



## Make plans to attend TML Annual Conference in Memphis, June 22-25

*Registration is now open!*

Registration for the TML Annual Conference in Memphis, slated for June 22-25, is now underway.

The four-day conference will feature top-notch speakers and workshop sessions, several special events, and ample time to network with your peers.

The opening general session on Sunday, June 23, will feature a keynote speech on crisis leadership and real lessons in decision making.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Lt. Col. Robert Darling was working in the White House Military Office and was initially tasked to coordinate airlift assets for the president's evacuation to an undisclosed site. However, he was quickly recruited to provide his military expertise and became a key liaison between Vice President Dick Cheney, the National Security Advisor, and the Pentagon, working directly with the National Command Authority to respond to the terrorist attacks.

Lt. Col. Darling witnessed firsthand the enormity of the crisis and the leadership decisions that were made that day on behalf of all Americans.

His presentation is insightful, inspirational, patriotic and will instill in every person the important role each of us play in supporting our military as they continue to defend America.



Lt. Col. Robert Darling

Also scheduled is a keynote presentation on Monday morning, June 24, from Mark Arend, editor-in-chief of *Site Selection Magazine*. He will discuss how the nation's leading site selectors evaluate potential locations and what it takes to land a project.

Other highlights include a panel presentation on *Neighborhood Revitalization and Blight Removal*; and a panel presentation on *Open Records, Body Cameras and Issues with Emerging Technology*.

As part of the many conference offerings, several workshops sessions will be offered that meet **See CONFERENCE on Page 4**

## State pilot program partners with counseling services, law enforcement to treat addiction

BY KATE COIL

*TML Communications Specialist*

The state of Tennessee's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (MH-SAS) is exploring a new tool in the fight against opioid abuse and addiction.

The department recently partnered with local sheriff's offices and medical and recovery treatment centers on a three-year pilot program aimed at helping inmates who have struggled with both drug and alcohol addiction to re-enter society. The pilot program is funded through a \$300,000 grant from former Gov. Bill Haslam's TN Together initiative.

Matthew Parriott, director of communications with MHSAS, said the program is working with the Cheatham County and Clay County sheriff's offices.

"With the funding available in the pilot program, we were able to partner with two sheriffs who were interested in providing this service in their jails," he said. "The funding for the services is issued from TDMHSAS to local substance abuse treatment providers. In Cheatham County, our provider is Buffalo Valley, Inc. For inmates who are released from the Cheatham County Jail, the treatment continues through Buffalo Valley with support from the Cheatham County Anti-Drug coalition who's sharing space near the jail to support this program. In Clay County, the setup is similar with local treatment provider First Step Recovery Center partnering with the sheriff."

Parriott said the program



In addition to counseling sessions, Vivitrol has become a new tool aimed at helping low-level drug offenders kick the habit. The medicine works for both those with addictions to opioids and alcohol.

works with those who have already begun making some progress in their recovery.

"The design is to start with inmates who meet Opioid Use Disorder criteria and who have a relatively short time left in jail – two to three months," he said. "That way they can begin the Vivitrol shots and participate in wrap-around treatment supports while in jail.

The intention is for the inmate to continue the Vivitrol shots and wrap-around treatment supports after released from jail. This program is completely voluntary, so inmates who participate do so of their own choice."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration describes the drug as a prescribed, monthly injectable designed to help patients prevent relapse. Injections must be administered by a healthcare provider

monthly.

Naltrexone serves as an opioid antagonist, meaning that it can help block cravings for opioids and is considered by some medical professionals to be less risky than methadone and buprenorphine. Naltrexone also decreases dependence on and cravings for alcohol.

The program uses a multi-pronged approach including counseling sessions, treatment in substance abuse recovery centers, and medications like naltrexone, also known by the brand name Vivitrol, which specifically targets opioid and alcohol dependence after detox.

"The providers work with jail administrators and jail medical staff to administer the Vivitrol injections," Parriott said. "It's important to emphasize that this **See ADDICTION on Page 3**

## Communities seek unique solutions to foster more affordable housing

BY KATE COIL

In 2016, officials with the city of Paris were contacted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to see if they wanted to be a pilot community in a new program to address neighborhood blight and housing issues.

City Manager Kim Foster said that pilot program has evolved into a much bigger city-wide effort known as Preserve Paris. The program tackles city neighborhoods house by house, street by street, working to make improvements.

"We knew that doing something citywide was way more than we could handle at one time," she said. "Focusing on individual neighborhoods – even a few blocks or just one street – works really well. We have kind of hit all of our problematic areas."

The program has been able to keep going successfully since the initial pilot thanks to the contributions of the community.

"One thing we look for in choosing which neighborhood we go into are members of the community who are willing to participate," Foster said. "If we are always the ones cleaning up and there is no buy-in from the community, then it doesn't last very long. What we've found is when there is buy-in from that neighborhood – whether there is a formal neighborhood association or not – we find the work we do there maintains itself over the long haul."

Paris has also explored more ways to help people in the city get rid of unwanted or unused items.

"Our reuse days have been really effective," Foster said. "We tell people in particular communities that if they have anything they don't want any more to sit it on their curb. For the next couple of days, anyone who drives through the neighborhood over the weekend and sees something they want on the curb can take it. Then, on Monday morning, our public works crew comes through and picks up anything that's left out. That has worked so well we have actually instituted a bulk pick up program."



Employees with the city of Paris oversee the demolition of a dilapidated structure in the city's Historic Atkins-Porter Neighborhood. While it may seem counterintuitive to demolish old structures as a way of creating affordable housing, some communities find that getting rid of these structures can reduce health and safety hazards, increase area property values, and open up spaces for new, affordable development.

Ken Thorne, director of economic development for the Northwest Tennessee Development District, said another way that government officials can help with affordable housing issues is by educating themselves and their community.

"City leaders can sit down with developers, and discuss the community's needs," he said. "They can also direct homeowners to the programs that are available, let them know that there are resources available to them. Anything they can do to promote homebuyer education is also helpful. The University of Tennessee extension offices offer homebuyer education classes as well as post-purchase training and classes that help buyers know they need to budget for and how to take care of their house. THDA is headed that way as well to offer more training to homebuyers."

Of course, affordable housing issues aren't a one size fits all approach. Some cities may find some strategies work better than others. Lindy Turner, executive director of community housing development organization Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development Council, said cities might

look into whether or not the cost of permitting fees are inhibiting affordable construction.

"For some communities that own their utilities, waving tap fees for companies building affordable housing can be one way to encourage that construction," she said. "Sometimes, it can cost \$3,000 to get permitting done, which can be a lot – especially for people building affordable housing. A lot of times, the profit on a house for the developer isn't even \$10,000, so why would you build affordable housing when \$3,000 of your possible net is being eaten up through permits."

The two main sources of housing funding in the state of Tennessee come from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and Community Development Block Grants. Pamela Caskie, director of development with the Sevierville Development and Planning Department, said her city has taken advantage of THDA funds in the past.

"We have been working with THDA to locate low-income tax credit projects here," she said. "Those aren't HUD entitlement **See HOUSING on Page 3**



The city of Sevierville is upgrading its traffic technology, using equipment like this GridSmart fish-eye camera. The camera not only monitors traffic; it can count cars and keep track of what directions they are traveling in to help the city with data collection.

## Sevierville using high-tech system to monitor city's local, tourist traffic issues

By KATE COIL

As spring flowers bloom, more and more travelers will be heading down Tennessee State Route 66, also known as the Great Smoky Mountains Parkway, on their way to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the area's natural beauty.

Taking this route brings visitors straight through the city of Sevierville, meaning that city officials have to coordinate traffic to the needs of both the city's nearly 14,000 residents as well as the approximately 12 million people who visit the area each year. To accommodate these needs, the city is investing in new technology to help improve traffic outcomes and keep an eye on the roads.

Sevierville Public Works Director Bryon Fortner said the city recently invested in 18 additional units of real-time Bluetooth traffic monitoring system, bringing its total to around 20.

"We just purchased the third phase of this system, which is called BlueToad," he said. "The state is looking into purchasing and using



this system statewide. Basically it monitors cars using nodes throughout our transportation system. It registers Bluetooth devices, and every car has four, five, or six Bluetooth devices, especially when people travel. It picks up these devices anonymously and records how long it takes those devices to get from Point A to Point B, giving us travel times."

By seeing how long it is taking devices to travel to various points in the city, Fortner said Sevierville gains important information officials can then use to determine if there is a road issue or if traffic signals and patterns need to be **See TRAFFIC on Page 3**

# NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



## BRISTOL

The famous sign that welcomes visitors to both sides of Bristol will be getting a facelift. The sign straddles State Street and the Tennessee-Virginia border at Bristol Train Station. Both Bristol and Bristol, Va., will be splitting the cost to renovate the sign, including repairs, repainting, and replacing the roughly 1,330 bulbs that light the sign with LED bulbs. This move will ensure the bulbs last longer and cut down on electricity costs. The estimated cost of the project is \$23,985 and will take an estimated two weeks, weather permitting. The sign was originally constructed in 1910 to advertise the city and initially stood on the roof of a hardware store. It was moved to its current location in 1915, and its slogan was changed to "A Good Place to Live" in 1920. The sign was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

## BRISTOL

The city of Bristol has received a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to pay for a \$702,800 upgrade to the city's water filtration motor control center. The project will be completed by Hodge Electrical Contractors, Inc. The water filtration motor control center in the high-service pump building is the heartbeat of the city's water operations. The present center was put in place in the 1980s and has surpassed its design life. Replacement parts needed for repairs have become prohibitively expensive. It will take nine months once equipment orders are placed to complete the upgrade project.

## CHATTANOOGA

Arrive Logistics will expand its operations in Chattanooga, investing \$3.6 million and creating 500 new jobs. Arrive Logistics plans to expand its Chattanooga location to keep up with the company's continued steady growth due to the strong logistics industry presence in the Southeastern U.S. and in Chattanooga. With this expansion, Arrive Logistics will grow its footprint in Tennessee exponentially and will nearly double its total global employment. Founded in 2014 and headquartered in Austin, Texas, Arrive Logistics is a technology-enabled, growth-focused freight brokerage who serves shipper and carrier partners to deliver first-class brokerage and transportation management services.

## CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga's 25-mile Tennessee Riverwalk will be fully connected by the end of the year, with future plans to expand the trail system to connect with others in East Ridge and Red Bank. The St. Elmo section will extend the trail from where it currently ends behind Crust Pizza on Broad Street for 0.7 miles to the Incline Railway and tie into the already completed Virginia Avenue Greenway. When finished, the entire St. Elmo section will be 12 miles and extend out to East Ridge's Camp Jordan. The second part of the St. Elmo section is the tentatively-named Alton Park Greenway will connect to residents in Alton Park and Piney Woods. This section will branch off 1.3-miles from the endpoint behind Crust Pizza toward Alton Park. Running along 33rd Street, this section will pass under Alton Park Boulevard and go out to Southside Community Park off Central Avenue. Further plans include a trail that extends across into Hixson, Red Bank, and the North Shore. Another proposed trail could also stretch south through Chickamauga other towns

in North Georgia and back up to Camp Jordan.

## CLEVELAND

The city of Cleveland recently celebrated milestones for two major parks and recreation locations. The new tennis court complex at Tinsley Park was recently named in honor of longtime Lee University head tennis coach Tony Cavett with a dedication and naming ceremony held to honor Cavett at the park. A lifelong area resident, Cavett served for more than 40 years as the tennis pro at the Cleveland Country Club before retiring in 2014, having also served as the head coach at Cleveland State from 1991 to 1997. Cavett is suffering from dementia. Meanwhile, the city also dedicated new statues to decorate the city's Greenway Dog Park. The dog statues were donated to the Greenway Public Arts Committee and were erected on the greenway near the dog park.

## DICKSON

The city of Dickson will soon celebrate the grand opening of its 126-acre Henslee Park. The parkland was created out of the property of the former Pine Hills Golf Club and Dickson Country Club. Former golf cart paths have been adapted for foot and bike traffic. Benches have been added, financed through sponsorships provided through the 2019 Leadership Dickson County class. As part of the kick-off celebration, city officials will also be conducting surveys from residents about what sort of development and amenities they would like to see added to the parkland as the project progresses. The park was named after the local Henslee family, who have been vital to the development of the Dickson area over three generations.

## FAYETTEVILLE

Fayetteville has taken a step forward in the development of a visitor's center and new amenities for the Camp Blount Historic Site. The city's municipal planning commission recently approved preliminary site plans for both the site, which is one of the few surviving sites in the state of Tennessee with a direct connection to the War of 1812 and later served a role in both the Seminole Wars and the Civil War. Plans for Camp Blount include a visitor's center, pavilion, plaza, restroom facilities, parking, and roadways to better serve the site. New walking trails and the historic Greer cabin will also be located on the site.

## HENDERSONVILLE

The city of Hendersonville has begun renovations to the city's senior center. The city recently hired GHP Partners to design the roof and exterior improvements to the building, which officials hope will extend into future interior and parking lot upgrades. The current phase will replace the existing flat roof with a hip-style, pitched roof to address both the building's appearance, add energy efficiency, and prevent leaks. Improvements to the building's entryway, including double doors and decorate lighting and windows, are also planned. A larger covered patio will be added at the rear of the building for outdoor activities. Morris General Construction will serve as the general contractor on the project. Funds for the project have come through Community Development Block Grants and funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## KNOXVILLE

The recent GEICO Bassmaster Classic held in Knoxville reeled in \$32.2 million in economic impact for both the city and East Tennessee. An estimated 17,000 visitors came into the city and an estimated 153,000 attended the event, breaking previous records. Early estimates indicate the fishing tournament had a \$9 million impact on Knoxville alone. The \$32.2 million breaks down into a direct economic impact of \$17.7 million and an indirect boost of \$14.5 million in business sales, according to a report by the Visit Knoxville Sports Commission. Roughly \$2.75 million was generated in state and local tax revenue, including taxes on sales, restaurant purchases and lodging, according to the release. Attendees from nearly every state and from countries as far as Australia,

Italy and Japan paid for 29,232 nights in local hotels, according to Visit Knoxville.

## LEBANON

The city of Lebanon has officially opened the \$5.8 million Legends Drive extension, which will open new areas of the city up to development. The three-fourths of a mile section of Legends Drive starts at Tater Peeler Road and travels to Cainsville Road near Sparta Pike. The project began in May 2016 as a ready-made corridor off Interstate 40 to encourage the development of retail businesses, offices, hotels, and possibly new residential areas. The road project also widened a portion of Legends Drive to three lanes and completed a new section with four and five-lane segments. A two-lane roundabout and bridge were also constructed.

## MANCHESTER

The city of Manchester's new dog park has officially opened to the public. A ribbon cutting for the Bark-aroo Dog Park was held on March 23, bringing out local officials, animal lovers, and their furry friends. The park was financed through a \$25,000 grant through the Boyd Foundation and is located near the soccer field complex. The park has sections for both big and small dogs with water stations for pets, bag dispensers, trash cans, and benches. Donated playground equipment for dogs to play on was also installed at the site.

## MARYVILLE

The Maryville Kiwanis Club is celebrating its 100th anniversary by promising \$50,000 to improve the city's John Sevier Park. Improvements for the park will include ensuring it is accessible to students with all needs. The present playground is about 20 years old while the park itself was opened in 1970. In addition to the playground, the eight-acre park is home to a pavilion with 10 picnic tables, four charcoal grills, tennis courts, basketball courts, a wade pool, and a swimming pool. The club is working in conjunction with the Maryville Department of Parks and Recreation to make needed improvements. The Maryville Kiwanis Club was founded in 1919 and has been instrumental in other civic projects, like the founding of the local chamber of commerce.

## MEMPHIS

The city of Memphis and Elvis Presley Enterprises have announced a deal to expand development of Graceland campus and reinvest in the Whitehaven neighborhood. The 120-acre expansion of Graceland will also come with a \$750,000 reinvestment in the Whitehaven neighborhood as well as the payment of a full-time "living wage" of \$15.50 per hour to permanent employees at the facility. Potential expansion projects such as 80,000-square-feet of sound stages, 30 guest cabins, plane hangars, and expanded retail area may also come before city officials for consideration of public incentives. In return for the city's support of public incentives and the expansion project, Elvis Presley Enterprises has pledged to build manufacturing and distribution facilities in Whitehaven that are expected to create 1,000 new jobs. Whitehaven residents will have preference for those jobs. Memphis is joining the ranks of cities like San Francisco, Kansas City, and Portland, Ore., who have used a public benefits agreement model to ensure that areas that are disproportionately affected by new development reap rewards from it.

## OAK RIDGE

The city of Oak Ridge plans to address several parks and recreation projects in the coming months. The city will replace grass with artificial turf at Blankenship Field thanks to a combination of private donations and a Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation grant. Other projects financed by the grant include the renovation of Jack Armstrong Stadium, including new goal posts, a new south end kicking net, field fencing and sidewalks, the resurfacing of the existing track around the field, and trailhead improvements, including landscaping and a pre-fabricated restroom facility. A third project will be the first phase of a CSX

# Cowan celebrates new playground equipment



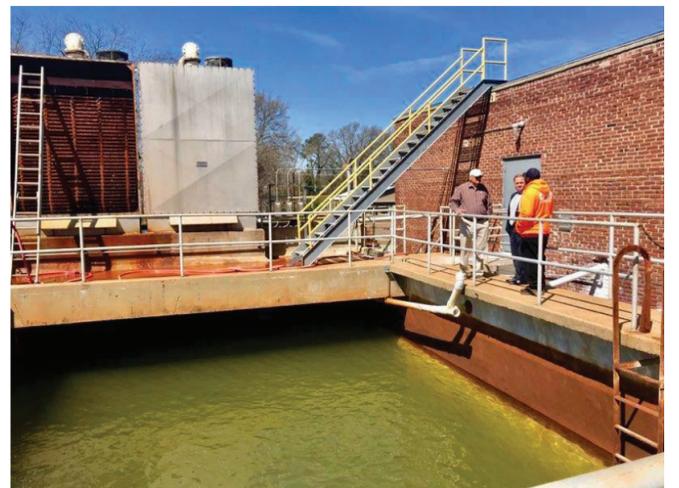
The city of Cowan recently installed new playground equipment at the Cowan Walking Trail behind Cowan Elementary School. The equipment was funded through a Tennessee Department of Health grant. The playground equipment will be the focus of an upcoming Easter egg hunt and fundraiser for the Cowan Volunteer Fire Department. Pictured, top row, from left: Cowan Water Department employee Nic Willis, Cowan City Councilman Ben Merrill and Cowan Water Department employee Kenny Henshaw. Bottom row: Cowan Water Department employee James "Pee-Wee" Shetter, Beth Blevins from the Tennessee Department of Health, Cowan City Reporter Lori Ashley, Lorie Fisher from South Central Tennessee Development District, Cowan Mayor Joyce Brown, Vice Mayor Mark Ledbetter, and Cowan Water Department employee David Eberhart.

# Oak Ridge lauds teen for emergency response



The city of Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge Fire Department, and Oak Ridge Police Department recently honored local student Wesley Alig who used skills he learned at Oak Ridge's Junior Police Academy (JPA) to prevent a fire from spreading inside his home. The 13-year-old middle school student successfully put out flames in his kitchen using a fire extinguisher after a slow cooker caught the stovetop on fire. After extinguishing the fire, he called 911 and took himself and a family pet outside to wait for response crews. Oak Ridge Fire Department personnel presented him with their first-ever Outstanding Contribution to Fire Prevention Award. ORFD Chief Darryl Kerley said the incident is an example of the importance of the department's youth programs.

# Covington water treatment plant upgrades continue



Covington Mayor Justin Hanson receives a tour of the city's water treatment plant from Covington Public Works employees. Improvements are currently being made to the water treatment facility, including a SCADA system upgrade, disinfection system upgrade, and a new backup generator.

Rails to Trails project in the city, which will convert a former rail line into a 4.5-mile pedestrian and bicycle route taking residents from Melton Lake Drive to the entrance of the Y-12 National Security Complex.

