SST Task Force trolls for new members at NCSL

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Recent city activity has included a demand for more state service involves, launching a new advertising effort, and pushing advocacy efforts that area a few of the strategic goals identified as part of a full-course push for moving the Streamlined Sales Tax Project (SSTP) forward.

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) task force met via teleconference and electronically to discuss several plans for amending the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement (SSUTA) and to set goals for increasing the number of member states involved in the project.

“We need to increase state membership (in the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement) and add to the number of member states involved in the project.”

by respondents include: recreational fees, fire service fees for out-of-city fire calls and switching to diesel and Flex Fuel (85-95) vehicles and an increase in bi-annual fees for municipal utilities already utilizing alternative fuels. Fuel costs took center stage at the recent National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Nashville, where transportation and safety issues were high on the list of fuel funding methods that should receive additional attention. The state Attorney General has voided the names of potential witnesses.

The Court of Appeals in Jackson Sun v. The City of Jackson held that police “field interview” cards could be subject to this privilege.

The privilege is broader than the privilege recognized for records in on-going criminal investigations under Rule 16(A)(2) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure. It is not limited to records of on-going investigations. In this same case, the Court of Appeals held that financial records relative to the Diamond Jayne baseball team that were not in possession of the city of Jackson at the time of the request were not subject to the Public Records Act at that time. Further, the city has no duty to continue indefensibly to look for responses to documents that may come into its possession in the future.

AG Rules on Regulation of Homeland Security

The state Attorney General has ruled that a municipality acting within its police powers to protect the health and safety of citizens may adopt an ordinance regulating the rental of residential property within its borders and charge an administrative fee that is reasonably related to the administration and enforcement of the ordinance. This fee would not be considered a tax that was not in possession of the city of Jackson at the time of the request were not subject to the Public Records Act at that time. Further, the city has no duty to continue indefensibly to look for responses to documents that may come into its possession in the future.

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ATLANTA

The 2006 legislative session
represented his 18th consecutive two-year
term as Speaker of the House.
Wilder, who is currently serving his 30th
year as speaker of the State Senate, was
recognized with a lifetime achievement
ceremony by the Tennessee House of
Representatives. Wilder has served as
Speaker of the House for 27 years.
Awards were issued in recognition of his years
as a teacher of children of all ages.
Donations can be made in Paul
Wilder’s name to Wilder
Scholarship Fund, College of
Human Resources, PO Box
681220, Montgomery, AL
36102.

Wilders, Naifeh honored by NCSL
AWARDS FROM Page
The Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police
named Oak Ridge Police Chief David B. Heams the
Eastern Tennessee Division Chief of the Year at its
Annual Awards ceremony in July.

August elections brought the following mayoral results: Algood, $495,987 enhancement grant from UCAR Carbon Co, a first-phase expansion in September, the company will add $2 million to its residents, will match the grant 50 percent.
Nashville
A $495,987 enhancement grant from The ARLINGTON
Tennessee Department of Transportation.

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A woman’s place: Females embrace public safety careers

On a warm July night, a team of firefighters from Brained Fire Hall 20, in Chattanooga, received a non-emergency medical call. A 78-year-old man with heart problems was complaining of chest pain. Quint 13 arrived on scene and, upon the take, the patient’s vitals and condition improved markedly. As firefighters and fire department officials

Statewide, there are approximately 1,483 female firefighters in Tennessee, a steady increase over the last 20 years. Athens, for example, has experienced a 30 percent increase in sworn female police officers. “Females bring a noticeable work style and manner to communicate with the public,” said Anderson Police Chief Chuck Ziegler, noting that many women come from public service positions before entering the law enforcement field. “In the old days, it was all rough and tough, no discussion, no communication. ‘Don’t touch me, lady!’ People have become much more demanding in how police officers handle their cases, and female officers definitely communicate better, especially in the area of aiding female victims of crime,” Ziegler said.

