

August primary: Eight incumbents out, seven new state legislators voted in Congressmen keep seats; TN Supreme Court Justices retained

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Eight state legislators lost their seats in the Tennessee General Assembly, falling to primary challengers in the Aug. 7 election.

Three incumbent state senators lost their primaries — Sens. Stacy Campfield (R-District 7), Jim Summerville (R-District 25), and Ophelia Ford (D-District 29). In the House, five incumbents were voted out: Reps. Tony Shipley (R-District 2), Steve Hall, (R-District 18), Dennis Roach (R-District 35), Gary Odom (D-District 55), and Vance Dennis (R-District 71).

In the U.S. Senate race, Sen. Lamar Alexander defeated state Rep. Joe Carr, receiving 49.5 percent of the vote to Carr's 40.5 percent. Alexander will face Democrat Gordon Ball in the November election.

Gov. Bill Haslam easily won his primary with 87 percent of the vote. He will face Democrat Charles Brown in November. And despite a well-funded campaign to replace them, all three Democratic state Supreme Court judges were retained. Chief Justice Gary Wade, Justice Sharon Lee and Justice Connie Clark all won another eight-year term.

Two of the Congressional races were close, but it appears that all incumbents were voted in for another two-year term. However, at press time, it was still unclear as to whether state Sen. Jim Tracy would challenge the outcome of the Congressional District 4 race. U.S. Rep. Scott DesJarlais won the race, but finished with only 35 votes ahead of Tracy.

In the 3rd District, U.S. Rep. Chuck Fleischmann kept his seat, defeating challenger Weston Wamp by 1,459 votes.

State Sen. Mae Beavers also had a tough primary challenge, but came out the victor with 59 percent of the votes. She has no Democratic challenger in the November general election and therefore, will return to

the Tennessee General Assembly for another four-year term.

Sen. Thelma Harper also had a primary challenger, but easily defeated Brandon Puttbrese with 86 percent of the votes. She will face Republican Sterlina Inez in November for the District 19 seat.

Other state senate elections results:

In Senate District 7, Republican Richard Briggs defeated incumbent Stacey Campfield. He will face Democrat Cheri Siler in November.

Republican Paul Bailey will face Democrat Betty Vaudt for Senate District 15. They are vying to fill the seat left vacant by retiring Sen. Charlotte Burke.

Jeff Yarbor defeated Mary Mancini in a tough Democratic primary for District 21. He will face Republican Diana Cuellar in November to fill the seat left vacant by retiring Sen. Douglas Henry.

In a three-way primary for Senate District 25, former state Sen. Kerry Roberts defeated incumbent Jim Summerville to face Democrat Tony Gross.

In District 27, Republican Ed Jackson will face Democrat Randy Lamb. They are vying to fill the seat left vacant by retiring Sen. Lowe Finney. Finney has recently announced plans to run for mayor of Jackson.

In District 29, Lee Harris defeated incumbent Sen. Ophelia Ford. He will face Republican Jim Finney.

In the state House races, Bud Hulsey defeated incumbent Rep. Tony Shipley. No Democrat qualified for the seat, which means Hulsey has been elected as a new legislator to represent House District 2.

Incumbent Timothy Hill won his primary challenge for District 3 with no Democratic opponent in November.

In House District 4, Republican John Holsclaw will face Democrat Rob Martin. They are vying to fill Rep. Kent Williams seat.

In District 5, incumbent David Hawk beat his primary challenger. He

does not face a Democratic opponent.

In District 6, incumbent James (Micah) Van Huss won his primary. He does not face a Democrat in Nov.

In District 7, Matthew Hill won his primary. He does not have a Democratic opponent in November.

In District 13, Eddie Smith won the Republican primary and will face incumbent Democrat Gloria Johnson.

In House District 18, Martin Daniel defeated incumbent Steve Hall. Martin has no Democratic challenger in November and therefore, has been elected as a new member of the Tennessee General Assembly.

In District 20, incumbent Bob Ramsey will face Democrat John Ross Conley in the November election.

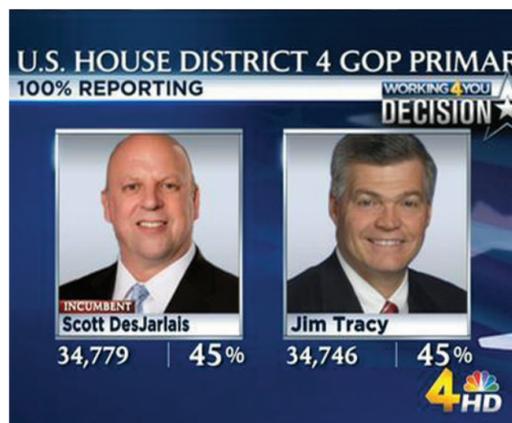
In District 21, incumbent Jimmy Matlock will face Democrat Pamela Watson in November.

See **ELECTION** on Page 5



Photo by John Partipilo / The Tennessean

U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander wins GOP primary against state Rep. Joe Carr. Alexander will now face Gordon Ball in November.



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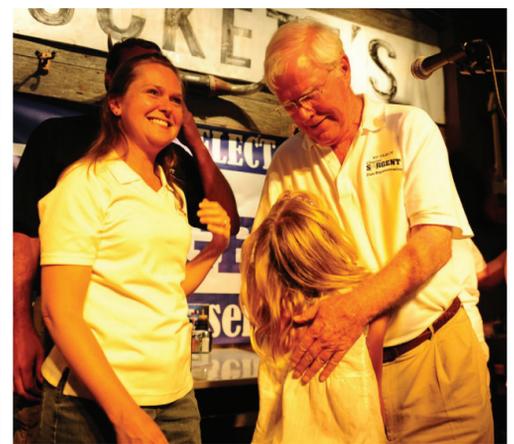


Photo by Shelley Mays/The Tennessean

State Rep. Charles Sargent gets a hug from his granddaughter on election night. Sargent won a tough primary challenge but faces no Democratic candidate in November.

Permit violations result in lawsuits

BY BRETT WARD
MTAS Utility Operations Consultant
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MTAS Legal Consultant

Within the last year, two small Tennessee cities received letters stating that a citizen environmental group intended to file a federal lawsuit against them for violations of their sewer plant permit. One plaintiff was seeking damages as high as \$72 million. The other city has actually received two notices of intent to file suit, one of which cited "chronic and egregious permit violations."

Any city or utility with a sewer system permit, with violations of that permit, could be subject to these Clean Water Act lawsuits. Initially they were filed against large permit holders such as the big four cities, but they can be filed against any permit holder for ongoing violation. The suits are most often brought by citizen groups such as an environmental group but can be a single individual. It should be noted that there are large documents and other resources on the internet guiding citizens on how to file these lawsuits. There are several "frequent filers" who have repeatedly sent notice-of-intent letters to permit holders with violations.

The federal Clean Water Act, in Section 505, authorizes "any person having an interest which is or may be adversely affected to commence a civil action on his own behalf to enforce the Act." Through this provision Congress envisioned that the role of the citizen lawsuit would be to "supplement... functions of the state and federal government in the enforcement of the Act." Federal rules related to this statute are found in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulation, Part 135. Clean Water Act lawsuits apply to sewer system permits or storm water permits. One of the recent notices of intent also listed the cities failure to comply with a TDEC issued Commissioner's Order for 943 days as an additional 943 days of violations.

Avoid the Risk

Violating the numeric or narrative limitations of a sewer system permit,

commonly called a NPDES permit or National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, places the city at risk of regulatory actions from the state of Tennessee or EPA and at risk of citizen lawsuits. The Clean Water Act establishes "strict liability" for these violations. If there are permit violations there is risk, no matter your intent or knowledge of the situation, and generally your liability insurance does not cover this type of risk.

To avoid the risk, avoid violations. Of course this is easy to say and often very hard to avoid, but where there are violations, there should be a plan in place to reduce and eventually eliminate them in all but the most extreme situations. The 2010 middle Tennessee flood is an example of an extreme situation. But violations caused by chronic breakdowns due to neglected maintenance would not be acceptable.

Notice of Intent

The first step in a lawsuit is to send the offending permit holder a Notice of Intent to sue letter. At this time, the clock is ticking and you have 60 days to act. The first action is to seek good legal counsel from an experienced attorney. Because most of these cases are settled out of court instead of through litigation, the city should always be working on a plan to eliminate violations. Approach the citizen or citizen group and ask what they want, which should be compliance. Present to them the city's plan for mitigating the violation situation. This should be a long-term plan that addresses acute and chronic issues that contribute to permit violations. Having cost estimates and a capital improvement plan, if applicable, can also be helpful. They may ask for a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). This is a project that the city would do to correct an environmental problem that's not subject to correction through enforcement. There are numerous examples in Tennessee where SEPs have been used to benefit local waters. This is basically doing penitence for your violations and the "damage" those violations caused. Preventing Clean Water Act Lawsuits. See **NPDES** on Page 3

Chattanooga, Knoxville emerge as quarter-finalists in Energy Challenge

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

As one of the highest consumers of energy in the nation, it's only fitting that Tennessee take its place among 52 states vying for \$5 million in prize money to promote energy efficiency. The cities of Chattanooga and Knoxville have both placed as quarter-finalists in Georgetown University's Energy Prize Competition (GUEP). The competition challenges U.S. communities to work together with their local governments and utilities to develop and begin implementing plans for innovative, replicable, and continual reductions in the energy per residential account consumed from local natural gas and electric utilities.

As quarter-finalists, in November, both cities will submit a Program Plan detailing their community's energy saving program, and will have opportunities to apply for seed grants from GUEP partners and other organizations to help them implement the plans.

Semifinalists in the contest will go on to compete for two years to reduce their utility supplied energy consumption with a goal toward continuing improvements within their own community and replication in other communities. Participants have the potential to save more than \$1 billion in total energy costs and cut millions of tons of CO2 emissions.

However, Chattanooga GreenSpaces, the non-profit regional sustainability group leading the city's efforts, stress that the goal is not focused exclusively on energy efficiency, but a range of quality of life challenges that systematically overlap with energy.

"As families make hard decisions between food, housing, utilities and health care, we want to find ways to make it easier for them to invest in their quality of life," said Michael Walton, Chattanooga GreenSpaces executive director. "We want to go into some of the historically disadvantaged neighborhoods and talk to them about challenges and priorities with regard to quality of life."

The group plans to target three low income Chattanooga neighborhoods as pilot communities with



In Georgetown University's Energy Prize Competition, Chattanooga is designing a program plan that centers around a wide range of quality of life initiatives—from food, housing and utilities, to health care—working with three low income pilot neighborhoods within the city.

meetings to promote education and awareness initiatives regarding the city's existing assistance programs.

One component of the plan will work with the Chattanooga Housing Initiative as well as Chattanooga Neighbors Enterprise with affordable housing. "There will be a broader housing initiative with the United Way and Catholic Charities, that has a program called SMART," said Walton. "There will be a renter's education program, and we also plan to work with homeowners, landlords and renters. While we can focus on these particular areas for two years, the following two years we can focus on the next three neighborhoods and the next... and let each neighborhood really dictate what its challenges and priorities are."

Working with team partners such as the city's Energy Power Board (EPB), Chattanooga Gas and UT Chattanooga, the group plans to develop a map of the city at the census block level. "We're not necessarily looking at individual buildings but essentially neighborhoods, seeing where the greatest energy inefficiency is in order to target our efforts," said Walton. "Every dollar you save through energy efficiency is a dollar that goes back into the local economy."

