



Policy process underway

The TML policy process is open and proposed legislative initiatives for the First Session of the 110th General Assembly are being accepted through Sept. 23.

Member-municipalities are encouraged to submit any initiative(s) of interest that benefit municipalities. Municipalities are reminded that only fully completed submissions will be considered.

A proposed initiative will be considered "fully completed" only when the following four requirements have been satisfied:

1. The proposed initiative must be submitted on a Proposed Legislative Initiative Form, provided by TML.
2. All sections of the Proposed Legislative Initiative Form must be completed, including: summary of the problem, description of the proposed remedy, and a statement of the anticipated benefits to municipalities. In addition, municipalities are encouraged to submit, either by reference or by separate copy, background or supplemental information in support of their submission. A member-municipality may submit more than one proposed initiative; however, a separate form must be completed for each submission.

3. The Proposed Legislative Initiative Form must be signed by at least three eligible local officials of the sponsoring municipality. However, if the municipality's governing body is comprised of four or fewer members, then only two signatures are required. An "eligible local official" means any member of the governing body of the sponsoring city and the city/town manager or administrator.

4. A completed and signed Proposed Legislative Initiative Form must be received by TML no later than 6 p.m. CST on Sept. 23. Forms may be submitted by the following methods: by email to jgupton@tml1.org; by fax to (615) 255-4752; or, mailed to 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 710, Nashville, TN 37219.

Any municipality submitting a proposed legislative initiative must attend the meeting and present its initiative to the TML Policy Committee.

The TML Policy Committee will meet Oct. 27 to consider and rank all of the qualifying proposed initiatives. The committee's final ranking of proposed initiatives will be submitted to the TML Legislative Committee for consideration.

TN could lose \$60 M in federal highway funds

A change in a state law aimed at cracking down on underage drinking has left state officials scrambling to stave off possible cuts to much needed highway funding.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said last month that a new Tennessee state law passed in April to address impaired underage drivers could put the state out of compliance with federal law and may result in the loss of \$60 million in federal highway funds.

The new law reduced alcohol offenses for minors found driving drunk. It changed the allowable Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) from .02 to .08 for 18-to-20-year-olds. It was signed into law on May 5 and went into effect on July 1.

The federal zero tolerance law requires that states limit BAC to .02 for drivers under 21. If a state is not in compliance with federal drunk driving laws, the U.S. Department of Transportation must withhold 8 percent of federal highway funding. NHTSA officials warned that if Tennessee is not in compliance on Oct. 1, 2016, Tennessee will forfeit approximately \$60 million in highway funding.

All 11 members of Tennessee's congressional delegation sent a letter

to federal transportation officials urging them to help the state keep the highway funds.

"Based upon our review of both the state and federal laws and the purpose behind both laws, it seems that both the state of Tennessee and the federal government have the same objective of penalizing impaired driving and that the common sense thing to do is to resolve this matter promptly," the lawmakers wrote.

Tennessee Attorney General Herbert Slatery has also sent a letter to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Fox asking for a federal waiver.

"Tennessee meets the requirements of (federal law) and is committed to imposing its zero tolerance laws. The state stands ready to submit a new certificate so that its funding for this year is not diminished by the statutory 8 percent penalty," Slatery wrote.

Gov. Bill Haslam has stated in the media that if the issue is not resolved quickly that he will consider calling a special session of the General Assembly to repeal or modify the new DUI law.

At press time, no formal decision had been made on whether Tennessee will be required to forfeit the federal funds.

State tourism industry reaches all-time high

Tennessee tourism's direct domestic and international travel expenditures reached an all-time high of \$18.4 billion in 2015, up 3.7 percent over the previous year, as reported by the U.S. Travel Association.

Gov. Bill Haslam and Department of Tourist Development Commissioner Kevin Triplett made the announcement at the Sevier County Courthouse near the iconic Dolly Parton statue.

For the 10th consecutive year, tourism topped \$1 billion in state and local sales tax revenue, reaching \$1.6 billion, up 7 percent over 2014. Tourism-generated jobs for Tennesseans reached 157,400, an increase of 2.9 percent.

Top five counties that bring in the most tourism dollars to the state include Davidson (\$5.686 billion), Shelby (\$3.196 billion), Sevier (\$2.031 billion), Hamilton

(\$1.016 billion), and Knox (\$1.014 billion). Each of these counties were acknowledged during the event for all achieving more than \$1 billion in travel expenditures. All 95 counties in Tennessee had more than \$1 million in direct travel expenditures; 19 counties saw more than \$100 million each.

Tennessee is ranked in the Top 10 destinations in the U.S. for total travel, with more than 105 million in total visitation, a 3.9 percent increase over 2014, as reported by D.K. Shifflet & Associates.

The Tennessee Tourism Committee, appointed in 2011 by Haslam, is made up of tourism leaders in both the public and private sectors. The committee is chaired by Colin Reed, Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc., and co-chaired by Jack Soden, Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc., and Sande Weiss, president of Music Road Resort.

What local law enforcement need to know about the "Guns on Campus" legislation

BY REX BARTON
MTAS Police Management Consultant,
and
ELISA HODGE
MTAS Legal Consultant

The Tennessee legislature enacted Public Chapter 1061, Acts of 2016, which became effective July 1. The act, commonly referred to as the "Guns on Campus" legislation, authorizes employees of public institutions of higher education who possess a valid handgun carry permit to carry handguns while at work in certain situations.

In order for such employees to legally carry handguns while at work, the employees are required to notify the local law enforcement agency or agencies having jurisdiction over the property owned, operated or controlled by the public institution of higher education, in writing, of the employee's intent to carry a handgun while at work.

Interestingly, an employee who is also a student at the institution is prohibited from carrying a handgun on property owned, operated or controlled by the institution, even when working and not going to class. In addition, valid permit holders cannot bring a weapon into a stadium or gymnasium during school-sponsored events or in meetings regarding discipline or tenure.

Upon receiving the employee's written notification, the local law enforcement agency is required to



Any college employee carrying a gun under the new law must have a permit and notify local police or campus security.

maintain the employee's name and any other information that could identify the employee as confidential, except in limited circumstances.

The legislation allows the local law enforcement agency to disclose the employee's identifying information to the administrative officer of the institution who is responsible for school facility security, as long as the administrative officer is not the employee's immediate supervisor or a supervisor responsible for evaluating the employee.

A local law enforcement agency may disclose the information to another

law enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes only. The act also authorizes local law enforcement agencies to develop policies and procedures necessary to implement the notification and confidentiality requirements referenced above.

Additionally, local law enforcement agencies are authorized to develop a voluntary course or courses of special or supplemental firearms training for employees who elect to carry a handgun pursuant to the act. Firearm safety is required to be a component of any firearms course offered.



The new facility being constructed for E-911 services in Sumner County is designed to be resistant to an EF-5 tornado and provide a command post for county and city officials in the event of an emergency. The creation of the facility also has the potential to help cities save money while still providing top emergency services to residents.

New E-911 facility to connect emergency communications for Sumner municipalities

BY KATE COIL
TML Communications Specialist

In any disaster or emergency communication is key, and officials across Sumner County are hoping a new consolidated emergency dispatch facility will benefit both cities and the counties in terms of cost and the potential to save lives.

Hendersonville Mayor Scott Foster said the Middle Tennessee floods in 2010 and a major tornado event prior to that prompted officials with Sumner County and its cities to take a closer look at how EMS response worked both individually and collectively.

"We are a unique county in that we have about eight cities total in our county," Foster said. "Three of those cities straddle county lines. The cities of White House and Portland straddle the Robertson County line and Goodlettsville straddles the Davidson County line. We found out during the last couple of major events that our different levels of communication and E-911 services made it quite complicated to talk city to city. Hendersonville is the tenth largest city in the state. Gallatin is about half our size, but we share city limits. It was difficult to communicate during the tornado when towers were down and our E-911 and cells didn't work effectively. We found we were sort of hamstrung by that."

As a result, Foster said the decision was made to consolidate emergency dispatch services in Sumner County for the benefit of all local

emergency responders.

"We needed a facility where we could jointly train and jointly communicate with each other," he said. "It will be the heart of dispatch in the instance of any future disaster."

Rhonda Lea, director of the Sumner County E-911 facility, said the new command center will be the first consolidated operations center for Sumner County. The building is expected to be fully operational sometime next year.

"The 9,000-square-foot center is being built to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency standards to withstand a direct hit from an EF-5 tornado, the most severe, according to the Enhanced Fujita scale," Lea said. "The contractor's estimated time of completion is scheduled for November 2016. The county anticipates taking possession of the building in early 2017. Once possession is given we will start outfitting the interior for operations. Our goal is to be up and operating July 2017."

For the first time, all emergency calls for the county and the five municipalities in Sumner County will be delivered to the same place.

"The Sumner County Consolidated Emergency Communications Center and Emergency Operations Center will handle all calls for service for the Sumner County Sheriff's Office, as well as Hendersonville, Gallatin, Portland, Westmoreland and Millersville police departments," she said. "This center will consolidate those centers and bring every discipline, fire, EMS and law



Rhonda Lea

enforcement under one roof. At this time all calls for service, flow into each individual police agency's dispatch center then the operator would dispatch officers to the scene. If medical and/or fire services were needed they would transfer to the appropriate agency for that particular function or service."

The goal of the new facility is to respond to emergency calls from around the county as efficiently and expediently as possible.

"The shared effort, information, experience, training and resources to improve effectiveness, avoid duplication, improve communication and response times," Lea said. "It is essential to improve communications and have a coordinated response throughout our county with the new ECC this will benefit all of our public service and emergency service work- See E911 on Page 5

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRENTWOOD

The Brentwood city commission has unanimously approved the \$2 million second phase of improvements to the city's Marcella Vivrette Smith Park. The new phase will extend the loop road and bikeway on the south side of the Ravenswood Mansion; construct two multipurpose athletic fields; and add irrigation, parking, a picnic shelter, bathrooms and a playground to the park. Smith Park is the largest in Brentwood. Work began here in 2014 with the addition of an access road, bridge, parking and renovation of the Ravenswood home.

CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga Seating Systems will expand its existing Chattanooga facility, investing \$5.4 million and creating 190 new jobs. The automotive seat manufacturer is a joint venture of Magna Seating and Hollingsworth Logistics, and manufactures and supplies seats for vehicles assembled at Volkswagen Chattanooga. With this expansion, the company will be updating the facility to make room for new equipment. Chattanooga Seating will add additional space to the facility by utilizing an unoccupied building near its current facility.