## TULLAHOMA

The city of Tullahoma has recently voted in favor of the installation of Blue Star and Gold Star memorials at the city's downtown History Park. The Blue Star memorial will recognize the work of the armed forces while the Gold Star memo-

rial will recognize the families of those who lost loved ones in service to their country. The memorials will be installed by the Shady Grove Garden Club of Tullahoma, the American Legion Post 43 and the Tullahoma Historic Preservation Society. The plan is to erect the memorials near the railroad, which carried men and women away from and back to Tullahoma during times of service. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed by Memorial Day with the second completed by Veterans Day.

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## Sevierville uses tech tools for feedback on traffic

**TRAFFIC**, from Page 1  
adjusted.

“The Bluetooth monitoring gives us a report card of how we are doing and can give us real time information,” he said. “For example, if vehicles are slowing down in a certain spot we can pull up cameras to see what is going on and maybe if we need to dispatch someone there. We are mainly using it for data collection. With this latest batch, we are doing a test project called dedicated short-range communication or DSRC. We believe this is the direction autonomous cars are going. The Bluetooth connection between our nodes and the vehicles will give us vehicle to infrastructure communication. It will be able to communicate to cars countdowns to when signals will change to make the system more efficient.”

Another investment the city has made to help ease traffic concerns is the purchase of GridSmart cameras.

“The GridSmart cameras are the other component in our traffic signal system,” Fortner said. “They can count the number of cars for engineering purposes. We have fish-eye cameras that serve as a detection for both the traffic signal as well as calculate how many cars are coming through and turning motions. We have them at about half our major intersections.”

At present, the city has 22 cameras in its system and may install more as needs grow. Fortner said the city is installing cameras intersection by intersection as funds become available or to replace loop sensors that have gone bad.

“We eventually would like to have GridSmart cameras at all of our intersections and on all of our traffic signals,” Fortner said. “It’s a more efficient way to detect traffic than the loop detectors that are under the pavement. For instance, we had an intersection on the east side of town that is really far away from everything else, but it’s the intersection of two state routes. It’s a very important intersection, mainly more to local traffic than tourist traffic. We had a couple of loops go bad and it was going to cost \$10,000 to replace the loops. We can spend a little more than that—about \$15,000 to \$17,000—that will give us better service in the long term. It works out better to go to the better technology. The technology is not that much more expensive than the conventional ways of doing things, but gives you more data and flexibility.”

Sevierville is also thinking regionally when it comes to traffic. Sevierville officials are working with officials with Pigeon Forge to install a new traffic system that will coordinate traffic light patterns between the two communities.

“Traffic is very important to us,” Fortner said. “We want people to get here and enjoy our mountains and what we have to offer. We don’t want it to be a bad experience for them. Sometimes it feels like we’re trying to put 10 pounds of potatoes in a 5-pound sack. We are using this data to try to do a better job. The project we are doing with Pigeon Forge will work toward that as well. We are crossing the boundaries to make traffic better in the region.”



Local residents rake leaves during one of Paris' neighborhood clean up events. Conducted through neighborhood stabilization group Preserve Paris, City Manager Kim Foster said these “clean sweeps” have been beneficial the city overall.

## Communities seek unique ways to foster affordable housing solutions

**HOUSING**, from Page 1

funds like some of the larger cities get. The TDHA tax credit helps draw the cost of building new units. We are insisting that anything built can be afforded by someone with only 80 percent of the median income or below.”

However, CDBG funds are often more important for infrastructure projects like sewer and water lines and competition for TDHA funds are stiff. Additionally, most funding sources for housing programs require the home to be owner-occupied, preventing work on rental properties that are often in great need of help.

As a result, some cities have taken creative financial approaches to encouraging affordable development. Caskie said her city has explored using payment-in-lieu of taxes or PILOT programs as an alternative funding source.

“These are designed to get over some of the cash hurdles that developers face for building lower-income housing, especially in the early days of a project,” she said. “PILOTs for housing aren’t the top of our priority list. PILOTs for industrial or corporate entities brings in no new sales or property tax revenues but also no kids. When you do a PILOT for housing, you don’t get taxes and you have kids moving in. It’s not the perfect solution, but in our case, we have to have the workforce to take care of the tourists whose money does fund the schools. PILOTs were not the first choice; they were the last thing on the table we felt we had the ability to use.”

Turner said many cities have found taking condemned properties and turning them over into development agencies and nonprofits to build new, affordable housing work is a solution that not just removes blight but also prevents a blighted structure from becoming a blighted vacant lot.

“You are helping with city

blight,” she said. “You can renovate these properties and improve the neighborhood overall. Communities aren’t getting taxes on them already, but if they can provide affordable housing groups or non-profits with those properties to rehabilitate, they can return something better to the tax rolls.”

Foster admits that removing blight is sometimes a lot more difficult than it seems on paper, but Paris has found collaborating with other regional officials can help.

“It’s a very long, drawn-out process,” she said. “One of the things that helped us remove a lot of our blighted properties is our new county attorney, who worked really hard toward catching up on the tax sales. It had been many years since we had an across the community tax sale. Some of these properties were on the roles for a \$1 a year. A lot of times these properties are abandoned or people have walked away from them. When it defaults into the ownership of Henry County, then it’s not 100 percent clear title, but is as close as you can get.”

Foster said the city of Paris has seen some success with a program designed to help stabilize neighborhoods by encouraging redevelopment.

“One thing we have just started doing is working with landlords to demolish structures for rebuilding,” she said. “We had a person buy some properties in one of the neighborhoods we had been working in and asked if the city could help tear it down. We didn’t feel like it was the city’s responsibility to demolish the house for him, but we worked out a plan where we took the structure down at a charge of \$2,000. If he would take steps to rebuild something acceptable on that lot within the next 18 months, we will waive the \$2,000. If not, we will put a lien on the property until its payable.”

Foster said it can be difficult to try to incentivize affordable hous-

ing, but the alternative is residents being forced to live in substandard conditions.

“We see people who buy properties that are substandard and then rent it out without putting a penny into it,” she said. “We have some guidelines in our ordinances for rental properties that we could enforce. But one of the main reasons we have not moved forward with enforcing a rental property maintenance program is because it would result in landlords evicting people onto the streets rather than cleaning up. We have been hesitant to push the envelope because a roof over someone’s head – no matter how poor it is – is better than no roof at all. Sometimes, the landlord will also pass those costs off to renters who already can’t afford it.”

While the city of Paris has contemplated creating a property management program, Foster said cost is still the major issue.

“We would have to put in place some sort of revenue generating component into that program to be able to fund it, especially in today’s environment,” she said. “We don’t have enough money to hire staff to run a program like that.”

City leaders are also coming together on the national level to discuss housing issues. At a recent summit in Washington, D.C., the National League of Cities (NLC) National Housing Task Force held its inaugural meeting to suggest ways communities could best respond to their housing needs.

National Task Force Chair and Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said the goal of the newly-formed task force is to help municipal leaders find local solutions to what has become an ongoing national problem.

The NLC encourages city leaders to stay informed and learn about what tools might be available to them by visiting [www.nlc.org/topics/community-housing](http://www.nlc.org/topics/community-housing).

## State pilot program partners with counseling services, law enforcement to treat addiction



Drug courts have proven to be effective alternatives to expensive incarceration. The goal is to give these non-violent offenders a new lease on life, with the skills to be productive, law-abiding citizens. Drug courts are a collaborative link between the courts, prosecutors, public defenders, law enforcement, probation officers, treatment providers, social service agencies, and community-based non-profit organizations. Pictured above is a graduate from the city of Jackson Recovery Court program.

**ADDICTION**, from Page 1

isn’t just a medication program. In conjunction with the Vivitrol injections, the treatment provider also administers wrap-around treatment to support the inmate’s recovery journey.”

While this program is only in its pilot stage, Parriott said there are also other recovery programs MHSAS is helping to pilot.

“While this program is designed for county jails, we have a separate Vivitrol/Naltrexone program for our recovery courts, many of which have a municipal connection,” he said. “This program started in July 2017 and has served more than 300 individuals.”

Gov. Bill Lee’s FY20 budget proposal includes \$4.7 million to increase access to recovery courts, supplement recovery court programming with medication assisted treatment, and create a new residential recovery court for women.

Following his announcement regarding mental health investments, Gov. Lee is proposing the expansion of the recovery court system, a specialized diversion

program focused on comprehensive supervision, treatment services and immediate sanctions and incentives for substance abuse offenders.

With \$1.7 million in additional funding, recovery courts will expand capacity by 20 percent and serve an additional 500 Tennesseans each year. Individuals who are successfully diverted through this programming are estimated to save the state an average of more than \$20,000 per individual in recovered correction costs each year.

Studies of outcomes in Tennessee’s recovery courts show the community benefits. Of the individuals who successfully complete a recovery court program, 86 percent improve their employment situation, gaining either full- or part-time employment from the time they were admitted to the time they were discharged.

Nearly all successful graduates (96 percent) improve or maintain their independent living situation or gain housing if they were experiencing homelessness or were incarcerated.

## Data Security Analysis For Cities & Towns

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# PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**David Bass** is retiring after 22 years of service as the city attorney for the city of Carthage. A graduate of Cumberland Law School, Bass has also been a partner in the law firm founded by his father since 1984. In addition to his role as city attorney, he has served eight years as a general sessions judge and juvenile court judge for Smith County.



David Bass

**Jamari Brown** has been named the new director of the mayor's office of economic and community development for the city of Nashville. Brown began his tenure with Nashville Mayor David Briley's office on April 1, coming to the city from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development where he served as the director of business development. A native Nashvillian, Brown graduated from Pearl-Cohn Comprehensive High School and has a degree in business administration with a focus in marketing from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He has previously served as a board member on the Governor's Medical Device Advisory Board, Life Science Tennessee, and Tokemize Tennessee.



Jamari Brown

**Sid Cox** has been selected as the new city recorder and chief financial officer for the city of Kingsport. Cox has worked for the city as a senior accountant since 2010, also serving as an accounting supervisor and most recently as the business manager for the community services department. He graduated from East Tennessee State University in 1988 with a degree in accounting, working in government accounting for both Sullivan County and serving as the city of Elizabethton's director of finance. He also served in the public sector.