The group, along with EPB, has applied for a TVA grant to help facilitate the plan. GreenSpaces say they think the city has leverage to win the contest, partially due to its access to the EPB fiber optic network.

"Chattanooga has an unfair advantage in our capacity for data

collection," Walton said. "Chattanooga's Smart Grid is unrivaled. We can isolate a particular neighborhood with an education and improvement program, going into some houses and providing equipment and one-on-one training with the equipment. Then, we can gauge the real time impact of the program with the fiber optic network."

Already the site of a successful sustainability program, which helped the city garner a TML Excellence in Green Initiatives Award in June, Knoxville was recently recognized by the U.S. Energy Department for achievements in the Better Buildings Challenge and for reducing energy intensity by 16 percent across its entire building portfolio. The city upgraded 100 city buildings and more than 40 ballparks, fields and golf courses along with the Knoxville Convention Center, which hosts 120 kw of solar.

During the competition, Knoxville will develop a plan to reduce energy consumption in residential and municipal buildings, building on the city's Energy & Sustainability Work Plan, as well as other efforts by partners and non-profits across the community.

"I look at the Georgetown competition as a way to motivate interest. We are trying to align all of the programs that we have already," said Erin Gill, Knoxville's director of the Office of Sustainability.

"We have led a collaboration of more than 20 organizations, called the Smarter Cities partnership, to See **ENERGY** on Page 3

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRISTOL

A campaign to restore lights on an historic marquee in Bristol raised more than \$43,000. The money was used to replace lights on the vertical and horizontal signs of the Paramount Center for the Arts, a former movie house, with nearly 2,000 one-watt LED bulbs. During a recent ceremony, Paramount officials flipped on the lights to several dozen onlookers and guests. The effort received donations from across the nation.

COOKEVILLE

Academy Sports & Outdoors will build a new 1.6 million square foot distribution center to support company growth. The premier sports, outdoors and lifestyle brand will invest \$100 million and create 700 full-time equivalent jobs over the next five years. Spanning 257.38 total acres, the center will be the largest distribution facility in Tennessee under one roof. Construction on the facility begins this month with plans to become operational in early 2016.

ELKTON

The city's volunteer fire department has received a new ISO rating, from a 6 to a 5. The department's new rating is now equal to the Pulaski, Giles County, Fire Department.

MURFREESBORO

While rental rates have been climbing in the Nashville area, there's a couple of bright spots in the local market for renters, according to a new study. RealtyTrac has named Rutherford County one of the nation's Top 15 counties for renters. It is joined on that list by Montgomery County. They are the only two Tennessee counties on the list. The rankings are based primarily on the rent-to-median household income ratio in each county. In Rutherford County, for instance, the ratio is 25.3 percent. That's the percentage of household income that is spent on rent each month. Compare that with the most expensive county in the U.S., which is Bronx County in New York, where the ratio is nearly 68 percent. Finance experts recommended that the typical household should spend less than 30 percent on a mortgage or rent payment.

FRANKLIN

Traffic planners are pushing ahead with the city's first-ever multi-modal transportation plan specifically for its retail and office area. The TMA Group, which oversees the trolley bus operations in Franklin, has hired traffic engineers at TransSystems in Chicago, Ill., to study Cool Springs' current traffic conditions, predict future traffic growth and explore a plan to offer solutions. The study will cost \$56,721. Traffic is expected to dramatically increase in the next decade around Cool Springs, spurred by the eventual construction of the equivalent of 12 Nissan Americas office buildings in the vicinity of the intersection of McEwen and Carothers Parkway. Planners say that more than 25,000 people are expected to be near the Parkway in the daytime when the mixed-use Ovation, Franklin Park and other proposed developments are completed. Early proposals for improving traffic flow will explore ride-sharing options such as van pooling and carpooling, a transit fixed-route and express bus service, park and ride facilities, and a pedestrian/bicycle system. The planners are expected to interview business owners and will hold public input sessions. The report is slated to be finished by January 2015.

HENNING

In honor of Alex Haley's 93rd birthday on Aug. 11, a "Literary Landmark" dedication ceremony was held at The Alex Haley Museum and Interpretive Center. The site has been designated a Literary Landmark by United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. The facility houses a walk-through exhibit, a theater room and a genealogy center. The dedication ceremony included the unveiling of the official Literary Landmark bronze plaque; proclamations by city, county and state officials; the United States Coast Guard and Color Guard Detail; and representatives from the Tennessee Historical Commission. The center is only the second Literary Landmark in the state. The Literary Landmark program is administered by United for Libraries.

JACKSON

Officials broke ground on a new manufacturing facility, bringing with it almost 200 new jobs. Japanese auto parts maker, Pacific Industries, will be building a 60-acre state-of-the-art-plant on farmland which was donated by the county. The plan for bringing the company to the county was unveiled back in June. The company expects to bring 190 new jobs to the area over the next five years. Pacific will be supplying auto parts to Toyota and Nissan throughout the southern United States.

KINGSPORT

Six-time Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter Amy Grant will be Santa's special guest on the Santa Train for its 72nd trek to spread Christmas cheer on Nov. 22. Grant will accompany Santa on the 110-mile journey from Shelby, Ky., through Southwest Va., and into Kingsport, delivering gifts at stops along the way. Beginning as a way for Kingsport's merchants to say thanks to all the folks along the train's route for shopping in the Model City, The Santa Train arrives downtown just in time to bring up the rear of the Kingsport Christmas Parade.

KNOXVILLE

A local startup is giving utilities the ability to read gas and water meters at residential and commercial properties from the air. DataFlyte uses a patented process to collect and manage meter data through a proprietary set of equipment and software that it developed. With five antennas secured to a Cessna 172 or 182 plane, a pilot will make two passes per mile, collecting a wide path of data from existing automated meter-reading technology. The software enables the pilot to see which houses' data has or hasn't been collected. It can capture readings from 6,000 meters in an hour while burning less fuel in a year than "drive-by" meter readings do in a month, according to the company's president and co-founder Jack Dischner. Dischner claims his company can reduce the billing cycle approximately 80 percent while increasing efficiency up to 97 percent.

LENOIR CITY

Blue Bell Ice Cream threw an ice cream party to celebrate the grand opening of its new local distribution center, a 12,500 square-foot branch distribution center. Guests received a tour of the facility and entered in a drawing for a chance to win a year's supply of Blue Bell ice cream. The Texas based ice cream manufacturer first came to the Knoxville area in early 2006. At that time products were distributed from a Blue Bell distribution center located in Huntsville, Ala. A small 1,500 sq. ft. facility mainly consisting of cold storage space to house the ice cream was constructed in Roane County a few years later. The new branch distributes products to all of East Tennessee. The larger facility now includes an expanded cold storage freezer, a dry storage warehouse and an office area. The 107-year-old company utilizes branch distribution centers as a part of its direct store delivery (DSD) program. With DSD no one other than a Blue Bell employee touches the ice cream until it reaches the store.

NASHVILLE

The city emerged as one of the Best Towns in America by *OUTSIDE* Magazine. The city became a finalist in *OUTSIDE*'s 2014 Best Towns Competition—the magazine's 64-town bracket-style tournament, in which readers cast more than 1.5 million votes. In the current issue, *OUTSIDE* recognizes Nashville for its excellent food scene, beautiful neighborhood, and incredible access to the outdoors. To see the

complete article, visit <http://www.outsideonline.com/adventure-travel/best-towns/Best-Places-to-Live-In-America-2014.html>.

NEW TAZWELL

The town is celebrating a new airfield that grew from some pastureland with a tiny strip of a runway—into a modern day facility. The airport now can accommodate twin-engines to Lear jets. According to Mayor Jerry Beeler, the city put a good amount of "blood, sweat, tears and grant money" into transforming the airport using a 90-10 matching grant for \$6.4 million to get the project off the ground. The funds eventually rose to \$9.6 million. The city expects to continue renovations with the addition of 12 hangars and an Aviation Weather Avoidance Service system. The city receives \$13,000 in state grant money annually to maintain the airport.

OAK RIDGE

The Oak Ridge Police Department initiated OPERATION SAFE START on Aug. 11—the city's first day of school. Every division of the police department was utilized to strictly enforce traffic ordinances in and around school zones. Partnering with the police this year were several members of the Tennessee Highway Patrol motor squad, along with marked units. Officers were assigned to enforce all traffic laws and ordinances, particularly targeting drivers who exceeded posted speed limits in school zones, drove past school bus warning devices (flashing lights with stop arms), ignored pedestrian rights-of-way (especially in crosswalks), failed to comply with seat belt laws, or demonstrated distracted driving behavior, such as texting while driving.

TRENTON

Big Bend Galvanizing, LLC, officials announced the company will locate a new manufacturing facility at 1000 Industrial Park Dr. Due to high client demand throughout the Midwest and Southeast, the Missouri-based company will expand its operations by investing \$8 million in the Trenton facility, creating 40 new jobs. The company began construction on the new facility earlier this month and plans to start production during the first quarter of 2015. Big Bend Galvanizing provides hot dip galvanizing services to a number of industries including energy, transportation and agriculture.

TULLAHOMA

In a research report released by POLICOM Corporation, the Tullahoma-Manchester Micropolitan Statistical Area (McSA) ranked first in the state and 66th nationally out of the 536 McSAs in the United States. POLICOM Corporation is an independent economics research firm based in Palm City, Fla., which specializes in analyzing local and state economies and economic development. The index takes into account the condition of the economy from the viewpoint of its impact upon the standard of living of the people who live and work in the area. The highest ranked areas have had rapid, consistent growth in both size and quality for an extended period of time. The city's unemployment rate went from 7.2 percent to 6.2 percent in this past year.

WINCHESTER

A local project is among those receiving \$14 million in federal funding from The U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service will award the money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for seven Forest Legacy Program projects. An award of \$1.87 million is going to the Carter Mountain Working Forest Conservation Easement. The U.S. Agriculture Department says the project will protect 4,800 acres of prime developable forest land. The property includes diverse and highly productive forests, more than 10 miles of scenic bluff views, two federally endangered species, 10 vernal pool wetlands and more than 10 miles of headwater streams.

Collierville wins Parade Magazine's Best Main Street in America contest



Parade Magazine has selected Collierville's "homegrown charm rooted in history" over 15 other contenders for The Best Mainstreet in America. The city, (pop. 46,462) was selected in June as one of 16 finalists for the tournament, and was noted for its quaint downtown, an area with old-fashioned quality. The magazine also mentioned plentiful shopping and dining opportunities along with events such as Easter egg hunts and parades, as well as the park decorated with gazebos and old-fashioned street lights. To see the complete line up of cities, visit <http://parade.condenast.com/326631/paradeeditor/explore-collierville-tennessee/>.

New Lookout Farmers Market filling the food desert gap



Chattanooga recently celebrated two new Lookout Farmers Market locations with a grand opening ceremony and ribbon cutting. At the Crash Pad, just off Main Street, and also at a busy area just across from Hamilton Place mall. The Lookout Farmers Market supports and encourages organic and sustainable growing practices by bringing local farmers to six area markets. All participating farmers and producers are located within 100 miles of the market and use sustainable farming practices. The principle of "know your farmer, know your food," is the watchword of these new markets. The Lookout Farmers Market strives to be accessible to everyone and accepts SNAP/EBT cards to make organically grown, fresh, local produce more affordable and available to low-income families.