CHATTANOOGA

The Chattanooga Whiskey Company will expand its operations from producing one barrel a week to 14 barrels a day after a move to a new 46,000-square-foot facility under construction in Chattanooga. The homegrown distillery will operate out of the former Newton Chevrolet building at the corner of M.L. King Boulevard and Riverfront Parkway rather than relying on whiskey produced in Indiana to fill its bottles. The company will have the capacity to turn out more than 100,000 cases a year of bourbon from a mix of corn and other grains it experimented with at its micro-distillery, which opened in March 2015. The new production facility will not be open to the public, but the Tennessee Stillhouse micro-distillery will remain in place and continue to offer tours, tastings and retail sales seven days a week.

CLEVELAND

Polartec is relocating part of its textile manufacturing operations to Cleveland and will create 150 jobs in the area. The company is best known for inventing polar fleece for companies like Patagonia, The North Face and LL Bean, and will be moving to Cleveland from Massachusetts. Polartec bought United Knitting Mills in Cleveland last fall and has already doubled the plant's staff and expects to add even more workers in the next year. Polartec, the successor company to the 110-year-old Maldin Mills in New England, is investing nearly \$10 million in the Cleveland plant and expects to have 200 employees at the mill by next year. United Knitting Mills was a supplier to Polartec and the 175,000 square-foot plant offered Polartec room and staff to grow its business.

COOKEVILLE

ATC Automation will invest \$10.4 million to expand its operations in Cookeville, creating 110 new jobs during the next five years. ATC will add more than 65,000 additional square feet to its existing facility in Putnam County. ATC produces advanced manufacturing equipment for the automotive, medical, energy and consumer products markets. As part of the expansion, ATC will construct 45,000 square feet of new manufacturing space and 21,000 square feet of administrative and

engineering offices. The expansion to the existing Cookeville facility is expected to be completed by mid-2017, with potential new manufacturing starting in the first quarter of next year. ATC will also make upgrades to its existing facility and purchase another building currently being leased.

COLUMBIA

The city of Columbia's Ridley Park will host softball teams from Auburn University and the University of Tennessee in March 17, 2017 as part of the city's next Mid-State Classic. Columbia State Community College's team will also play a game during the tournament against a junior college from Alabama. Tennessee played Middle Tennessee State University in the inaugural Mid-State Classic in 2014 and Belmont in 2016 in games that attracted 3,000 fans each. The city plans to build four family restrooms, a press box and 2,000 more permanent bleachers at one of the Ridley Park softball fields before March to accommodate the growing number of fans attending the tournament. An additional 2,000 portable bleachers will also be brought in.

DAYTON

The Dayton City Council has approved the \$2 million purchase of nearly 87 acres of land to extend the city's industrial park. The purchase will double the size of the park to 170 acres, and includes three separate tracts of land from the northern boundary of the present industrial park. City leaders are hoping the additional property will help attract companies looking for large-acreage sites with railroad and utility access.

GREENEVILLE

Forward Air will invest \$4.3 million to expand its current Greeneville operations and will create approximately 105 new jobs in the area. The trucking and logistics company was founded originally as Landair Transport in 1981 and has grown exponentially since its start. Forward Air has expanded its services to include an array of logistics services. Forward Air operates through four principle business segments: Expedited LTL, Expedited Truckload (TLX), Intermodal and Pool Distribution. The company is the 35th largest for-hire carrier in the U.S. With this expansion, Forward Air will be growing to accommodate its existing and new workforce in a consolidated location and the build-out of new data center space. Construction is currently underway and the facility will be completed by fall 2016.

JOHNSON CITY

Mullican Flooring will invest \$15 million to expand its Johnson City operations, creating 200 new jobs during the next five years. The flooring manufacturer ranks among the nation's top five hardwood flooring producers. The company will acquire a 126,000-square-foot warehouse at 129 Rowland Drive in Johnson City. The building will be used to store raw materials and finished products. The extra capacity will provide additional space at the company's Johnson City headquarters and production plant to meet increased manufacturing needs. This expansion marks Mullican Flooring's fourth major growth initiative in Johnson City during the past 16 years. Founded in 1985 as a manufacturer of unfinished solid hardwood flooring, Mullican Flooring moved its corporate headquarters to Johnson City in 2000.

KNOXVILLE

The city of Knoxville has unveiled a \$45 million long-term plan to build 24 miles of greenways to connect to the city's existing 90 miles of trail. The 13 planned corridors would help runners, walkers and cyclists use the greenways to reach downtown, city parks and other destinations. To date, the Third Creek Greenway is the city's only major transportation greenway. The new greenway connections can also help protect fragments of urban forest and creeks, opening them up for public use. The plan is the result of a three-year, \$256,000 study by architecture firm Ross/Fowler, about 80 percent of which was paid for through a state grant.

LAWRENCEBURG

Cabinets To Go officials will be locating its national headquarters in Lawrenceburg, creating 88 new

Goodlettsville celebrates Little League All-Stars



The city of Goodlettsville welcomed home the Goodlettsville All-Stars with a parade upon their return from the Little League World Series games in Pennsylvania. The All-Stars had advanced to the United States Championship Game but was defeated by Maine-Endwell Little League of Endwell, N.Y., 4-2, in Game 28 of the series. In 2012, the Goodlettsville All-Stars advanced all the way to the World Championship game to represent the United States but fell to Japan in the title game, 12-2.

jobs and investing \$9 million in the facility to be used as its national headquarters, warehouse, distribution center, East Coast customer care call center, and retail space, which will be used for training. The company will relocate its main distribution center from Redlands, Calif. to Lawrenceburg, citing Tennessee's central location and its proximity to many Cabinets To Go locations as the reason behind the decision. Cabinets To Go is currently making upgrades to the 420,000 square foot facility, located at 3050 W.O. Smith Drive. Renovations are expected to be complete by this fall.

MURFREESBORO

Rover, the city of Murfreesboro's public transportation system, recently surpassed the 2 million mark in ridership since it began service in April 2007. Rover began as an idea in the minds of Murfreesboro's progressive city leaders in 2006. Due to the growth of the city, the U.S. Census Bureau designated the city of Murfreesboro a Small Urban City following the 2000 U.S. Census count. As such, Murfreesboro was eligible to receive Small Urban Funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The available federal funding set in motion the Rover Public Transit System. Since operations began, ridership has gradually risen to 271,047 in FY 2015-16. Total ridership from April 2007 thru June 2016 was 2,007,318.

NASHVILLE

Nashville has been named one of the friendliest cities in the world by *Condé Nast's Traveler* magazine. Nashville ranked tenth in the publication's list of Top 20 Friendliest Cities in the World for 2016. According to Condé Nast, Nashville was selected because it "has so much character, is the perfect size, has great live music, delicious restaurants, friendly people, affordable accommodations... the list goes on." Other cities in the top 10 included Bruges, Belgium; Krakow, Poland; Savannah, Ga.; Galway, Ireland; Park City, Utah; Queenstown, New Zealand; Dublin, Ireland; Sydney, Australia; and Charleston, S.C., which earned the magazine's top spot.

PARIS

Eurotranciatuta USA is investing \$12.6 million to expand its operations in Paris over the next five years and will create more than 170 new jobs as part of the expansion. A subsidiary of the world's largest steel lamination company for electrical rotating machines, Eurotranciatuta's investment includes upgrades and new equipment for its existing manufacturing plant in Henry County. Eurotranciatuta will also build a roughly 30,000 square foot distribution warehouse near its current plant to accommodate growth and reduce transportation costs. Renovations to Eurotranciatuta's existing plant are scheduled to be completed by the first or second quarter 2017. Construction of the new warehouse is expected to begin in August 2017.

SNEEDVILLE

The city of Sneedville has received a \$500,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant that will be used to improve the city's wastewater system. The grant will be used to renovate the city's wastewater treatment plant, which will enhance its performance and bring the plant

Kingsport lauded for excellence in water/wastewater treatment



The city of Kingsport Water and Wastewater Collection Division was presented with the Excellence in Water Distribution Operations Award from the American Water Works Association. The award is given to recognize distribution staff across the Kentucky/Tennessee region for their exceptional performance in meeting all federal drinking water standards and overall initiative to excel at the business of producing safe water for customers. The city of Kingsport Wastewater Treatment Plant also received the KY/TN Water Environment Association (WEA) Operational Excellence Award. This award is presented to wastewater treatment facilities who have achieved permit compliance during the previous calendar year by having no more than one violation of their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The Kingsport Wastewater Treatment Plant had zero violations for 2015.

Goats turned loose on pesty kudzu in Knoxville parks



The city of Knoxville has once again called upon a herd of goats to rescue a park from the plague of the invasive exotic plant, kudzu. The goats are currently chewing their way through parts of Fort Dickerson Park and will eventually head over to city-owned property along Williams Creek. Once the goats eat through large amounts of the kudzu, City crews come behind and spray the exposed roots to prevent regrowth of the kudzu plant, which can grow up to one foot per day. This year's project costs \$12,200 and was paid through the Public Service Department's operating budget. The goats are contracted from Whistle Pig Farms and are kept within city park boundaries through electric fencing. Locals are welcome to view the goats as they work in Knoxville's parks but are encouraged to keep a distance. A herding dog that is trained to defend the goats from predators and human interference watches over the goats at all times.

into regulatory compliance. Each year ARC provides funding for several hundred projects across the region in the focus areas of economic opportunities, ready workforce, critical infrastructure, natural and cultural assets, and leadership and community capacity. ARC has invested in the region for more than 50 years.

SPRING HILL

Tenneco will open a new facility in Spring Hill, creating up to 200 jobs during the next three years. Tenneco's new Clean Air manufacturing plant will support programs for Gen-

eral Motors. The 117,000-square-foot facility, located near GM's Spring Hill assembly plant, is scheduled to begin production in late 2016. It will be Tenneco's second facility in Tennessee, joining the company's Clean Air plant in Smithville, which employs 650 people. The new facility will employ approximately 20 people when it opens but will gradually grow to employ up to 200 by 2019. Tenneco is one of the world's largest designers, manufacturers and marketers of clean air and ride performance products and systems for the automotive industry. Tenneco is headquartered in Lake Forest, Ill.