Detective Lewis is quick to point out that she has a tough as well. She humorously reminisces about her first day at the academy, a day when male officers repeatedly told her to eat a “sweet cake.” “I got singled out by the instructor during the ‘Dealing with Difficult People’ orientation class,” she says. “He got right in my face and said ‘I’m going to whip you. What do you think about that?’” To which Lewis instinctively shot back, “I hope you packed a lunch because it’s going to take a while!” Lewis’s experience mirrors some of the social barriers women face when entering a multi-dominated profession. Many of the issues of sexual harassment, hostile behavior, skepticism, or distrust stem from previous societal constraints regarding male and female roles and notions of physical limitations and capabilities. That margin is narrowing with more education and evidence that women can indeed handle the job.

“We are always looking to hire and actively recruit females to the Chattanooga Fire Department,” said Fire Chief Wendell Rowe. He was delighted when informed that a call was answered by an all-female team, an event that occurred recently, especially when Firefighter Liles of station 13 was asked to report to Brained 13 that night.

This was not something that was planned,” Rowe stressed. “It was a routine staffing issue. We were not looking at gender, just certificating of the qualified person asked to fill in. It just happened.” Rowe described the pride he and other fire department staff experienced when a radio dispatcher excitedly exclaimed “Quint 13 is rolling in with all an female crew tonight!”

“I am proud that our programs and training have provided enough diversity that all female crew was well-trained and responded without a male co-worker. We are about to hold another academy and hopefully will have a number of female applicants.” Through the years, fire academy standards have evolved to become fairer to the applicant, according to MTAS Fire Management consultant Ray Crouch. Tests no longer focus on arbitrary physical capabilities such as distance running or jumping but on the actual physical demands and tasks associated with the job. “There’s been a huge transition on the physical agility testing for firefighters in a not majority of cities,” Crouch said. “It’s not the physical capability, but physical capacity on the job.”

“Firefighting requires physical ability. You have to want it bad. And female firefighters make great firefighters. I’ve never seen one fail. I wouldn’t allow anyone not to be afraid to do their work.” Dover Police Chief Kim Wallace agrees. “You must be strong-willed, cut people’s respect, and never give up.” The second woman in the state to become chief of police, Wallace has long been active as a D.A.R.E instructor and serves as First Vice President of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police as she works toward a master’s degree.

Chattanooga’s first all-female firefighter crew recently made history by responding to a call. From left to right Captain Benita Owens, and Firefighters Kathy Leake, and Michelle Murphy, "We are always looking to hire and actively recruit females to the Chattanooga Fire Department," said Fire Chief Wendell Rowe. He was delighted when informed that a call was answered by an all-female team, an event that occurred recently, especially when Firefighter Liles of station 13 was asked to report to Brained 13 that night.

Interagency communication key to national security

CHESTOFF from Page 1 and interoperability will and continue to grant money to state and local govern- ments to improve communication capabilities. The Department of Homeland Security is also working on standard operations of procedures for 73 states and large urban areas. The guidelines are scheduled for completion by the end of the year. Implementation of the plan will in- clude training for first responders.

Chertoff also discussed the REAL ID Act, which would standardize driver’s license requirements. “Five years ago, five terrorist plots had to do with drivers’ licenses that were fairly easy to obtain,” said Chertoff. “That’s one of the burning lessons that come out of 9-11.” He explained that the new sys- tem, scheduled to go into effect in 2008, creates standards for sharing information among state govern- ments. It would also help identify illegal immigrants.

“We’re not interested in taking over production of state-issued li- censes,” Chertoff said. “We want to develop guidelines to ensure that li- censes are secure, and we want to come up with a way for states to share information.

One significant concern with the REAL ID Act, which is implementation, is which state is going to be on the hundreds of millions of dollars. During NCSL’s annual conference, a resolution that stipulates that Congress pay for standardizing driver’s licenses, if “We’re not interested in taking over production of state-issued li- censes,” Chertoff said. “We want to develop guidelines to ensure that li- censes are secure, and we want to come up with a way for states to share information. And if the U.S. around 6,200 currently work as full-tim- e career firefighters and fire department offi- cers. Statewide, there are approximately 1,483 female firefighters in Tennessee, a steady increase over the last 20 years. Athens, for example, has experienced a 30 percent increase in sworn female police officers. “Females bring a noticeable work style and manner to communicate with the public,” said Athens Police Chief Chuck Ziegler, noting that many women come from public service positions before entering the law enforcement field. “In the old days, it was all rough and tough, no discussion, no communication. ‘Don’t touch me, lady!’ People have become much more demanding in how police officers handle their cases, and female officers definitely communicate better, especially in the area of aiding female victims of crime,” Ziegler said.