Greeneville celebrates biggest losers



Photo by Lori Carter

The town of Greeneville staff took part in a Biggest Loser competition losing a grand total of 178.5 pounds. Pictured from left to right are: Ed and Kaden Nicodemus, Public Works Department; Human Resources Director Patsy Fuller; and Firefighter Jonathan Gray.

Town of Greeneville employees are 178.5 pounds lighter after completing the first Biggest Loser competition as part of the town's new Wellness Program.

Greeneville Firefighter Jonathan Gray lost 16.5 pounds and was named the Biggest Loser at a celebration at EastView Recreation Center. The runner-up was Ed Nicodemus, of the Public Works Department, who lost 12 pounds.

A total of 30 town employees lost 178.5 pounds during the 12-week first round.

"We had fun and encouraged each other to endure and remain committed to the goal of becoming a healthier population," said Patsy Fuller, the town's Human Resources director. "We hope to inspire and challenge other business and industry to get on the track of becoming a

healthier Greeneville."

The keys to becoming healthier for Gray were portion control, counting calories, and exercise. He said he jogged an average of six miles a week.

To complete the Biggest Loser contest, employees must attend five mandatory weigh-in sessions and complete a physical activity log. Physical activities are required at least three days a week, 20 minutes a day. Walking and teamwork are encouraged.

The competition is one part of a comprehensive Wellness Program the town began in January. Other parts of the program include exercise sessions, cooking, educational classes, and health coaching. A Wellness Committee includes an employee representative from each town department.

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Johnson City nets six top wastewater facility awards



Jeff Corder, superintendent of Water and Wastewater Treatment of Johnson City, receives one of three Wastewater Treatment Plant Awards from the KY-TN Water Environment Association.

There's not much down time at a well-managed municipal wastewater treatment facility. Johnson City's proof of that, bringing home the gold recently with six top awards from two different agencies.

The city's Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant received its fourth consecutive Gold Peak Performance Award, from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). The award recognizes treatment facilities that have achieved 100 percent compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for an entire calendar year.

In addition, the Brush Creek and Knob Creek wastewater treatment plants achieved Silver status, which allows for up to five NPDES permit violations in a calendar year, but both facilities had just one.

The other three awards came from the Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Association, where each plant was recognized for Operational Excellence for achieving permit compliance with no more than one NPDES permit violation.

Tom Witherspoon, the city's director of Water and Sewer Services, attributed the awards to the city's long term investments in infrastructure and a vigilant operations staff. "Unlike many communities

our size, which might have one wastewater plant, we have three wastewater plants and they all have high levels of expectation in compliance with their permits," said Witherspoon. "The city has done a good job of establishing master plans that help guide the commission and the community on what the needed investments are going to be under a 20-year window. This continued high level of compliance is a reflection of the city commission's investment on behalf of our customers to provide the necessary funding to keep facilities reliable and positioned for future growth. Our employees provide round-the-clock oversight 24 hours a day, seven days per week, 365 days per year to ensure protection of the environment."

The Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant - serving Boones Creek, Gray and the Tri-Cities Airport areas - processes 1 billion gallons a year. The Brush Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant serves Central, West, and South Johnson City and processes 3.7 billion gallons a year. The Knob Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant serves North Johnson City and processes 1.3 billion gallons a year.

Approximately 8,000 analytical tests and more than 24,000 internal process control tests are conducted on an annual basis in Johnson City to ensure compliance.

Chattanooga, Knoxville compete in Energy Efficiency Challenge

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look at ways that we could better connect energy efficiency services that we have with more traditional homeless prevention services and with utility bill assistance programs," she continued. In 2013, IBM selected the city for a Smarter Cities Challenge grant. Knoxville's application asked for advice on the most effective way to connect weatherization and energy education services to residents who receive emergency utility bill assistance.

As a follow-up to Smarter Cities, Gill said a program could be developed that provides funding or low interest financing to make energy efficiency more acceptable for people who struggle to afford it, along with a component for working with the rental community.

"When someone turns to help with a utility bill they can't pay, they won't just get that bill paid, but they will receive services that can help them reduce that bill, so that it's not a continuing cycle," she said. Partners for Knoxville's effort in the Georgetown competition include: The Knoxville Utility Board, UT

Knoxville's Office of Sustainability, Social Equal Energy Efficient Development (SEED) and several other local organizations.

"The way we'll compete and measure how competitive Knoxville is in the competition is to measure the total residential energy consumption divided by the number of accounts," Gill said. "Our municipal building, baseline will be measured every quarter, and hopefully, will show improvement—like 'The Biggest Loser,' where they calculate percent reduction."

Preston Jacobsen, UT's Sustainability Manager, in a city press release, said he believes that participation in the competition will "help motivate students to reduce energy use in off-campus housing, as well as find new ways to educate the Knoxville community on energy efficiency."

"It's a community effort, so we're also looking at it as an opportunity to build new partnerships and new ideas that we haven't considered," Gill explained. "There could be new programs that develop from this."

MTAS online certificate program tailored to city employees' lives

VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

When Gallatin's Human Resource Director Debbie Johnson needed specialized training for the city's employees, she looked no further than UT's Municipal Technical Advisory Service. The city is serving as a pilot community for a new custom component to MTAS Online, a new training program that's taking Tennessee cities by storm.

With three new certification tracks in Administrative Professional, Human Resources and Managerial Essentials, as well as 100 plus new online courses, the program offers cities what they've been asking for—convenient, cost effective, quality online training for municipal employees that can be completed anywhere—anytime.

Class participants can work toward a certificate, or simply take a few courses at a time—at their own pace—with an interactive format that can be stopped or started at will. And at \$35 a class, the program is considered to be cost effective by most city standards.

"We have municipal staff in positions who aren't afforded the opportunity to travel for training, and when they do leave the office, they are the only person that can do their particular job," said Dr. Macel Ely, MTAS Training Program manager. "MTAS Online gives these employees an opportunity to seize the moment in professional development."

According to Online Training Specialist Cyndy Edmonds, who works with subject matter experts to design the courses, and serves as the program's IT manager, MTAS Online has more than doubled its number of participants since its launch to the public six months ago.

"One of the first challenges was being able to develop a class that will operate on a million different systems," said Ely. "Everyone's computer is different, purchased at different years, some are Macs, some PC's. Cyndy has been able to develop courses that all of our city officials can use, whatever computer they have available, regardless of speed or capabilities."

Ely and Edmonds recently traveled to Gallatin, to discuss what core competencies should be taught there and at what level.

"This isn't a cookie cutter program from a third party private sector," explains Ely. "It's a class that understands the needs, policies and regulations of the city; the specifics of what drives a city's jurisdiction. For instance, if a city wants training for supervisors to do performance reviews, we are able to look at their policy and their rules, to ensure the online course is specific for that particular city. We're excited about that, because we feel it's a less expensive way to train a large number of people and get the message across."

Johnson, who has been with Gallatin since December, said she thinks the customized coursework will help employees who might have reading challenges, and that the certificate option will be an exciting accomplishment for the staff.

"I think we will be the first city to offer employees a class on diversity in the workplace, covering outreach and inclusion," she added.

Gallatin is currently working on a diversity initiative, along with an eight-member committee of local business, education and community



leaders, to recruit more women and minority employees into the city's workforce.

The MTAS course, to be delivered in person and online, "Fostering Respect in the Workplace," was approved as one of the recommendations of the city's Diversity Committee. The course will examine ways for employees to diffuse conflict and to discuss cultural guidelines and viewpoints.

"We just started our new practices and outreach but I am trying to set the stage for when that happens (applicants apply)," Johnson said. "There will be greater knowledge and respect in our workplace."

A Supervisor Tool Box will also be offered to Gallatin's staff in mid-September, which will cover different employment laws and help foster a culture against harassment.

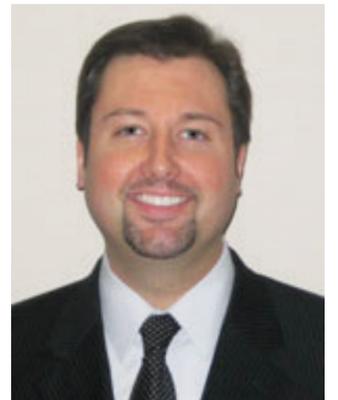
Word gets around, as two more Tennessee cities have contacted Ely to have custom programs designed for their employees.

"I think it can become a trend," said Edmonds. "A lot of universities are doing something called hybrid courses, where part of it is online and part is in person. It might take the form of a study session or a group of peers taking the course. There might even be a discussion group online."

"This is a great tool for keeping good employees motivated with training and development skills, Johnson said. "Everyone will get a certificate. And it's cost effective."

MTAS Online also offers classes for individuals working toward Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO). There are CPE classes for finance as well as CEUs.

"All three of the online certificate programs have three levels of certificates, an introductory, intermediate and advanced," Ely said. "The program covers whatever information is needed before moving on to the advanced level. Once you get to the advanced level, the coursework has the core competencies and outcomes someone at an advanced level needs to know. Our participants



Dr. Macel Ely



Cyndy Edmonds

will understand that the entry level is laying the foundation for them to understand advanced concepts."

To view the MTAS Online course offerings, see the 2014 MTAS course catalog at <http://mtas.tennessee.edu/Training/Catalog/2014-MTAS-TrainingCatalog.pdf>.

For more information about MTAS Online, see the brochure at http://mtas.tennessee.edu/Training/Catalog/online-courses-certificate-brochure_2014.pdf.

To arrange a customized training session for city employees with MTAS Online, contact Dr. Macel Ely at macel.ely@tennessee.edu or call 865-974-0411.

Permit violations result in lawsuits

NPDES from Page 1

Simply stated, to prevent lawsuits, don't have permit violations. Especially don't have lots of violations. The greater the number and the more frequent, the greater the risk of regulator action and/or lawsuits. If your city has a NPDES permit, you want to always be in substantial compliance or find some other agency that will take over the system and keep it in compliance. The EPA is slowly and deliberately moving toward electronic reporting of all applications, reports and records. When that time arrives perhaps within five years it will be very easy for anyone to view all your documents. If you are having

violations, it will be in full view for the whole electronic world. A recent attendee to a TDEC training class called this a "lawyers dream come true."

Cost

No matter the outcome, if you receive a Notice of Intent, there will be a cost to the city. Going to court may be the most costly, because you pay whether you win or lose. Legal council will cost you and you will still have to correct the issues that caused the violations. So the most economical path is to set in place a plan of action that prevents permit violations.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

State Sen. **B e c k y Massey** has been selected as a leadership fellow by the Council of State Governments.



Massey

Massey, Knoxville, is one of 48 Toll Fellows from 35 states and Puerto Rico selected by a nine-member committee of state leaders. The six-day program is named after Henry Wolcott Toll, the founder of the Council of State Governments. It features a series of speakers and sessions aimed at stimulating personal assessment and growth. Past topics have included sessions on media training, crisis management and adaptive leadership. Massey, the sister of U.S. Rep. John "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., was elected to the state Senate in 2011.

State Rep. **Susan Lynn** Mt. Juliet, has been appointed to the state Workforce Development Board as one of only two members of the state legislature who may be assigned to serve on the board, according to statute. Lynn's appointment will run through June 30, 2016. Lynn is a state representative for the 57th House district, chairman of the Consumer and Human Recourses Sub-Committee in the House. The board works in conjunction with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to craft solutions that assist Tennessee's business owners.