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY

Tennessee Town & City (ISSN 00403415, USPS 539420) is published semi-monthly except in the months of June and December 19 times per year by Tennessee Municipal League, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville TN 37219-1894. Subscription rates: \$6 per year to members, \$15 to nonmembers, \$1 a copy. Periodicals Postage Paid at Nashville TN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tennessee Town & City, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville TN 37219-1894.

Official publication of the Tennessee Municipal League. Publisher: Margaret Mahery (mmahery@TML1.org). Editor: Carole Graves (cgraves@TML1.org). Phone: 615-255-6416. Advertiser: Publisher reserves the right to reject any advertising deemed unacceptable. Fax classified ads to 77&C: Attention Carole Graves at 615-255-4752, or e-mail cgraves@TML1.org. Fax advertising copy to 77&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.

Main Street Oak Ridge to redevelop city's commercial center

BY KATE COIL
TML Communications Specialist

As malls across the country lose business to online retailers and one-stop-shop megastores, many municipalities are looking for ways to reuse or reinvent these commercial centers.

Located between two of the city's major thoroughfares and near local tourist destinations, the Oak Ridge Mall had long been in decline when Main Street Oak Ridge, the city's redevelopment plan for the shopping center, began in full force earlier this year.

The city of Oak Ridge celebrated with a groundbreaking ceremony and kick-off to demolition on July 20. Nearly 300 people were in attendance to watch the first wall come tumbling down.

Sarah Self, public affairs specialist for the city of Oak Ridge, said the lack of retail can affect more than just the amount of shopping options available to local residents.

"Because there hasn't been a lot of retail in this area, there have been two whole generations of teenagers who haven't had the same opportunities to work in retail as those in other communities have," she said. "We had all these empty spaces, but no businesses filling it. This is a great opportunity to grow the city, grow the businesses and have that sales tax revenue going back to the schools."

Self said many citizens were initially apprehensive about the redevelopment because previous attempts to restore the mall had been stalled or fallen through.

"Trying to redevelop this property has been an ongoing process for years," she said. "There were only two stores left open when this new development started. There was a J.C. Penney on one end and a Belk on the other and there was nothing in between. The businesses were all closed and walls were boarded up. It was also right in the center of town. It has hit all kinds of



More than 300 local residents gathered at the former Oak Ridge Mall for a groundbreaking ceremony that took down the first wall of the old building and began construction on the new outdoor shopping complex. The J.C. Penney and Belk located at the mall will remain as anchor stores for the new shopping center.

different roadblocks with different developers coming in, saying they were going to bring in business and then everything falling through. It is hard to convince the community because of all that the project has gone through."

Finding a developer that was the right fit for Oak Ridge was part of the issue, she said.

"It is a huge undertaking, and people don't always understand what goes into something like this," Self said. "Municipalities work very hard to bring in the right businesses and the right developer that will be successful. You don't want to start this multi-million dollar project and then see it fall through."

Now being redeveloped by RealtyLink of Greenville, S.C., the project has been financed through both the realty company, local banks and the city. RealtyLink is chipping in \$9.5 million for the project as well as a \$28 million loan.

Local banks contributed a \$13 million Tax Increment Financing package, the city of Oak Ridge provided \$1 million for infrastructure improvement and the city's Indus-

trial Development Board is putting \$500,000 toward the project.

When completed, the \$41 million Main Street Oak Ridge project will feature 60,000 square feet of mixed-use retail on 58 acres of land. The original anchor stores, J.C. Penney and Belk, remain open during the demolition and construction along with the Cinemark Tinseltown movie theater and the nearby Walmart.

Self said the idea of a more open shopping district is more in line with what modern consumers want.

"Malls are kind of an old idea of how we shop," she said. "Everyone now wants to be able to see a storefront and park in front of a storefront. They like open area shopping centers with tons of anchor stores and smaller stores in between to feed off the traffic in between. This development is putting us more in line with how people shop."

Before demolition began, Self said the city gave residents a chance to say goodbye to the former mall at a farewell party and groundbreaking.

"We also did a fundraiser for our local high school football field,



The new outdoor shopping complex, known as Main Street Oak Ridge, will feature mixed-use development. In addition to retail, plans call for restaurants, a hotel and potential residential real estate to be part of the center. The complex is located between two of the city's major thoroughfares.



For \$10, residents donated to help restore the high school football field and were given a can of spray paint to graffiti the walls of the old mall before its demolition. Many residents used this as an opportunity to say goodbye to the structure or to express their hopes for the area's redevelopment.

which they are renovating," she said. "If people donated \$10 to that fundraiser, they got a can of spray paint

and could go write things on the side of the mall since it was going to be knocked down. It was graffiti for a good cause. The groundbreaking was really great. We thought maybe a few would show up, but we ended up having about 300 people come." The new shopping district also has the potential to reinvigorate the city center.

"This project represents the clear establishment of a central city for Oak Ridge by creating a new core gathering place to live and work," City Manager Mark Watson said.

More than 50 acres of space between and near J.C. Penney and Belk will be transformed into new, attractive store fronts. Several of those spaces have already been claimed by businesses such as PetSmart, T.J. Maxx, Dick's Sporting Goods, Rack Room Shoes, and Ulta. A hotel and some residential units are in the works as well. The first stores are set to open in the spring.

"Main Street will be a catalyst in enhancing the image of our city," Oak Ridge Mayor Warren Gooch said about the project. "This helps us attract new families. That results in more homes being purchased and encourages continued investment not only by our existing businesses, but new companies who have decided to come to Oak Ridge. The most successful chapter of history for our remarkable city is yet to be written."

BOOK REVIEW

The first 90 days in government: Critical success strategies for new public managers at all levels

By Peter H. Daly
and Michael Watkins

(2006, 256 pages)

Reviewed by David Angerer
MTAS Management Consultant

Any government official facing the problems and realities of transitional management will find an excellent template for starting their new position in this book by Peter H. Daly and Michael Watkins. The book is not written merely for those persons about to start their first job in government, but for all managers and administrators as they transition to each new job they may assume during their careers, regardless of their previous success and experience.

The book was first published several years after I concluded my city management career – a career that involved transitions into three municipal governments. Reading the book from the vantage point of my employment at MTAS, I found myself wishing it had been available to me more than 30 years ago as I struggled to "get the picture" when I assumed new positions and assignments.

The book focuses largely on the thorough assessment of the challenges and opportunities present in each job change one might encounter in government. The reader is shown the importance of getting quickly up to speed on the new organization's history, technology, culture and politics, and how to avoid traps which can frustrate these attempts. The point is made: the seeds of managerial failure are often sown during the first 90 days on the job – precisely the time when we are most isolated and least likely to "know what we don't know" about our new environment.

The authors recommend the STARS approach to organizational diagnosis – a technique which classifies organizational problems and suggests possible remedies. Is your new job in a start-up agency? Is it an established, under-performing organization in need of a quick turnaround? Or perhaps an organization that is out-of-sync with the agency mission and in need of re-alignment?

Successful transition strategies will be different for each

such circumstance. Even for those organizations which are operating successfully, the new manager will need to consider how to avoid the complacency which often sets in.

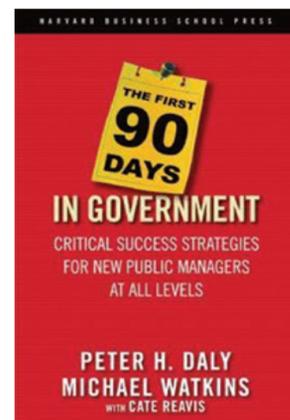
The management strategies which may have served us well in our previous job will not likely do the trick in the new job. A transitional strategy must be matched to the situation and realities of the new organization. The most common cause of transitional failure is for the new manager to misread the new organizational environment.

The importance of an accelerated learning program is stressed; the authors emphasize the need for new managers to have a "learning plan" in place very soon after hiring. An effective learning plan will yield "good" early decision-making, which, in turn, will establish early credibility. Early victories are important, too, such as changes that can be implemented quickly, at little or no cost, and which produce fiscal

or productivity gains. The authors provide real life examples of public managers who were able to produce some early wins in their transition, paving the way for long-term success.

Building a new management team, creating successful alliances, and avoiding what the authors call "predictable surprises" – those ticking time bombs that may not always be immediately obvious to newly arrived managers – are each examined in a reader-friendly language. There is even a template which can be used to assess and improve your own reactions to the stresses inherent in a new position, and the impact these factors can have on an executive's family. A very holistic approach to guiding us through an important and difficult time in our careers.

Who should read this book? Newly minted mayors will find it useful. So will city managers, administrators, and department heads as they accept new positions. It's a



friendly read – nothing too complicated or abstract.

This book can be borrowed from the MTAS Watson Information and Research Center by emailing Dawn McMillen, MTAS senior library associate, at dawn.mcmillen@tennessee.edu or calling at 865-974-8970.

WAUFORD

J. R. Wauford & Company, Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Home Office:
2835 Lebanon Pike
P.O. Box 140350
Nashville, TN 37214
615/883-3243

Branch Office (West):
Jackson
529 Old Hickory Blvd, Ste. A
Jackson, TN 38305
731/668-1953

Branch Office (East):
Maryville
908 W Broadway Ave.
Maryville, TN 37801
865/984-9638

www.jrwauford.com

Water and Wastewater Systems



PEOPLE

Kelly Boofer has been selected as the new water and sewer bookkeeper for the city of Dayton beginning Sept. 1. Boofer has worked with the city since 2005 when she started her career as a receptionist. She later transferred to the utility billing office where she served as head clerk.



Kelly Boofer

Thomas Kenny has begun his duties as the first director of parks and recreation for the town of Mt. Pleasant. Among his duties include overseeing the town's seven public parks, ushering in development on park projects and launching new recreation programs within the community. Kenny previously worked in the private sector in Grovetown, Ga., before relocating to Mt. Pleasant with his family. His position is being initially funded through a Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program awarded to Mt. Pleasant in August 2015.



Thomas Kenny

David King has been selected as the new supervisor of the city of Dayton's maintenance and sanitation department and its parks and recreation department. He began his new duties Sept. 1. The city has combined the heads of maintenance, sanitation, parks and recreation since 2010. King began his tenure with the city in 2011 in the maintenance department.



David King

Deanna Lambert has been named as the new community relations director for the city of Brentwood. She took over the position in September from previous director Linda Lynch, who retired in August after 29 years of service to the city. Lambert is an Emmy award winning journalist who brings more than a decade of television and government experience to work at the city. She was previously a television news reporter, anchor and producer in North Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, and in Nashville. Lambert most recently worked for the Tennessee Department of Transportation as a spokesperson and videographer. Lambert will serve as the primary media contact for the city of Brentwood.



