

SST Task Force trolls for new members at NCSL

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Recruiting more states, keeping associate members at the table, getting more legislators involved, and launching advocacy efforts were just a few of the strategic goals identified as part of a full-court press for moving the Streamlined Sales Tax Project (SSTP) forward.

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) task force on State and Local Taxation of Telecommunications and Electronic Commerce met prior to the official kick off of the NCSL annual meeting in Nashville to discuss several proposals 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.

“Our goal is to increase state membership (in the streamline project) and to keep those associate members at the table,” said

North Dakota Sen. Dwight Cook, president of the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board. “We don’t want to lose any associate members.”

As part of a five-part strategy for growing the organization, the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board is working with NCSL and the National Governors Association (NGA) to determine why some states have not yet become members, specifically focusing on the more populated states such as California, Florida, and Texas. Part of their recruiting efforts included a breakfast session during the annual meeting that targeted legislators from states who have not yet joined in the project and promised to provide information for “bringing your sales tax system into the 21st century.”

Another strategy for keeping states involved in the project is to create “adviser states” status for those implementing states that

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Homeland Security Chief says we’re still not safe

BY CAROLE GRAVES

Just one week after a thwarted terrorist plot to blow up planes headed to the U.S., Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said there has been a lot of progress in the war on terror but that the country still isn’t safe.

“A lot has been done. Last week was a testament of the progress,” said Chertoff. “But I’m the first to admit that we still have a lot to do. We are not as safe as we need to be, but we’re making progress.”

Chertoff remarks were made during the National Conference of State Legislatures’ annual meeting recently held in Nashville. He told state lawmakers that vigilance is key for dealing with “radical fascists’ ideologues.”

With the five-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 approaching, Chertoff ticked off improvements made to national security:

- Airplanes now have reinforced cockpit doors.
- Airport screening has been increased and screeners have been trained to look for detonators.
- Armed air marshals are present

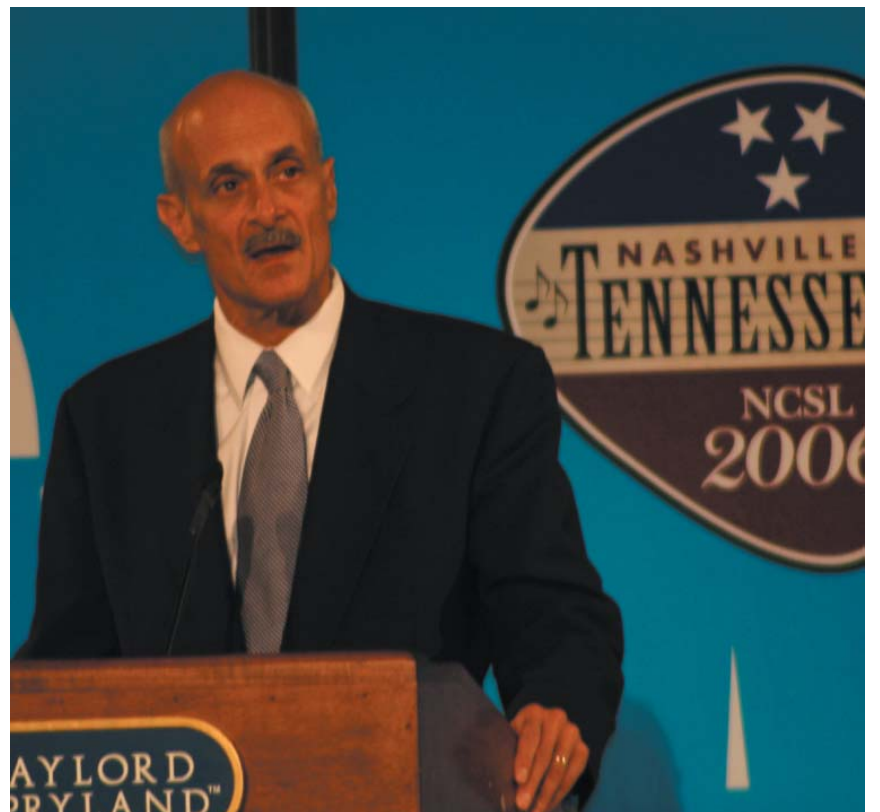


Photo by Carole Graves

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff discusses progress of national security efforts during the NCSL conference in Nashville.

- on flights.
- The intelligence community has

been refashioned and worked toward greater information sharing.

- The federal government has invested \$10 billion in port security improvements.
- FEMA has been retooled to better respond to state emergencies.
- Ten major cities have improved their emergency radio communications systems so that all jurisdictions including police and fire departments can talk to each other in crisis situations.

“Police and firefighters who were rescuing people in the World Trade Center on 9-11 couldn’t speak to each other because they had different radio frequencies,” said Chertoff. “The critical foundation of response is the ability to talk to each other. We are closer to achieving that.”

He said the federal government has spent more than \$2 billion on

See **CHERTOFF** on Page 3

Court, AG rule in favor of cities

BY DENNIS HUFFER
MTAS Legal Consultant

For the first time, a Tennessee court has recognized the common law of law enforcement privilege, which exempts from public disclosure certain law enforcement records that would reveal police investigative techniques, enable criminals to avoid detection, and reveal the names of potential witnesses.

The Court of Appeals in *Jackson Sun v. The City of Jackson* (No. W2005-01234-COA-R3-CV – June 14, 2006) 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 on-going investigations.

In this same case, the Court of Appeals held that financial records relative to the Diamond Jaxx 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 indefinitely to look for responsive documents that may come into its possession in the future.

AG Rules on Regulation of Residential Rental Property

The state Attorney General has ruled that a municipality acting within its charter 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 an unauthorized privilege tax. OTAG 06-103 (June 21, 2006).

Wilder, Naifeh honored by national organization



Lt. Gov. John Wilder receives NCSL Lifetime Achievement Award.

Tennessee’s top legislative leaders, Lt. Gov. Wilder and House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, were recognized for their leadership during the recent meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

Speaker Naifeh was awarded the 2006 Excellence in State Legis-

lative Leadership.

Naifeh and co-winner Andrew Romanoff, speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, were selected from more than 25 nominees from 20 states by a bipartisan committee of scholars, former state legislators, business leaders, journalists and the leaders of the State Legisla-



Photos by Carole Graves

House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh receives Legislative Leadership award.

tive Leaders Foundation and NCSL.

Speaker Naifeh is a 31-year veteran of the Tennessee House. He has served as speaker since 1991, and was majority leader during the six years before he became speaker. During his tenure, Naifeh has served with Republican and Democratic governors, working with both to

pass legislation while maintaining the independence and integrity of the legislative institution.

The success of Jimmy Naifeh may be best expressed by the words of a sign sitting on his desk, “It is amazing what can be accomplished if it does not matter who gets the

See **AWARDS** on Page 2

Blistering fuel costs evaporate city budgets

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

The painful burn of rising fuel prices has locked the state’s municipalities into a budgetary juggling act to avoid reduced or discontinuation of services and the dreaded tax increase.

“All of the city’s departments have amended their budgets from other operational line items to increase their fuel line item,” said David Jones, assistant to the city manager in Cleveland.

Diesel fuel that was \$2.20 per gallon May 2006 in Tennessee has spiked to \$2.75 and \$2.85 respectively.

Sample surveys recently conducted by the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) indicate municipal fleet operational costs increased by 57 percent, on average, between fiscal years 2004-06. Additional fuel surcharges recently introduced to cities by outside contractors performing municipal services such as paving, trash pickup or shipping/delivery companies further fans the flame.

Minus the option to level surcharges for city services, “Robbing Peter to pay Paul” scenarios have

become commonplace in cities across the state as local governments scramble to channel funds from budgets once designated for equipment and supplies or unfilled positions to finance municipal fuel needs.

“We’ve been fortunate in that we’ve not cut services, but that doesn’t mean departments haven’t had to cut back,” Jones said. “Department heads have been able to make do by deferring purchases and frankly, doing without certain things.”

“We don’t really know what to do,” some respondents acknowledged truthfully as a moderate list of conservation methods including no idling policies, monitored tire pressures, restricted use of take-home vehicles, and riding two to a car have apparently helped, but only so far.

“Conservation does work-but there is a limit to what it can save without reducing services,” the survey summarizes.

Reserve fund dipping, budget amendments, and expenditure cuts along with revenue growth remain high on the list of fuel funding methods across Tennessee in addition to building fees and water, sewer and natural gas rates.

Other suggestions considered

by respondents include: recreational taxes, fee schedules for out-of-city fire calls and switching to diesel and Flex Fuel (E-85) vehicles and an increase in bio-diesel percentage for municipal fleets already utilizing alternative fuels.

Fuel costs took center stage at



Photo by Victoria South

The price of asphalt paving has skyrocketed due to rising oil prices prompting cities to delay or reduce the number of street repairs in their communities

NEWS
ACROSS
TENNESSEE



BY TISH WOMACK
TML Research Analyst

ARLINGTON

Part of a \$67,000 grant from The Assisi Foundation of Memphis was used in purchasing a generator to power the town hall and fire department should an emergency or disaster occur.

ATHENS

Six miles of sidewalks will be added to city streets with the \$400,000 Pedestrian Enhancement Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

BAILEYTON

Although Baileyton has been an incorporated town since 1915, a certificate was never issued by the Secretary of State Office. A records search was done after Baileyton was told by a local financial institute that according to a document search done by it, Baileyton didn't exist as a corporate entity. Now, a certificate of existence has been prepared by the Tennessee Secretary of State and duly delivered to the town council.