Sid Cox

**Jerry Craig**, former chief of the Covington Fire Department, died at the age of 69 on March 12 after a battle with cancer. Craig worked for the Covington Fire Department for 38 years, serving as chief for 28. Craig started with the Covington Fire Department as a volunteer in 1977, was named assistant chief in 1981 and chief in 1986. He retired in 2014. During his career, he responded to numerous



Jerry Craig

fires, several train derailments and the collapse of a portion of a Highway 51 bridge in 1989. He took the lead role in the rescue and recovery efforts that became a national news story. He retired from the department in 2014, but continued to be involved in his community through Dixie Youth Softball.

**Chris Dorsey** has been selected as the new city manager for the city of East Ridge, leaving his current role as city manager of Sparta. Dorsey has served as Sparta's city manager since 2015. He holds a bachelor's degree and master's degree in public administration from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He has previously worked for the city of Memphis as the city's budget manager and for Red Bank as the city manager. He served as budget director of the Pasco County, Fla., Office of Management and Budget. Before coming to Sparta, he was interim city manager for Millington.



Chris Dorsey

**Tom Flanagan** has been selected as the new deputy town engineer for the town of Collierville. Flanagan comes to Collierville from Waggoner Engineering, where he served as an engineering consultant to the Desoto County, Miss., Regional Utility Authority. In addition to his career with engineering firms and on the municipal level, Flanagan spent 25 years as a combat engineer in the U.S. Army Reserves, attaining the rank of first sergeant. He has a degree in civil engineering from the University of Memphis Herff College of Engineering and is a registered land surveyor.



Tom Flanagan

**Trevor Hobbs** has been appointed to the position of assistant to the town administrator in the town of Farragut. Hobbs previously served as a financial aid and admissions counselor for the University of Tennessee and as a staff intern for U.S. Rep. Diane Black. He was also a Washington program fellow with the Howard H. Baker Center for Public Policy. Hobbs holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's of public policy and administration from the University of Tennessee - Knoxville.



Trevor Hobbs

**Ken McLawhon** has accepted the position of Thompson's Station town administrator and

will be leaving his post in Nolensville at the end of April. McLawhon was selected as Nolensville's first town administrator in 2014. Prior to that, he served as the town manager of Warrenton, Va., for nearly 13 years and as the town manager and zoning administrator for Indian Head, Md., for four years. He also held town manager positions in South Boston, Va., and Smithfield, Va. McLawhon holds a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration from Virginia Commonwealth University and graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps Legal Services School.



Ken McLawhon

**Alan Palmieri** has been selected as the new city manager for Baneberry. Palmieri previously served as mayor of Jefferson County, announcing last year he would not seek reelection to the position after 13 years of service. Palmieri has 26 years of experience in public service, including serving five terms as mayor of Jefferson City and one term on the Jefferson City Council. Prior to seeking public office, he was a local businessman that operated one of the largest gyms in the Southeast and was well-known in the bodybuilding community. He is a past state president of the International Federation of BodyBuilders, has trained numerous athletes, and has written numerous books on the subject.



Alan Palmieri

**Gary Perkins** has been hired as the new police chief for the city of Jellico. Perkins has been serving as acting chief of the department since February. He began his career in law enforcement as an officer with the Jellico Police Department in 1982. After 18 months, he joined the Campbell County Sheriff's Office, serving 20 years there before becoming a state trooper with the Tennessee Highway Patrol. He served in that role until he was elected sheriff of Campbell County in 2006, a role he served in until 2010. He then rejoined the Jellico Police Department in 2015.



Gary Perkins

# Paul Rose elected to Senate District 32 seat

Covington businessman Paul Rose has been elected to the Senate District 32 seat vacated by the appointment of former Sen. Mark Norris as a federal judge.

Rose beat Democratic opponent Eric Coleman in a special general election, receiving 4,936 votes to Coleman's 1,247. District 32 encompasses areas of Collierville, Arlington, Bartlett, Lakeland, and part of Memphis. Rose previously won the Republican nomination for the special election with 62 percent of the vote.

Rose, 65, is the owner of Rose Construction Company, the family business he joined in 1974 and presently serves as president of, and is also a partner in several other businesses, including Rose Fabricating and Industrial Solutions, APC Rentals, and Hydratrek. He employs about 150 people through these companies.



Paul Rose

A political newcomer, Rose said his top priorities in the state legislature will be workforce development, public safety, and healthcare.

He will serve the remainder of Norris' term, which ends next year.

## STATE BRIEFS



**The statewide unemployment rate in Tennessee dropped to a historic low in February** according to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The seasonally adjusted rate of 3.2 percent is 0.1 of a percentage point lower than the previous historic low. Tennessee reached its previous record low unemployment rate of 3.3 percent in October 2018 and it remained at the level for four consecutive months. The state began tracking unemployment rates in 1976. In the past year, Tennessee's February unemployment rate decreased from 3.6 percent to 3.2 percent. In a year to year comparison, Tennessee employers created an estimated 53,000 new jobs. The sector with the largest increase was leisure and hospitality, followed by trade/transportation/utilities and manufacturing. To see a detailed analysis of the unemployment rate and job situation across the state, visit <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/workforce/documents/economicanalysis/EconomicAnalysis-Feb19.pdf>

Tennessee ranked 24 out of 50 in terms of seat belt usage. The survey found that women wore seat belts 94.8 percent of the time, while men wore them in 88.3 percent of cases observed. Pickup trucks had the lowest rate of occupants who wore seatbelts at 84.2 percent.

**Approximately 90.9 percent of Tennesseans reported consistent use of seatbelts in 2018**, according to information released by the Tennessee Highway Safety Office. Officials said this is the first time in the state's history that seatbelt usage has exceeded 90 percent, climbing from 88.5 percent in 2017. Last year,

**Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee is requesting \$151.3 million in federal assistance grants to deal with issues created by recent flooding and storms.** Lee is seeking a major disaster declaration in 58 counties and has asked the Federal Emergency Management Agency to make the Public Assistance program available to these areas. Lee's administration says 83 of Tennessee's 95 counties have reported some level of damage and impact from flooding and severe weather that started on Feb. 6. Qualifying damage for counties, cities, state agencies, and utility infrastructure totaled \$68.3 million. Officials estimate \$83 million-plus of damage was done to the state's highway system, with 20 emergency contracts worth \$56 million already initiated. A letter in support of the governor's request was signed by U.S. Senators Lamar Alexander and Marsha Blackburn and U.S. Reps. Tim Burchett, Steve Cohen, Jim Cooper, Scott DesJarlais, Chuck Fleischmann, Mark Green, David Kustoff, Phil Roe and John Rose.

## TML Annual Conference in Memphis, June 22-25

**CONFERENCE, from Page 1** the continuing education requirement for CMFOs and utility board members. Workshops will be held on Saturday afternoon, June 22, Sunday morning, June 23, and throughout the day on Monday, June 24.

Many dynamic workshops will be scheduled throughout the conference. Workshop topics include:

- Managing Your Drug Fund
- Working with Your Development

- Districts
- Analyze, Implement & Repeat: The Cybersecurity Life Cycle
  - Census 2020 - Is Your City Ready?
  - What are Opportunity Zones and How do They Work?
  - High Tech Tools for the Public Sector
  - How Cities Interact with the Deaf Community
  - Audit Findings and Reporting

- Issues
- ADA: What City Leaders Need to Know
  - Revenue Forecasting

For more information about the conference and to register, go to [www.TML1.org](http://www.TML1.org).

### Schedule At-A-Glance

FRIDAY, JUNE 21	
1 - 7:45 pm	MTAS EOA
SATURDAY, JUNE 22	
8:30 am - 12:45 pm	MTAS EOA
1am - 5 pm	Registration
1- 4:30 pm	CMFO & Utility Board Training
SUNDAY, JUNE 23	
6:30 am	Golf Outing
9 am - 5 pm	Registration
9:30 am - 5 pm	Exhibit Hall
10:30 to 11:30 am	Workshops
11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 - 2:15 pm	District Meetings
2:30 - 4 pm	Opening Session
4:15 - 5 pm	Affiliate Roundtables
6 - 8 pm	Host City Reception
MONDAY, JUNE 24	
7:30 - 8:45 AM	Breakfast
9 - 10 am	Workshops
10:15 - 11 am	Second Session
11:15 am - 12 noon	Business Meeting
12 - 1:30 pm	Lunch
2:15 - 3:15 pm	Workshops
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Workshops
6 - 11pm	Public Entities Partners Reception
TUESDAY, JUNE 25	
8 - 10 am	Awards Breakfast



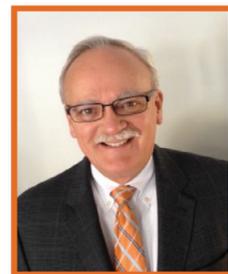
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*In Case You Missed It!*

# Recap of what state leaders shared at the 2019 TML Legislative Conference

Gov. Bill Lee, Lt. Gov. Randy McNally, and House Speaker Glen Casada were part of the all-star lineup of state leaders who city officials heard from and met with during the TML Legislative Conference recently held in Nashville.

Lawmakers touched on subjects like criminal justice reform, the state budget, education, and workforce development issues.

**Gov. Bill Lee** stressed the important role local governments play and said his goal is to create an environment where local governments can thrive.

“It’s the local leaders in our communities who are going to transform our state,” Lee said.

He also discussed issues he hopes to work on in the coming months such as investments in vocational education and criminal justice reform. Gov. Lee unveiled some of these initiatives when he announced his \$38.55 billion budget for fiscal year 2019-2020.

**Lt. Gov. Randy McNally** detailed the upcoming state budget, including teacher raises and school safety funding, as well as the desire to beef up the state’s Rainy Day Fund in preparation for any future economic downturns.

**House Speaker Glen Casada** said “state government is a partnership” that needs the voices of city leaders to help make it work. He said that municipal leaders should talk with lawmakers both during and outside of the legislative session to discuss important issues.