Deanna Lambert

Anna Mai has been selected as the new city recorder for Shelbyville. Mai has been serving as the interim city recorder as well as performing her duties as an administrative assistant for the city since former city recorder Shanna Boyette left the position in March. In her new position, Mai will oversee the city's records and other duties as needed.



Anna Mai

Jesse Fox Mayshark has been selected as the senior director of communications and government relations for the city of Knoxville. Mayshark has served as the city's director of communications since 2013, and under his new position will also serve in the mayor's cabinet. He will continue to head the city's communications department and will work under Deputy to the Mayor and Chief Policy Officer Bill Lyons to develop policy and communications strategy for city initiatives. He will also serve as liaison in advancing the mayor's priorities with local, state and federal partners. Mayshark joined the city's communications depart-



Jesse Fox Mayshark

ment in 2011. Prior to that, he was employed with various newspapers including the *New York Times*, *Metro Pulse*, *Knoxville News Sentinel* and *Mountain Press*. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Penn State University.

Betty Nixon, a former Nashville councilwoman and first woman to run for mayor in the city, has died at the age of 80. Nixon represented Nashville's District 18 from 1975 to 1987 on the city council. She became the first woman to run for mayor of the city in 1987 and ran again in 1991 against Phil Bredeesen. She became the first woman to run a statewide political campaign in Tennessee when she oversaw Walter Mondale's presidential campaign in the state in 1984. Nixon worked as assistant vice chancellor for community, neighborhood and government relations at Vanderbilt University from 1990 to 2007 after working for the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations.



Betty Nixon

Gary Norwood has been appointed to fill the position left vacant on the Ashland City Council by late councilmember Chris LaCrosse. Norwood has previously served as mayor of Ashland City and as the town's public works director for 12 years. He will serve in the Ward 3 seat until the term expires in December 2019. Norwood has also been employed as a construction manager at Crown Castle since 1999. He has a bachelor's degree in political science and government from Tennessee State University.



Gary Norwood

Phyllis Schaeffer, Ashland city recorder, has retired after 33 years of service to the city. She has been the city recorder since 2001. Her last day was July 29. The city council is taking steps to address the position after her departure.

Eric Vreeland has been selected as the deputy director of communications for the city of Knoxville. Vreeland has served as the city's communication manager since 2013. As deputy director of communications, he will manage much of the day to day flow of public information across city departments. He will also continue to serve as chief media liaison. Vreeland worked for the *Knoxville News Sentinel* from 1987 to 2013 as a reporter, city editor and breaking news editor. He covered both city and county governments, as well as Knox County Schools. For the past 21 years, he has overseen local news reporting in various editorial positions on the paper's Metro Desk. Vreeland has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Missouri State University.



Eric Vreeland

Gary West has been selected as secretary-treasurer during the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) annual membership meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. He will serve a two-year term in the position. West is the deputy commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance (TDCI) and oversees the Fire Prevention Division, which includes the State Fire Marshal's Office. West has led the State Fire Marshal's Office since March 2011. He received his bachelor's degree in organizational management from Tusculum College and a master's degree in business administration from Lincoln Memorial University. West served as a fire and emergency services consultant with the UT-MTAS, as well as fire chief of Gatlinburg Fire and Rescue Department. West currently volunteers as a firefighter with the Ashland City Fire Department.



Gary West

Jeff Bivins selected as new chief justice of Tennessee Supreme Court

Jeff Bivins has been elected the new chief justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court, taking over from Chief Justice Sharon Lee on Sept. 1.

"I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve the citizens of Tennessee in this expanded role," Bivins said in a news release. "Serving alongside two former chief justices on a court with more than 80 years of judicial experience among the justices, I know we are well positioned to lead the efforts of the judiciary."

He also praised Lee for her leadership of the five-justice court, stating she "accomplished a great deal over her term as chief justice, from efforts to modernize the court system, to addressing the needs of business litigants, and taking steps to improve our indigent defense system."

Bivins was appointed to the court in 2014 by Gov. Bill Haslam. Prior to that, he served as a judge on the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals from 2011 to 2014 and as a circuit court judge for the 21st Judicial District, which covers Williamson,



Jeff Bivins

Hickman, Lewis and Perry Counties.

Bivins was appointed to the trial bench in March 2005. He was elected to a full eight-year term in 2006, and had previously served in a trial judge position from July 1999 through August 2000.

As a trial and intermediate appel-

late judge, Bivins served on the Board of Judicial Conduct and on its predecessor, the Court of the Judiciary.

He is a former president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference where he continues to serve on its executive committee. Bivins is a member of the Harry Phillips American Inn of Court and the John Marshall American Inn of Court, where he served as president from 2003-2008.

He is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the Williamson County Bar Association, and a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the Tennessee Bar Foundation, and the Nashville Bar Foundation.

Before being appointed to the bench, he practiced with Boulton, Cummings, Connors & Berry PLC in Nashville and served as an assistant commissioner and general counsel for the Tennessee Department of Personnel.

Bivins received his bachelor's degree from East Tennessee State University in 1982 and is a 1986 graduate of the Vanderbilt University School of Law.

Roehrich-Patrick retires from TACIR

Lynnis Roehrich-Patrick, the executive director of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR), has retired after nearly 17 years of service to the organization.

Roehrich-Patrick earned her bachelor's degree in wildlife and fisheries science from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and her juris doctorate from the University of Tennessee College of Law. She began her public service career in 1977 as a wildlife officer with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency in Montgomery and White counties.

Her extensive experience with public policy began in 1984, when she became a performance audit supervisor with the Tennessee Office of the Comptroller, a position she served in for four years before becoming a budget coordinator with the Tennessee



Lynnis Roehrich-Patrick

Department of Finance and Administration. During the 1980s, she also served as education coordinator in Gov. Ned McWherter's budget office. In 1995, she was selected as

assistant commissioner of education for finance, accountability and technology during Gov. Don Sundquist's administration and was a member of the advisory committee to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. She also served on Sundquist's Reading Initiative Task Force.

As executive director of TACIR, Gov. Bill Haslam appointed her to the Governor's Task Force on Education Funding. She also served as a member of the Water Resources Technical Advisory Committee with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Other boards, committees and organizations she has belonged to include Cumberland Region Tomorrow, the Consolidate Utility District of Rutherford County, the Tennessee bar Association and the Nashville Rowing Club.

Lynch retires after 29 years of service

After nearly 30 years as the community relations director for the city of Brentwood, Linda Lynch retired Aug. 31.

Lynch has been the city's liaison between city hall and the community and was responsible for planning many of the community's annual events including the annual Independence Day Fireworks Show and the Summer Concert Series.

Born in Leipers Fork and raised in Franklin, Lynch graduated with a bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College and completed her master's of business administration at Central State University in Oklahoma. She and her family moved to Brentwood after Lynch served for six years as a teacher in Memphis and Oklahoma.

Along with her husband Joe, Lynch spent 10 years operating Best-



Linda Lynch

way Express, Inc., a transportation company before she joined the city of Brentwood in 1987.

Lynch is a founding committee member of Brentwood Morning

Rotary Club, Leadership Brentwood, Williamson County Arts Council, Brentwood Library Foundation, and Williamson County Friends of Vanderbilt's Children's Hospital.

She has served as president of the Williamson County Heart Association, Junior Woman's Club of Nashville, Santa's Helpers, Friends of Children's Hospital, and vice president of Nashville Symphony Guild; chairwoman of WDCN Public Education Television, the Symphony's Italian Street Fair, and the Nashville Heart Gala Auction.

She is a member and/or director for various committees and boards including the Brentwood Historic Commission, the Brentwood Tree Board, and the Adopt-A-Mile program. Lynch is a lifetime member of the Williamson County Heritage Foundation.

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

The demands facing government entities are more challenging than ever. So our specialized client teams work side by side with you to turn challenges into opportunities. To help you do more with less with greater efficiency, transparency and control. After more than a century of experience serving the public sector, we're here with advice and a range of solutions including credit, treasury and liquidity. Bringing the capabilities of a global financial services organization to the state and community level.

Tom Boyd
Senior Client Manager
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Government Banking
1.615.749.3618
thomas.boyd@baml.com
bankofamerica.com/government

STATE BRIEFS



Five fire departments who accepted the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office's most recent "100 for 100" smoke alarm installation challenge installed 503 alarms during the July 30 event, bringing the total number of alarms installed as part of the initiative to 4,037. Created to commemorate the SFMO's 100th anniversary, the "100 for 100" challenge was a fun way for Tennessee fire departments to test their limits while providing crucial alert devices and safety education to the citizens of their local communities. Fire departments that accepted the SFMO's challenge were asked to install at least 100 alarms each in one day's time. Participating departments for the summer challenge included: Madisonville Fire Department, Blount County FD, Doyle VFD, Lexington FD, and Milan FD.

A 685-acre parcel of land in southeast Tennessee that was privately owned has been acquired for climbing and conservation. The Access Fund and Southeastern Climbers Coalition the area near Jasper known as Denny Cove will be turned over to the state of Tennessee later this year. The area is already open for climbing. The Land Trust for Tennessee and The Conservation Fund helped with the acquisition, and other private groups helped with the \$1.2 million purchase.

For the second year in a row, Tennessee leads the nation in Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filings, an important indicator of a growing college-going culture in Tennessee. Data from the U.S. Department of Education estimates that 70.3 percent of 2015-16 high school seniors in Tennessee filed a FAFSA. That rate is up slightly from one year ago, when the rate stood at 69.5 percent for the class of 2015, the first class eligible for Tennessee Promise. Tennessee was No. 1 in the U.S. in 2015 as well, comprising 40 percent of the nation's total growth in FAFSA completions. In 2016, 27 Tennessee counties had FAFSA filing rates of 80 percent or above.

Tennessee State Parks recently unveiled a new electronic application that allows users to find local state parks. Visitors can search by a vari-

ety of factors – proximity, activities, etc. – on the new TN Park Finder website. The site is accessible from a desktop computer, laptop, tablet or mobile device. Whether planning trips in advance or spontaneously opting for an excursion, TN Park Finder can connect people to their next adventure. Users can create personalized favorites on the app, making sure their most loved parks are always within reach. To experience the site, visit tdeconline.tn.gov/TNParkFinder.