Portland's public safety building, which houses the city's police and fire departments, was recently named in honor of former city Mayor **William J. (Bill) Rawls**. A resolution by Portland's Mayor and Board of Aldermen officially named the building The William J. Rawls Public Safety Building. Mayor Ken Wilber spoke to honor Rawls prior to the unveiling of the new sign. Rawls served two terms from 1977 to 1981, and one four-year term from 1985-1989.

Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund, County Services Loan make significant donation to UT-IPS Internship Program

The UT Institute for Public Service (IPS) is the recipient of a generous \$100,000 endowment from the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund and the Tennessee County Services Loan Program. The endowment is earmarked for the internship programs at the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS).

The Public Service Internship was created in 2011 for the purpose of giving students, interested in a career in public service, the opportunity to gain real-world experience. Internships are arranged for the fall, spring or summer semester. Since it was established, students from 10 different universities have served as interns with city and county governments across the state in a variety of departments. Several have gone on to full-time employment with the city or county in which they worked.

"I have been in local government for 52 years and I have supported and worked with MTAS the entire time, and I have worked with CTAS since 1990," said Charles "Bones" Seivers, president and CEO of the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund. "When I was city manager in Clinton, I worked with MTAS to develop a comprehensive management review plan to improve government services. So, I know first-hand how the cities and counties across this state benefit from the services both MTAS and CTAS provide to local governments. I have wanted to do something for MTAS and CTAS for some time. This endowment will make it possible for both organizations to continue and possibly grow their internship programs."

John David Clark is in the accelerated program at UT Knoxville working on his bachelor's degree in political science and his master's degree in policy and public administration. He is serving an internship with Dr. David Folz, a professor in the UTK political science department. His project is updating the Fire Mortality Study conducted in 2011 by Folz, a graduate student, MTAS,

Justice **Sharon Lee** has been elected chief justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Lee has been a member of the high court since 2008. Her new role takes effect Sept. 1.



Lee

Bonnette Dawson won the Greenbrier mayor's race. Dawson, 72, is the city's former vice mayor and current chief executive officer of Old Hickory Credit Union. She was appointed mayor in February, following the resignation of the city's former Mayor Billy Wilson. She will serve the remaining two years of Wilson's unexpired term. A lifelong resident, Dawson was first elected to the Greenbrier Board nine years ago as an alderman and was appointed vice mayor upon taking office. She has also served on the city's planning and zoning commission for nine years and was on the city's park board.



Dawson

David Wear, Pigeon Forge mayor and an experienced economic development professional, has been named head of operations at The Island in Pigeon Forge. The newly opened massive retail and entertainment center features restaurants, shopping, attractions and a 200-foot-high observation wheel, The Great Smoky Mountain Wheel, offering spectacular views of the Great Smoky Mountains.



Wear

The Knoxville police department's first black deputy chief, **Nathaniel Allen**, who has been with the department since 1986, will take over as commander of the Criminal Investigations Division. He will be one of four deputy chiefs. Allen reached the rank of sergeant in 1992 and lieutenant in 1996. In 2000, he was promoted to captain and served as KPD's East District commander. Allen has also served as staff officer to the chief of police, homeland security coordinator and commander over Persons and Property Crimes in the Criminal Investigations Division.



Allen

Jerome A. Palmer has been promoted to the rank of captain in the Fire Suppression Division with The Johnson City Fire Department. Palmer is a 21-year veteran of the JCFD and is a second generation firefighter. Prior to joining the city, Palmer was a Jonesborough firefighter for two years.



Palmer

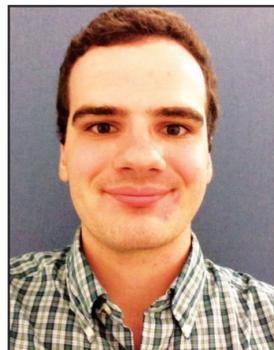
Charlie Johnson, an 18-year Knoxville plumbing inspector, has been promoted to the city's chief plumbing inspector. Johnson credits his predecessor, Roy Branch, who has retired, with furthering a model that mixes professionalism, know-how and building bonds with co-workers and city businesses and residents.

Attorney **George McCain** has been appointed Cleveland's interim traffic court judge after the recent tragic loss of long-time Judge Bill Moss. McCain will serve through Sept. 4.

Josh Collins, Oak Ridge's Recreation and Parks Department director, announced he will retire effective Oct. 1. Collins has been with city for nearly 30 years, beginning his employment there in 1985. Collins oversees the city's park system, greenways, recreational programs, the Senior Center, and activities ranging from summer camps, aquatics, and the Secret City Festival. He also serves as the staff liaison to the city's Recreation and Parks Advisory Board.



Bones Seivers



David Clark

CTAS, the state fire marshal's office and area fire departments. Clark is working with Folz and CTAS GIS Consultant Mike Meyers to update the data gathered in the initial study.

"This requires me to use several different computer programs including Excel, Access, and ArcGIS," Clark said. "I was given data on each incident and each death, and had to attach these to census tracts which are the level of analysis for the study. Each incident and death had an address where it occurred. Using this information, I was able to input the values into ArcGIS and it geocoded each point. During my internship, I've learned a lot about the computer programs and statistical analysis that this study is using."

Clark is slated to receive his bachelor's degree in August and complete his master's program in summer 2015.

IPS Vice President Mary Jinks announces retirement plans

Dr. Mary Jinks, vice president of UT's Institute for Public Service (IPS), has announced her retirement effective Aug. 29. Jinks began serving as IPS vice president in 2008. Prior to that, she was associate vice president and director of operations for IPS, assistant director of the former IPS Center for Government Training, and early in her 31-year career at the University, was business manager for UT Knoxville residence halls. She has led or served on several UT statewide committees and task forces focused on a range of areas from compensation to strategic planning. Jinks has a doctoral degree in higher education administration from UT Knoxville.

"It has been my great honor to serve the Institute for Public Service and very rewarding," said Jinks. "I am now looking forward to future roles as I retire from the University."

UT President Joe DiPietro will appoint Dr. Herb Byrd III, director of Extension Evaluation and Staff Development for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, to serve as interim vice president, as the University launches a national search in early 2015 to fill the IPS leadership role permanently.

In his current role with the UT Institute of Agriculture, Byrd is a member of the chancellor's executive team and a member of the Tennessee Extension administrative team.

As an employee of UT since 1984, Byrd has worked with the statewide extension advisory committee on long-range planning; on oversight of statewide planning, evaluation and reporting including Federal Plan of Work and Progress



Jinks



Byrd

Reports; with county extension and outreach, human resources, equity and diversity offices; and in leadership training and professional development for faculty and staff of various campuses.

Byrd has a doctoral degree in educational administration and policy studies from UT Knoxville. He assumes his new role Sept. 2.

Clinton Police Chief Rick Scarbrough named TACP's Police Chief of the Year

Clinton Police Chief Rick Scarbrough has been named the 2014 "Police Chief of the year" by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police (TACP). The award was presented during an awards banquet at the 44th Annual TACP Conference in Chattanooga.

"I'm very fortunate to be a small part of a great team in Clinton," Scarbrough said.

Scarbrough was selected by his peers to receive the honor.

The TACP is made up of chiefs and command staffs throughout Tennessee.

The Clinton Police Department was recently awarded a TML Achievement Award at the TML



Chief Scarbrough

Annual Conference in Chattanooga for Excellence in Police Services.

Side by side,
community by community,
state by state.
Opportunity at every step.™

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STATE BRIEFS

TN ranks well for business

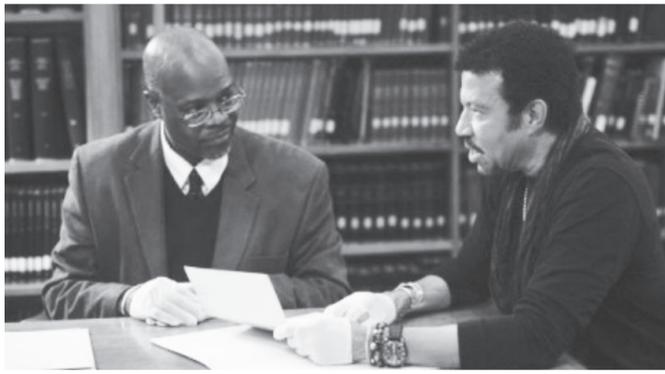
Business Facilities magazine ranked states on a variety of factors, but in the overarching category of Best Business Climate, Tennessee took fourth place, up five spots compared to 2013. Tennessee took the top spot in implementing education reforms under the federal Race to the Top program, and ranked second among the states with the best infrastructure. It also ranked second in automotive manufacturing strength.

TDEC receives Wellness Award

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has received the Wellness Champion Award in the "Working for a Healthier Tennessee" competition. The competition stems from the Healthier Tennessee initiative created by Gov. Haslam. It encourages state employees to actively take part in setting a positive example for Tennesseans in the area of health and wellness. TDEC earned the highest recognition based on accumulating the most wellness points, which were earned by things like hosting wellness fairs, creating newsletters and establishing walking groups across the state.

TBI launches human trafficking awareness campaign

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has launched a new initiative to



The Tennessee State Library and Archives and Ancestry.com are collaborating on genealogy events in Nashville. Beginning Sept. 16, special lectures and research assistance are scheduled each day at TSLA's building directly west of the state Capitol downtown. On Sept. 20, a full day of presentations designed to help family historians trace their roots will be held at the downtown Sheraton Hotel. Presentations will include information about using "old fashioned" research in libraries and archives, as well as focusing on online resources. Among the topics to be covered are research in court records, use of family search software and use of DNA testing in genealogy. For more information, contact the State Library and Archives at (615) 741-2764. Pictured: musician Lionel Richie visits with a Nashville historian to learn more about his ancestry in the TV series "Who Do You Think You Are?"

raise awareness of human trafficking called "It Has To Stop." The campaign features a website with links for visitors to join nonprofits and other groups in the effort to curb trafficking in Tennessee and abroad. The U.S. Department of Justice and the National Center for Missing

and Exploited Children estimate the number of children bought and sold in the country for the purpose of sexual exploitation to number at least 100,000. The average age of a trafficking victim is 13. For more information, visit <http://www.IHHasToStop.com>.

August primary results set stage for November showdowns

ELECTION from Page 1

In District 22, Dan Howell won the GOP primary. He has no Democratic challenger and will fill the seat formerly held by Rep. Eric Watson.

In District 25, incumbent Cameron Sexton will face Democrat Judy Barnett in November.

In District 27, Patsy Hazlewood won a three-way primary and will face Democrat Eric McRoy. They are vying to fill the vacant seat formerly held by Rep. Richard Floyd.

In House District 30, Republican Marc Gravitt was the only candidate to file qualifying papers and therefore, will take the seat left vacant by Rep. Vince Dean.

Incumbent Ron Travis held onto his seat in District 31 despite a challenge by former Rep. Jim Cobb. He does not face a Democratic opponent.

In District 32, incumbent Kent Calfee will face Democrat Joe Kneiser. In District 33, incumbent John Ragan won his primary and will face Democrat Missy Neergaard.

In District 35, Republican Jerry Sexton beat incumbent Dennis Roach. He has no Democratic challenger in November and therefore, has been elected as a new House member.

In District 36, incumbent Dennis Powers will face Democrat James Virgil Kidwell.