BELL BUCKLE

Amphitheater improvements will be made at Bell Buckle Park with the \$10,000 grant from the Local Parks and Recreation Fund. The city is responsible for a 50 percent match.

CHATTANOOGA

When VIPGift, a gift and incentives business, completes its \$2 million expansion in September, the company will hire nearly 100 employees, almost doubling its workforce.

CLARKSVILLE

UCAR Carbon Co, a first-phase manufacturer of graphite electrodes used in steel production, announced it will lay off the last of its 65 employees by Oct. 31.

CLEVELAND

A \$495,987 enhancement grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation will fund Phase III of the Cleveland-Bradley County Greenway.

CLEVELAND

WebEOC, computer software by the Georgia-based Emergency Services integrated (ESI), will allow local emergency management officials to communicate with each other as well as with state agencies during an emergency. Cleveland financed the software with grant money from Homeland Security.

CLINTON

Clinton received \$300,000 for football field upgrades from the State's Park and Recreation Fund.

COOPERTOWN

Coopertown Middle School was the only Tennessee school and one of three in the nation to receive a Blue Ribbon/Lighthouse School of Excellence honor. The Blue Ribbon/Lighthouse Schools of Excellence organization was established to improve excellence for all children.

CROSSVILLE

A ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by Bill Hall, director of the US Chess Federation, along with many public officials and the Chamber of Commerce, opened the newly finished USCF headquarters.

ETOWAH

A parks and recreation grant of \$500,000 will be used toward the recreation center being planned by Etowah. The grant is part of the \$11.3 million given out by the Local Parks and Recreation Fund and Recreation Trails Program in Tennessee. Etowah received the largest grant awarded.

FRANKLIN

A gateway corridor leading into Franklin including walkways, decorative lights, landscaping and other attractive amenities will be partially paid for with \$500,000 from the state. The city will put up \$4.4 million of the \$5.79 million project cost.

GRAND JUNCTION

A less-than reliable 1957 fire truck has been replaced with a 1977 pumper truck, compliments of Collierville. The old truck will be relegated to parade duty.

GREENEVILLE

The city has launched a fully automated garbage pick-up program that is projected to save Greeneville money in workers' compensation claims. Other benefits will be efficiency and cleanliness through the use of larger trucks and sturdy garbage containers.

JONESBOROUGH

New grant funding in the amount of \$130,000 from the Parks and Recreation Fund Grant Program will be used to create an ecological park and to provide walkways and other facilities at another park.

KINGSPORT

The National Endowment for the Arts awarded Kingsport Ballet, a nonprofit school and company, \$10,000 for its DANCE CO program. In its third year of existence, DANCE CO will use the grant money to continue offering free classical ballet classes to children from at-risk environments. Kingsport Ballet is the only dance company in Tennessee to receive a NEA grant this year.

KNOXVILLE

Only one dismissal of a red-light camera violation has occurred since the automated system was installed in April. The violation was voided when it was discovered that the license plate was misread.

LAFAYETTE

A new Macon county Welcome Center to be located in Lafayette will be developed using an enhancement grant of \$250,000 from the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

LAKELAND

A matching grant of \$142,000 from the state will be used in Phase 2 development of its Windward Slopes Park.

MARTIN

In 2006, the Carl Ripken Southeast Tournament will be played at Martin and again in 2008, according to an announcement by Henry Sermons, regional commissioner for Babe Ruth Baseball Inc.

MARYVILLE

City council members voted to replace the 52-year-old ladder fire truck with budgeted funds of

\$490,000. The new truck, not available for 10-12 months, will possibly help in lowering the Maryville's ISO rating.

MOUNTEAGLE

The third phase of the city's Mountain Goat Special Trail will be partially financed with a \$582,000 grant from the state's parks and recreation funds. The trail will connect Sewanee to Monteagle for both bicyclers and pedestrians.

MOUNT CARMEL

The volunteer fire department has its own simulated fire training facility for firefighters to practice their skills and gain experience. It is the only volunteer department of its size in East Tennessee to have such a facility.

MURFREESBORO

Verizon wireless announced it will hire 214 more employees by year's end. Most of the new jobs will be in the inbound-call center as customer service positions.

NASHVILLE

Taking a clue from the success of the Walk of Stars in Hollywood, Calif., Nashville announced it will create its own Music City Walk of Fame along Demonbreun Street from the Music Hall of Fame to the Musica statue on Music Row. The mile, now known as Music Mile, passes Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Gaylord Entertainment Center, Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum, and the future Gospel Music Hall of Fame and Museum. The first plaque honoring those who have contributed to making Nashville a music city is expected to be placed in November.

NEWPORT

A DriAll Air Curtain Destructor (ACD) will be used to burn acceptable wood following the demolishing of a building. Once the building is brought down, burnable wood that has not been treated with glue or preservative is separated and put into a burn pit constructed especially for the installation and use of ACD. A fire is ignited and an air curtain blowing at more than 100 mph is swirled into the pit, bringing more oxygen to the fire and intensifying the burning rate and keeping smoke contained under the air curtain. It is an efficient and effective way to dispose of qualifying building materials and aids in the reduction of smoke and fly ash.

OAK RIDGE

A restructuring of EnergySolutions, a broad-based nuclear firm, will eliminate 100 jobs, many of which will be from its Oak Ridge facilities.

SOUTH PITTSBURG

An Appalachian Regional Commission grant of \$31,000 will be used to provide free wireless computer Internet access to the city residents. The city, one of the first in the state to provide free WiFi technology for its residents, will match the grant money.

VONORE

Titan Transfer Inc., headquartered in Shelbyville, will hire 75 drivers for its new trucking operation in Vonore as a part of its growth plan across the country.

WINCHESTER

A parks and recreation grant from the state will be used toward the downtown revitalization effort that will include landscaping, new signs, crosswalks, and sidewalks.



PEOPLE



BY TISH WOMACK

Gov. **Phil Bredesen** spent several nights in the hospital for observation after developing flu-like symptoms, possibly caused by a tick bite. He was released on Aug 18 and is undergoing more tests at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota.

President George Bush nominated Bishop **William H. Graves**, Memphis, as the ninth Tennessee Valley Authority board member. If confirmed by the U. S. Senate, Williams will be the first African-American to serve on TVA's board.

Spring City promoted Sgt. **Jason Yuh** to chief of police in early August. He has been with the city's police department for five years.

August city elections brought the following mayoral results: Algood Vice Mayor **Patt Judd** elected as mayor; **Dennis Webb** won the Bell Buckle mayoral election; Cleveland Mayor **Tom Rowland** was re-elected; Cookeville City Councilman **Sam Sallee** elected as mayor; Gruetli-Laager re-elected mayor **Donna Rollins**; and Monterey Mayor **Ken Wiggins** was re-elected.

Alcoa Mayor

Don Mull was appointed to the Air Pollution Control Board by Gov. Phil Bredesen.



Mull

Kingsport selected **John Campbell** as their new city manager. Campbell is the former Johnson City Manager city manager and currently serves as the director of NETWORKS-Sullivan Partnership. He will assume duties within two months.

Retired banker **Larry Martin** was named to replace Knoxville Finance Director **Chris Kinney** who resigned to take a position in the private sector.

Former Goodlettsville City Manager **David Wilson** became Goodlettsville Chamber of Commerce executive director on Aug. 7. He served as



Wilson

Paula Muscatello dies after battle with diabetes

Paula Muscatello, wife of Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund's Joe Muscatello, died at age 50 on Aug. 12, after a lengthy battle with diabetes.

She is survived by her husband of 27 years, daughter Joanna, son Christopher, brother James Barber, and sister Elizabeth McVay.

Paula, a graduate of West Virginia University, touched innumer-

Wilder, Naifeh honored by NCSL

AWARDS from Page 1 credit."

Wilder, who is currently serving his 36th year as speaker of the State Senate, was recognized with a lifetime achievement award. He is the longest serving presiding officer of any state legislative body in

Goodlettsville city manager from 1985 to 2004.

Ambassador to Poland and former Knoxville Mayor **Victor Ashe** donated 104 boxes of his papers to the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy. The papers include memos, letters, reports, copies of legislation and correspondence that cover his public life as a state senator and mayor of Knoxville.

The Millington Civic Center was officially named in honor of former Mayor **George Harvell** at the city's

August meeting. Harvell was instrumental in purchasing the former First Baptist Church two years ago that was renovated for the civic center.



Trail

Former state Sen. **Larry Trail** died Aug. 20 at age 53 of complications to the liver. He served one term in the Tennessee Senate from 2001-2005.

The Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police awarded Oak Ridge Police Chief **David H. Beams** the Eastern Tennessee Division Chief of the Year Award during its 36 Annual Conference.

Dowelltown Mayor **Jimmy "Pee Wee" Redmon** died at age 55 on Aug. 1. He was in his sixth year as Dowelltown's mayor and served as an alderman from 1992 to 2000.

Oliver Springs Mayor **Ed Kelley** died Aug. 10 at age 71. He was in his second term as mayor and had served two terms as an alderman. He was known as a "hands-on" mayor who often was seen mowing the rights of way of city streets. Vice Mayor **Chris Hepler** was appointed mayor to serve the remaining three years of Kelley's term.

Belle Meade City Attorney, **Vance Berry**, died of a heart attack at age 81.