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CITIES

CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising: $25 per column inch. No classified ads for TML members. Deadline for classified ads is the 5th of each month. Send to: Classified, TML, 224 Capital Blvd, Suite 700, Nashville, TN 37214. E-mail: classify@tml.org. Fax: 615-255-1972.

CITY MANAGER

COLLEGE ALLEGE. The city of Jackson is seeking a city manager to provide effective management of the city government operations. The successful candidate will be an experienced senior public administrator who has a solid understanding of government operations and a commitment to public service. The city manager will be expected to manage and lead the city's operations in a fiscally sound manner. Salary: Competitive. For details, call Jeff Gallant at 615-386-2211.

ENGINEER II - TRANSPORTATION GEORGIA. The city of Waycross is seeking a full-time engineer to handle traffic-related applications and procedures, to work with traffic-related applications. Salary: $30,000 per year. For more information, contact Bruce G. Thompson at 912-285-3233.

ENGINEER II - WATER Resource Management. The city of Columbus is seeking an engineer to provide engineering assistance in the management of water and wastewater systems. Salary: $35,000 per year. For more information, contact Bruce G. Thompson at 912-285-3233.

Librarian

Librarian (Signal Mountain) The city of Signal Mountain is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the position of Librarian. The Librarian will be responsible for coordinating the library's services and resources. The ideal candidate will be a dynamic leader with a proven track record of service and community involvement. Salary: $30,000 per year. For more information, contact Terry Ellis at 423-628-5100.

Library Control Inspector-Engineer

The town of Signal Mountain is seeking to fill the position of Library Control Inspector-Engineer. The successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring library resources are accurately tracked and maintained. Salary: $35,000 per year. For more information, contact Terry Ellis at 423-628-5100.

PLANNER

GEORGIA. The city of Atlanta is seeking a full-time planner to assist the city’s Planning Department. The Planner will be responsible for preparing and delivering presentations, preparing written reports, and assisting in the review of development applications. Salary: $35,000 per year. For more information, contact Bruce G. Thompson at 404-330-3500.

4 TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY/AUGUST 28, 2006 www.TML1.org

J.C. Carr

The Three-Star designation is very important, as a $500,000 loan at 0 percent grants. Alcoa has switched 300 diesel powered vehicles to biodiesel and used this program to new pumps for biodiesel. Biofuel does burn much cleaner than regular diesel and can be used in any amount of power vehicle. The Energy Division also provides funding for Tennessee’s Main Street communities with matching grants for up to $20,000 for exterior businesses and traffic, traffic signs and park lighting under the Main Street Loan Program. The local utility in each Main Street community is asked to perform an audit on exterior lighting and they must show energy savings for these types of measures under 5 percent. The money from federal energy appropriations energy savings are required to meet program regulations.

For details on the Tennessee Community Development Block Grant Program for municipalities contact the Tennessee Community Development Block Grant Program, 1000 Executive Tower, Nashville, TN 37243-4022, 615-741-5015 or visit the website at http://tennessee.gov/ecd/.

If your police are calling, call the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund for all your financing needs.

We offer:
  • low rates,
  • lowest costs, and
  • best service.

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Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Water and Wastewater Systems

Phone: (615) 332-4741
Fax: (615) 332-4741

Water & Wastewater Systems

Water and Wastewater Systems

We're making great

If you're new to the area or just looking to update your water and wastewater systems, we can help. Our experienced team of engineers and project managers will work closely with you to understand your specific needs and develop a cost-effective solution that meets all regulations and standards. We provide everything from preliminary design and permitting to construction supervision and startup. Our goal is to ensure that your water and wastewater systems are reliable, efficient, and in compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations. Whether you're looking for new construction or rehabilitation of existing systems, J.C. Carr & Wufoo/Partners can assist you every step of the way. We'll help you navigate the complexities of design, bidding, and construction to ensure a smooth process and successful outcome. Our services include:

- Preliminary design and permit applications
- Construction supervision and startup
- Water and wastewater system design
- Stormwater management
- Sewer line installation and routing
- Water line installation and repairs
- Stormwater permits
- Water and sewer project estimates

We're proud to serve municipalities throughout Tennessee, including Gallatin, Signal Mountain, Signal Mountain, and Signal Mountain. Our team of experts has the knowledge and experience to help you achieve your water and wastewater infrastructure goals. Contact us today for more information and to schedule a no-obligation consultation.