In District 37, incumbent Dawn White won her primary and has no Democratic opponent in November.

In District 39, incumbent David Alexander won his primary and will face Democrat Matthew Huffer.

In District 40, incumbent Terri Lynn Weaver will face Democrat Sarah Marie Smith.

In District 42, incumbent Ryan Williams will face Democrat Mike Walsh.

In District 43, Democrat Kevin Dunlap won his primary and will face Republican Robert Dunham. They are vying to fill the seat left vacant by retiring Rep. Charles Curtis.

In District 45, Courtney Rogers won her primary and will face Democrat Steven Puckett.

In District 46, Mark Pody will face Democrat Candace Reed.

In District 48, Republican Bryan Terry won a three-way primary. He will face Democrat Bill Campbell.

In District 49, incumbent Mike Sparks won his primary. He will face Democrat Mike Williams.

In District 50, incumbent Bo Mitchell will face Republican Troy Brewer in November.

In District 51, Democrat Bill Beck won a three-way primary to face Republican Brian Mason. They are vying for the seat left vacant by longtime Rep. Mike Turner.

In District 53, incumbent Jason Powell will face Republican John Wang.

John Ray Clemmons defeated incumbent Gary Odom in the Democratic primary. He faces no challenger from the Republican Party and therefore will be seated as a new legislator to represent House District 55.

In District 56, incumbent Beth Harwell will face Democrat Chris Moth.

In District 57, incumbent Susan



Lynn will face Democrat Jesse McLevain.

In District 60, former Republican Rep. Jim Gotto will challenge incumbent Darren Jernigan. Gotto and Jernigan served on the Metro Nashville council together.

In District 61, incumbent Charles Sargent won his primary. He faces no Democrat Challenger in November.

In District 63, incumbent Glen Casada won his primary and faces no Democrat in November.

In District 65, incumbent Jeremy Durham will face Democrat Bill Peach.

In District 66, Sabi (Doc) Kumar won a four-way GOP primary to face Democrat Kyle Roberts. They are vying for the seat left vacant by Rep. Joshua Evans. Evans ran for state Senate District 25, but lost to Kerry Roberts.

In District 69, incumbent David Shepard will face Republican Michael Curcio.

In District 71, David "Coach" Byrd beat incumbent Vance Dennis. He faces no Democrat in November and therefore, has been elected as a new member of the legislature.

In District 73, incumbent Jimmy Eldridge will face Democrat Shelia Godwin.

In District 74, Jay Reedy won the GOP primary to face incumbent Democrat John Tidwell.

In District 75, Randy Patton won the Democratic primary to face incumbent Tim Wirgau.

In District 76, incumbent Andy Holt will face Democrat Joyce Washington.

In District 78, incumbent Mary Littleton will face Democrat Jane Crisp.

In District 79, incumbent Curtis Halford will face Democrat Bobby Barnett.

In District 81, incumbent Debra Moody won her primary challenge. She has no Democratic opposition in November.

In District 84, incumbent Joe Towns won his primary and has no Republican opposition in November.

In District 86, incumbent Barbara Cooper will face Republican George Edwards.

In District 88, incumbent Larry Miller will face GOP challenger Harry Barber.

In District 91, incumbent Raumesh A. Akbari won her primary and will face Republican Sam Watkins.

In District 92, incumbent Billy Spivey will face Democrat Vicki Cain.

In District 93, incumbent G.A. Hardaway will face Republican Colonel Billingsley.

In District 96, incumbent Steve McManus will face Democrat Dwayne Thompson.

July revenues less than budgeted

Tennessee revenue collections recorded positive growth in July, but still came in less than the state budgeted. Finance and Administration Commissioner Larry Martin announced a net positive growth of 2.39 percent over July collections of one year ago. Overall July revenues were \$941.8 million, which is \$3.2 million less than budgeted.

The general fund was over collected by \$1.2 million, and the four other funds were under collected by \$4.4 million.

Sales tax collections were \$1.3 million more than the estimate for July. The July growth rate was 3.17 percent. For 12 months revenues are under collected by \$14.2 million. The year-to-date growth rate for 12 months was positive 3.53 percent.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$2.2 million below the budgeted estimate of \$70.7 million. The growth rate for July was positive 2.92 percent. For 12 months revenues are under collected by \$280.5 million and the year-to-date growth rate was negative 8.42 percent.

Inheritance and estate tax collec-

tions were \$2.0 million above the July estimate. For 12 months collections are \$21.9 million above the budgeted estimate.

Privilege tax collections were \$0.7 million below the July budgeted estimate. For 12 months collections are \$23.7 million less than the budgeted estimate, and the year-to-date growth rate was positive 1.64 percent.

Business tax collections were \$0.6 million less than the July estimate. Year-to-date collections for 12 months are \$10.8 million below the budgeted estimate.

Tobacco tax collections were \$0.6 million above the budgeted estimate of \$24.3 million. For 12 months revenues are under collected by \$12.7 million.

Gasoline and motor fuel tax collections for July were over collected by \$0.1 million. For 12 months revenues are over collected by \$4.9 million, and the growth rate is positive 0.78 percent.

All other taxes for July were under collected by a net of \$3.7 million.

For a complete report, go to www.tn.gov/finance/

TN cities awarded \$6.6M in Parks and Recreation Grants

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has announced more than \$6.6 million to fund local parks and recreation projects across Tennessee. The Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant program was established by the General Assembly in 1991 to provide local governments with funds to purchase land for parks, natural areas, greenways and recreational facilities. The funds also may be used for development of trails and projects in parks, natural areas and greenways. All LPRF grants require a 50 percent match by the recipient. Grant recipients were selected through a scoring process with careful consideration given to the projects that met the selection criteria and expressed the greatest local recreation need.

The following Tennessee cities are recipients of 2014 LPRF grants:

- **Arlington:** \$250,000 for construction of athletic fields including grading, stabilizing, sewer, water, driveway and parking.
- **Blaine:** \$20,000 to upgrading restrooms to ADA requirements, resurfacing the in-field, purchasing new playground equipment and picnic tables.
- **Bolivar:** \$60,000 for acquisition of the former Boat Dock Restaurant on Hwy 18, along with three acres along the Hatchie River to be developed into a park and nature center.
- **Church Hill:** \$183,000 to purchase 65 acres for a future park.
- **Clifton:** \$183,000 for a splash pad for Clifton River Park.
- **Collierville:** \$250,000 for Phase I, which includes a .58 mile trail composed of 10' wide asphalt trail and 10' wide raised boardwalk, two pedestrian bridges, an observation deck for wildlife viewing and educational opportunities, and a small trailhead with four parking spaces and trail entrance signage.
- **Dayton:** \$189,000 for the Delaware Avenue Complex to resurface six tennis courts, pave parking area, improve handicap accessibility and Cedar Point Park - repair damaged pavilions; Point Park walking-track-remove roots and repave trail.
- **Decherd:** \$80,000 to replace the Babe Ruth ball field lights in the John L. Sanders Park.
- **East Ridge:** \$100,000 to construct tennis courts, basketball court, dog park, walking trail, and restrooms.
- **Englewood:** \$50,000 for equipment upgrades and improvements to the Englewood public pool, and ADA accessibility enhancements.
- **Etowah:** \$50,000 for addition of a splash pad feature and ADA hard surface trail access.
- **Farragut:** \$43,000 for Mayor Bob Leonard Park reconstruction of the playground, ADA approved playground surface and installation of LED lighting.
- **Fayetteville:** \$70,000 for the Lion's Club, includes a dog park and ADA accessible parking. Kiwanis Park includes rehabilitation of existing restroom/pavilion, ADA parking and walkways.
- **Gatlinburg:** \$98,000 for Mills Park ADA compliant playground for 5-12 year old children and installation of new lights for the track/football field.
- **Germantown:** \$208,000 for hay barn pavilion.
- **Greeneville:** \$125,000 for a splash park with water features replacing an existing swimming pool.
- **Halls:** \$185,000 for Crichfield Park - ADA compliant concessions

and restroom building, playground and safety surfacing. Kewan Ward Park - new playground and surfacing.

- **Johnson City:** \$250,000 for playground equipment and custom fabricated trees.
- **Kingston:** \$250,000 for construction of a new ballfield with dugouts, bleachers, soccer fields, playground, restroom facilities, basketball court, parking facilities and walkways.
- **LaFollette:** \$128,000 for Liberty Park conversion of one tennis court into a skate park facility; Dr. Lee Sergeant Park - removal of old existing playground and replace with play structures and surface material.
- **Lawrenceburg:** \$101,000 to make all facilities ADA accessible.
- **Lenoir City:** \$250,000 for development of a park including excavation, site clearing, addition of utilities to site, fully accessible playground with resilient surfacing, fencing, ADA access from parking to playground, restroom, parking area, open space, landscaping and benches.
- **Lewisburg:** \$50,000 to renovate outdoor concrete public pool, remove existing PVC membrane, and prepare and replace with new PVC membrane system.
- **Lexington:** \$245,000 to replace existing pool with smaller commercial grad pool and include new filtration system with energy efficient pumps. Replace children's pool with new 500 square-foot splash pad.
- **Livingston:** \$250,000 to create a two-acre park containing a playground, splash pad, restroom facility, parking lot, vendor area, walking path, decorative lighting and fencing, picnic tables and benches.
- **Loretto:** \$125,000 to construct a 30' x 65' swimming pool.
- **Luttrell:** \$100,000 for addition of a new parking lot, extension of a walking trail, lighting and resurface existing walking trail.
- **Maryville:** \$250,000 for John Sevier Pool renovations.
- **McKenzie:** \$250,000 for a splash pad facility.
- **Niota:** \$25,000 to replace aging playground equipment with new play system, engineered wood fiber for ground surface cover and implement ADA site improvements.
- **Pulaski:** \$208,000 to replace ball field lights, fencing, bleachers; and make improvements to concession stand/restroom facility.
- **Savannah:** \$250,000 for removal of existing poles and fixtures, underground wiring and electrical panel upgrades to accommodate new energy efficient lights.
- **Selmer:** \$236,000 for construction of two parking lots with ADA parking, flood proof ADA accessible restroom facility and splash pad.
- **Shelbyville:** \$34,000 to demolish a 50-year old pavilion and construct a new 28' x 40' ADA compliant pavilion. Update electrical and lighting.
- **Smyrna:** \$250,000 for planning and construction of a neighborhood park including a playground, walking trails, shelter, restroom facility, picnic table, benches and associated parking areas.
- **White Bluff:** \$250,000 for construction of an amphitheater with an ADA accessible walkway and ADA accessible parking.
- **Whitwell:** \$34,000 for purchase and installation of a custom designed consolidated play system, HIC tested engineered wood fiber, curbing and ADA accessibility.

To learn more about the LPRF grant program, visit www.tn.gov/environment/recreation/grants.shtml.

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Tennessee Assn. of Public Purchasing
Susan Huskey, Loudon Co.
TN Section, Institute of Transport
Engineers, Kevin Cole, Knoxville
Tennessee Public Transportation Assoc.
Jason Spain, Nashville
Tennessee Fire Safety Inspectors
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NATIONAL BRIEFS



An app that touts the health benefits of cycling and details bicycling routes in cities around the country is the idea behind My City Bikes. It's a national campaign of free localized mobile cycling apps. The easy-to-access information addresses the statistics of obesity and heart disease and correspondingly emphasizes community wellness and detailed bicycling routes and is used by 15 cities in seven states. The application is expansive and cyclists can find road, mountain, recreational and commuter biking locales. The free My City Bikes app touts three basic ideas. Biking is a safe, family-friendly activity that benefits children and adults of all fitness levels. Commuter biking helps improve personal and environmental health. Cycling can be done indoors or out at any pace to improve cardiovascular health. Each localized My City Bikes app costs \$7,000 to \$12,000 to build. Local co-sponsors contribute \$400 to \$2,500 toward its development, with the remaining costs being covered by the My City Bikes program, individual sponsors and volunteer programmers.