Former TML and CTAS employee **Judy Reinhart** died Aug. 5 at age 65 following a lengthy battle with cancer.

Former Shelbyville Mayor **H.V. Griffin** died on July 26 at age 89. He served several separate terms as mayor between 1969 and 1987.

able children's lives through her years as a teacher of children of special needs.

Donations can be made in Paula's honor to West Virginia University toward a scholarship for students is special education. Send donations c/o Paula Muscatello Scholarship Fund, College of Human Resources & Education, P.O. Box 6122, Morgantown, WV 26506.

America.

The 2006 legislative session represents his 18th consecutive two-year term as Speaker and 42nd year in the Tennessee Senate.

Wilder's success in the legislature can also be credited to his bipartisan leadership style.

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A woman’s place: Females embrace public safety careers

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

On a warm July night, a team of firefighters from Brainerd Fire Hall 13 in Chattanooga attended a routine medical call. A 78-year-old man with heart problems was complaining of chest pain. Quint 13 arrived on the scene, took the patient’s vitals and monitored him until EMS workers arrived.

As a result, Captain Benita Owens and Firefighters Melissa Miller and Kelly Liles became the first all-female firefighting team in history to be dispatched to a call in Chattanooga.

Growing up in Orlando, Fla., 36 year-old Julie Tanksley of Calhoun, Tenn. had big dreams of becoming one of Orlando’s downtown mounted police. An officer since she was 19, Tanksley is now one of the youngest female police chiefs in Tennessee and is widely respected for her competence and open door policies.

Former chemistry teacher, Angie Lewis, 48, of Germantown had never shot a gun in her life when she entered the police academy at age 35. Now, Detective Lewis uses her teaching experience and knowledge of children and chemistry to conduct training courses, manage top notch youth drug and alcohol deterrent programs, and successfully crack down on prescription drug fraud in her neighborhood.

In 2003, Lewis was named Tennessee Officer of the Year by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

These outstanding women join an increasing number of females choosing non-traditional careers in public safety across Tennessee. In

the U.S., around 6,200 women currently work as full-time, career firefighters and fire department officers.

Statewide, there are approximately 1,485 female police officers, 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 working ability 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, you’re going to jail!” 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,” said Ziegler.

Detective Lewis is quick to point out that women have a tough side as well. She humorously remi-

nisces about her first day at the academy, a day when male officers repeatedly referred to her as a ‘cupcake.’

“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 male-dominated profession.

Many of the issues of sexual harassment, hostile behavior, skepticism, or distrust stem from previous societal constraints regarding male/female roles and notions of physical limitations and capabilities.

That margin is narrowing with more education and concrete 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 coincidentally when Firefighter Liles of station 10 was asked to report at Brainerd 13 that night.



Photo courtesy of Chattanooga Fire Dept.

Chattanooga’s first all female firefighter crew recently made history by responding to a call. From left to right Captain Benita Owens, and Firefighters Kelly Liles and Melissa Miller.

female firefighters make great firefighters. I’ve never seen one fail. I would tell anyone not to be afraid to hire them.”

Dover Police Chief Kim Wallace agrees, “You must be strong-willed, earn 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.

The South Central Tennessee Tech Prep Consortium, a program established by the federal government dedicated to preparing students for life in a high tech society, suggests activities parents can do at home to help introduce their children to the vast possibilities of non-traditional careers:

- Suggest activities and experiences for girls that may traditionally be reserved for boys.
- Encourage children to question stereotypes.
- Praise girls for skills and ideas rather than appearance or neatness.
- Resist rescuing girls or providing ready answers.
- Encourage girls to discuss and explore the messages and assumptions or portrayals of women in films, television, music, and magazines.



Photo courtesy of Germantown Police Dept.

Detective Angie Lewis with Germantown Super D Pharmacist Steve Thornton. Lewis has worked with all Germantown pharmacies in curbing the number of fraudulent prescriptions in the city. Lewis is also developing a program website that should be helpful to doctors and pharmacists when prescription drug fraud is suspected.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

BY TISH WOMACK

A survey released at the National Conference of State Legislators indicated state governments saved approximately \$1 for every \$10 in the state budget for the most recent fiscal year, one of the highest levels in decades. Conservative forecasting of year-end balances and a strong economy were listed as reasons for the 25 percent increase from the previous budget year.

A national study by the National Park Service reported that national parks generate about \$5 for surrounding communities for every dollar spent.

Tennessee was third in the nation, behind California and Washington, DC, for the number of visitors and the revenue generated. The \$5 represents the amount money spent by visitors from outside the community on food, lodging, fees and other incidentals.

Interagency communication key to national security

CHERTOFF from Page 1 interoperability and will continue to grant money to states and local governments to improve communication capabilities. The Department of Homeland Security is also working on standard operations of procedures for 75 states and large urban areas. The guidelines are scheduled for completion by the end of the year. Implementation of the plan will include training for first responders.

Chertoff also discussed the REAL ID Act, which would standardize state drivers’ license requirements.

“Five years ago, five terrorist got on planes with drivers’ licenses that were fairly easy to obtain,” said Chertoff. “That’s one of the burning lessons that came 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 governments. It would also help identify illegal immigrants.

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

One significant concern with the REAL ID Act is the cost of implementation, which is estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. During NCSL’s annual business meeting, members adopted a resolution that stipulates that Congress pay for standardizing driver’s license requirements or repeal the Act by the end of 2007.

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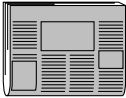
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CITY MANAGER

COLLEGE DALE. The city of Collegedale, population 7,500, is seeking qualified candidates for the position of city manager. Collegedale has a council-manager form of government with a five-member commission serving four-year staggered terms. The city, with a budget of \$5 million, has 60 employees and is a full-service city with sewer and airport. Water is provided by a utility district and fire service by an independent volunteer district with an ISO rating of 4. The successful candidate must have a bachelor's degree in public or business administration and five years local government administrative experience. A master's degree is preferred. A demonstrated background in municipal budget development, project management, community development is desirable. Superior leadership/team-building skills and excellent communications skills are essential. Salary: \$65,000 plus excellent benefits. Send resume to: Janet M. Kelly, Interim City Manager, City of Collegedale, P.O. Box 1880, Collegedale, TN 37315-1880. Phone: 423-369-3135; e-mail: jcarr@collegedaletn.gov.

ENGINEER II – TRANSPORTATION GERMANTOWN. The city of Germantown is seeking qualified applicants for the position of engineer II in transportation who will perform a variety of complex engineering functions related to the planning and design of municipal projects such as subdivisions and commercial development, transportation, and water and sewer systems. The person hired will be responsible for overseeing the city's traffic engineering operations including monitoring traffic control devices and traffic study analysis. A Tennessee PE license is required. Prior experience in transportation engineering strongly preferred. Ideal applicant should have the ability to work with considerable independence, manage multi-project workloads, prepare project reports and utilize engineering software. Individual will represent the city and must have good public relations skills. Send resume to: City of Germantown, ATTN: Personnel, 1930 S. Germantown Road, Germantown, TN 38138. EOE.

ENGINEER II – WATER RESOURCE GERMANTOWN. The city of Germantown is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Engineer II in water resource who will be responsible for performing a variety of complex engineering functions related to the planning and design of municipal projects such as subdivisions and commercial development, storm water management, and water and sewer systems. The person hired will be also be responsible for overseeing the city's stormwater management activities including stormwater analysis, control and monitoring. A Tennessee PE license is required. Prior experience in water resources in engineering and NPDES Phase II Program strongly preferred. . Ideal applicant should have the ability to work with considerable independence, manage multi-project workloads, prepare project reports and utilize engineering software. Individual will represent the city and must have good public relations skills. Send resume to: City of Germantown, ATTN: Personnel, 1930 S. Germantown Road, Germantown, TN 38138. EOE.

LIBRARIAN HEAD

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN. The town of Signal Mountain is seeking qualified candidates for the position of head librarian who will be responsible for supervising staff and managing library activities and events. The ideal candidate will be an energetic and creative person with considerable professional expertise in the library field and in-depth knowledge of the selection acquisition, cataloging and computer tracking of materials. A master's degree in library science from a college or university accredited by the American Library Association or equivalent education and experience is required. Salary: competitive DOQ/E plus benefits. Send resume to: Diana Campbell, Town Manager, 1111 Ridgeway Avenue, Signal Mountain, TN 37377. Deadline: Aug. 31. EOE.

QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTOR-ENGINEERING

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is accepting applications for a quality control inspector whose duties include performing construction inspections of public roadway and stormwater infrastructure. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and four years of experience in construction inspection, surveying, or related field; or a four-year civil engineering technology degree. Salary: \$33,613+ DOQ. requirements to: Personnel Office, City of Gallatin, 132 W. Main Street, Room 101, Gallatin, TN 37066. Phone: 615-452-5400; Fax: 615-451-5918. M/F/D/V EOE.

PLANNER

GERMANTOWN. The city of Germantown is seeking a planner to provide complex professional work relating to the regulation of land use within an urban planning context. Completes land use, zoning, annexation, and other planning studies; reviews developers' plans; and prepared illustrations and exhibits for presentation at public or committee meetings. The person hired must be knowledgeable of municipal planning principles and practices, research methodology, statistical procedures, and laws and regulations pertaining to municipal planning and development. Strong communication and presentation skills required along with the ability to work effectively with others, to work independently, and to handle multiple projects. Some evening hours required. The person hired must have any equivalent

to a bachelor's degree in urban planning or related field and a minimum of two years of urban planning experience. Send resume to: City of Germantown, ATTN: Personnel, 1930 S. Germantown Road, Germantown,, TN 38138. EOE.

