
10 am - 5 pm Registration
10 am - 5 pm Exhibit Hall Open
10:30 - 11:30 am Workshops
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch
1:45 - 2:15 pm District Meetings
2:30 - 4 pm Opening Session
4 - 5 pm Roundtables
6 - 9 pm Host City Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 12

8 - 8:30 am Continental Breakfast
9 am - 3 pm Registration
8:45 - 9:45 am Workshops
10 - 10:45 am Business Meeting
11 - 11:45 am Second General Session
Lunch

12 - 1:30 pm Lunch
2:30 - 3:30 pm Workshops
3:45 - 4:45 pm Workshops
6 - 11 pm Pool Party

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

8 - 10 am AWARDS BREAKFAST