The Tennessee Historical Commission has announced the addition of three Tennessee sites to the National Register of Historic Places. The sites added to the register include the Dr. Thomas H. Price House in Covington, Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18 and the Jackson Park Historic District, both in Nashville. The Price House in Covington was built around 1912 and was most famously occupied by prominent African American physician Dr. Thomas H. Price from 1928 to 1960. Constructed in the Tudor Revival style in 1930, the Engine Company No. 18 Fire Hall is presently being remodeled into office space. The Jackson Park Historic District comprises 350 residences built in the early to mid-20th Century and shows how Nashville neighborhoods changed as they began relying less on streetcars and more on automobiles.

Tennessee's ACT scores remain stagnant remaining at 19.8 in 2015 and trailing the national average of 21 out of 36, according to recently released results. The state's ACT scores for last year went up in reading and science, decreased slightly in English and were unchanged in math. The average composite of 19.8 is for both private and public schools. Of the more than 60,000 students who took the ACT in Tennessee, 58 percent met English benchmarks, 38 percent met reading benchmarks, 30 percent met math benchmarks and 29 percent met science benchmarks – all below the national percentage rates. In a statement, the Tennessee Department of Education emphasized that the average composite score for Tennessee's 2015 public school graduates went up slightly, consistent with a three-year pattern of growth.

Bonds sell at lowest interest rates in state history

Tennessee's Triple Triple-A bonds attract eager buyers

The State of Tennessee has just completed the very successful sale of approximately \$366 million of general obligation (GO) bonds. This is Tennessee's first bond offering since receiving an upgrade of its bond rating to AAA from S&P in May 2016.

Tennessee's top-rated credit sparked demand from investors while keeping interest rates extremely low.

The debt offering was sold in three series of bonds. The proceeds will be used to fund new capital projects and refinance currently outstanding bonds. The refinancing will save Tennessee taxpayers \$22.8 million during the next 15 years.

The combined true interest cost for the bonds was 2.16 percent. Records indicate that this is the lowest interest cost for a negotiated sale in the state's history and is a direct result of Tennessee's highly regarded credit and favorable market conditions.

"It gives me great pleasure to announce yet another history-making Tennessee bond sale," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "The Tennessee General Assembly and Governor Haslam have worked hard to place Tennessee in an incredibly strong financial position. Tennesseans are benefiting from the lowest interest rates in state history. It's good to be a triple, triple-A state."

Women's Suffrage sculpture unveiled



Tennessee became the 36th state – the last state needed – to ratify the 19th Amendment which granted all American women the right to vote in 1920.

After Gov. A.H. Roberts signed and sent Tennessee's ratification papers to Washington, D.C., Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby issued his proclamation on Aug. 26, which became known as "Women's Equality Day."

A monument honoring suffragists was unveiled in Nashville's Centennial Park on Aug. 26. The piece, commissioned by Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument, Inc., and created by Nashville sculptor Alan LeQuire, features five women who were in Nashville during the final ratification effort: Anne Dallas Dudley of Nashville; Frankie Pierce of Nashville; Sue Shelton White of Jackson; Abby Crawford Milton of Chattanooga, and Carrie Chapman Catt, the national suffrage leader who came to Nashville during the summer of 1920 to direct the pro-suffrage forces and stayed at the Hermitage Hotel. The monument was erected



in Centennial Park, where 100 years ago, more than 2,000 people greeted a caravan of women suffragists when it arrived at the Parthenon in what was known to be Nashville's largest women's suffrage rally. On May 1, 1916, suffragists staged a parade through the streets of Nashville to demonstrate their support for women's right to vote.

The recent celebration also honored three women who are

significant in Tennessee's political history: the late Rep. Lois DeBerry, the first woman to serve as speaker pro tempore and the longest serving member of the state House at the time of her death in 2013; the late Hon. Jane G. Eskind, the first woman to win statewide office in 1980, which was 60 years after ratification of the 19th Amendment; and Rep. Beth Halteman Harwell, the first woman to be elected speaker of the state House.

New E-911 facility connects Sumner municipalities

E911 from Page 1

This project will dramatically improve our 911 communication and save more lives here in Sumner County. We want to serve as a bridge between both the communities and agencies in an effort to maximize everyone's potential. We plan to provide superior, effective, efficient and equitable services to all our citizens and first responders.

Portland Mayor Ken Wilber said the consolidated facility will make communication easier for first responders.

"For most cities, this is a cost-saving measure," Wilber said. "With the new facility, there will only be a need to buy one set of equipment rather than each city having to buy and maintain their own. Technology with 911, just like with everything else, is changing so quickly. A lot of the technology is going digital. This will also have one set of employees trained in the same procedures."

Foster said the new facility will also keep dispatchers across the county on the same technological page. This will save all the cities and the county money in the long run.

"We will be on the same data system rather than be on separate system," he said. "Hendersonville is the largest station and we have about 40 percent of the computer-assisted dispatch systems. We duplicate a lot of efforts across the county. We will have 24 CAD stations at this new facility with the same radio waves and radio frequencies. When we update this new system, all the systems will update at the same time as opposed to now where Hendersonville updates first, the county lags by 18 months, another city lags by two years and by the time the last city is online, the new update is out."

The advent of cell phones can also create issues as emergency calls from cell phones are usually transmitted to the responding agency closest to the cell tower the call is being transmitted from, not necessarily the agency closest to the event.

"Cell phones can delay the response a little bit," Foster said. "We believe getting everyone under one roof will help things be more effective."

The new facility is also in a good position to deal with larger and

countywide emergencies.

"They are right next to the county's emergency management agency," Wilber said. "If there is a major disaster, you don't have to guess what Portland is doing or what Westmoreland is doing. Everything is under control and under one roof."

Foster said consolidating emergency dispatch can also help different municipalities and the county better communicate what specialized equipment they have to offer in different emergency situations.

"We have a lot of resources across our cities and the county," he said. "Sumner County is a big county, and has a lot of different emergency resources. We can jointly train and communicate. We have gotten a lot of equipment from grants lately like big dive boats and specialized equipment. We make those available through mutual aid. The Sumner County guys have some specific training on some specific equipment we don't have, so we sometimes call them out for swift water assist. I think much of that equipment will be better used once everyone knows what everyone else has."

MEMBER FOCUSED



THE
TML
POOL
Tennessee's Leader in Risk Management Services



CLASSIFIED ADS

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

ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

FRANKLIN. The city of Franklin is accepting applications for an experienced assistant city administrator of Finance and Administration due to the upcoming retirement of their current ACA. This position reports directly to the city administrator and holds a key leadership role with responsibilities for providing oversight of all financial operations of the city, assisting in the coordination of activities across all city departments, and overseeing the planning, organizing, staffing, operations, and administration for all assigned departments. The ideal candidate will possess the ability to manage time demands of multiple projects while overseeing a variety of departments. This position will direct the financial management of the city while overseeing the Finance, Purchasing, City Court, Water, Sanitation, Environmental Services, and Information Technology departments. Successful candidates will possess a master's degree in Finance, Public Administration, or related discipline, plus 10 years of progressively responsible public sector financial management and administrative experience or a combination of education and experience. In order to be considered, the candidate must be a Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO). EOE. Send resumes to: Franklin HR Director Search, University of TN – MTAS, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 606, Nashville, TN 37219

BUILDING CODES OFFICIAL

EAST RIDGE. The city of East Ridge Fire Rescue Codes Division is currently accepting applications for a full-time building and codes inspector. Qualified applicants should be able to perform all activities related to ensuring compliance with building standards including plans review, inspections, and corrections of hazards and to enforce city codes and ordinances pertaining to the city's building and housing code. Recommended qualifications: five years experience in building inspection standards and plans review. A full job description may be viewed on the city's website www.eastridgetn.gov Resumes may be submitted to tperry@eastridgetn.gov or mailed to Trish Perry, Human Resources, City of East Ridge, 1517 Tombras Avenue, East Ridge, TN 37412. Open until filled. EOE

BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

FAIRVIEW. The city of Fairview has an immediate opening for the following position: building inspector/codes enforcement officer. This position is responsible for the inspection of residential, commercial, and industrial including alterations for compliance with city, federal codes and regulations. This position reports directly to the planning/zoning/codes director. Qualifications include: at least 10 years experience or equivalent, as an architect, engineer, inspector, contractor, or superintendent of construction, or any combination of these, five years of which shall have been in responsible charge of work. Requires knowledge of building standards and materials; standards of inspection, general knowledge of wiring, mechanical and plumbing systems. Must be state certified or obtain within 12 months of employment. Requires experience with computer systems and software. Specific duties and responsibilities: reviews and reads architectural blueprints; answers and investigates citizen complaints; deals with property owners, contractors and tenants to resolve various nuisance problems, such as: sanitation, abandoned vehicles, trash, and maintenance of lots; issues building and sign permits for residential, commercial and industrial use; completes residential, commercial and industrial building fire inspections; undertakes special projects, as assigned by the director; and reports and recommends action on various city matters to the director. Applications available at www.fairview-tn.org. This is a full time position with starting salary at \$42,658 (doq) plus benefits. Applications should be submitted to city recorder, Brandy Johnson, 7100 city center way, Fairview, TN, 37062, by mail or in person or via email at recorder@fairview-tn.org. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. Position will remain open until filled. EOE.