PROJECT MANAGER I OR II ENGINEERING

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin's engineering division is accepting applications for a Project Manager I or II position. The person hired will be performing professional engineering-related duties for Gallatin. Project Manager I requires a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and the successful completion of the Engineer in Training examination. Salary: 442,453+ DOQ. Project Manager requires a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and PE license. Salary: \$46,862+ DOQ. Send completed application, available at www.gallatin-tn.gov, resume, and cover letter with three reference and detailed salary requirements to: Personnel Office, City of Gallatin, 132 W. Main Street, Room 101, Gallatin, TN 37066. Phone: 615-452-5400; Fax: 615-451-5918. M/F/D/V EOE.

RECREATION DIRECTOR

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN. The town of Signal Mountain is accepting applications for the position of recreation and parks director who will be responsible for supervising staff, managing recreational activities, events, equipment, and maintenance of recreational facilities and parks. The position requires education or experience equivalent to a bachelor's degree in recreation administration, leisure science, or a related field with a minimum of two years experience. The town offers a competitive pay based on education and experience and competitive benefits. Send application or resume to: Diana Campbell, Town Manager, 1111 Ridgeway Avenue, Signal Mountain, TN 37377. Deadline Aug. 31. EOE.

STORMWATER COORDINATOR

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville is seeking qualified applicants for the position of stormwater coordinator whose duties will be to monitor and enforce storm water regulations pertaining to all construction projects including storm water runoff, and to monitor the town's right of ways to ensure that safety standards and construction specifications are met. The position requires an associate's degree with major coursework in biology, horticulture, natural sciences, resources management, forestry, wildlife management, or a related field, plus six years experience and/or training in construction, storm water drainage, roadway construction, or erosion control. Any combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job will be considered. A valid driver's license is required at the time of hire. Salary range: \$35,266-\$53,693 DOQ plus full benefits package. Applications may be obtained at the H.R. Department, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017 during the work week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Applicants must fill out the official Town of Collierville application to be disclosed for this position. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. Position open until filled. EOE.

WATER/WASTEWATER DIRECTOR

FRANKLIN. The city of Franklin is seeking applicants for the position of water/wastewater director whose responsibilities will include supervising assigned departmental staff; maintaining adequate staffing for operations of all divisions within the department; directing operations and activities of the water and sewer departments; preparing and administering water and sewer enterprise fund budget (\$12.6 million revenue - \$7.7 million expenditure – in 1997 terms); investing and expending funds for capital improvements projects; preparing rate studies for water and sewage usage; forecasting long range demands for water and sewage collection; processing pay requests for outside contractors on water and sewer projects; selecting outside engineering firms for design of proposed projects through RFPs; assessing fines for non-compliance to sewer use ordinance; working with engineers to determine water and sewer line installation and routing; providing public relations and comments concerning sewer and water issues; establishing and implementing goals for all division s of the department; overseeing operations in all divisions of the department; performing inspections of water and sewer plant facilities, and water and sewer line installation and repairs; determining and scheduling replacement and installation of new and existing infrastructure; working with contractor and developers locating and routing water and sewer lines and tapping into the water and sewage systems; reviewing construction plans to ensure water and sewer lines meet city codes; overseeing all regulatory permits requested by federal, state, and local governments necessary for the complete operation of the water/wastewater department; insuring that all reports are delivered to the regulatory agencies in a timely, neat and correct manner; and performing other related duties as required. A bachelor's degree in engineering, business, public administration or related field with five to seven years experience or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience are required. Salary range: \$71,559-\$80,504 DOE/Q. A required application is available at www.franklin-gov.com or from HR Department, City of Franklin, P.O. Box 305, 109 3rd Avenue South, Franklin, TN 37065. Phone: 615-791-3216; Fax: 615-791-3297; e-mail: tracy@frnaklin-gov.com. Deadline: Sept. 1. EOE.

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ECD grants available to municipalities

BY GAEL STAHL
Editor

At the TML Annual Conference last month, three Economic and Community Development program managers explained state and federal grants and programs that ECD administers and distributes to Tennessee towns and cities. Joe Barker, then ECD assistant commissioner, now executive director of Tennessee Tomorrow, Inc., also attended.

ECD Community Division

Philip Trauernicht described, for ECD's Community Division, one state-funded program and three federally funded. He said grants are normally limited to services provided by local governments and their implementing agencies for businesses locating, expanding, or operating in Tennessee. Grants are made for public domain improvements in water, sewer, and transportation whereas loans are made for the exclusive use of one industry (buildings and equipment).

In general, these funds can be used for almost anything except political activities and for funding the general operation of government. In practice, however, most of the funds go for projects that create jobs such as industrial infrastructure grants and industrial buildings and equipment loans, and for projects related to health and safety.

- **FastTrack Infrastructure Development (FIDP)** is state funded for water, sewer, transportation and site improvement type things. (See http://tennessee.gov/ecd/progman_ttiip.htm). Last year ECD received \$17.5 million in FIDP funding. FIDP funds can be used for industrial infrastructure only.
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** program is a federal program similar to FIDP (See http://tennessee.gov/ecd/progman_cdbg.htm). ECD receives \$30 million in CDBG funds each year that are distributed statewide to city and county applicants only.
- **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)** program (http://tennessee.gov/ecd/progman_arc.htm). ECD receives about \$5 million via the ARC program for the state's eastern counties with at least half of the money going to six distressed counties.
- **Delta Regional Authority (DRA)**. DRA, similar to ARC, pro-



Photo by Gael Stahl

Left to right, Philip Trauernicht, a city official, Joe Barker, Clinton Berry, and Terry Ellis after the ECD workshop.

vides \$387,000 in 2004 for the 21 western counties' needs, mostly water, sewer lines, and education (See http://tennessee.gov/ecd/progman_costben.htm). Most applicants for FIDP, ARC, and DRA grants are cities and counties although industrial boards and other quasi-government units may apply. The applicants for bond authority are always local industrial boards since they are the ones who actually issue the bonds.

ECD Energy Division

Terry Ellis and Clinton Berry, program managers for ECD's Energy Division, explained both the Local Government and Small Business Energy Loan Programs that make loans to small businesses and local government facilities. They are for energy efficiency measures such as HVAC retrofits, efficient lighting, weatherizing and other energy conservation related projects.

Ellis said both of these programs offer free energy audits to identify potential energy measures. The Local Government Loan Program can offer loans of up to \$500,000 and the Small Business Loan Program can lend up to \$300,000. These loans, both Local Government and Small Business, are made at 0 percent interest to those communities that are certified as Three-Star participants and 3 percent interest to all others. The Three-Star designation is very important, as a \$500,000 loan at 0 percent versus 3 percent will save an institution approximately \$62,000 in interest alone over the seven year loan amortization period.

A recent Local Government loan to Cumberland County for \$338,828 for energy retrofits on the

Jail and Criminal Justice Building was made at 0 percent interest because of the Three-Star designation for Cumberland County.

Berry, manager of the Small Business Energy Loan Program, said that they have made approximately \$10 million in loans since 1991. The loans average \$38,000 to \$100,000 each for businesses that have been in operation for at least 2 to 3 years. This program is not for new business start-ups.

The Biodiesel Infrastructure Program makes grants to each county for up to \$12,000 for the purchase of tanks, pumps and card readers to be installed and used for the fueling of biodiesel vehicles in those communities. The maximum grant per county is \$12,000, with Three-Star communities receiving 75 percent grants and all others 50 percent grants. Alcoa has switched 300 diesel powered vehicles to biodiesel and used this program to install new pumps for biodiesel. Biodiesel fuel burns much cleaner than regular diesel and can be used in any diesel powered vehicle.

The Energy Division also provides funding for Tennessee's Main Street communities with matching grants for up to \$20,000 for exterior pedestrian and traffic lighting, traffic signals and park lighting under the Main Street Lighting Program. The local utility in each Main Street community is asked to perform an energy audit on exterior lighting measures to quantify that energy savings exist for these types of measures. Since these grant funds are from federal energy appropriations, energy savings are required to meet program regulations.

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STATE BRIEFS



BY TISH WOMACK
TML Research Analyst

State revenue collections were \$387 million more than budget estimates for the just-ended fiscal year, according to Finance Commissioner Dave Goetz. The unexpected revenues were the result of corporate tax collections that were \$137 million more than projected.

Traffic reports statewide are available using the new 511 program launched on Aug. 14. The traffic reports and road conditions may also be accessed by calling 511 online at TN511.com.

Tennessee Department of Human Services reported it had collected nearly half a billion dollars in child support for the past fiscal year. Over the past five years collections have increased 78 percent with new technology and improved enforcement.

More than \$4 billion in sales and use tax was filed on the state's Department of Revenue's online service since e-filing was made available three years ago.

A pilot program, "Retire Tennessee" was launched by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development to promote the state as a great place to retire. Ten communities have been selected to participate. They are Cumberland, Decatur, Greene, Hamilton, Hardin, Henry, Lawrence, Marshall, Putnam, and Sullivan Counties. Tennessee's population of 65 years old and older is expected to drastically rise from the present 14 percent and presents communities with an opportunity to strengthen and diversify their economies as well as enriching their lives with the skills and experience of relocated retirees.