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If you're new to the area or just looking to update your water and wastewater systems, we can help. Our experienced team of engineers and project managers will work closely with you to understand your specific needs and develop a cost-effective solution that meets all regulations and standards. We provide everything from preliminary design and permitting to construction supervision and startup. Our goal is to ensure that your water and wastewater systems are reliable, efficient, and in compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations. Whether you're looking for new construction or rehabilitation of existing systems, J.C. Carr & Wufoo/Partners can assist you every step of the way. We'll help you navigate the complexities of design, bidding, and construction to ensure a smooth process and successful outcome. Our services include:

- Preliminary design and permit applications
- Construction supervision and startup
- Water and wastewater system design
- Stormwater management
- Sewer line installation and routing
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SCHERMCHER SYMPHONY CENTER OPENS SEPT. 9

The Schermerhorn Symphony Center opens Sept. 9

The opening of the Schermerhorn Symphony Center will be broadcast live on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

Municipal Internships in honor Hensley, Wampler

The city built a new state-of-the-art municipal center and secured nutuous economic development projects and school improvements under Hensley’s leadership.

The Lynne Wampler Municipal Management Fund, announced June 16 in Fayetteville, is currently in the process of accepting donations.

Initially established to pay one-time expenses for MAP interns for events such as the TML Annual Conference or summer training seminars/feedback sessions with professors, city managers, or MEAS consultants, excess funds may also be used to pay part of a student’s internship salary or tuition.

Wampler began his career with the city in 1969 and became Fayetteville’s first city administrator in 1985. He was presented the Ten- nessee City Management Association Manager of the Year award at the TML An- nual Conference in Nashville.

Earnings from the endowment will pay assistant’s salary and tuition for the chosen student working for the city of Maryville three to four months each summer.

“This endowment allows the university to recruit the best public administration students in the country,” said Mary Taylor, assistant vice president of UT’s Institute for Public Service.

“The city used words like “fabulous” and “eas.”

“Students of Public Administration. A note will be sent to Mr. Wampler recognizing each gift to the fund in his honor.”

To donate to either fund, or for more information, contact Tom Looney, IPS development director, at 615-974-6437.
TML proudly salutes recipients of the 2006 Achievement Awards

- Athens: Excellence in Quality of Life Initiatives
- Brownsville: Excellence in Parks Award
- Baneberry: Small City Progress Award
- Fayetteville: Excellence in Fire Protection
- Germantown: Excellence in Police Services Award
- Huntingdon: Excellence in Downtown Revitalization
- Newport: Excellence in Governance Award
- Parsons: Excellence in Community Development
- Clinton: Excellence in Historical Preservation
- Winchester: Excellence in Promoting Tourism

Not Pictured: Algood: Small City Progress Award
City of Bristol improves flood insurance levels

The CRS process requires that the local government prepare a Floodplain Management Plan and points are awarded for activities that go beyond the minimum requirements to participate in the NFIP. Computerized mapping, acquisition of flood prone property, outreach activities, and innovative water system maintenance are but a few of the actions communities use to improve their flood insurance rates.

Bristol is one of eight local governments in Tennessee that have gone through the CRS process and have been awarded points for activities that gain an advantage for premiums. Bristol is participating in the floodplain disposal system.

Unlawful harassment is a form of discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal authority. In this context, employees review methods-to-identify, correct, and prevent workplace harassment as well as clarify employer liability and current guidelines for addressing sexual harassment complaints.

Instructors

Tennessee Municipal League Management Risk Pool

Who Should Attend?

Municipal officials and staff

Dates and Locations

August 28-29: Smyrna
September 7—September 8: Knoxville
September 19—Collegeville
September 20: Johnson City
September 21: Cleveland
September 22—September 23: Tullahoma
September 24: Jackson

Time

Public administration courses begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 12:30 p.m.