CITY MANAGER

CROSSVILLE. The city of Crossville is seeking resumes for the position of city manager. Starting annual salary is market competitive, plus a generous benefits package. DOQ/DOE (minimum \$69,166.37, maximum \$110,572.83). This position is under the general guidance of the Crossville City Council consisting of a mayor and four councilmembers. The city manager shall be responsible to the city council for the administration of all city affairs placed in his/her charge by/under city charter. The city manager is responsible for overseeing

the annual budget (\$20,626,000 for the 2016/17 FY) and exercises responsibility for planning, organizing and leading, through department supervisors, the activities of 170-180 full time employees. The city is seeking an individual that is accomplished, assertive and has current knowledge of municipal government and economic development; is able to interface with the public, media, industry heads and a variety of governmental boards and organizations. Requirements include: graduation from an accredited four year college, or university, with a major in public administration, business administration, economics, or related field. Five to 10 years of increasingly responsible experience in a general business environment, of which three years must have been in a responsible administrative, supervisory or consultative position. A master's degree in public administration, business administration or related field is preferred, but not required. Able to pass a background check, post-employment offer physical and drug screening. Residency within Crossville within six months of the date of hire. Reasonable relocation expense reimbursement may be negotiated. Resumes are to be submitted to Leah Crockett, human resources administrator, City of Crossville, 392 North Main Street, Crossville, TN 38555 or leah.crockett@crossvilletn.gov. Letters and resumes will be accepted until Sept. 30, 2016. Qualified candidates will be contacted with an invitation for interview. EOE

CODES INSPECTOR II

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is currently accepting applications for Codes Inspector II. The purpose of this position is to perform intermediate technical work in the inspection of residential, commercial, industrial, and public facilities for compliance with mechanical codes and other ordinances. May be assigned specific inspection areas, and other duties per position. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position. The hourly rate is \$20.80 + excellent benefits. Minimum Qualifications: High School Diploma/Equivalent. Must have 5 years recent construction related experience. Special Requirements: Must have four or more I.C.C. certifications as identified by and beneficial to the City. Building/Plumbing or Building/Mechanical certifications preferred. To apply, visit www.gallatinonthemove.com. Click the "Employment" tab at the top of the webpage and follow the instructions. The deadline to apply is September 9, 2016. EOE.

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TECH I

COLLIERVILLE. Performs semi-skilled manual multi-trades work in the repair, maintenance, replacement and general upkeep of town buildings and related facilities. Requires high school Diploma/GED; supplemented by one year previous experience and/or training involving facilities maintenance operations work; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must possess a valid driver's license. Salary is \$24,799 (DOQ) annually with excellent benefits package and is full time. Applications and job descriptions are available online at www.collierville.com or in the Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017. Submit completed application by mail or in person to the above address. The HR office is open Monday – Friday, 8-5. The job number for the position, JN16-53GS, must be included on the application. The official application of the Town of Collierville must be filled out and may be accompanied by a resume. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. Position will remain open until filled. EOE

HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR

ATHENS. The city of Athens is accepting applications for an experienced, professional Human Resource Director. This

position reports directly to the city manager and is a key management and leadership role responsible for leading the HR strategic and tactical HR planning, project management related to all personnel initiatives, policy development/coordination for human resources, and the technical support on special projects or issues. This position will manage all aspects of the Human Resource function which includes ensuring compliance with personnel related laws as well as city personnel rules and regulations; payroll processing procedures and laws; organizing the professional development of employees; managing the employment hiring process, administering the compensation and benefits plans. Applicant must be skilled in communicating both orally and in writing; supervising assigned staff; budgeting; conflict resolution and mediation. Applicant should have the ability to manage shifting priorities and demands, and to work under stressful situations in a high volume environment. Four year bachelor's degree from an accredited program in business management, human resource management, or public administration. Previous Human Resources experience desired as well as professional certification. Must possess and maintain a valid Tennessee driver's license. Salary range \$63,243.65 – \$94,865.47. Applications available at 815 North Jackson Street, Athens, TN or by contacting Rita Brown, rbrown@cityofathensn.com, (423) 744-2703. Complete job description available at www.cityofathensn.com/hr/ Resumes must accompany applications; background checks will be conducted. EOE

HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR

FRANKLIN. The city of Franklin is accepting applications for an experienced human resources director due to the retirement of their current director. This position reports directly to the city administrator and holds a key leadership role responsible for directing the Human Resources operations and activities for the city. This position will advise management on all aspects of discipline, promotions, transfers, terminations, labor relations, EEOC Regulations, and ADA compliance. The successful candidate will serve as trustee and plan administrator for the city's three pension plans. This position will oversee employee relations, staffing considerations and oversee the recruitment, selection, promotion, and onboarding process of all employees. The ideal candidate will possess the ability to establish good working relationships while gaining trust of all employees. In addition, the position requires a strong ability to recruit and retain talented employees. Successful candidates will possess a master's degree or equivalent with five to 10 years of related experience or a combination of education and experience. In order to be considered, the candidate must possess one of the following certifications: SHRM-CP, PHR and/or SPHR Send resumes to: Franklin HR Director Search, University of TN – MTAS, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 606, Nashville, TN 37219. EOE.

IS ADVISOR I / GIS COORDINATOR

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is seeking qualified applicants for the position of IS Advisor I-GIS Coordinator in the Information Technology Department. The purpose of this position is to plan, coordinate, oversee and participate in the development, implementation, integration, operation, and maintenance of the City's Geographic Information System (GIS). Work is performed under the general supervision of the Director of IT. The starting rate is \$22.93 + excellent benefits. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in information sciences, geographic information systems, engineering or a related field and four years of increasingly responsible geographic information systems experience. To see the full description and to apply, go to www.gallatinonthemove.com. The deadline to apply is Sept. 18. EOE.

PLANS EXAMINER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

CLEVELAND. The city of Cleveland is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of plans examiner/building inspector in the Development and Engineering Services Department. Qualified applicants will possess a high school education or GED equivalent with a minimum of four years related experience or equivalent combination of training and experience. A bachelor's degree in architecture, engineering or related field is preferred. Major activities of the position include: reviewing building plans for code compliance; attend preliminary construction meetings with owners, architects and engineers; inspecting residential, commercial, industrial and other buildings during and after construction to ensure that components such as footings, foundations, framing, plumbing, mechanical, energy, etc., meet provisions of building, grading, zoning and safety laws and approved plans, specifications and standards; observe conditions and issue notices for corrections; research maps for flood zone compliance; interpret legal requirements and recommend compliance procedures; prepare and maintain inspection records and reports; other duties as assigned. Interested applicants should submit a resume or employment application to the City of Cleveland Human Resources Department, 160 2nd Street NE, Cleveland, TN 37311, by mail to P.O. Box 1519, Cleveland, TN 37364-1519, by email to jdavis@clevelandtn.gov, or by the city's website, www.clevelandtn.gov. Valid TN driver's license is required. Pre-employment drug screen is required. EOE

PLANNING CLERK

ARLINGTON. The town of Arlington is seeking a highly motivated, qualified individual for a full-time position in the Planning and Development Department. This position will perform work requiring skills in administrative support, public relations, research, mapping, and basic math. Applicant must have an associate's degree and two years experience in an administrative support position, or an equivalent combination of education and relevant experience. A detailed job description & application are available at Town Hall, 5854 Airline Rd, Arlington, TN 38002 or at www.townofarlington.org. EOE.

POLICE CHIEF

HENDERSON. The city of Henderson will be accepting applications for the position of police chief until Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016. The police chief is responsible for planning, organizing and directing all activities of the police department within the rules and regulations set forth by the Federal Government, the state of Tennessee and city of Henderson. Residence within the City of Henderson Planning Region is required within one year after employment. Applications and job descriptions may be picked up at Henderson City Hall at 121 Crook Ave., requested by phone at (731)983-5000 or on the city website at www.hendersontn.org. Salary depends on qualifications, education, training and experience. Applicants should provide a completed application, a detailed resume and salary requirements by hand delivery, US Mail or email. EOE

STREET DIRECTOR.

JONESBOROUGH. The town of Jonesborough is accepting applications for the street director position. Beginning salary - \$53,862. The position is responsible for all aspects of the operation of the Street Department including supervisory and technical work in construction, maintenance and repair of streets, bridges and related public works, planning, organizing, snow removal, etc., assigning and reviewing the work of a group of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers. An application and position description can be obtained from the Administrator's Office at Town

Hall, 123 Boone Street, Jonesborough, TN 37659. Applicant information can also be obtained through the Town of Jonesborough's website www.jonesboroughtn.org. EOE

VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER

Fairview. The city of Fairview is looking for the next energetic volunteer firefighter. Prior fire service experience not necessary. Volunteer firefighters receive training to qualify as a firefighter I/II and emergency medical responder. Training and equipment provided. The Fairview Fire Departments Volunteer Firefighter Program is a community-based program. This program gives members of the community the opportunity to augment a full-time career. Volunteer firefighters receive a nominal stipend and limited benefits for their voluntary participation in this program. Aptitude, physical tests and background investigations will be conducted. The next scheduled aptitude and physical test is scheduled for Nov. 19. Applicants will receive more information about the testing process when application is received. Volunteer position offers contingent on pre-employment physical exam and drug screening. Once initial training is completed volunteer firefighters are required to attend two 3 hour training drills a month (normally the 1st and 3rd Tuesday) and do 12 hours of standby a month (6 hours minimum shifts). Volunteer Firefighters are also afforded the opportunity to participate in station training activities, public education events and other fire department sponsored activities. Requirements include: high school diploma or GED; 18 years of age or old; valid driver license with acceptable driving record; not convicted of a felony; legal right to work within the United States; reside within 50 miles of Fairview; must be able to pass a background check; and must be of good health and pass city of Fairview physical requirements. The ideal candidate would have the ability to read and interpret written instructions, have strong communication and mechanical skills. Interested candidates should download the application at: <http://www.fairview-tn.org/wp-content/uploads/Employment-Application.pdf> Applications will be accepted by mail at; Fairview Fire Dept; Attn Training Officer; 7131 Bowie Lake Road; Fairview TN 37062; or can email to stopfire@fairview-tn.org. Questions about the position may be emailed to stopfire@fairview-tn.org. Applications will be accepted until Nov. 4.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR, SR.