The Tennessee Valley Authority announced it will reduce its rates by 4.5 percent effective Oct. 1, representing a \$400 million cut in charges to customers.

A Micro Loan Program has been launched by the Tennessee Economic and Community Development Commission in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The loans are for micro-enterprises which are businesses with five or fewer employees, one of whom owns the business. The small

loans of \$5,000 or less will begin in October and will be available to small businesses in rural areas of the state that are unable to secure loans from the commercial banking sector.

Early voting is becoming more popular as indicated by the 450,000 who voted early in August elections, up from 404,000 in 2002. Shelby County had the most people casting ballots during the early voting period with 78,922.

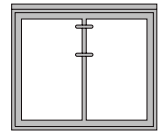
Seedco, a New-York based non-profit community development organization with an office in Memphis, has been the recipient of \$40 million in federal "New Market Tax Credits" to be distributed in Tennessee. The tax credits are aimed at helping low-income communities generate programs to help their citizens to join the work force. New Market Tax Credits, created by Congress in 2000, are aimed at spurring investment in these low-income areas.

The tax-free weekend in early August was a bonanza to both buyers and sellers by all accounts. Shoppers mobbed the stores to take advantage of the two-day holiday. Retailers used words like "fabulous" and "phenomenal" to describe their sales and buyers were willing to wait in long lines to purchase back-to-school items.

High gas prices haven't cut the numbers of visitors to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Visitation numbers show an increase of 1.7 percent for the year with 3.8 million people enjoying the park in 2006.

Expansion Management magazine ranked Tennessee fifth in its 10 best states for workforce training programs list. Alabama and Georgia were ranked first and second respectively.

Tennessee was one of three states meeting the federal mandate requiring states to analyze teacher-equity plans submitted to the U.S. Department of Education according to a report issued by the Education Trust. Under the No Child Left Behind Act, each state was to analyze whether low income and minority students were assigned to qualified teachers rather than to inexperienced, unqualified or out-of-field teachers.



COMING UP

Sept. 6-8: Tennessee Conference of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning" "We're All Connected" conference at the DoubleTree Hotel, Nashville. Register by Aug. 31. Contact: katieguenther@comcast.net.

Sept. 9: Tennessee Tree Climbing Championship at Hadley Park, 128 28th Avenue North, Nashville from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Tennessee Urban Forestry Council. Fee: TUFC member-\$35, non-member-\$40. Contact: Jennifer Smith at katieguenther@comcast.net.

Sept 12-13: Governor's Conference hosted by Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development at the Nashville Convention Center. Theme: "Mission Possible: Invent the Future." Register on-line at www.tnecd.gov or call 615-253-1950. Fee: \$175 before the conference, \$200 at the door. Hotel reservations: call the Renaissance Nashville Hotel at 615-255-8400.

Sept. 13-15: Tennessee Municipal Clerk Institute & Master Clerk Academy at the Cool Springs Embassy Suite, 820 Crescent Centre Drive, Franklin. Reservations at the hotel: 1-800-EMBASSY; Fax: 615-515-

5152. Fee: Municipal Clerk Institute - \$200 before Aug. 30, \$250 after; Master Municipal Clerk Academy - \$160 before Aug. 30, \$210 after. Contact: Kurt Frederick at 615-253-6385.

Sept. 16-23: The 17th Annual Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee beginning at Natchez Trace State Park. Call: 931-686-2453 or visit www.tnstateparks.com/BRAT to register.

Sept. 18-20: 2006 City and County Government Technology Summit, Arlington, VA, hosted by The Performance Institute. Cost: \$995. Contact: Melvin Hall at 703-894-0481.

Oct. 10-12: National Renewable Energy Conference: "Advancing Renewable Energy: An American Rural Renaissance," St. Louis, Mo., sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Energy. Contact: USDA at 202-720-4623 or DOE at 202-586-4940.

Oct. 23: Economic Summit for Women at the Marriott Nashville Airport Hotel, 600 Marriott Drive, Nashville. Cost: \$80. Contact: Yvonne Wood at vcwood@aol.com or call 615-444-9663.

Municipal Internships in honor Hensley, Wampler

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Municipal Management Internship funds have been established through the University of Tennessee in honor of two long running, outstanding city managers Gary Hensley and Lynn Wampler, who retired in 2006.

The Gary H. Hensley Municipal Management Internship Endowment honoring Maryville's city manager of 28 years will be administered by the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and is fast approaching the established goal of \$200,000 according to Tom Looney, IPS development director.

Hensley, the longest serving city manager in Tennessee, retired June 7 after serving 35 years in municipal government. He was recently presented the Tennessee City Management Association Manager of the Year award at the TML Annual Conference in Nashville.

Earnings from the endowment will pay an intern's salary and tuition each year with 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.

"This is a fitting way to honor Mr. Hensley," said Greg McClain, acting Maryville city manager. "He's someone who understands the importance of public service and the

importance of encouraging a new generation of leaders."

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

The Lynn 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 MPA interns for events such as the TML Annual Conference or summer training seminars/feedback sessions with professors, city managers, or MTAS consultants, excess funds may also be used to pay part of a student's internship salary or tuition.

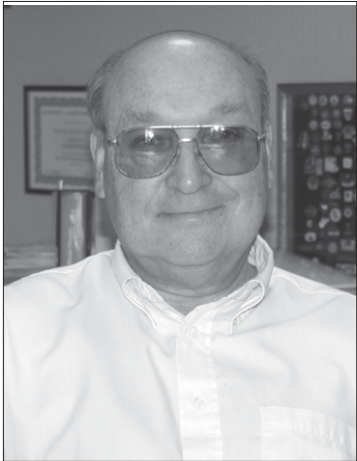
Wampler began his career with the city in 1969 and became Fayetteville's first city administrator in 1985. He was presented the Tennessee City Management Association Manager of the Year award at the 1993 TML Annual Conference in Knoxville.

One of the first solid waste authorities in the state was created, a street maintenance program is in place, and The Stone Bridge Memorial Bridge Park was developed under Wampler's leadership. Lynn Wampler retired July 14.

"A gift to this fund is an excellent way to honor Lynn's lifelong dedication to effective local government," said Kevin Helms, current Fayetteville city administrator. At the same time you will be supporting the University of Tennessee, cities across the State of Tennessee, and



Gary Hensley



Lynn Wampler

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 865-974-6587.

Schermerhorn Symphony Center opens Sept. 9

Nashville Public Television will broadcast the opening gala concert of the world-class hall, the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, live on Saturday, Sept. 9 beginning at 6:30 p.m. CDT on its Nashville station, WNPT, as well as public television stations in Chattanooga, Cookeville, Knoxville and Martin. Memphis declined the invitation to broadcast the program. The opening gala will be rebroadcast on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3:30 p.m.

The program, titled "One Symphony Place: A world Premiere Live from Music City" will be broadcast nationally in December on PBS.

Featured will be works by Shostakovich, Barber, and Mahler as well as a special world premiere, co-commissioned piece by the Nashville Symphony and Akustiks Inc., written by Bela Fleck, Edgar



The opening of the Schermerhorn Symphony Center will be broadcast live on Sat. Sept. 9 on Nashville's NPT station and additional participating stations.

Meyer and Zakir Hussain. Leonard Slatkin will conduct the orchestra and George Mabry will conduct the Nashville Symphony chorus.

The \$120 million center encompasses 197,000 square feet with a visually intimate 1,870 seat Laura Turner Concert Hall inspired by concert halls such as the Vienna

Musikverein, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and Symphony Hall in Boston.

The concert hall features a custom-built 3,600-pipe concert organ and a convertible seating system that will transform the space to a 5,400 square-foot flat floor for cabaret and pops concerts.

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Not Pictured: Algood: Small City Progress Award

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Sylvia Trice, Director of Conference Planning
Tish Womack, Research Analyst

First Responder grant program taking applications

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced today that it is seeking applications for the fiscal year 2006 Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP). The program is slated to provide more than \$32 million in equipment to first responders in selected rural and smaller communities who are typically not eligible for funding through the department's Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. **The application period will close Sept. 15, 2006.**

CEDAP provides smaller communities and rural areas with technology and equipment, together with training and technical assistance, to help enhance first responder capabilities throughout the nation.

CEDAP provides resources such as communications interoperability equipment, information shar-

ing technology, chemical detection devices, sensors, personal protective equipment, and rescue tools and training in how to use the equipment, devices, and technology.

"The threat of terrorism or other hazards extends beyond major metropolitan areas. Emergency response agencies in smaller communities must also be prepared to respond to all threats that may impact their citizens," said Under Secretary for Preparedness George Foresman.

"CEDAP supports local partners in smaller jurisdictions with essential equipment and training that they might not otherwise afford. CEDAP also contributes to national preparedness efforts by building regional response networks, fostering mutual aid between communities and enhancing communications interoperability capabilities."

Eligible applicants include law enforcement agencies, fire, and

other emergency responders who demonstrate in their application that the equipment will be used to improve their ability and capacity to respond to a major critical incident or improve their ability to work with other first responder.

Since its inception in FY 2005, more than \$35.2 million worth of equipment and training have been awarded to nearly 2,000 law enforcement and fire departments through CEDAP. With more than 5,400 organizations competing for one of 2,000 awards during FY 2005, CEDAP is highly competitive.