According to *Governing* magazine, in cities across America, pedestrian safety efforts have gained traction in recent years

as officials have sought to make cities more walkable. But while select areas, typically downtowns and business districts, are often targeted for improvements, it's the less visible lower-income neighborhoods where pedestrians are dying at the highest rates. According to a *Governing* analysis of accident location coordinates for the more than 22,000 pedestrians killed nationwide between 2008 and 2012, poorer neighborhoods have disproportionately higher rates of pedestrian deaths. In the nation's metro areas, the bottom third of Census tracts, in terms of per capita income, recorded pedestrian fatality rates twice that of higher income tracts. The same holds true for high-poverty communities. Many aspects of low-income neighborhoods make streets particularly prone to pedestrian accidents. Most notably, residents are more likely to be out walking or taking public transportation to work. Pedestrian-friendly infrastructure remains far less prevalent throughout much of the nation's poorer communities. Historically, many could not fend off construction of highways and major arterial roadways the way wealthier communities did.

After a dismal winter, the U.S. economy sprang back to life in the

April-June quarter, growing at a fast four percent annual rate on the strength of higher consumer and business spending. The rebound reported by the Commerce Department followed a sharp 2.1 percent annualized drop in economic activity in the January-March quarter. That figure was revised up from a previous estimate of a 2.9 percent drop. But it was still the biggest contraction since early 2009 in the depths of the Great Recession. Last quarter's bounce-back was broad-based, with consumers, businesses, the housing industry and state and local governments all combining to fuel growth. The robust expansion will reinforce analysts' view that the economy's momentum is extending into the second half of the year, when they forecast an annual growth rate of around 3 percent. The government also shows the economy expanded in the second half of 2013 at the fastest pace in a decade and more than previously estimated. The second quarter's 4 percent growth in the gross domestic product — the economy's total output of goods and services was the best showing since a 4.5 percent increase in July-September quarter of 2013. At the same time, a higher trade deficit slowed growth as imports outpaced a solid increase in exports.

COMING UP

Sept. 17-19: TAMCAR 2014 Fall Conference, Murfreesboro at the Embassy Suites Conference Center.

Sept. 26: Tenn. Municipal Attorneys Assoc. / Land Use Law Seminar. Sonny West Conference Center, Howard Office Building, 700 2nd Avenue South, Nashville. From 8-8:30 am is registration and continental breakfast. Meeting held from 8:30 am-4:15 pm. Speakers: George Dean and Tom White of Tune, Entekin & White, PC; Sam Edwards, executive director and chief legal counsel Greater Nashville Regional Council; and Bill Herbert, zoning administrator Metro Nashville. Members \$100, Non-members \$200. For registration form, visit <http://www.tmaa.us/meetings.htm>. 6 CLE units (general).

Oct. 3: AAA Tennessee Older Driver Summit. A free event held from 8 am-3:45 pm at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1850 Old Fort Parkway, Murfreesboro. Limited seating. Registration is required. Recommended for senior services providers, government, law enforcement, legislators and traffic safety professionals. Join leading national and regional experts to exchange ideas in a dynamic forum on meeting the challenges of senior driving safety and mobility. Registration deadline: Sept. 8. Register at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/aaa-tennessee-older-driver-summit-registration-11712513443?aff=AAAT-NODS2014> or call 865- 862-9252.

Oct. 3: Knoxville Third Annual Accessibility Symposium, held 9 am-4 pm at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum, 500 Howard Baker Jr. Ave. For professionals in the design industry. Registration by Sept. 5. Pre-register online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014Accessibility. For more information, contact Stephanie Cook at scook@city-ofknoxville.org or 865-215-2034. Or visit www.cityofknoxville.org/accessibilitysymposium.

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TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY
(ISSN. No. 0040-3415) Publication No. 539420
— Official publication of the Tennessee Municipal League. **Publisher:** Margaret Mahery (mmahery@TML1.org); **Editor:** Carole Graves (cgraves@TML1.org); **Phone:** 615-255-6416. **Advertising:** Publisher reserves the right to reject any advertising deemed unacceptable. Fax classified ads to *TT&C*: Attention Mona Lawrence at 615-255-4752, or e-mail mlawrence@TML1.org. Fax advertising copy to *TT&C*: Attention Debbie Kluth at 615-255-4752, or e-mail to dkluth@TML1.org. Opinions expressed by non League officials or staff do not necessarily reflect policies of TML. *Tennessee Town & City* is published, semi-monthly, 20 times per year at 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville, TN 37219-1894. Periodicals postage paid at Nashville, TN. Subscription rates: \$6 per year to members, \$15 to nonmembers, \$1 a copy. **Postmaster:** Send changes of address to Tennessee Town & City, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville, TN 37219-1894.

UT MTAS Oct. Classes

THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL
ADVISORY SERVICE

MAP-Planning & Zoning
Annexation Issues & Smart Growth

Planning is a process that seeks to guide the future. Decisions regarding zoning, annexation, and growth issues affect landowners, neighbors and the entire community, often with significant impact on property values, community character and quality of life and even the municipal budget. This course will address topics which include:

- The comprehensive planning process
- Implementing land use decisions (zoning, annexation regulations and subdivision rules)
- Growth planning policies
- Private property rights (1 hour)

Time: Classes begin at 8:30 and end at 12:30 CST and EST

Schedule of Sessions
Oct. 8- Johnson City
Oct. 9 - Knoxville
Oct. 15- Collegedale
Oct. 16- Nashville
Oct. 22- Jackson
Oct. 23- Bartlett

Locations:
Bartlett, Bartlett Station Municipal Center
Collegedale, Collegedale City Hall
Knoxville, Univ. of Tenn. Conference Center
Jackson, Univ of Tenn - West Tenn Research & Education Center
Johnson City, Johnson City Public Library
Nashville, TBI Headquarters

Cost: Tennessee Municipal Employees- \$50/person/class. A fee of \$65 is charged for non-city officials.

4 CPE/CMFO-Other/non-financial

To register for a course, go to www.mtas.tennessee.edu or fax to 865.974.0423. Credit card payments must register online with the Solution Point System: <http://www.solutionpoint.tennessee.edu/MTAS> or by invoice. MTAS will need to receive payment in order to confirm attendance.

For registration assistance, call 865-974-0411 or for more information, contact Kurt Frederick at 615-253-6385 or kurt.frederick@tennessee.edu.

TREEDC Inaugural International Conference

The Inaugural International Renewable Energy & Economic Development (TREEDC) Conference will be held at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville Oct. 12- 14. This conference will feature a wide selection of renewable energy approaches and dialogue for networking and fellowship among supporters in Tennessee and the world.

Featuring Tennessee and Philippine renewable energy technologies, leaders and local government and university best practices to state, national and international members of TREEDC.

Ten Philippine universities and eight cities that are members of TREEDC will be present.

Attendees will hear about:

- Small Town Renewable Energy

Programs

- To Net Zero Energy Manufacturing
- Chattanooga Best Practices
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory Initiatives
- Building Out Wind Energy Transmission Lines
- Jobs Outlook and Training from the University Perspective
- TVA Valley Sustainable

Communities Program Overview

- Georgia Power and 525 MW of Solar Capacity

Register Online at https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=610&SINGLESTORE=true
The 2014 TREEDC International Conference has gone mobile.



Schedule, maps, twitter, alerts, more on your iPhone/Android, free.

Get Guidebook at <http://guidebook.com/guide/21671> or scan the QRP and search TREEDC International Conference.

For organizations interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, call (865) 974-9839 or visit www.treedc.us.

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Morristown closed a \$20 million loan for sewer system upgrades.



The city of Ripley closed a \$1 million loan for a new fire hall and equipment.

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

CITY MANAGER

HARRIMAN. Qualified applicants are being sought by the city of Harriman, with a seven-member council and a population of 6,350, for the position of city manager. The city has an annual budget of \$5.5-\$6 million with 65 full-time employees and 10 part-time employees. The position, created in 2014, oversees the day-to-day operations of the city and supervises all department heads, including police, fire, streets, and stormwater. The successful candidate must have a bachelor's degree. Degree in public/business management or related field is preferred. Three years of government management experience or related business management is required. A master's degree and city management experience are highly desired. Skills in budgeting, 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 maintenance and expansion. Salary: \$50s to \$60s, DOQ. Resumes, along with a cover letter must be received by Sept. 15, 2014 to: The University of Tennessee, Municipal Technical Advisory Service, 120 Conference Center, Knoxville TN, 37996, Attn: Warren Nevad. Electronic submissions shall be received at warren.nevad@tennessee.edu by Sept. 15, 2014. The city has a competitive salary and benefits package; including retirement, health and life insurance, depending on qualifications. Candidate's submittals are open to Tennessee open records laws and applicants may be subjected to background checks upon consent. This position will remain open until filled. EOE

CITY MANAGER

MILLERSVILLE. The city is accepting resumes for the position of City Manager. Millersville is located 16 miles north of Nashville, bordering both Sumner and Robertson Counties. The position is appointed by, and responsible to a five member Board of Commissioners, for the day-to-day administration of all city services and departments. The City Manager is responsible for oversight of a budget of approximately \$3.6M and 37 employees. The position provides leadership and management to the City, serving as the chief executive officer, and directs all operations of the municipal organization as set forth by the City Charter. The ideal individual will have demonstrated ability to motivate employees and delegate responsibility, and an ability to identify long term goals and issues for the Commission's consideration. Candidates must have demonstrated ability to deal with the public, and able to be articulate and interactive with the community. Experience in budgeting, control of expenditures, management of multiple departments, legislative issues, and economic development are high priorities. The ideal candidate will have: a bachelor's degree in public administration or business management, a master's degree would be preferred, and will have three to five years of experience as a City Manager, Assistant City Manager, or Department Head in a similar sized community; or will have more than ten years of experience in a management role in municipal government or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this position. Residency preferred within six months to one year, within a ten mile radius of City Hall. Additional information about the community can be found at the City's Website: www.cityofmillersville.com The Salary Range for this position is \$60,000 - \$75,000; plus a competitive comprehensive benefits package. The City of Millersville is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes will be accepted until 5:00 pm, Sept. 12, 2014. All interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter along with three professional references, and salary history to: Municipal Technical Advisory Service 226 Capitol Blvd, Suite 606, Nashville, TN 37219. Attn: Gary Jaeckel, Municipal Management Consultant

POLICE OFFICER

FAYETTEVILLE. The city is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Applicants must successfully complete the following: interview, background investigation, physical, psychological and drug screen. Applications are available at the Fayetteville Municipal Building at 110 Elk Avenue South, Fayetteville, Tennessee, 37334, between the hours of 7:30 am and 4 pm, Mon.-through Fri., or the application can be obtained through the city's website at www.fayettevilletn.com. Application deadline is 4 pm., Sept. 3, 2014. A complete job description, including the essential functions required to perform this job, is also available and will be distributed with each application. The City of Fayetteville is EOE.