Locations

Bartlett Bartlett Performing Arts Center and Conference Center
Collegedale Collegedale City Hall
Cooksville Town Center
Johnson City Johnson City Public Library
Knoxville University of Tennessee

Conference Center Smyrna Town Center

To register for this municipal administration program class, please visit the MTAS website at http://www.mtas.tn.gov or contact Yana Truman at Yana.truman@tennessee.edu or 615-255-6416 for more information. Please visit the MTAS website for more information.

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Life Cycle Costing requires that all bidders supply more than just initial price, including repair and maintenance costs over a fixed period of time. It also requires a guaranteed buyback price, ensuring that you get the best resale value.

Minimum downtime can also be included so you are never without the equipment you need. Other benefits include more accurate budgeting, fixed maintenance costs and protection beyond the manufacturer’s warranty period. Ask us today about how Life Cycle Costing can help you know your future.

Life Cycle Costing Equipment Bid Worksheet

1. Make and model of equipment being bid: ________________________________

2. Less trade-in: $ ________________________________ (price)

3. Initial purchase price: $A $B $C

4. Repair expense for five years or 5,000 hours, whichever occurs first, SHALL NOT EXCEED (repairs as described in attached conditions of sale) $A $B $C

5. Scheduled maintenance costs for 5,000 hours SHALL NOT EXCEED (from attached conditions of sale) $A $B $C

6. Guaranteed minimum repurchase in five years (covered by performance bond for amount of bid figure in this item) $A $B $C

7. Life Cycle Cost Total: $A $B $C

Spec equipment with ease at www.GovBidSpec.com
Tennessee mayors visit The Dixie in Huntington

Members of the West Tennessee Mayors Association visited the Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center, home of the Hal Holbrook Theatre on Friday, July 21 for their quarterly meeting.

The group was welcomed to The Dixie by Huntington Mayor, Dale Kelley. Also addressing the group was Lee Warren, executive director of The Dixie and Brad Hudley, executive director of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce.

The group enjoyed an all access tour of The Dixie, lunch in the ballroom, and then conducted their business meeting.

“I was honored to show off this grand facility located in West Tennessee,” commented Mayor Kelley.

“I was already so much a fan of this area, and it was a great idea to show how progressive planning and hard work pay off for a community and future.”

Members posted for a photo on the stage of the impressive Hal Holbrook Theatre, named in actress Dixie Carter’s husband Hal Holbrook.

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center is a major part of the County’s recent town revitalization effort in Huntington for which the city won a TML Achievement Award at the recently completed Annual Conference held in Nashville.

The group also plans to push for the state to become members of the organization.

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Streamlined Board launches recruiting strategy to increase membership

TML Risk Pool Congratulates 2005-06 Grant Recipients

The TML Risk Pool has recognized the efforts of cities and agencies throughout the state of Tennessee that are cost effective and have received a reasonable return on investment. The TML Risk Pool has awarded 91 SAFETY Partners Loss Control Matching Grants for the 2005-06 fiscal year. The TML Risk Pool reimbursed up to 50 percent of the cost on the approved device(s) with a maximum reimbursement based on the Priority Classification matrix rating.

Consideration of grants was based on a variety of topics such as submission date, loss severity, state and federal requirements, and ability to meet the reimbursement amount.

The TML Risk Management Pool wishes to congratulate these TML Pool members that received grants for 2005-06.

NCSL is welcomed to Music City

Legislative Plaza is spruced up — Music City style — for a private concert for attendees of the NCSL annual meeting in Nashville. The Tennessee General Assembly played host to an evening of southern cuisine and a musical performance by Loretta Lynn. Six thousand area people from across the country were in attendance for the week long event held at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center.

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LaFollette Councilwoman Shirley Fox Rogers says city officials get something from TML committees, conferences, and contacts they don’t get elsewhere

BY GAIL STARR
Editor

LaFollette Councilwoman Shirley Fox Rogers grew up a mere 10 miles from the town where she attended school and currently represents the city in the Tennessee Municipal League. In 1945, a coal town company town came into being when she was born. It was called LaFollette, a mining community located in the mountains of East Tennessee, to serve Camp Beach, the railhead and assembly point for a new coal mine. Until shortly before her birth, people had trekked to negligence nearby Jellico or Norris for a place to live. After the town was incorporated in 1893, civil engineer James W. Buchanan laid out the streets on the quarter-mile grid, extending the town nearly a mile into the mountains. Her great, great grandfather, Hiram Fox, was a midwife. She delivered his first son, her father, in his middle 50s. People thought of them as their grandfather. Her father, who attended the Blue Diamond Coal Company for 26 years, provided a loving parental atmo-
sphere, and Shirley Fox Rogers did well in school. He would buy groceries with company credit, so she learned how to buy something for anyone else. He also taught her to read, nourishing her need to know. As a child, she was an interested observer, and prepared her to read on her own.