To submit an application for an FY 2006 CEDAP award, applicants should visit www.rkb.mipt.org/. Once submitted, the application undergoes several steps, including approval by the applicant's respective State Administrative Agency and a review board composed of experts.

City of Bristol improves flood insurance rating

Cities and counties that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are rated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on a scale from 1 to 10. This scale rating determines the cost of flood insurance premiums for property owners. Every local government participating in the NFIP enters the program at the highest level of 10 and must go through the Community Rating System (CRS) to reduce their rate. FEMA has certified Bristol as a Level 9 community under the CRS program. Individual flood insurance premiums are reduced by five percent for each reduced level a community attains.

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 and educational activities and storm water system maintenance are but a few of the actions a community can use to improve their flood insurance rating.

Bristol is one of eight local governments in Tennessee that have gone through the CRS process to gain an advantage on premiums for their property owners.

Nationally, 1,038 local governments have reduced premiums by obtaining a lower CRS rating. As a part of its flood plain management assistance, ECD's Local Planning Assistance Division provides support and guidance to local governments interested in the CRS program.

Staff from the Johnson City Regional Office of Local Planning Assistance worked with Bristol officials over a period of two years to attain the improved rating. For more information about the program, visit www.fema.gov or contact Stanley Harrison at 423-343-6446 or e-mail at stanley.harrison@state.tn.us.

City University Municipal Administration September: Risk Management, Workplace Harassment

Unlawful harassment is a form of discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal authority. In this course, participants will 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 Risk Management Pool staff

Who Should Attend?
Municipal officials and staff

Dates and Locations
August 31.Cookeville
September 7.Smyrna

September 19. . . . Collegedale
September 20. . . . Johnson City
September 21. . . . Knoxville
September 27. . . . Bartlett
September 28. . . . Jackson

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

Locations
Bartlett *Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center*
Collegedale *Collegedale City Hall*
Cookeville *Town Center*
Jackson *West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Public Service*
Johnson City *Johnson City Public Library*
Knoxville *University of Tennessee*

Conference Center
Smyrna *Smyrna Town Centre*

To register for this municipal administration program class, please visit the MTAS web site at www.mtas.tennessee.edu or contact Yana Truman at Yana.truman@tennessee.edu or 865-974-9833. Fees are \$25 per person per class for municipal employees and \$50 per person per class for all other participants.

For program information, contact Kurt Frederick, MTAS Training Consultant, at 615-253-6385 or e-mail kurt.frederick@tennessee.edu.

Directions to the facility will be included in your confirmation letter and are available on the MTAS Web site at www.mtas.tennessee.edu.



TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

BY TISH WOMACK

Let us know the particulars about your most important festivals at least six weeks in advance of the event. E-mail Tish Womack at twomack@TML1.org or fax to 615-255-4752.

Sept 2: Dickson County Southern Heritage Festival in Dickson with demonstrations of candle making, broom weaving, bluegrass and gospel music and more at Spencer Mill contact: www.dicksoncountychamber.com.

Sept. 2-3: Franklin Jazz Festival with jazz, blues and Dixieland music. Contact: Kristy Williams at 615-591-8500.

Sept. 2-3: Martin's 13th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival with free concerts, BBQ chicken cookoff, golf tournament, carnival, parade, pageants and more. Contact: 731-588-2507 or visit www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.

Sept. 3-4: Harriman Labor Day Street Festival with rides, games, live entertainment, craft and antique vendors, antique cars and children's petting zoo. Contact: Gary Baker at 865-882-2025.

Sept. 3-5: Cumberland County's MotionXpo at the Cumberland County Community Complex with barbeque and custom cars, trucks, motorcycles, and tractors. For information visit www.motionxpo.com.

Sept. 4: Harrogate's Free Annual Labor Day Celebration at Harrogate City Park with music, fun and games as well as food. Begins at 3 p.m. and ends with fire works at dark. Contact: 423-869-0211.

Sept. 4-10: Martin's 13th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival. Theme: "Meet in the Middle of Northwest Tennessee." Diamond Rio and 38 Special as headliners for the musical entertainment, food, activities for all ages. Complete festival information at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.

Sept. 9: 2006-2007 Arts Council Season Kickoff Concert featuring Mr. Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band beginning at 7 p.m. at the Krider Performing Arts Center in Paris. Cost: \$12.50 in advance or \$15 at the door. Contact: Paris Henry County Arts Council at 731-642-3955.

Sept. 9-10: Germantown Festival with arts & crafts, rides, games, food, auto displays, exhibits, live entertainment and more. Contact: Melba Fristick at 901-757-9212.

Sept. 15-Oct. 31: Smoky Mountain Harvest Festival – a countywide celebration. Call 800-568-4748 for more information.

Sept 16: Celebrate Munford, Downtown Munford. Call 901-837-0171 for more information.

Sept. 23: The 14th annual Huntingdon Heritage Festival. Contact: Jeal Atwood at 731-986-2900 or huntingdoncityhall@chargerinternet.com.

Oct. 14: Athen's Pumpkintown, a festival of history, harvest and heritage in downtown Athens from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. East Tennessee crafts, music food and history will be featured along with children's crafts, heritage craftsmen, storytellers and music. Admission free. Contact: Laura LeNoir at 423-746-0699 or visit www.athensdba.org.

Oct. 14: Sparta's Liberty Square Celebration featuring Marty Stewart along with an antique car show, craft fair, games, food and lots of giveaways. Contact: Lorie Spivey at 931-836-3248.

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY
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1. Make and model of **equipment** being bid:
_____ F.O.B. _____ \$ _____
(price)
2. **Less trade-in:**
_____ F.O.B. _____ - \$ _____
(price)
- | | | A | B | C |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 3. Initial purchase price: | = | \$100,000 | \$92,500 | \$85,000 |
| 4. Repair expense for five years or 5,000 hours, whichever occurs first, SHALL NOT EXCEED (repairs as described in attached conditions of sale) | + | \$8,000 | \$9,500 | \$11,000 |
| 5. Scheduled maintenance costs for 5,000 hours SHALL NOT EXCEED (from attached conditions of sale) | + | \$3,000 | \$6,000 | \$9,000 |
| | = | \$111,000 | \$108,000 | \$105,000 |
| 6. Guaranteed minimum repurchase in five years (covered by performance bond for amount of bid figure in this item) | - | \$75,000 | \$60,000 | \$50,000 |
| 7. Life Cycle Cost Total:
(Item #3 + Item #4 + Item #5 - Item #6) | = | \$36,000 | \$48,000 | \$55,000 |

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Tennessee mayors visit *The Dixie* in Huntingdon

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 Huntingdon Mayor, Dale Kelley. Also addressing the group was Lee Warren, executive director of *The Dixie* and Brad Hurley, 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,

“It has already meant so much to this area, and it is a great way to show how progressive planning and hard work pay off for a community and its future.”

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

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center is a major part of the downtown revitalization effort in Huntingdon for which the city won a TML Achievement Award at the recent 2006 Annual Conference held in Nashville.



Members of the West Tennessee Mayors Association: Row 1 (L-R): Tommy Litton, Trenton; Charles “Bones” Seivers, TML Bond Fund; Dale Kelley, Huntingdon; Phillip Williams, McLemoresville; Jack Dunning, Gleason. Row 2 (L-R): Walter Winchester, McKenzie; Whitney “Buck” Chambers, Piperton; Keith McDonald, Bartlett; Jack Johnson, Lexington. Row 3 (L-R): Don Buckingham, Scotts Hill; Maragret Mahery, TML; Charles Patterson, Henderson; Tim Boaz, Parsons; Virginia Davidson, Kenton; Robert Keeton, Bruceton; Charles Farmer, Jackson; Webb Banks, Brownsville; Tommy Green, Alamo; Randy Brundige, Martin; Harold Craig, Bells.

Streamlined Board launches recruiting strategy to increase membership

STREAMLINED from Page 1 seek to become members of the organization, but have yet to satisfy requirements for full or associate members. Under the proposal, adviser states would serve in an ex officio capacity on the board but could not vote. The proposal is expected to go before the governing board at its Aug. 29 meeting in Bismarck, N.D.

The group also plans to push

associate members states for a timetable for achieving full-member status.

Currently, 19 states have voluntarily changed their sales and use tax codes to comply with the agreement, including 13 states that are full members and six states that are associate members. Vermont and Rhode Island have also petitioned the governing board for full membership and are awaiting approval.

Tennessee is among six associate members states. Associate states have passed conforming legislation to comply with the agreement but the changes in tax laws do not take effect until a future date – such as in Tennessee, where implementation of the new tax system has been delayed until July 2007.

The SSTP was launched in 2000 by the National Governors Association and supported by NCSL with a

goal simplifying sales and use tax collection to make it easier for states to tax out-of-state sales, especially those transacted over the Internet in an effort to capture billions of dollars in lost sales tax revenues.

One of the key components for taxing remote sales is to transition from an origin-based tax system that taxes at the location of purchase to a system that taxes where the product or service is delivered. This change is anticipated to cause significant shifts in tax revenue among local governments.

Tennessee is among 18 states that use origin-based sourcing. According to a 2003 study conducted by Dr. Bill Fox, director of the UT Center for Business and Economic Research, 42 percent of Tennessee cities and towns will experience a revenue loss. And by adapting to destination sourcing it would result in an annual redistribution of more than \$55.5 million in local sales taxes from larger, urban areas to smaller, suburban and rural areas.

Destination sourcing is an impediment to many other states as well – California, Ohio, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Washington, have all expressed significant reluctance to change to a destination-sourcing system.