**Senate Finance Chairman Bo Watson** discussed the ongoing budget process and financing for education, capital improvements, and the Rainy Day Fund.

“If you want to know what is important to Tennessee, you look at how we spend our money. It’s on K-12 education. It’s fundamentally the most important thing that the state does,” said Sen. Watson.

**House Finance Chair Susan Lynn** spoke about her work with the state budget and funding for education, workforce development, and mental health. Lynn also detailed how her committee handles finance bills that are not part of the governor’s general budget.

**Senate State and Local Government Committee Chairman Steve Dickerson** spoke out against preemption of local autonomy. He encouraged city officials to always oppose preemption bills even if a particular piece of legislation may not effect their community directly.

“If one community gets preempted today, it could be your community that gets preempted tomorrow,” said Sen. Dickerson.

**House Local Government Committee Chairman John Crawford** said his committee has been working on bills that deal with elections and campaign finance, property and planning, and internet sales tax.

“Our committees are working hard to do what is good for Tennessee. We are in great shape as a state. And we don’t want to do any harm – not to you (cities), and not to the counties. We want to make sure we keep Tennessee moving forward,” said Rep. Crawford.

**State Comptroller Justin P. Wilson** touted the benefits of the CMFO program and praised municipalities for meeting the program’s requirements. He also encouraged cities to conduct annual fiscal inventories to ensure cities are in compliance with financial regulations.

**Economic and Community Development Commissioner Bob Rolfe** discussed the value of the state’s Select Tennessee Certified Sites program in helping communities attract new businesses and the important role the local communities play in bringing new industries to the state.

**TBI Director David Rausch** discussed TBI’s role in aiding local law enforcement as well as initiatives TBI is working on concerning opioids, human trafficking, and juvenile justice reform.

**Tennessee Department of Transportation Commissioner Clay Bright** updated city officials on projects being funded through the Improve Act as well as weather-related and road maintenance concerns.

Complete coverage of all of the speakers remarks can be found on TML’s website at [www.TML1.org](http://www.TML1.org)



Gov. Bill Lee touted the important role local governments play with respect to the state’s progress.



House Speaker Glen Casada discussed the restructuring of various House committees and the creation of several new subcommittees.



Lt. Gov. Randy McNally detailed the \$38.5 billion state budget.



House Local Government Committee Chairman John Crawford talks about issues coming up in his committee.



Senate Finance Chairman Bo Watson spoke about how the budget process works, as well as the state’s approach to financial management and funds for upcoming programs and initiatives dealing with education, infrastructure improvements, and business recruitment.



House Finance Chair Susan Lynn spoke about her work with the state budget and funding for education, workforce development, and mental health.



Senate State and Local Government Committee Chairman Steve Dickerson spoke out on preemption and stressed that local issues should be decided locally.



State Comptroller Justin P. Wilson praised municipalities for meeting the CMFO program’s requirements.



ECD Commissioner Bob Rolfe discussed the important role that local communities play in bringing new industries to the state.



TDOT Commissioner Clay Bright updated city officials on projects being funded through the Improve Act.



TBI Director David Rausch discussed TBI’s role in aiding local law enforcement and his transition into the department from serving as the chief of police for Knoxville.



## CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising: \$9.25 per column inch. No charge to TML members. Send advertisement to: Carole Graves: cgraves@TML1.org.

### ASSISTANT CITY RECORDER

MILLERSVILLE. The city of Millersville is accepting applications and resumes for assistant city recorder. This position will assist in the accounting, administrative and support services of the city including, but not limited to, accounts payable, purchasing, payroll, general accounting, cash management, risk and asset management, utility accounting and property taxes. Annual salary \$32,000-\$47,000 DOQ plus benefit package. Application and complete job description available on the city's website at [www.cityofmillersville.com](http://www.cityofmillersville.com) or apply at Millersville City Hall, 1246 Louisville Highway, Millersville, TN 37072, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or email application/resume to [cityrecorder@cityofmillersville.com](mailto:cityrecorder@cityofmillersville.com). Position open until filled. EOE

### ASSISTANT FINANCE OFFICER

OLIVER SPRINGS. The town of Oliver Springs is seeking applications and resumes for the position of assistant finance officer. This position works in a team environment providing a variety of administrative support services and is primarily responsible for the collection and recording of all payments made to the city for, property and business taxes, court fines and miscellaneous receipts. Schedule is generally 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday and may involve overtime which could include evenings, weekends and holidays. An online application is available on the city website at <http://oliversprings-tn.gov/FormCenter/Employment-Applications-5/Street-Water-Sewer-Application-38>. If applying online, please email all supporting documentation to City Manager Thomas McCormick at [oscitymanager@comcast.net](mailto:oscitymanager@comcast.net). Position open until filled. Any questions about applying can be directed to City Manager Thomas McCormick at [oscitymanager@comcast.net](mailto:oscitymanager@comcast.net) or 865-435-7722.

### BUDGET OFFICER

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville has an immediate opening for a budget officer. This position performs professional financial work in the development and ongoing administration of the town of Collierville's financial process and in the development and maintenance of town finances and supporting systems. Requires a bachelor's degree with major course work in finance, economics, accounting, public or business administration, or a closely related field; supplemented by three years of job related experience in local government budget development and analysis, at least one of which must have been in a supervisory capacity; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must have advanced proficiency with Microsoft Excel as demonstrated through testing, including pivot tables and advanced formulas. Salary is \$54,541 - \$76,500 annually (DOQ), with excellent benefits package. To apply, submit an original town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Completed applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. EOE.

### CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SPARTA. Qualified applicants are being sought by the city of Sparta, with a seven-member council and a population of 5,071, for the position of city administrator. The city has an annual budget of \$20 million with approximately 80 full-time employees. The position oversees the day-to-day operations of the city and supervises all department heads, including police, fire, public works, water, sewer, and electric. The successful candidate must have a bachelor's degree in public/business management or related field and three years of government management experience or seven years of government experience. A master's degree and city management experience desired. Skills in budgeting, utility management, personnel issues, public safety, and long-range planning are essential. The successful candidate must have strong leadership, financial management, and interpersonal skills with experience in planning, land use, residential development, and infrastructure expansion. Salary: mid \$80s to high \$90s, DOQ. Resumes, along with a Cover Letter and three professional references must be received by April 29 at: The University of Tennessee, Municipal Technical Advisory Service, 120 Conference Center Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-4105, Attn: Warren Nevad. Electronic submissions shall be received at [armintha.loveaday@tennessee.edu](mailto:armintha.loveaday@tennessee.edu). Competitive salary and benefits package; including retirement, health and life insurance. Open until filled. EOE.

### CITY RECORDER

UNICOI. The Town of Unicoi (population 3,632, 16 sq. miles with 10 employees and General Fund Budget of \$2 million) is currently accepting applications for a city recorder. Duties include all accounting/budgeting functions, project management, and attend and/or facilitate meetings. Starting pay is \$50k - \$55K DOQ. College degree in related field required. Send resume with cover letter no later than April 12 to Mayor Johnny Lynch, P.O. Box 39, Unicoi, TN 37692-0039 or email: [management@unicoi.tn.net](mailto:management@unicoi.tn.net)

### CODES INSPECTOR

SHELBYVILLE. The city of Shelbyville is accepting applications for the full-time position of codes inspector for the Building and Codes Department. The codes inspector is responsible for technical work in the enforcement of building and zoning codes, and city and state ordinances. Must be a high school graduate or possess equivalent. Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written. ICC/State of Tennessee Residential Building Inspector certification, ICC/State of Tennessee Residential Mechanical Inspector, and ICC/State of Tennessee Residential Plumbing Inspector certifications preferred, or ability to obtain within 2 years of employment. Applications and a signed copy of the job description must be returned to City Hall Administration Office, 201 Spring Street no later than 4p.m. on April 17. Salary based on education and experience. EOE/Drug-free workplace. Successful applicants required to pass background check, physical, and drug screen. Applications and job descriptions can be picked up at city hall or download from the City website: [www.shelbyvilletn.org](http://www.shelbyvilletn.org)

### DISTRIBUTION/COLLECTION ASSISTANT MANAGER

COLLIERVILLE. The purpose of this classification is to supervise workers engaged in the day to day operations of municipal water distribution, and wastewater collection system facilities and to assist upper management in the operations of the respective department. This position requires a high school diploma or GED; supplemented by vocational/technical training in area of assignment and heavy equipment operation; supplemented by four years previous experience and/or training involving work in area of assignment, heavy equipment operation, and basic supervision; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must possess or obtain a state of Tennessee Grade II Distribution System Operator's License and a State of Tennessee Grade II Wastewater Collection System License within 24 months of hire. Must be in compliance with TDEC Rule 0400-49-01 and remain in compliance throughout employment. Must possess and maintain a valid Tennessee Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class A or B including N endorsement within six months of hire. Salary is \$41,576 - \$59,000 (DOQ) annually with excellent benefits package. To apply for this position, you must submit an original Town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Completed applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. We are unable to accept faxed or emailed applications. Position will remain open until filled. EOE

### DIVISION MANAGER / WATER TREATMENT

BARTLETT. The city of Bartlett is seeking applications for the full-time position of division manager of water treatment. This position involves treatment and production of potable water for the city. It requires the ability to perform routine tasks without supervision and the ability to work closely with the public. This position is responsible for the day to day operations of the water plants, tanks, and wells and assures the operations of the water systems comply with local, state and federal occupational health and safety and water quality regulations. The division manager will work closely with the director and assistant director of engineering and utilities on capital improvement projects related to the water treatment division. Responsible for creating and maintaining a fiscally sound budget. Supervision and assignment of duties to subordinates including reviews and evaluations for performance. Will represent water treatment staff to outside groups as well as other city divisions. Will supervise, review and interpret plans, drawings, and specifications on equipment and structures allowing for troubleshooting and resolving major operational problems in accordance with accepted industry practices and departmental policies. Occasionally respond to citizen/customer inquiries and complaints including providing information, researching problems, initiating phone calls, etc. Will be responsible for overseeing purchases and upkeep of departmental vehicles and equipment to include maintaining and evaluating operational records. Minimum requirements: ability to operate and troubleshoot plant equipment including computer controls, telemetry systems, microprocessors, alarm signals, flow control devices, pumps, valves and chemical feed equipment. Must have knowledge of chemical analysis and laboratory testing required for water treatment. Associates degree preferred or equivalent experience plus 5 years experience in the operation of a water treatment facility, with supervisory experience. Must have a Tennessee Grade II Plant Operator's license or obtain one within a two year period of employment date with the city of Bartlett. Requires a valid driver's license which is to remain valid as a condition of continued employment. Must pass a background check, psychological and medical exam, including a drug test. Bartlett resident preferred, but not required. Will work in a non-smoking work environment. Salary is \$63,016-\$70,462 annually (DOQ), with full benefits including retirement plan, social security, health and life insurance. Open until filled. Apply to: Personnel Department, Bartlett City Hall, 6400 Stage Road, 38134, or online at [www.cityofbartlett.org](http://www.cityofbartlett.org). EOE.