COLLIERVILLE. This position requires the performance of highly responsible, skilled trades work in the operation and maintenance of the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant in accordance with EPA standards. Requires a Bachelor's degree with major course concentration in Engineering, Chemistry or a related science field; and one (1) year operating experience at a Grade III or Grade IV Wastewater Treatment Plant; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities for this job. Must be in compliance with TDEC Rule 0400-49-01 and remain in compliance throughout employment. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. Salary range is \$38,525 - \$66,042 (DOQ) annually with excellent benefits package and is full time. Applications and complete job descriptions are available online at www.collierville.com or in the Human Resources Office, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, Tennessee, 38017, M-F, 8-5. The official application of the Town of Collierville must be filled out and may be accompanied by a resume. The job number for the WWTP Operator, Sr. position, JN16-18PS, needs to be included on the application. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. Position will remain open until filled. EOE



NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES



PITTSBURGH • NOVEMBER 16-19, 2016



EXPERIENCE OUR REVITALIZED CONFERENCE IN A REVITALIZED PITTSBURGH

NLC's City Summit (formerly Congress of Cities) is coming to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 16-19, 2016. See how this once-industrial town has transformed into a beautiful and vibrant city.

citysummit.nlc.org

NLC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES
CITIES STRONG TOGETHER

Tennessee Municipal League
 2016-2017 Officers and Directors
PRESIDENT
John Holden
 Mayor, Dyersburg
VICE PRESIDENTS
Ann Davis
 Mayor, Athens
Wallace Cartwright
 Mayor, Shelbyville
Jill Holland
 Mayor, McKenzie
DIRECTORS
Jimmy Alexander
 Mayor, Nolensville
Megan Barry
 Mayor, Metro Nashville
Andy Berke
 Mayor, Chattanooga
Daniel Brown
 City Council, Knoxville (District 2)
Vance Coleman
 Mayor, Medina
Betsy Crossley
 Commissioner, Brentwood (District 6)
Richard Driver
 Mayor, Lafayette (District 5)
Bill Graham
 Councilman, Dayton (District 3)
Hoyt Jones
 Alderman, Sparta (District 4)
Christa Martin
 Vice Mayor, Columbia
Lonnie Norman
 Mayor, Manchester
Pete Peterson
 City Manager, Johnson City (District 1)
Bo Perkinson
 Vice Mayor, Athens
Madeline Rogero
 Mayor, Knoxville
Paula Sedgwick
 Alderman, Bartlett (District 8)
Charles "Bones" Seivers
 President-CEO, TN Municipal Bond Fund
Barrett Stevens
 Mayor, Bolivar
Jim Strickland
 Mayor, Memphis
Mary Ann Tremblay
 Vice Mayor, Three Way
Garry Welch
 City Manager, Savannah (District 7)
Mike Werner
 Mayor, Gatlinburg
PAST PRESIDENTS
Curtis Hayes (2016) Mayor, Livingston
Tom Rowland (2015) Mayor, Cleveland
Dale Kelley (2014) Mayor, Huntingdon
Ken Wilber (2013) Mayor, Portland
Kay Senter (2012) Morristown Vice Mayor
Sam Tharpe (2011) Commissioner, Paris
Tommy Pedigo (2010) Council, Morristown
Tommy Green (2007) Mayor, Alamo
Bob Kirk (2004) Alderman, Dyersburg
AFFILIATE DIRECTORS
Chris Anderson, Council, Chattanooga, (NLC)
Dot LaMarche, Vice Mayor, Farragut (NLC)
Rob Lyons, Murfreesboro (TCMA)
TML AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
 (Ex-Officio Directors)
 Tennessee Assn. of Air Carrier Airports
 Tennessee Building Officials Assn.
 Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police
 TN Assn. Municipal Clerks & Records
 TN Government Finance Officers Assn.
 Tennessee Fire Chiefs Assn.
 Tennessee Fire Safety Inspectors
 Tennessee Association of Floodplain Management
 Tenn. Assn. Housing & Redevel. Auth.
 Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Assn.
 Tennessee Municipal Judges Conference
 Tenn. Chapter, American Public Works
 Tennessee Recreation and Parks Assn.
 Tennessee Chapter, American Planning
 Tennessee Personnel Management Assn.
 Tennessee Assn. of Public Purchasing
 TN Section, Institute of Transport
 Tennessee Public Transportation Assoc.
 Assn. of Independent and Municipal Schools
 Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council
 Tennessee Urban Forestry Council
 Tennessee Stormwater Association
TML SPONSORS**3 STAR SPONSOR**
 Bank of America
 Bank of New York Mellon, Co.
 First Tennessee Bank
2 STAR SPONSOR
 Alliance Water Resources
 Ameresco, Inc.
 Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, Inc.
 Carr, Riggs & Ingram LLC
 Iblematics
 Master Meter, Inc.
 Parsons Brinckerhoff
 VC3
 Voya Financial Advisors
 Waste Management Inc. of Tennessee
1 STAR SPONSOR
 A2H
 Employee Benefit Specialists, Inc.
 J.R. Wauford & Co. Consulting Engineers
 Local Govt. Corporation
 McGill Associates, P.A.
 Pavement Restorations, Inc.
 Smith Seckman Reid
 Tennessee 811
 TLM Associates, Inc.
 Utility Service Co., Inc.
 Vaughn & Melton
 Waste Connections of Tennessee Inc.
 Waste Industries USA, Inc.
TML STAFF
 Margaret Mahery, Executive Director
 Chad Jenkins, Deputy Director
 Mark Barrett, Legislative Research Analyst
 Kate Coil, Communications Specialist
 Jackie Gupton, Administrative Assistant
 Carole Graves, Communications Director
 & Editor, *Tennessee Town & City*
 Sylvia Harris, Director of Conference Planning
 John Holloway, Government Relations
 Debbie Kluth, Director of Marketing / Member Services
 Kevin Krushenski, Legislative Research Analyst
 Denise Paige, Government Relations

NATIONAL BRIEFS



The U.S. Surgeon General has sent a letter to 2.3 million American health professionals, asking them to lead a national movement to turn the tide on the nation's prescription opioid epidemic. The Surgeon General urged clinicians to visit a website his office launched this month, TurnTheTideRx.org, where they can pledge their commitment to combating opioid misuse and leading a shift in the public perception of addiction so that it is treated as chronic illness rather than as a moral failing. The medical community was encouraged to be more aggressive about treating pain. As the number of prescriptions for opioid pain relievers increased, so did the number of deaths from opioid overdose. In 2014 alone, there were nearly 240 million prescriptions dispensed for opioid and more than 14,000 people died from overdose of those drugs.

New research has found that many parents underestimate the harm school absences has to overall student performance. A

report released by the Ad Council found 86 percent of parents understand their child's school attendance plays a big role in helping them graduate from high school. However, 49 percent of parents believe that it is okay for their children to miss three or more days of school per month – and that they won't fall behind academically if they do. Children who are chronically absent in preschool, kindergarten and first grade are less likely to read on grade level by the third grade. Students who cannot read at grade level by the third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.

New measures have been proposed to equip heavy-duty vehicles with devices that limit their speeds on U.S. roadways. The Department's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's proposal would require such devices be set to a maximum speed, a safety measure that could save lives and more than \$1 billion in fuel costs each year. The department's proposal would establish safety standards requiring

all newly manufactured U.S. trucks, buses, and multipurpose passenger vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating more than 26,000 pounds to come equipped with speed limiting devices. The proposal discusses the benefits of setting the maximum speed at 60, 65, and 68 miles per hour, but the agencies will consider other speeds based on public input.

A test that could provide a Zika diagnosis for patients less than 30 minutes in healthcare providers' offices is moving forward with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR). Chembio Diagnostic Systems, Inc. of Medford, N.Y., is developing a lateral-flow serological test to identify antibodies that the human immune system produces in response to Zika virus. ASPR's Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority will provide \$5.9 million over the next year for the product's continued development, manufacturing preparations and a clinical trial.

MTAS delivering class using the FIRO-B instrument

Want to learn more about how effectively you interact with others at work?

The FIRO-B instrument is a powerful tool that will help you understand your behavior and that of others.

The Fundamental Interpersonal Relations Orientation-Behavior instrument will measure how you typically behave with other people and how you expect them to act toward you. Interactions with co-workers can always use more improvement and understanding. You will learn how to come across to others and what your needs are from people at work. After learning what your behaviors are, you will define

a personal action plan to adapt your interaction style to improve relationships at work. You will also learn how these results impact team work!

Class locations and schedules are:

October 5 - Jackson
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT
 October 6 -
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT
 October 12 -Knoxville
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT

Go to the MTAS website at mtas.tennessee.edu to register!



Dr. P. J. Snodgrass, MTAS training consultant is a FIRO-B certified instructor.

UT-MTAS SEPTEMBER MAP CLASSES

HIRING AND FIRING DANGER ZONE FROM A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

This course is designed to assist municipal supervisors, managers and attorneys to better understand the parameters for hiring and terminating employees. Best practices and case studies are discussed. Participants are challenged to consider their past and current practices and to identify useful ways in which their respective cities might improve upon practices for hiring and terminating employees.

Target Audience: Managers, Supervisors and Attorneys

Dates/Locations/Times

September 27 - Jackson
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT
 September 28 - Nashville
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT
 September 30 - Knoxville
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT

Credits: 3.5 CLE/4 CPE/CMFO (Other) (PA)



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

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Sweetwater closed a \$1.2 million loan for the purpose of refinancing some outstanding debt, renovation of a city building, and for the acquisition of equipment. It is the city's sixth loan through TMBF's various programs.

The city of Jackson closed a variable rate loan through the TMBF loan program in the amount of \$17.4 million to finance its three-year capital improvement plan.



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



TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

Sept 10: Centerville
Annual Grinder's Switch Music and Arts Festival.

Held on the Historic Centerville Town Square. Musical entertainment from 10 am - 11 pm, Food vendors, artists, antiques and more. www.hickmancountychamber.org

Sept. 16 - 18: Bristol
Rhythm & Roots Music Festival.

Held annually in historic downtown Bristol TN/VA, the three-day festival features the traditional Appalachian sound and it all happens in the heart of the Birthplace of Country Music. To learn more about the festival, see the 2016 lineup, and to buy tickets go to www.birthplaceofcountrymusic.org/festival

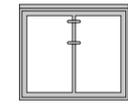
Sept. 16 - 18: Cowan

Fall Heritage Festival. Featuring a juried arts and crafts show, Civil War presentations, a cruise in, kid's zone, music and food. For more information, email info@fallheritagefestival.info or call 931-563-3868.

Sept. 23-24 - Tullahoma

Annual 41A Music & Arts Festival Held in Downtown Tullahoma. Family friendly music and entertainment. Variety of food and gift vendors.

COMING UP



Sept. 15 - 16: Nashville
TN Engineers Conference

More than 300 professional engineers will gather in Nashville for the combined TN Engineers' Conference of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee, the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers, the Tennessee Structural Engineers Association and the Tennessee Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers. For more information, go to <http://acectn.com/2016-tn-engineers-conference/>

Oct 26-28: Knoxville

TCMA/KCCMA Conference Crowne Plaza Hotel in Downtown Knoxville. The first session will begin at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday and the conference will end by noon on Friday. Preliminary conference program is available for review at the TCMA website - www.tncma.org. Only a limited number of hotel rooms are available at the Crowne Plaza at the discounted rates of \$100-\$115 per night. Call 865-522-2600, use Code TCM. This rate is only available until Sept. 25.