Earlier this year, the NCSL Task Force reviewed an amendment submitted by Ohio that would allow states to adopt origin-based sourcing provisions for intrastate sales. The Task Force rejected the amendment for fear that it would send a message to Congress and the business community that the project was taking a step back from simplification and administrative uniformity.

During the task force meeting in Nashville and again in a conference workshop session later in the week, entitled “Streamlined Sales Tax System: Is it Working?” destination sourcing was mentioned as a compliance issue, but no specific details were given as to how they would be handled.

“If you’re going to have a seamless sales tax system it has to go to destination-sourcing,” explained Illinois Sen. Steven Rauschenberger, NCSL president. “Legislators will have to work aggressively with local governments to make it work.”

With a looming 2007 implementation deadline in Tennessee,

the state Streamlined Sales Tax Group is studying options for holding local governments harmless from any revenue losses due to the change in distribution of revenues. Franklin Mayor Tom Miller and Murfreesboro Mayor Tommy Bragg serve on the Tennessee study committee, along with Rep. Mark Maddox, Comptroller John Morgan, Revenue Commissioner Loren Chumley, Smith County Mayor Michael Nesbitt, and Connie Hardin, director of Legislative Services. Rep. Maddox and Hardin are also members of the NCSL task force. Commissioner Chumley is a director on the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board.

The state study committee is required by law to analyze the impact on local governments and report their findings and make recommendations to the chairs of the Senate and House Finance, Ways and Means Committees by Dec. 31, 2006. Should the new tax system go into effect in July 2007, however, vendors will still not be required to collect sales tax on Internet, catalog, and other remote purchases.

As a result of U.S. Supreme Court rulings, states do not have the power to compel out-of-state vendors to collect and remit their sales taxes. The court said, in essence, that remote vendors would face an undue burden if they had to grapple with the complexity of different tax laws for thousands of taxing jurisdictions across the nation. The SSTP proposes to eliminate much of the complexity that the Supreme Court found objectionable by requiring states to establish standard definitions for taxable goods and services and maintain a single statewide tax rate for each type of product.

Congress has the power to regulate interstate commerce and it could act to compel remote vendors to collect sales taxes. In 2005, U.S. Sens. Enzi and Dorgan introduced the “Sales Tax Fairness and Simplification Act,” authorizing states that have conformed to the SSUTA to require out-of-state retailers to collect and remit sales tax to state in which purchaser resides. NCSL is supporting this legislation and is calling on members of Congress to join as co-sponsors and to move swiftly to consider and approve this legislation.

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 LeAnn Rimes. Some 6,000 people from across the country were in attendance for the week long event held at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center.

Photo by Victoria South

TML Risk Pool Congratulates 2005-06 Grant Recipients

To help address the concern of cities and agencies purchasing employee safety equipment that is often cost prohibitive or at least burdensome, even when the member recognizes the need for the equipment, the TML Pool has awarded 93 **Safety Partners Loss Control Matching Grants** for the 2005-06 fiscal year. The TML 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 ratios, risk management practices, and availability of funding.

The TML Risk Management Pool wishes to congratulation these TML Pool members that received grants for 2005-06. Risk control is a critical part of managing a governmental entity effectively, and the following entities are to be commended for their fine job of safety awareness.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alcoa, City of | Etowah, City of | LaVergne, City of | Puryear, City of |
| Athens, City of | Fairview, City of | Lawrenceburg, City of | Rockwood Electric Utility |
| Baileyton, Town of | Fayetteville, City of | Lenoir City, City of | Rockwood Water, WW, Gas |
| Baxter, City of | Franklin, City of | Lenoir City Utilities Board | Rockwood, City of |
| Benton, City of | Gates, Town of | Lewisburg, City of | SETHRA |
| Big Sandy, City of | Germantown, City of | Martin, City of | Sevier Solid Waste |
| Brentwood, City of | Greysville, Town of | Maryville, City of | Sevierville, City of |
| Bristol, City of | Greeneville Water Comm. | Maryville-Alcoa-Blount Co | Smithville Electric System |
| Bruceton, City of | Greeneville, City of | P&R | Somerville, Town of |
| Caryville, Town of | Harriman Utility Board | Michie, City of | Spring Hill, City of |
| Centerville, City of | Hohenwald, City of | Mid-Cumberland HRA | Sweetwater, City of |
| Cleveland, City of | Hollow Rock, Town of | Milan, City of | Tazewell, Town of |
| Columbia HA | Jacksboro, Town of | Millington, City of | Tracy City, Town of |
| Cookeville, City of | Jefferson City, City of | Monterey, Town of | Trenton, City of |
| Cowan, City of | Jonesborough, Town of | Morrison, City of | Tusculum City of |
| Crossville, City of | Kimball, Town of | Mount Carmel, Town of | UCDD |
| Crump, City of | Kingsport HA | Mt. Juliet, City of | UCHRA |
| Cumberland Gap, Town of | Kingston, City of | Norris, City of | Waverly, City of |
| Dandridge, Town of | Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) | Paris, City of | Waynesboro, City of |
| Decatur, Town of | Lafayette, City of | Parsons, City of | White House, City of |
| Decherd, City of | LaFollette HA | Petersburg, Town of | Winchester Utilities |
| Douglas Cherokee Econ Auth | LaFollette Utilities | Pigeon Forge, City of | Winchester, City of |
| Dunlap, City of | LaFollette, City of | Pleasant Hill, Town of | |
| Etowah HA | Lake City, City of | Portland, City of | |

Applications and instructions for 2006-07 grants were mailed to all TML Pool members in June. If you have not received it, please contact Lottie Scobee with the Loss Control Department at 615-371-0049 or 800-624-9698.

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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 GAEL STAHL
Editor

LaFollette Councilwoman Shirley Fox Rogers grew up a mere 12 miles north of LaFollette in a company town called Westbourne that was really a coal mine and coke producing operation, coke being a carbonaceous coal byproduct used as fuel in steelmaking. That remote, mountainous environment is a way of life long gone, but at its height, it provided jobs to 500 families.

It provided Fox Rogers a friendly place to grow up and many happy memories. For her, life revolved around the church, the schools, books and playmates.

When the mine shut down in the 1950s, most folks scattered, migrating to out-of-state jobs. Those who remained found the focus of their lives centered on nearby municipalities like LaFollette, Jacksboro, or Knoxville.

Fox Rogers was an only child. She was adopted as an infant in 1945 by a mother in her early 40s and father in his middle 50s. People thought of them as her grandparents. Adam C. Fox, chief electrician for the Blue Diamond Coal Company mine, and his wife, Goldie Fox, provided a loving parental atmosphere. They owned a car. They bought groceries with company scrip at the company store like everyone else did. They read to her, made her feel loved, clever and self-assured, and prepared her to take on life.

Reading has always been a centering influence for her. Early memories are sitting on her father’s lap and being read Bible stories and newspapers. When she learned to read she continued to read newspapers from the front page all the way through to the funnies on the back. She knew about current events by the time she was able to read. She says it was her father’s way to interest her in politics. He made her feel that she could do whatever she set her mind on.

Those newspapers along with books from her mother, the school library, and a state mobile circulating library truck were constantly opening new worlds to her. She was amazed when anyone talked about being bored. After her father retired as an electrician, the family stayed in Westbourne and he had more time to spend with his daughter. Home-maker Goldie Fox was always cooking and sewing and baking up a storm. Her father, a deacon at the Southern Baptist Church, taught Sunday school and Bible School to children and adults.

As a little girl, Fox Rogers didn’t play house or play with dolls. She organized play meetings, called them to order, and managed them. And she became president of as many groups as she could bully into playing with her. For her, elementary school was a big happy family, and high school was a chance to play on the basketball team and join the Beta Club and FHA and everything else.

She graduated from Wynn High School in 1962, went to Knoxville Business College, now South College, and took continuing education courses from Smith College, of Northampton, Mass. She graduated in 1965 and went to work as a secretary. At the time, she says, a woman was either a secretary, a teacher, or a nurse. She worked in Michigan and Ohio before settling in LaFollette. Her mother died suddenly in February 1973. Her 83-year-old father came to live with her but literally grieved himself to death six months and 11 days after his wife died. They’d been married nearly 50 years.

In 1978, she married Mike Rogers. Mike’s father founded Ben Rogers Insurance Agency 50 years ago, and now, at 83, still works there. Mike and Shirley’s daughter, Cindi, has given them two grandchildren as blond as their grandmother, Kyla 6 and Micah 3. When not playing grandparents, Shirley is the family’s community activist and politician while Mike, the family golfer and fisherman, “is a Southern gentleman.” After they married, Fox Rogers did some part-time work at their insurance office, but mostly made volunteer work her career.

The last 30 years have seen her working with at-risk children. She served 26 years on the Tanasi Girl Scout Board, the last six as its president. A past president of her Rotary Club, she began serving on the advisory board of Reach’s Children



Usually I take things lightly and am really easy, but I was adamant about that. And when I did that, everyone else said the same thing. We all came that year.

Center in LaFollette. It takes in children who have been abused. She is a founding member and the secretary of the Coalition to Address Juvenile Issues that is under the auspices of the Juvenile Court.

She has also served on the LaFollette (seven years) and the Campbell County (10 years) planning commissions. She was a founding 911 Board member in December 1996. She served 18 months as vice president and is has begun her ninth year as chair.