### ENGINEERING SPECIALIST

SPRINGFIELD. The city of Springfield is accepting applications for an Engineering Specialist with Springfield Water/WW Department. Essential responsibilities include professional work in the design and maintenance of water treatment and water distribution systems and wastewater collection and wastewater treatment systems. Graduation from a four-year college with a bachelor's degree in civil or environmental engineering or engineering technology (ABET); some practical experience in design and construction of public water and wastewater systems; or any equivalent combination of education, experience and training which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities. EIT Certificate required. Professional engineering registration in the state of Tennessee preferred. Hiring range: \$62,504 - \$71,676/YR. Deadline to apply is April 12. Applications may be submitted on-line at the following website: [www.springfield-tn.org](http://www.springfield-tn.org). Applicants who applied within the last six months will be re-considered and need not re-apply. City of Springfield Personnel Department, 405 North Main Street, P.O. Box 788, Springfield, TN., 37172. EOE.

### FINANCE DIRECTOR

HENDERSONVILLE. This position directs the activities of the finance department, including managing the city's financial activities and overseeing Human Resources and Risk Management functions. Assigns, directs, supervises, evaluates, and disciplines personnel; coordinates daily work activities. Plans, organizes, and manages the city's finances, including investments, cash management, revenues, disbursements, budget management, cost controls, general accounting, financial accounting and reporting, or other financial activities. Capable of completing Section 400 Codes and Policies Audit processes. Interprets, explains, applies, and ensures compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations. Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in accounting, finance, business administration, public administration, or a similar field. Must meet the state of Tennessee qualifications in Tennessee Code Annotated listed below: Must be a

Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO); or One of the following exempt designations and must comply with the continuing educational requirements of 6-56-404 and obtain approval by the Comptroller of the Treasury per § 6-56-405: An individual designated as a Certified Government Finance Manager (CGFM) by the Association of Government Accountants; An individual designated as a Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) by the Government Finance Officers Association; An individual licensed as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) by the State Board of Accountancy and in active status who has a minimum of five years of primarily government experience with at least three of those years in the state of Tennessee. Ten years of progressively responsible experience in governmental accounting and finance, including at least five years supervisory experience in local government financial administration or similar operational department. Must have a valid driver's license. To apply for this position, please send resume to [marlene.guillen@odshr.com](mailto:marlene.guillen@odshr.com)

### FIRE CHIEF

FAYETTEVILLE. The city of Fayetteville is seeking an experienced, energetic, team builder with exceptional leadership skills to be their next fire chief. This is an exceptional opportunity to serve in a progressive organization with a superb staff. The fire chief's position requires an individual that has demonstrated sound judgment, human resources skills, organizational development expertise, and a can-do work ethic. The fire chief is a highly visible city department head that is expected to project a professional image of self, the department, and the city in all situations. The city offers a competitive salary and benefits package to the successful candidate. The position profile is available for review at <http://www.fayettevilletn.com>. Mail or email cover letter, resume, employment application, and evidence of all professional credentials to Fayetteville HR Coordinator, at 110 Elk Avenue South, Fayetteville TN, 37334 or [agay@fayettevilletn.com](mailto:agay@fayettevilletn.com). Application packets must be in the HR office no later than noon May 1 (CST).

### LIBRARY ASSISTANT

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville's Burch Library has an opening for a part-time library assistant. The purpose of this position is to provide a range of basic library customer support services related to the acquisition, cataloging, and maintaining of library materials. Requires a high school diploma or GED; supplemented by one year of previous experience and/or training in office management, office administration, customer service, record management and area of assignment; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities for this job. Must have the flexibility to work evenings and weekends to meet required staffing levels of the library. Must obtain a valid driver's license within six months of hire date and maintain throughout employment. Salary is \$12/hour with limited benefits package. To apply for this position, you must submit an official town of Collierville Application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Completed applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. EOE.

### MAINTENANCE WORKER

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville has an immediate opening for a maintenance worker. This is semi-skilled and unskilled manual work as part of a public works/utilities crew performing routine maintenance and construction tasks for various public works/utilities projects. Must possess high school diploma or GED; previous experience and/or training in maintenance and construction work in area of assignment is preferred; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must possess a valid driver's license at the time of hire. Salary is \$24,960, depending on qualifications, with excellent benefits package. To apply for this position, you must submit an original Town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Pkwy, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. EOE.

### MECHANIC - GROUNDS & PARKS MAINTENANCE

COLLIERVILLE. This position requires the performance of semi-skilled to skilled maintenance and repair work on a variety of grounds and parks equipment, including but not limited to, large and small mowers, small engine equipment, tractors, trailers, 2-cycle and diesel engine repair. Work also involves scheduling and performing preventative maintenance, parts inventory control, work order fulfillment and record keeping. High school diploma or GED; supplemented by four years previous experience and/or training in journey level automotive mechanic work and in a diversified automotive repair and/or maintenance shop; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. Must be able to pass a work related drug test. The work is physically demanding, may require lifting heavy objects, and may require working in inclement weather. Salary is \$30,899 - \$52,969 (DOQ) with excellent benefits package. To apply for this position, submit an original Town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Completed applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. Position will remain open until filled. EOE

### POLICE OFFICER

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville has multiple openings for a police officer. This position involves the performance of responsible, general duty police work in protecting the life, persons, and property of the citizens of the town of Collierville through even-handed enforcement of laws and ordinances. Must have an associate degree (60+ semester hours) from an accredited college; or two years' previous experience as a full-time law enforcement officer; or two years of active duty military experience. A degree in criminal justice or a related field is preferred, however, majors with a concentration in management, technology, behavioral sciences, physical education or other related fields are acceptable; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Incumbents must be citizens of the U.S. Applicant must possess an Honorable Discharge and provide

a DD214, if they have prior experience in the Armed Forces. Must possess upon hire or complete within six months of hire the State of Tennessee Police Officer P.O.S.T. certification and maintain appropriate certification throughout employment. Must be in compliance with TCA 38-8-106. Applicants must have the ability to pass a work-related physical proficiency/agility test, a medical/physical examination, a psychological examination and background investigation. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. 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. All new hires must successfully complete a 365-day training and assessment period. Starting salary is \$36,000 annually (DOQ) with excellent benefits package. To apply for this position, you must submit an original Town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at [www.collierville.com](http://www.collierville.com), or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Completed applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. We are unable to accept faxed or emailed applications.

### POLICE OFFICER

SHELBYVILLE. The Shelbyville Police Department will be accepting applications for police officer. Successful applicants will be required to pass a background check, physical, psychological, and drug/alcohol test prior to final consideration for the position. Applicants must be minimum age of 21 years old. Must have and maintain a valid TN driver's license with a good driving record. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent. Must be a citizen of the U.S. Must not have been convicted of a felony or a serious misdemeanor involving moral turpitude as the term is defined by law, and not to have been released or discharged under any other than honorable conditions from any of the armed forces of the U.S. Must be free of all apparent mental disorders as described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Third Edition (DSM-11) of the American Psychiatric Association and must be certified as meeting the criteria by a qualified professional in psychiatric and psychological fields. Current Tennessee Post Certified Officer applicants desired, but all will be considered. Applications and a copy of the full job description will be accepted until position is filled and may be returned to City Hall Administration Office, 201 N. Spring Street Shelbyville, TN 37160. Applications and job descriptions can be picked up at city hall or download from the city website: [www.shelbyvilletn.org](http://www.shelbyvilletn.org) EOE.

### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

ERWIN. The town of Erwin is accepting resumes for the position of public works director. Seeking an organized and detail-oriented individual with the ability to plan, organize and direct the activities and operations of the public works department including: street and right-of-way maintenance, sanitation, recycle collection operations, storm water management and maintenance, and other related work as required. This individual will assist the city recorder with planning and coordinating of major capital projects. The public works director is responsible for implementation of the departmental budget, the direct and indirect supervision of assigned staff of the public works department, as well as parks and recreation. Exercising discretion and independent judgment with respect to assigned duties is required. Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university (or equivalent) with major course work in civil engineering, environmental studies, public administration, or management is preferred. At least five years of increasingly responsible public works experience including supervisory or management responsibility in road construction or maintenance, refuse collection, or in other construction trades or any combination to provide a thorough knowledge of public works management is preferred. Salary is negotiable dependent on education and experience. Excellent benefits package. Must possess a valid Tennessee driver's license. Application is a public record. The position is open until filled. You may obtain an application by visiting Erwin Town Hall at 211 North Main Avenue, or by calling 423-743-6231 to receive by mail. Mail or submit completed application and resume to: Town of Erwin, City Recorders Office, Attn: Glenn Rosenoff, P.O. Box 59, Erwin, TN 37650. EOE.

### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

HENDERSONVILLE. The city of Hendersonville is accepting applications for a public works director of the public works department. This position directs all operations of the public works, roads, and IT departments. As of March 2019, this position ultimately has roughly 40 full-time employees under their supervision between the public works, roads, and IT departments. Minimum qualifications include: bachelor's degree in a course of study related to the occupational field. Master's degree preferred. Three to five years of related experience. Possession of or ability to readily obtain a valid driver's license issued by the state of Tennessee for the type of vehicle or equipment operated. Certification as a Professional Engineer required. Entry level salary \$99,287 or higher DOQ. Exempt status. To apply visit <http://www.hvilletn.org> and view the Job Openings page or come by the Personnel Department at Hendersonville City Hall located at 101 Maple Drive North in Hendersonville, TN. Applications accepted until April 26, at 4 PM CST. EOE

### PURCHASING AGENT

SPRING HILL. The city of Spring Hill is seeking a qualified professional to serve as the city's very first purchasing agent. This is a skilled, full time exempt position under the general supervision of the finance director. This employee is responsible for the conduct of all phases of municipal purchasing, requests for bids and proposals, and financial administration of contracts and procurement regulations. This employee must exercise moderate independent judgment and initiative in planning and directing work. Work is performed in accordance with established municipal finance procedures, local ordinances and state and federal statutes governing the responsibilities of local government purchasing and accounting. Work is evaluated through conferences, reports, and by an independent audit of financial records. Qualifications include bachelor's degree from four-year college or university and two years experience; or 10 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. CMFO program and state-specific training in procurement may count towards education. Certified Purchasing Professional (CPP) or Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) certification or ability

to obtain certification within four years. EOE Applications/resumes submitted online at [www.springhilltn.org/Jobs.aspx](http://www.springhilltn.org/Jobs.aspx) Questions to [taylor@springhilltn.org](mailto:taylor@springhilltn.org).

### STAFF ATTORNEY

JOHNSON CITY. The city of Johnson City is accepting online applications for a staff attorney. The staff attorney advises and represents the city commission, city manager, and city departments in all settings where legal advice is required or requested. Will collaborate with outside counsel in various matters related to city goals and objectives. Must demonstrate an exemplary customer service approach to internal and external stakeholders and have a strong commitment to public service. Prepares and drafts ordinances, resolutions, administrative policies, contracts, and other legal documents and instruments; reviews such documents and offers opinions as to legal acceptability when presented to the city for consideration. Reviews and analyzes proposed contracts, insurance policies, and other legal documents affecting the city. Juris doctor degree from a school of law accredited by the American Bar Association is required. Current licensure by the Tennessee State Bar and the ability to obtain admission to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee also required. At least three to five years of progressive experience practicing law; preferably municipal law. Experience in the areas of constitutional law, land use development, public finance, risk management, and public contract evaluation is preferred. Salary DOQ. To apply visit the city's website at [www.johnsoncitytn.org](http://www.johnsoncitytn.org).

### STORMWATER COORDINATOR

SPRINGFIELD. The city of Springfield is accepting applications for a stormwater coordinator in the Springfield Public Works Department. Essential responsibilities include providing leadership and technical guidance for implementation of the stormwater program to maintain compliance with the city of Springfield MS4 permit. Must perform difficult professional and technical duties in administration of the stormwater management program. Graduation from a standard high school with a minimum of two years of college level courses in engineering, environmental sciences or a related field; at least one year of increasingly responsible engineering or environmental sciences experience in stormwater management programs; experience developing and implementing watershed planning that includes floodplain management, stream valley protection and restoration, TMDL implementation, low impact development and use of non-structural best management practices and stormwater control measures. Must have a TDEC Level I & II certification or ability to obtain both within one year of employment. Applications can be submitted online at [www.springfield-tn.org](http://www.springfield-tn.org) or mailed to City of Springfield Personnel Department, 405 North Main Street, P.O. Box 788, Springfield, TN 37172. Deadline to apply is April 19. Hiring range is \$48,963 - \$56,139/YR. EOE.

### TOWN ATTORNEY

THOMPSON'S STATION. The town of Thompson's Station is accepting applications for the position of town attorney. Applicants should have experience in municipal law and have a license to practice law in the state of Tennessee. Applicants with experience working in Williamson and/or Davidson County preferred. This position is open until filled. Please send resumes to [jobs@thompsons-station.com](mailto:jobs@thompsons-station.com) or to Caryn Miller, assistant town administrator at [cmiller@thompsons-station.com](mailto:cmiller@thompsons-station.com). EOE.

### TOWN CLERK

THOMPSON'S STATION. The town of Thompson's Station is accepting applications for the position of town clerk. The town clerk provides a broad range of administrative support activities for the town. Applicants should have a High School Diploma or GED. Associates degree in business management, accounting or closely related field preferred. At least three years experience in clerical work, accounts receivable and administrative support functions. Must have ability to be bonded. Salary DOQ. This position is open until filled. Applications are available at [www.thompsons-station.com](http://www.thompsons-station.com). Please send resumes and town application to Caryn Miller, assistant town administrator at [cmiller@thompsons-station.com](mailto:cmiller@thompsons-station.com). EOE.

### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT MANAGER

LEBANON. The city of Lebanon is currently seeking an experienced and qualified manager for our wastewater treatment plant, which oversees a staff of 15. This position will be responsible for complying with all state and federal requirements such as Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, EPA and OSHA regulations. Education/training requirements: bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in biology, chemistry, engineering, or related field is required. Grade IV Wastewater Operator's Certification is required as well as a minimum of 5 years experience in a supervisory role within a similarly sized Wastewater Treatment Plant is required. Must have a valid Tennessee Driver's License and clear motor vehicle records (or ability to obtain a TN driver's license within 30 days of hire) Starting salary is DOE and ranges from \$71,300 to \$83,800 annualized. The city of Lebanon provides a very comprehensive benefits package that includes health, dental, vision, life, disability, PTO, 12 paid holidays and a generous retirement plan that includes both pension and 401k. Interested and qualified candidates may submit an application and upload their resume on the city's career portal at [www.lebanontn.org](http://www.lebanontn.org). EOE.

### WATER DISTRIBUTION SUPERVISOR

OLIVER SPRINGS. The town of Oliver Springs is seeking applications and resumes for the position of water distribution supervisor. This employee is responsible for supervising the entire fieldwork of the water distribution department and is supervised by the utilities director. The employee supervises and participates in the daily duties of the water distribution department. This position requires a Tennessee Grade II Distribution System Operator Certification. The water distribution supervisor's schedule is generally 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday and may involve overtime which could include evenings, weekends, holidays and on-call. An online application is available on the city website at <http://oliversprings-tn.gov/FormCenter/Employment-Applications-5/Street-Water-Sewer-Application-38>. If applying online, please email all supporting documentation to City Manager Thomas McCormick at [oscitymanager@comcast.net](mailto:oscitymanager@comcast.net). The town will continue receiving applications for this position until filled. Any questions about applying can be directed to City Manager Thomas McCormick at [oscitymanager@comcast.net](mailto:oscitymanager@comcast.net) or 865-435-7722.

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## REACH Alert joins TML as sponsored program



As the only alert and notification service receiving the endorsement of the Tennessee Municipal League, REACH Alert provides a communication platform for municipalities of all sizes throughout the region.

Residents can register to receive information as text messages, voice calls, and/or emails. Send emergency information such as "Chlorine gas leak at water treatment plant! Everyone within half-mile radius evacuate immediately," to more routine advisories like "Fire hydrants being flushed on Park Street this morning; expect lower water pressure."

While we recognize that the emergency needs of a town are important, we have found that for every true emergency alert sent by our clients, more than 100 routine, but helpful, timely notifications are sent. Since your administrator maintains 100 percent control over access to REACH Alert, that account may be used from anywhere in the world to send any type of message, either emergency or routine. All you need is an internet connection or a cell phone signal to log on to the account.

Our clients typically work with several entities within lo-

cal government, allowing shared access to REACH Alert while sharing the costs as well. We recently added a new municipal client that is sharing the expense between the mayor's office, city utilities, the police, fire, and health departments, as well as the chamber of commerce. Each department has complete access and contributes less than 20 percent of the total cost, which at REACH Alert is already significantly lower than the fees charged by our competition.

REACH Alert makes registration easy for residents. Those with computer access can register in about one minute. Those without access can simply call our toll-free number and we will complete their registration. We can even accept an electronic spreadsheet listing residents and download their names and contact information.

REACH Alert gives cities the ability to send alerts to every resident who is registered, or they can target notifications to specific street(s), or even individual ad-

resses. This feature can be used by utilities to warn customers of impending water shut-offs due to non-payment. Our utility clients have reported a 54 percent reduction in shut-offs as a result of sending a text or voice call warning of impending action.

Cities need an easy to use, economical, and effective means to share information with residents; REACH Alert provides this service. User training typically takes 20 minutes and is conducted over the phone.

As a TML member, we even offer a 50 percent discounted fee in the first year of service.

Stop by our booth at the 80th TML Annual Conference in Memphis and let's discuss how we can help you keep your residents and employees in the loop.

More information about our program, visit our website at [www.reachalert.com](http://www.reachalert.com), or contact Ken Weber, COO-REACHAlert, (877) 307-9313 or by email at [ken@reachalert.com](mailto:ken@reachalert.com)



## TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

**April 12-14: Townsend**  
*Tenth Annual Smoky Mountain Fiber Arts Festival*

Come out for classes, family activities, demonstrations, marketplace vendors, and to learn how animals like llamas, Angora rabbits, sheep, and goats play a role in fiber production. Event goes from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center in Townsend. Visit [www.smokymountainfiberartsfestival.org](http://www.smokymountainfiberartsfestival.org) for more information.

**April 20-28: Paris**  
*World's Biggest Fish Fry*

Come enjoy all-you-can-eat fish dinners, parades, rodeos, a car show, catfish races, carnival games, arts, crafts and more at the World's Biggest Fish Fry in Paris. More than 12,500 pounds of catfish will be served during the last week of April at this annual event that draws visitors from all over. For more information, visit [www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com).

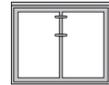
**May 7: Greeneville**  
*30th Annual Taste of Greeneville*

Local restaurants and others in the food industry will provide attendees with samples of food, drinks, or desserts. Some will offer coupons and specials that only those attending will receive. The event will begin at 6 p.m. at the General Morgan Inn Terrace at 111 North Main Street. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. For further information, contact the Main Street Greeneville office at 423-639-7102.