Reading has always been a con-
trolling influence for her. Early morning, after folding the paper, and read all day, she continued to read newspa-
pers, magazines, and books. She grew up to read to the fun time on the back. She learned that if she was a girl, she said it was too bad she couldn’t read. She had to feel that she could do whatever she set her mind to.

Those newspapers along with books in the public library, and a state mobile circula-
tion service, kept her up to date on the opening new world to her. She was an avid reader, and always aware of what was being born. After her father retired as a miner, they moved to a house in Westbourne and he had more time to write. Shirley’s older brother, a maker ofilda Fox was also a cook-
ston. Her father, a deacon at the Southern Baptist Church, taught Shirley Fox Rogers about the importance of children and adults.

In 1978, she married Mike Rogers, a FedEx driver. Shirley Fox Rogers didn’t play house or play with dolls. She learned the importance of responsibility, and managed them. As a single mother of five children in a mar-
ry group as they could she could in a positive way. Her preschool school was a big happy family, and Kimberly was an integral part of the basketball team and the Beta Club and FFA and everything else.

She graduated from Wynn High School in 1963, then attended Tennessee Technological University, and later took continuing education at Tennessee Technological University in 1962, went to Knoxville College, and took continuing education at Tennessee Technological University in 1962.

The roots of LaFollette were coal and coke

According to http://www.co.cambridgeshift.org.uk/html/index.htm, iron was used by the Romans for building, and the high-

tant coal resources attracted LaFollette to purchase 50,000 acres and organize the LaFollette, Iron and Rail-
way Company. His operation included the build-
ing of more than 200 miles of line. LaFollette and his family presided over this com-

tact, George Barber. Although al-

Afterward she met Mike Rogers, her last of six presi-

dent. A past president of her Rotary Club, she began serving on the advi-
sor. Fannie H. Richolson

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LaFollette was a hilly, mountainous area, characterized by a high amount of rainfall and a cold climate. The town was founded in 1893 by James W. Buchanan, a civil engineer, who was tasked with building a new railhead and assembly point for a new coal mine. The town grew rapidly, and by 1900, it had a population of over 1,000 people. Over the years, LaFollette grew to be a bustling mining town, with a school, hospital, and numerous businesses.

In 1945, Shirley Fox Rogers was born in LaFollette. She attended school in the town and later went on to attend Tennessee Technological University, where she earned a degree in business.

Shirley Fox Rogers married Mike Rogers in 1978, and together they raised five children. She has been active in LaFollette community affairs, serving on various committees and boards, including the LaFollette City Council, the LaFollette Business Association, and the LaFollette Chamber of Commerce.

Shirley Fox Rogers is dedicated to helping others, and has a particular focus on children and youth. She has been involved in various organizations and programs that help children, such as the LaFollette Boys and Girls Club, the LaFollette Youth Council, and the LaFollette School District.

In her role as a community leader, Shirley Fox Rogers has worked to improve LaFollette, both in terms of infrastructure and services. She has been instrumental in securing funding for various projects, such as the construction of new roads and bridges, and the expansion of the town’s water and sewer systems.

Shirley Fox Rogers is committed to making LaFollette a better place to live, and she continues to work towards that goal. She is proud of the town’s history and culture, and she believes that LaFollette has a bright future ahead.

LaFollette is located in the Appalachian Mountains, in the eastern part of Tennessee. It is a hilly, mountainous area, characterized by a high amount of rainfall and a cold climate. The town was founded in 1893 by James W. Buchanan, a civil engineer, who was tasked with building a new railhead and assembly point for a new coal mine. The town grew rapidly, and by 1900, it had a population of over 1,000 people. Over the years, LaFollette grew to be a bustling mining town, with a school, hospital, and numerous businesses.

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