She’s been president of Hill and Valley Garden Club and a member of the Channel 2 Public Broadcasting System Network Board in Knoxville. She chaired the Campbell County Library Board for years, and chaired the Campbell County Christmas Parade for 20 years. A member of the Order of the Eastern Star, she is Past Matron and Past Instructor.

TT&C: What political or elective offices have you held?

SFR: I first ran for city council in 1998, ran again four years later, and will run for a third term in November. We have staggered elections. Nine ran for two seats in 1998, about half a dozen ran for two seats in 2002. In 2005, the governor appointed me to serve a two-year appointment on the state Water and Wastewater Board as the TML representative.

TT&C: Did you have a particular reason for running for council?

SFR: I felt I could serve my community and make a difference. I wanted to see a downtown park renovated;



People traveling through on their way to retire in Florida stop at LaFollette for gas, food, or lodging and never go further.

Both bring a highlighting emphasis on downtown.

TT&C: Did you have the same mayor during your eight years?

SFR: Our mayor runs separately for election and a male mayor who had been mayor for years was in office when I was first elected. We had a female mayor for four years, and now the other mayor is serving again. I’ve worked well with them both.

TT&C: How did LaFollette get its name?

SFR: Harvey LaFollette of Indiana came to an isolated settlement called the Big Creek Gap, planned and built the city from scratch and named it LaFollette. His coke ovens supplied coke to the whole country. Some of the ovens have been restored by the Campbell County Historical Society. The LaFollette House is being restored by the people who bought it. It’s beautiful. They and their children plan to live in it.

TT&C: How has the city evolved? Why do people want to live there, in fact, keep moving there in growing numbers?

SFR: We’re now a city of 8,300 surrounded by the most beautiful country in East Tennessee. Everybody who comes tells us that it’s the most beautiful place on Earth. People traveling through on their way to retire in Florida stop at LaFollette for gas, food, or lodging and never go further. Our best publicity is word of mouth. After LaFollette absorbed the loss of its original business, it began to thrive with the help of US Highway 25W,



Photos by Gael B. Stahl
Many legislators did not understand the firefighter union’s bill; they saw it as a perfectly harmless bill to help firefighters.

you could ask for in a thriving retirement community such as a modern water treatment system, renovated hospital, modern schools, and Knoxville with its university, arts, and malls just a 35 to 40 minute drive – whatever you could want.

TT&C: Is it too late to buy some lakefront property cheap?

SFR: I’ll give you an example about lakefront property. When my husband and I married, we had two lakefront lots. We sold the lakefront lots for \$7,500 because I didn’t want to live that far out. I grew up driving 12 miles to town and then lived 10 miles outside of town and drove into town all those years. I wanted to live in the city. Since we had property in town and property on the lake, I could live in either place. I wanted to live in town. The last time those two lots sold, nearly 30 years after we sold them, they sold for \$250,000.

A good friend of mine on the board told me the other day about a piece of property – I don’t know the acreage but it wasn’t very big – that he could have bought for \$12,500 just 10 years ago. It skyrocketed to \$2 million.

TT&C: So LaFollette is basically a retirement community?

SFR: That’s our niche. We are a welcoming people. A few of the newcomers have accused us of being “clannish,” but, in all honesty, we aren’t. If you move to Campbell County and want to be a part of our piece of heaven and you want to work along beside us, attend our churches, and acclimatize yourself to our ways, we will welcome you into our midst with open arms. Also, we will be open to the new ideas and new ways of approaching situations and solving problems that you bring to us.

However, we do have just a slight problem with those who want us to completely change our lifestyle and “speed up and move just a little faster.” This is the South, after all! We move very slowly and deliberately here and have been doing it this way since before we fought the Battle of the Northern Aggression. After you live among us for a little while you too will learn the value of slowing down, sitting on the porch, and enjoying a tall glass of Sweet Tea (that’s Sweet Tea, not Sweetened Tea).

TT&C: What are LaFollette’s pluses and minuses?

SFR: High property values have provided us a good property tax base. We kept the rate low too long so that when we had to increase we had to take a big jump, which is never popular. In retrospect, I wish we had raised it a little bit at a time. My hope for LaFollette is that we continue to progress by working together as a community and as a council, that people put aside petty differences and personal grievances to work together for the good of the community. For the most part, our four council members and mayor have worked well together and when there is an exception to that, we can work around it.

TT&C: What are some of the projects LaFollette is engaged in currently?

SRF: We are trying to get Lowe’s in town. We need more retail and sales tax base for municipal services. The county is getting Rarity Mountain near Jellico on the Tennessee-Kentucky state line. It is one of several multi-million development of Mike Ross in East Tennessee. Rarity Mountain Village, a gated retreat, offers magnificent mountain views of which 4,000 acres will be preserved for open space. The residential retirement community has championship golf courses, outdoor entertainment, a wellness center and spa, rock climbing, hiking, and biking trails with its own commercial area. It’s designed to have the feel of Vail and Jackson Hole.

Its hundreds of houses start at \$875,000. Ross had enough clout to get an interstate interchange at the top of Jellico Mountain. We hope that Rarity people will shop at LaFollette. It’s much larger than Jellico. If we get Lowe’s, Home Depot will follow. Wal-Mart moved from LaFollette to Jacksboro, and we need to replace that lost tax base. We’ve talked with TDOT and learned we’re getting lots of road improvements into the city – something we haven’t been able to accomplish in years. Getting turn lanes, bridges replaced, and programmed signalization are also in the works.

TT&C: To your community and public service you’ve added statewide commitments as a TML director at-large. Why?

SFR: I’ve always been an avid supporter of TML. When I was elected, I found out all I could about TML and knew I wanted to be part of it. I’ve never missed a TML meeting of any kind except one in Knoxville and that was because I went to see the doctor and they had me in surgery the next day. I had already paid my conference fees.

I almost missed one other one when the City Administrator Terry Sweat told the mayor one time that we couldn’t afford to go to the TML meeting. Mayor Lucy Lobertini called me and said that we would not be going because our city administrator says we can’t afford to go.” I just said, “I’m going to the TML meeting. We can’t afford not to go.” She said, “Well, whatever you think.” I hung up and called him and said, “Have someone make my reservations for the TML meeting. I will be going to the TML legislative meetings. I will be meeting and talking with my legislator about TML legislative concerns. I will be attending the TML meeting. Make my plans accordingly.”

TML doesn’t know about this – until now. That’s the only time I really asserted myself and said, “You will be doing this for me.” Usually I take things lightly and am really easy, but I was adamant about that. And when I did that, everyone else said the same thing. We all came that year.

We city officials get something out of TML gatherings you don’t get elsewhere, workshops, expertise, the experiences of other city officials, and contacts with sources of help from state agencies and the like.

TT&C: You’re just starting your second year on the TML board. What committee work have you done?

SFR: Before I came on the board, I served on a subcommittee of the Legislative Committee two or three years ago, and I was vice chair of the Environment, Utilities, Transportation Policy Committee last year.

TT&C: Are there things that a united cities effort by TML could accomplish that you’d like to see?

SFR: I’m appreciative of TML’s efforts, what they did with the firefighter union’s bill, for example. I haven’t seen any union activity out our way but would have if that bill had passed. Many legislators did not understand the firefighter union’s bill; they saw it as a perfectly harmless bill to help firefighters. I called one of my legislators and had other people who had influence with him and contributed heavily to his campaign call him. He told me it was just a harmless bill that didn’t mean anything. They all called me back and told me that. I was just about dying trying to tell them he didn’t really understand the ramifications of the bill. And he’s a fine man. Very fine. A well-intentioned senator. But he didn’t understand. That’s what scared me. Thankfully, our representative did understand.

The roots of LaFollette were coal and coke

According to <http://co.campbell.tn.us/history.html>, iron deposits along with abundant coal resources attracted LaFollette to purchase 30,000 acres and organize the LaFollette Coal, Iron and Railway Company. His operation included coke ovens, blast furnace, numerous coal mines, iron mines, railroads, and, eventually, a thriving city that was incorporated in 1897.

“Harvey LaFollette and his family presided over this commercial empire from their home, Glen Oaks. This lovely Victorian home is still LaFollette’s largest home with twenty seven (27) rooms. Listed with the National Register of Historic Properties, the home was designed by the famous Knoxville archi-

tect, George Barber. Although later additions were made, the original house was shipped by railroad and assembled on site as a kit home. The house is located on Indiana Avenue near the Campbell County Museum and Archives.”

In *Tennessee Towns: from Adams to Yorkville*, Tom Siler says that Harvey M. and Grant A. LaFollette, Indiana businessmen whose coal company was foundering, came to the area to sell the firm’s mountain holdings in 1897. But when they influenced the L&N Railroad to route through the hills the result was that the isolated settlement known as Big Creek Gap was renamed LaFollette and incorporated in the same year.

the Dixie Highway, that passes through LaFollette and Cove Lake State Park coming from Knoxville out to Kentucky by connecting with I-75.

TT&C: You certainly have some of the prettiest waterways and lakes, don’t you?

SFR: Norris Lake, the most beautiful lake on Earth, is fabulous. So are our mountains. We have anything

we’ve accomplished that. We wanted to project a cleaner, more presentable image when people came to our city. We wanted the garbage picked up, the trash off the streets, to beautify the front door we show people who live here and who come here. We wanted to restore pride to our community. We’ve had great luck with that through a Beautification Committee and Historical Committee we didn’t have before.