Restored theaters return movie magic to Tennessee downtowns

BY KATE COIL

TML Communications Specialist

For many municipalities, the most unique building downtown is the historic movie theater. A part of cities' collective memory, these structures are often the place where many local residents had their first job, first date or saw their favorite film for the first time.

Smaller communities may reap the biggest rewards from the restoration of these historic landmarks. Often located downtown, movie theaters were often among the most important cultural centers for many communities from the 1910s until major cinema complexes started replacing them in the 1960s and 1970s.

ELIZABETHTON

Members of the Elizabethton/Carter County Community Foundation are hoping to restore the local Bonnie Kate Theatre and have raised \$150,000 to purchase the building. As the organization cannot hold property itself, the city of Elizabethton used the funds to purchase the facility so the organization can begin renovation work.

Named for Katherine "Bonnie Kate" Sherill Sevier, the wife of Tennessee's first governor John Sevier, the theater was opened as a silent film theater in 1926. It soon became the stage for the local radio music program "Barrels of Fun," which featured up-and-coming performers such as the Carter family and Ralph Stanley.

John Huber, project manager for the restoration of the theater, said the theater had been briefly revived to show movies, but the changeover to digital movies proved too costly for the owners to keep it running. They attempted to find other uses for the facility, but in the end it was taken over by the bank.

After it fell into disuse, the Elizabethton-Carter County Community Foundation raised \$117,000 to purchase the building. The creation of a five-person board to oversee the restoration by the Elizabethton City Council has helped make the project eligible for more grant funds.

Huber said the Bonnie Kate building is not only a theater but also has room for additional retail space that can benefit downtown Elizabethton.

"We have secured a tenant for unit A, which will be a café, and unit B will be a bakery, both operated by the same proprietor," he said. "They will be up and running in early September. We also have another 4,000 square feet that we can lease. Once renovated, these lease spaces will generate enough revenue to pay the operating expenses. The renovation started with the bank replacing a large section of the roof prior to our purchase. Since then we have remodeled unit A and B as well as the common area connecting the two spaces. In addition we installed an ADA bathroom for the café. The city has been very helpful in getting the tenant space ready."

Once renovated, the Bonnie Kate Theatre itself will be a community arts center and also fill a need the city has for an entertainment venue.

"The ultimate goal is to renovate the theater to original decor and build onto the rear area with some dressing rooms, restrooms and storage rooms for production cast and crew. We are blessed that the property has a vacant lot at the rear of the theater. We hope to have live theater productions, music performances, teleconferencing, parks and recreation functions as well as movies. Elizabethton doesn't have a facility to accommodate a private function for more than 125 people, this theater will have seating for 400 to 450 people."

BOLIVAR

The Luez Theatre in Bolivar is unique in that it operated from 1948 to 2012 with limited interruption. Pronounced "Louise," the theater was named after original owner-manager Louise Mask. It was purchased by Bolivar's Downtown Development Corp in 2013 after the changeover to digital film proved too costly for the theater's owners. At present, the nearest movie theater for local residents is more than 25 miles away in Jackson.

Darrell Teubner is editor and publisher of the *Bolivar Bulletin Times*, general manager of the local radio station, and a member of the commission to restore the theater. To help expand the theater's appeal, he said a stage has been built in the front of the one-room theater so it can be used as an event space, performing arts center, concert hall, and to show second-run movies.

"We aren't sure what this theater will end up being for the community," he said. "We want to have live music. We know this can be a rain venue for our downtown music in the summer or during the winter. We want people to have events here and be able to come



back where they have made so many memories."

The love local residents have for the theater make restoring it a delicate balancing act.

"There is a perception here that the Luez Theatre made the best popcorn in the county, so even when we do events people just stop by and buy popcorn," he said. "There is a lot of affinity of the people of Hardeman County for this theater. We are trying to go as fast as we can, but at the same time we don't want to desecrate the theater. We want to make changes that are acceptable and keep the feel of the theater that half this county had their first date in. We all have a desire to see this up and running."

Teubner said as long as the community continues to fund the restoration the committee knows they are headed in the right direction with their plans. The theater is also an important addition to renovations in downtown Bolivar.

"We think this will be a big part of that," he said. "If you have a movie theater, it can be a big part of revitalizing downtown. Back then, movies weren't a cookie cutter thing. There are definitely some unique things to this

theater, and it's not changed. You go inside, and you're pretty much looking at 1948."

GALLATIN

Those municipalities that are currently working to restore their own historic theaters can look to cities like Gallatin if they want to see the benefits of reopening a theater downtown. Opened in 1913, the Palace Theatre in Gallatin is one of the oldest movie theaters in the state and one of only a handful of theaters built during the silent film era still standing.

Donna Belonte, executive director of Greater Gallatin, Inc., helped oversee a restoration of the city's downtown Palace Theatre in 1993. The same family operated both the theater and the downtown jewelry store next door from 1913 until the theater closed in the 1970s. The jewelry store then ceased operation in the 1970s.

"Things changed and people didn't come downtown as much during that time," she said. "The mall and the cineplexes were opening up, so the movie theater probably fell victim to that. It was closed down in 1977 and it remained closed to the public until it was auctioned off at auction in late



Top Left: The marquee on the Palace Theatre is still an iconic site in downtown Gallatin and hasn't changed much since the 1930s.

Top Right: Crowds gather outside Gal'atin's Palace Theatre in 1939 for a showing of "Jesse James," starring Tyrone Power and Henry Fonda.

Bottom Right: While there has been a Luez Theatre in Bolivar since the 1930s, this current incarnation was built in 1948. The theatre was owned and operated by Louise Mask until 1968.

Bottom Left: The Bonnie Kate Theatre as it appears today. The theatre was named for the second wife of John Sevier, the first governor of Tennessee and hosted the local radio program "Barrel of Fun" during its early days.



1992 or early 1993. The Garrett Brothers – Johnny and Sonny – bought both the Palace and the Roth Jewelry Store at opening bid of \$20,000."

Both structures had water damage and the ceilings had fallen in. Greater Gallatin, Inc., approached the brothers in 1993 and asked if they would donate the property to their organization for a tax write off. The brothers agreed and Belonte said soon she began writing grants to help restore the historic theater.

"I'm a preservationist now, but I wasn't at the time; I certainly am not a contractor now and I wasn't then," she said. "This was something we pursued, and it just happened."

Much of the early funds raised to restore the theater went to internal work such as restoring the roof and securing the building to prevent it from falling. As a result, Belonte said many local residents felt frustrated because they didn't see the work being done and stopped giving money to the cause. Belonte said she began writing more grants at that time to help continue work on the theater.

The city of Gallatin supported the project by handling grants where funds needed to be dispersed to contractors and other workers over time as well as providing matching funds for

some grants. The restoration also had to meet the twin challenges of meeting National Register of Historic Places standards while still meeting modern building codes. Belonte said the theater preserved areas like the segregated balcony by turning it into a projector room but still showcasing the area's history.

Early on, Belonte said the movie theater sold out routinely to the point that they were able to acquire the rights to show first run movies from distributors. However, when a modern movie theater opened in town, the theater lost those rights. At the same time, the shoe shop next door burned and caused fire damage to the Palace.

"It was like a perfect storm," Belonte said. "We were shut down for a summer cleaning and restoring the theater. We were shut down in the middle of 2013 because we had gotten wind they weren't making 35 millimeter film anymore, so we had to get the funding for a digital project."

While the theater has seen its ups-and-downs since it was reopened in 2000, Belonte said the Palace has found its niche in downtown Gallatin. The theater has reopened since then as an event venue for parties, concerts, live performances and Gallatin's downtown summer movie series. The \$3 price tag covers admission, a popcorn and a Coke with local businesses underwriting copyright costs. Now, the Palace not only brings back nostalgia for Gallatin residents but also draws visitors back to downtown Gallatin.

"Theaters were a very viable part of downtown back in the day, so they need to be preserved," Belonte said. "We get people talking about how they came here when they were younger. Our downtown is thriving now, but like any downtown it ebbs and it flows. One thing the theater did do is start the nightlife downtown back in 2000. It used to be you would come here at night and it was dead. Now, businesses see the need for people to have dinner or to open later at night."

Editor's Note: While there is no difference between the meaning of theatre and theater, the original British spelling of the word is theatre. America adopted the spelling as theater during the mid-1900s. Most cinemas and playhouses constructed before that time period are often titled "theatre," reflecting the more common spelling at the time.

Restored Historic Movie Theaters in Tennessee

- **Bristol** – Paramount Center for the Arts Theatre
- **Chattanooga** – Tivoli Theatre
- **Clarksville** – Roxy Regional Theatre
- **Clinton** – Ritz Theater
- **Covington** – Ruffin Theater
- **Crossville** – Palace Theater
- **Erwin** – Capitol Cinema
- **Etowah** – Gem Theatre
- **Fayetteville** – Lincoln Theater
- **Franklin** – Franklin Theatre
- **Gallatin** – Palace Theater
- **Harriman** – Princess Theater
- **Hohenwald** – Strand Theatre and Art Gallery
- **Humboldt** – Plaza Theater
- **Huntingdon** – Court Theatre
- **Kingsport** – State Theatre
- **Knoxville** – Bijou Theatre, Tennessee Theatre
- **Lafayette** – Lafayette Cinema
- **Lawrenceburg** – Crockett Theater and Creative Arts Center
- **Lebanon** – Capitol Theatre
- **Lewisburg** – Marshall County Community Theatre
- **Lexington** – Princess Theater
- **Loudon** – Lyric Theatre
- **Maryville** – Capital Theatre, Palace Theatre
- **McKenzie** – Park Theatre
- **McMinnville** – Park Theatre
- **Memphis** – Circuit Playhouse, Evergreen Theatre, Majestic Grille, New Daisy Theatre, Old Daisy Theatre, Orpheum Theatre
- **Milan** – Ritz 3 Cinema
- **Millington** – Strand Music Hall
- **Nashville** – Belcourt Theatre
- **Pulaski** – STAA Theatre at Antoinette Hall
- **Savannah** – Historic Savannah Theatre
- **Shelbyville** – Capri Theatre
- **Somerville** – Fair Theatre
- **South Pittsburg** – Princess Theatre
- **Tiptonville** – Strand Theatre
- **Union City** – Capitol Theatre
- **Waverly** – Mi-De-Ga Theatre
- **Winchester** – Oldham Theater