FIREFIGHTER

COLLIERVILLE. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Firefighter. This position is to perform entry level firefighting and basic level emergency medical assistance work in combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires, and in responding to medical emergencies that is designed to help the town of Collierville's Fire Department respond effectively to fires, medical emergencies, natural disasters, and man-made emergency situations. Requires a High School diploma or GED with course concentration in the physical sciences or industrial arts; 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 possess a valid Emergency Medical Technician license with IV endorsement (up to Dec. 31, 2016) or Advanced EMT license as outlined in the rules and regulations by the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment and maintain license throughout employment. Must possess a Firefighter I certification, as outlined in the rules and regulations by the Tennessee Commission on Firefighter Standards and Education. Education and/or training cannot be substituted for the required years of experience. Must be 21 years of age at time of hire. Incumbents must satisfactorily complete a one year probationary period. Incumbents must establish and maintain their actual bona fide residence within a distance no greater than 30 miles from a firehouse within the town's corporate limits. If qualified, a firefighter may ride out-of-rank in the driver's position and perform such duties and responsibilities. Applicants must not have been convicted of a felony or any misdemeanor that involved force, liquor, or drug laws. Applicants who have military service must possess an "Honorable" discharge. Salary: \$31,389.00 annually with excellent benefits package. Apply to: Human Resources Office, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017. The Town of Collierville is EOE.

FOREMAN II

UNION CITY. The city is accepting applications for the position of Foreman II in the Water & Sewer Division of the Department of Public Works. Salary range \$14.10 - \$ 19.86 per hour. Must possess: GRADE II distribution system operator certification, GRADE II wastewater collection system operator certification, CLASS A CDL with air breaks or able to obtain one in 6 months. CONTACT: Lisa Chambers, personnel administrator, lisag@ci.unioncity.tn.us City of Union City, P O Box 9, Union City, TN, 38281, or call 731 885-1341.

WASTEWATER TECH I

WHITE HOUSE. The city is accepting applications for the position of Wastewater Tech I. A full job description detailing the purpose, functions, responsibilities, and minimum qualifications, training, and experience is available on our website at www.cityofwhitehouse.com. Starting hourly rate of \$11.50, depending on experience. Applications may be obtained by visiting the website or at the Human Resources office located at 105 College Street, White House, TN 37188. Applications should be returned to the Human Resources office or faxed to 615-616-1058 or emailed to abrewton@cityofwhitehouse.com. Application Deadline: Open until filled.



TENNESSEE FESTIVALS



Aug. 30-Collinwood

Old Timer's Day
Held at Ralph Hughes Park. Live music, food, tractors, antique cars and more. For more information, visit www.waynecountychamber.org.

Sept. 1: Harrogate

Annual Labor Day Celebration
Harrogate City Park at 3 pm with kids' games, live bands, food, crafts and business fair. Spectacular fireworks display at 9 pm. For more information call Harrogate City Hall at 423-869-0211.

Sept. 4-6 - Pulaski

Here's the Beef Festival
Held on town square. Taste of the Beef Challenge, arts & crafts. For more information, visit www.gilescountychamber.com.

Sept. 4-Clifton

Horseshoe Riverbend Festival
Live music on Main Street. Great family fun. For information, visit www.cityofclifton.com.

Sept. 5-14: Nashville

TN State Fair
The theme this year is "Let the Good Times Grow." The Tennessee State Fair is bringing a bigger & better Taste of Tennessee Festival back to opening weekend, with craft beer, artisan spirits, local music, native food and Tennessee-made goods. For complete fair information, visit <http://tnstatefair.org/about-the-fair/>.

Sept. 5: Clarksville

Riverfest Celebration
McGregor Park. A celebration of the sights and sounds on the Cumberland River. Features music on multiple stages plus three art exhibits in Downtown Clarksville.

Sept. 5-7: Pikeville

Mountaineer Folk Festival
Fall Creek Falls State Park presents a display of the Cumberland Plateau's rich cultural heritage and talents. A variety of interactive pioneer-life demonstrations, authentic local music of the area, storytelling, and many other unique programs.

Sept. 5; Cookeville

18th Annual Fall FunFest
Held on the town square, the festival features a barbecue cook-off, two stages of entertainment, 5k/10k fun run, kids' activities and crafts. Come join your friends and neighbors at the Fall FunFest.

Sept. 6 - 7: Germantown

43rd Annual Germantown Festival
One of the longest, continuously run festivals with free family fun at Germantown Civic Club Complex, 7745 Poplar Pike. Arts and crafts, children's activities, rides, games, live stage entertainment, car exhibits, community displays, the "Running of the Weenies" Dachshund race and festival food. For more information, visit www.germantownfest.com/index.htm.

Sept. 5-7: Nashville

Home Decorating and Remodeling Show. Held at Nashville's Music City Center. Features all phases of home decorating and remodeling products and services. Admission \$10. Seniors (62+) free all day on Friday.

Sept. 8-12: Oak Ridge

3rd Annual Safety Fest TN
The Tenn. Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Oak Ridge Business Safety Partnership have teamed with organizations to feature experts for 40 free classes and seminars, plus a safety expo with 30 exhibitors from companies in the safety and health field. Held primarily at the New Hope Center, 602 Scarboro Rd. and at four other locations in the region. For more information and for registration, visit www.safetyfesttn.org.

Sept. 13: Fairview

30th Annual Nature Fest
Held from 10 am to 4 pm at Bowie Nature Park. Artisans, craftsmen, vendors, handmade creations including: baskets, beadwork, ceramics, fashions, folk art, handmade furniture, jewelry, leather, metal works, paintings, pottery, quilts, sculptures, stained glass, wearables, weavings and more. The Fairview Area Chamber of Commerce is still accepting vendor applications. To reserve a booth, call 615-799-9290 or visit www.fairviewchamber.org. The Nature Fest Committee is seeking History Village volunteers to dress in period garb and demonstrate skills such as candle dipping, soap making, weaving, spinning, quilting, blacksmithing and wood turning.

Sept. 12-13: Millington

25th Annual Goat Days Festival
Held at the USA Stadium Complex. World's Greatest Goat Parade, Paul Bunyan Lumberjack shows, The Parners in concert, rodeos, barrel racing, kidz zone, West TN mini tractor pull, antique tractor parade, car show, goat chariot races, horse-shoe tournament, arts & crafts, kid's fishing rodeo, the Myotonic Goat National Championship, Kansas City BBQ Contest and so much more! Free admission. For more information, contact Millington Arts, Recreation & Parks at www.millingtontn.gov or call 901-873-5770.

Sept. 14-20: Sharon

8th Annual Corn and Music Festival
Week-long line up of community events include: a cemetery walk, Harvest Festival, food, games, gospel singing, corn recipe contest, music, bring your dancing shoes and lawn chairs, craft/flea market, 11th Annual Antique Tractor Show, Corn & Music Festival Parade, pet show, kids inflatables, Fun Run/5K and much more. For the full line up of events, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/sharonfestival/home> or e-mail sharonfestival@gmail.com.

Sept. 18: Goodlettsville

Music on Main
Held from 6:30-8 pm on the lawn next to City Hall, 105 S. Main Street. Bring your family, friends, and a blanket. Food trucks on site. Country/southern rock band Harlan

County Line. Check them out at <http://crescentmoontentertainment.com/harlan-county-line-band/>.

Sept. 19-21: Bristol

Rhythm and Roots Reunion
See the new Birthplace of Country Music Museum, an amazing three days of concerts featuring headliner Emylou Harris, and many more. Get tickets online and see the festival schedule at <http://bristolrhythm.com/>

Sept 19-21 -Cowan

Fall Heritage Festival
Antique car show, Kids Zone, music and food, Civil War presentations, juried arts & crafts and non-stop entertainment. For more information, visit info@fallheritagefestival.info or leave message at 931-563-3868.

Sept. 26-27-Columbia

Annual Southern Fried Festival
Held on the square in Historic Downtown. Enjoy live entertainment, arts and crafts, Kids Fun Zone and more. For more information, visit www.southernfriedfest.com.

Sept. 27: Covington

Heritage Festival
This family friendly event features arts and crafts, antiques, live music, reenactments, kid's activities, and more. For more information, call 901-476-9727 or visit www.covington-tiptoncochamber.com.

Sept. 27: Monteagle

Fire on the Mountain Chili Cook-off, Car Show and Crafts Fair
Held at Hannah Pickett Park, 16 Dixie Lee Ave, behind city hall. The Tracy City StreetRodders host the car show with 100+ cars participating from 10am-2pm CST. The show is free to the public, with a fee for car entries. The Chili Cook-off will be open for tasting at 11:30 am. Sample as many as you want for \$5. Each first place will receive \$250 and a trophy, and there is still room for you to enter your secret recipe! Live music from the 50's, and enter for a chance to win door prizes and take home the handiwork of local arts & crafts vendors. For more information or to download rules and application for the Chili cook-off and Arts & Crafts show, go to www.monteaglechamber.com, Facebook @ fireonmountainchili-cookoffcarshow or call the chamber office at 931-924-5353.

Oct. 10-12:Norris

35th Tennessee Fall Homecoming
Museum of Appalachia. The best Bluegrass, Gospel and Old-Time music in the South will resonate across the beautiful grounds. This year's line-up includes more than 70 national, regional and local musicians, performing on five unique outdoor stages. Historic demonstrations, fine Southern cuisine. For a full list of artists, or to purchase tickets on-line, visit www.museumofappalachia.org, or call 865-494-7680.

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS TML RISK MANAGEMENT POOL

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Friday, September 12, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. local time in the Board Room at The Pool, 5100 Maryland Way, Brentwood, Tennessee for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before the Board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling The Pool's office at 800-624-9698.

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Mayor James Talley: a breath of fresh air for Ducktown

BY LINDA BRYANT

Ducktown, Tennessee, doesn't have money in the budget to pay the salary of a full-time mayor, but that doesn't mean James Talley, the town's part-time mayor hasn't had a big impact.

Mayor Talley, who was elected to office in 2006, has led Ducktown into an era of progress and renewal. He spearheaded three solar installations within the boundaries of Ducktown, and saved the community precious city funds in the process. As the president of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC), Talley leads a network of 92 city and county mayors and businesses who work to connect renewable energy with economic development and energy efficiency across the state. He's also received a Green Leadership award from the Tennessee Municipal League. The highest profile award for Mayor Talley came recently when he traveled to the nation's Capitol to receive the prestigious "Community Action" award from the Environmental Protection Agency. The award recognizes contributions that protect Americans' health and the environment, educate the public, serve the community and stimulate the economy.

There's no doubt that Talley has enough on his plate without the demands of mayoral duties and state leadership position. Why does he do it?

It's definitely because he cares deeply about his town and county. Talley, 53, witnessed an era of environmental devastation when copper mining still dominated the area's economy. At one point during the active mining years, tree-harvesting and pollution from the mines and smelters left more than 32,000 acres of the basin virtually devoid of life. "Those days are behind us now," Talley said. "I want to make sure Ducktown is on the map and remembered for good things."

TT&C: Can you tell me about your background?

JT: I was born and raised in Polk County on the "other side of the river," as we call it up here. I grew up in an area called Grassy Creek. My dad still lives there. My mom passed away a few years ago. I purchased an old house in Ducktown in 1997 and brought it back to life. I still live there. I've worked in public safety since I graduated from high school in 1979. I think we had a class of 51 graduates. I have been married 32 years and have a 29-year-old son and a 27-year-old daughter.