**June 1: Coopertown**  
*Coopertown Barrell Festival*

Join thousands in celebrating the heritage of the barrelmaker in Coopertown, just 25 miles north of Nashville. Hundreds of vendors will showcase their wares along Old Coopertown Road in this free outdoor, rain or shine, event. Enjoy live cooper demonstrations, a classic car show, antique tractors, music, food, shopping, history exhibits, our "Cooper of the Year" contest, kids zone, and more in our annual fundraiser. Festivities kick off at 7 a.m. and go until 4 p.m. Visit [www.barrellfestival.com](http://www.barrellfestival.com) for more information.

**COMING UP**



**April 3 - 5, 2019**  
*TCMA Spring Conference*  
Holiday Inn Worlds Fair Site  
Knoxville

**April 17-19, 2019**  
*TAMCAR Spring Conference*  
Embassy Suites  
Murfreesboro

**June 22-25, 2019**  
*TML Annual Conference*  
Cook's Convention Center  
Memphis

## NATIONAL BRIEFS



**Motorists drove a record number of miles on American roadways last year**, according to new information from the Department of Transportation. Vehicle-miles traveled on public roads in 2018 totaled 3.2 trillion – the highest ever recorded. This figure marks an increase of 12.2 billion miles over 2017 and the fifth year in a row the amount of miles traveled topped 3 billion.

**The number of U.S. measles cases this year have already surpassed the total of cases reported in 2018 and is now at the second-highest number reported since U.S. health officials declared the disease "eliminated" in 2008.** An estimated 387 cases have spread to 15 states, many of which have large anti-vaccination groups. New York, California, Texas, and Washington are among

the states most affected by the outbreak, with Rockland County, N.Y., going so far as to ban unvaccinated children from all public spaces to battle the outbreak. Of 15 counties in the U.S. with the most nonmedical vaccine exemptions across the country, about half are now reporting measles outbreaks. Already, the state of Washington has spent more than \$1 million battling their outbreak, leaving some lawmakers debating whether or not the state should allow religious and philosophical exemptions for vaccinations.

**A new survey has found 85 percent of Americans are either somewhat or very satisfied with their jobs with 71 percent optimistic for their career future.** Respondents cited "meaningfulness" as what gives them the most satisfaction with their job followed by recognition or value by colleagues,

autonomy, and work/life balance. Employees surveyed rated a lack of opportunity for advancement as their biggest complaint about their current job. The survey found that providing workers with opportunities to advance their careers may be the best way to keep them from leaving. An estimated 27 percent of respondents also felt they were not accurately paid for the work they put in and 30 percent said they have contemplated quitting their job at least once in the last three months. The CNBC/SurveyMonkey Workplace Happiness Index polled 8,664 professionals nationwide across a wide swath of industries. Data was weighted for age, race, sex, education, employment status and geography using Census Bureau's Current Population Survey to reflect the demographic composition of U.S. employed population.

## UT-MTAS APRIL MAP CLASSES

### EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Are your employees engaged in their work? Getting employees engaged requires effort from both the organization and the employee. In this class you will gain a full understanding of employee engagement, the benefits of an engaged workforce and learn what your city, your department, and you need to do to get your employees engaged.

**Target Audience**  
All Municipal Employees

**Dates/Locations/Times:**  
**April 9 Johnson City**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT  
**April 10 Knoxville**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT  
**April 11 Tullahoma**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT  
**April 16 Memphis area**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT  
**April 17 Jackson**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT  
**April 18 Nashville**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT

**Credits:** (4 CPE)



To register for a course, go to [www.mtas.tennessee.edu](http://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.

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## Water and Wastewater Systems



Community and Rural Development  
Best Practices Series

Infrastructure

# Whitwell partners with Jasper, Marion County to develop industrial park



The city of Whitwell recently partnered with the town of Jasper and Marion County to bring new sewer services to the area's Valley View Business and Industrial Park. The expansion of sewer services has allowed the area to both attract new businesses as well as retain longtime businesses looking to expand their local footprint. The improvements also set the stage for new businesses to locate to the business and industrial park.

**BY DR. BRIDGET JONES**  
*jones-bridget consulting group*

Jasper and Marion County to extend sewer service to the industrial park.

The city of Whitwell is located on Highway 28 in the southwestern Sequatchie Valley of Marion County, approximately 11 miles north of Interstate 24 and 24 miles from metropolitan Chattanooga.

With the assistance of Southeast Tennessee Development District (SETDD) and Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD), a strategy was set to leverage local matching investments and sewer treatment capacity with federal funding to complete the project.

Whitwell city leaders have continually worked to create jobs and improve quality of life for the community. Provision of utility services to existing and future businesses was paramount in accelerating economic growth, particularly sewer service at the north end of the county.

### INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Since 2013, the city has been home to Prologue LLC, a manufacturer of green fire logs that utilizes renewable resources including leaves and wood bio-mass inputs. The current facility commenced operations in a 7,500-square-foot building at the Valley View Business and Industrial Park.

Whitwell not only paired Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and USDA Rural Development funding; they also created a partnership with nearby Jasper who had sewer capacity and willingness to serve the park and industries.

The owner, a native son of Whitwell, had invested more than \$2 million into the Prologue operation that initially had five employees with plans in place to increase employment to 34 employees. Sewer services were needed to enhance the company's ability for expansion and allow for the development of the industrial park.

Marion County joined both municipalities to provide matching funds for the ARC grant. All three local governments would see the benefits from the industrial growth, and their willingness to collaborate positioned the project for funding.

Innovated Tool & Die was originally created in the 1970's in northern Virginia. In 1984, the Whitwell native and Prologue owner purchased Innovated Tool & Die company and oversaw its successful expansion.

### COLLABORATIVE FUNDING AND OPERATIONS

The owner announced plans to locate a southern subsidiary of the metal fabrication business and bring an additional 64 new jobs to his home community and the Valley View Business and Industrial Park, but the operations were also dependent on the availability of sewer service.

In 2016, Whitwell received \$160,000 in ARC funding (49 percent of the total project cost) to supply adequate sewer treatment services to current and future industrial park consumers.

Whitwell city officials saw the opportunity to partner with nearby

Marion County provided \$125,850 in matching funds for the ARC grant, and USDA Rural Development provided \$40,000 in Community Facilities Grant funding to Whitwell that completed funding requirements for the project.

Jasper agreed to provide sewer treatment service through its existing plant that allowed the community to complete the project within 6-8 months to provide services in a relatively short timeframe for the industrial customers.

Upon completion, all sewer improvements would be owned and maintained by the town of Jasper, the operator of the sewer system.

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

The City of Whitwell, Town of Jasper and Marion County partnered to assist Innovated Tool and Die with its planned location, Prologue LLC with its expansion, and the industrial park with other marketable property.

Project results include:

Direct Jobs Retained*	34
*Prologue LLC	
Direct New Jobs Created*	64
*Southern Innovated over a 5 year period	
Projected New Future Jobs to be Created*	202
*Industrial Park capacity for additional industrial and commercial locations over a 5 year period	
Projected New Direct Industrial Investment *	\$6,000,000+
*Southern Innovated	

### PROJECT FUNDING

TOTAL SEWER LINE EXTENSION FUNDING*	\$325,850
*Projections for federal grants and local funding	
Appalachian Regional Commission	\$160,000
Whitwell USDA Rural Development Communities Facilities Grant	\$40,000
Marion County Match	\$125,850

### PROJECT LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERS

- City of Whitwell
  - Town of Jasper
  - Marion County Government
  - Appalachian Regional Commission
  - USDA Rural Development
  - Southeast Tennessee Development District
  - Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
- For project information visit the City of Whitwell.

For more information visit TNECD Community and Rural Development.

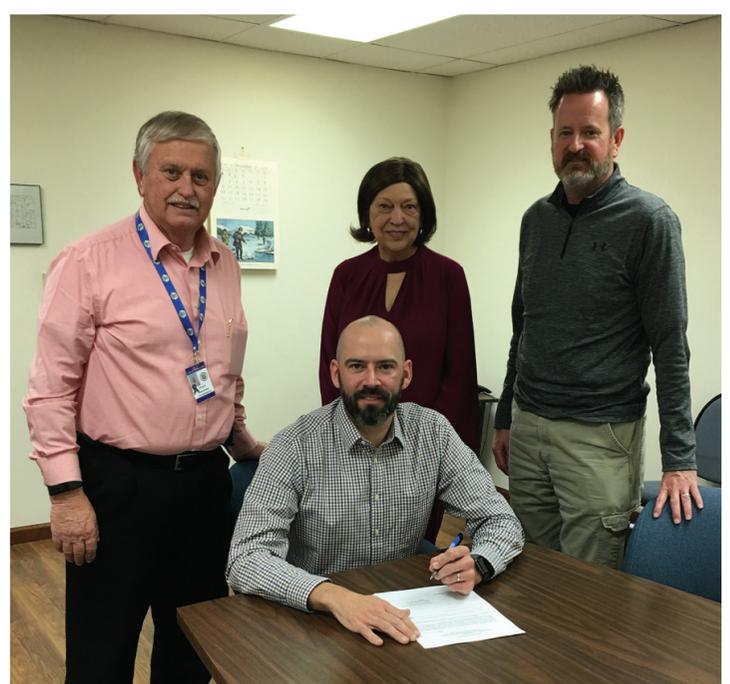
### TNECD INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS – APPLACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

Adequate infrastructure is a fundamental component of successful economic and community development. The mission of the Appalachian Regional Commission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia. TNECD serves as the lead agency in administering Tennessee's ARC funding and programs. Through ARC, TNECD is able to assist in the award of grants each year for economic and community development projects in the 52 counties in middle and east Tennessee served by ARC.

# No loan is too large or too small



The city of Townsend recently closed a \$500,000 loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to finance a new community center and town hall. Seated left to right: Mayor Ron Palewski and City Recorder Danny Williamson. Standing is Steve Queener, TMBF Marketing Representative.



McMinnville recently closed a \$10 million fixed-rate loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to finance the renovations and additions to the city's civic center including ADA compliance issues. Standing left to right are: City Administrator Bill Brock, City Recorder Shirley Durham, and Director of Parks and Recreation Scott McCord. Seated is Mayor Ben Newman.



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