I worked for Polk County for a couple of years out of high school. I started working in DeKalb County, Ga., in 1982 as a firefighter. I worked that job for 12 years, and then I changed jobs and went to Gwinnett County Fire Service, which is basically Metro Atlanta. I've been a lieutenant fire officer there for 20 years now. It takes about 90 minutes to drive to work from here. It's a distance, but the job was an opportunity for me I couldn't find anywhere else. Everybody always says, "Why don't you move to Georgia." I always tell them there's no chance of it. I come home and I don't have all the traffic and hubbub of the big city. Gwinnett County is about 850,000 people and 420 square miles with 30 fire stations and there are close to 900 employees with the fire service. I work a 24-48 shift. I work one day at 7 am and get off the next morning at 7 am.

Unfortunately, in our area there wasn't much of a choice. If you wanted to make a career or make any money you have to drive pretty far. That's what a lot of our residents do. We have a few small industries, but the majority of people commute to Cleveland or Chattanooga for work.

TT&C: How are you doing economically in Ducktown?

JT: I was elected mayor in 2006, so I've been at it for nine years. It's challenging sometimes. The former mayor was here for 24 years. He was good for our community and was very frugal. When I came in, we didn't have any debt, and we had some money in the bank. At the same time, there were some things that needed attention. If you don't do needed repairs and work on your home, it eventually gets to the point where it wears down. Cities and towns are similar.

We still have money in our general account, and we don't have any debt. Our goal is to pay as you go. We want to do the things we can do within our means. The last census showed that we have 475 residents. We cover two square miles. We have an intersection of Highway 64 and Highway 68. This is good for us because it brings a lot of traffic through our commercial area. We've created 25-30 jobs with manufacturing jobs. We were able to bring our city park back to life.

We have really been blessed because of partnerships. We work with TML, with other mayors, and we do a lot of work with the University of Tennessee. We've got close partnerships with a lot of people at the state level — the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, The Department of Transportation, Economic Development and the Governor's office. These relationships are key for us.

We are such a small community. Our budget is only about \$420,000 a year. We're blessed to have the commercial piece going for us. We are the hub for about 5,000 citizens. We have a Piggy Wiggly grocery store that's been open for years, Dollar General, Family Dollar, three convenience stores, a Hardee's and a couple of other restaurants.

We also have economic activity based on our recreational activities — rafting, bicycling, vacationing, etc. We are a huge tourist visitation area. Our commercial activity pays for the majority of our budget. I'm proud to say that



Ducktown Mayor James Talley traveled to Washington in April to accept the prestigious "Community Action" award from the Environmental Protection Agency. The award recognizes contributions that protect Americans' health and the environment, educate the public, serve the community and stimulate the economy.



Talley, along with city staff, spearheaded three solar installations within the boundaries of Ducktown. He also serves as president of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC).

our tax rate is the lowest in Polk County. There aren't many in the state as low as ours. Our goal is to provide services but keep the tax rate low by pulling in the commercial taxes from our tourism economy.

TT&C: How did the Great Recession impact your community?

JT: We took a hit in 2008 like everyone else. It was pretty hard. We needed to cut back. We designed an early buyout with municipal employees who were near retirement age. We were fortunate that we didn't have to do layoffs. I think it's very, very important to take care of your people. I'm passionate about our employees. You take care of them, and they will take care of you.

Since I came into office, we've been able to get our city employees consolidated into the state pension and we've been able to give them some raises. This year we weren't able to give a raise, but we were able to improve their insurance.

Our payroll is a little less than \$200,000, and it is below what we budget every year. We have four full time employees and an additional employee who takes care of our housing authority. She also works part-time in the office. We keep the office open Monday through Friday. They do their job and make me look good. They make it easy.

TT&C: Ducktown was a copper mining area for decades, and then the industry left the area? Can you tell us a little about that mining history and how the area is doing today?

JT: Probably 50 percent or more of our population are retirees. We also have a larger portion than normal of low to moderate income families. The mining company was the primary driver of the community from the time when the mining started in the late 1800s. Mining flourished and grew until the late 60s and early 70s. The mining company provided jobs for three counties — Polk County in Tennessee, Cherokee County in North Carolina, and Fannin County in Georgia.

It was good to have those jobs and in many ways they were good to the community. If one of the cities up here needed helping paving the street, they would help. They had the company store, which was kind of like a Wal-Mart where you had a little bit of everything. The company controlled everything. The last mine closed in 1988 and by 1993 they shut the doors of the chemical side of the company. We're about 25 to 30 years behind because of this history. We are trying to overcome it, and we're making progress.

TT&C: You have gotten a lot of recognition for bringing a successful solar energy installation to Ducktown. What caused you to get involved with this issue?

JT: The mining in our region was great, but it also devastated our environment. When they started processing the ore material in the early 1900s they used open pit roasters, and they cut a lot of the trees down to use as fuel for the roasters. At the same time, the roasters put off

a toxic gas that more or less created acid rain. The vegetation died. We actually had a desert here for years. It was an environmental disaster.

We were featured in *National Geographic* magazine in the 60s and 70s. When Apollo 1 went up, they saw two distinguishable landmarks from outer space. One was the Great Wall of China and the other one was Copper Basin. Within the national forest here, there was a 40-50 mile area that was totally brown. In the 60s the company and the EPA started some tree plantings. Now we have heavy growth of evergreens in that area, and our desert is gone.

The last company to operate in the mining area closed down in 1993. They agreed in an out of court settlement to provide all the cleanup for the area. Since then they have cleaned up the land and reclaimed it. They cleaned up the river, which is important because previously there wasn't any life there. Now there's vegetation and fish. We've done an about face. Our environmental cleanup is about 99 percent completed.

We decided we wanted to take the history of our environmental devastation and renewal and continue it. We want to show what can be done in rural communities and other areas that need it. It's like the chicken and the egg. Everybody is waiting for someone to step up and be the first to do something. We took it on ourselves to be the one to step up and show that it (renewable energy) will work.

TT&C: You are chair of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council. Tell us about the group and what it's doing.

JT: TREEDC is a group of city and county mayors and commissioners who advocate for renewable energy. We started in 2008. Our primary goal is to educate people about renewable energy and how they can improve their environment as well as their bottom line. There's no one silver bullet that works in any one community, but TREEDC can provide education about the various methods — energy efficiency, solar, biodiesel, catchment systems etc. We hold free forums and bring in speakers across the state. We bring in local officials and business owners to give them ideas and contacts to work with and speak with. We also believe that our work is business development for renewable energy businesses. It gives them the opportunity to have the ears of a lot of people. It's a good fit for everyone, and it promotes jobs.

TT&C: What are some details of the solar installation in Ducktown?

JT: Right now we have three solar arrays that the city either owns outright or in partnership with another group. The first, which we built in 2010, is a 28-kilowatt solar array. We obtained \$100,000 from a state grant. At the same time, we applied through the United States Department of Agriculture for an additional \$100,000. We had an issue on timing and it didn't work out. We thought about it and tried to think outside of the box. We took the \$100,000 and added \$8,000 out of our city money to it. We sent one of our

municipal workers to school in Georgia to learn how to do a solar installation. We constructed and built the system ourselves. That saved us \$92,000. The first year the system produced right away and continue to do so. We work with TVA, and they buy back the electricity we generated from our solar program. At the end of this year we'll have brought in \$36,000.

TVA pays a premium on a 10-year contract. They buy the electricity from us, and they pay us for what we generate. It's very much paid for itself. We also had a Power Purchase Agreement with TVA for a 200 kilowatt system. Unfortunately, we didn't qualify for the federal and state incentives program and we had a couple of partnerships with private investors that fell through, so that project didn't work out as planned. They did allow us to have a PPA for a 50-kilowatt system. We formed an agreement with Hannah Solar out of Atlanta. We prepped the land for them, and they did 100 percent of the cost of the installation. They pay us \$300 a year to lease the property, and they spent a little over \$30,000 to build an 8.8-kilowatt system on our park pavilion. At the end of a 20-year period, the city will get 50 percent of the production of that system. These kinds of solar installations typically last 25-35 years.

All together, we are producing between \$12,000 to \$13,000 from our solar system. Our total electric used in the city for things such as streetlights and lighting buildings runs between \$18,000 and \$19,000. We are offsetting about 65 percent of our energy costs through solar.

TT&C: Are there other small towns doing this or have you inspired other communities?

JT: We have. At TREEDC we have an active five-member board, including the mayor of Crossville, a commissioner from Memphis, the mayor of Graysville, and me. Just off the top of my head I can tell you that Troy Beets, the mayor of Kingston, has embraced it. They have 250 kilowatts of solar.

We've worked with Andrew Orr, the head of Franklin's Office of Planning and Sustainability. Memphis is starting to make a lot of progress. The Johnson City/Kingsport area is doing a lot with renewable and energy efficiency. All the bigger cities are doing something, and smaller communities are starting to launch energy efficiency initiatives.

Covington has a very interesting project. They have put in a system that uses solids from their wastewater plant to convert to renewable energy. They took waste treatment that was costing them money and turned it into revenue. I talked with Mayor David Gordon about it a couple of months ago, and it's working out well. They are already looking at trying to expand the system. Sunbright, has built a 12-kilowatt system similar to ours. It's a good example of what a very small town can accomplish.

TT&C: Why are you so passionate about renewable and solar energy?

JT: It goes back to the environmental issues we had here and the devastation. I was raised and lived through those times. I have memories from growing up that stick with me to this day. There was often a toxic taste and odor in the air, and it was very hazardous. I remember seeing patches of kudzu that were brown and dying.

Unfortunately, we are about four times higher than the national average on our cancer rates. We do see a lot of health issues and breathing problems here, including people with COPD. No one has actually pinned it all down to our environmental problems, but I think these things easily contributed to the problem. We lived through this and saw what happened. We've made a turnaround and want to keep it going. We also have to think about preserving what we have now because our area's tourism is based on our beauty, all the trees and streams.

Our community is passionate about including the environmental pieces as we can, and at the same time, using the products available that help with the renewable energy pieces. We can't continue what we are doing worldwide. I'm a very environmental person. I spend as much time as I can in the national forest. I hunt and fish. At the same time, I'm not a hardcore activist. We need to work in a moderate way where we provide economic development and jobs. I think we can find a middle ground in working with environmental issues.

TT&C: What are some of the other challenges you're dealing with in Polk County?

JT: We have issues with the Corridor K here. The Tennessee Department of Transportation has been working to address the problems, and we hope they will. Right now, everyone travels the corridor through the gorge, which is where our recreational activities are. It's very congested about 10 months out of the year. That section is only 18-19 miles but if you have a wreck it can really tie things up. A lot of the insurance companies haven't allowed trucks to drive through because of the probability of an accident. Then we had the rock slide a couple of years ago. What had been a 40-minute drive to Cleveland turned into a two-hour ordeal because you had to go around the slide. It took an additional hour or 90 minutes to drive to Chattanooga, and that's where the people who live in our area go to work. It's where they go to the hospital. It was very expensive for the community.

Corridor K is on the block at the state right now. We were supposed to have a decision by the end of this year, but they pushed it back. They just finished the environmental study phase of it, and as I understand, the report said it would actually be advantageous to the environment to build it. This project would provide jobs and economic development for our community, too.