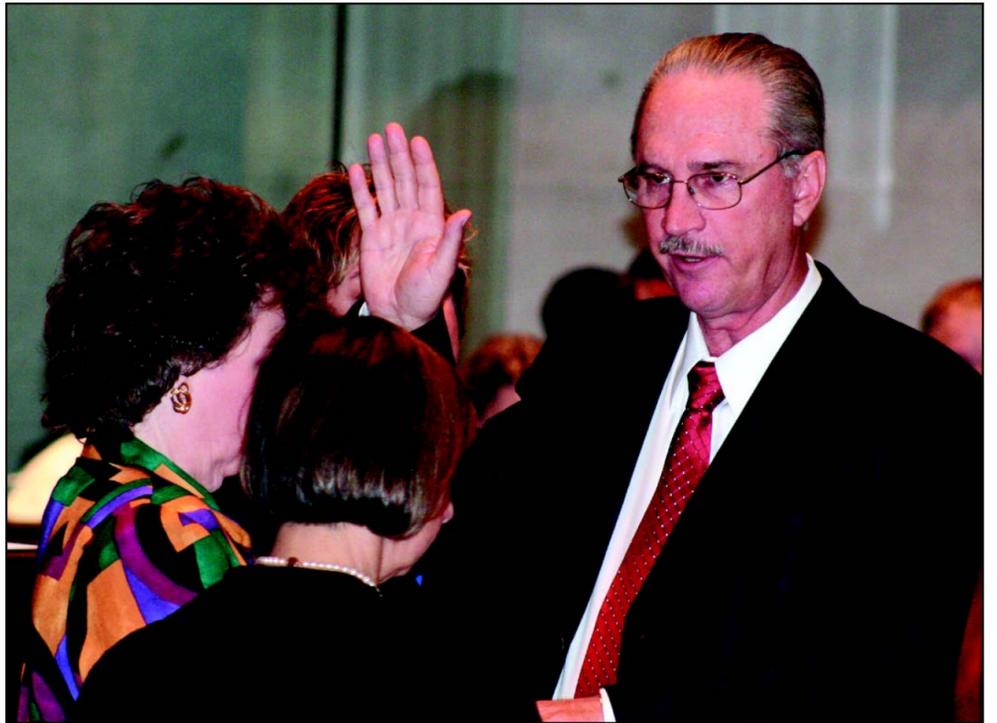


106th General Assembly convenes; Ramsey, Williams elected Speakers



Ron Ramsey was re-elected to his second term as Lt. Governor and speaker of the Senate with a 19-14 vote along party lines.



Kent Williams, a Republican from Elizabethton, was sworn in as the new speaker of the House of Representatives. See Page 2 and 3 for additional photos of 106th General Assembly opening day.

Photos by Victoria South

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

The House elected its first Republican speaker since 1969, but it wasn't Jason Mumpower, the GOP's nominee. Instead, Kent Williams, a Republican from Elizabethton,

was elected speaker of the House of Representatives by garnering all 49 of the Democrats votes, plus his own, to give him the one point edge over Mumpower.

In a stunning maneuver by the House Democrats to retain some party control, Democratic Leader

Gary Odom crossed party lines and nominated Williams for the coveted speaker position instead of the Democrats presumed nominee, Jimmy Naifeh.

Naifeh, who has served as House speaker since 1992, told re-See **ASSEMBLY** on Page 2

Legislators elect new slate of Constitutional Officers

BY CAROLE GRAVES

It was a clean sweep for the Republicans when it came to elections of the state's Constitutional Officers. All three of the GOP's nominees were elected during a joint session of the 106th General Assembly.

Tre' Hargett was elected secretary of state (70-61); Justin Wilson was elected comptroller of the treasury (69-62); and David Lillard was voted in as treasurer (69-62).

Hargett currently serves as director with the Tennessee Regulatory Authority and is a former member of the Tennessee House of Representatives.

Wilson, who served as environment commissioner and then as deputy governor in the Sundquist administration, is a lawyer and expert in taxation and finance.

Lillard is a bond attorney with a master's in taxation. He currently serves on the Shelby County Commission and is a former board member of the Shelby County retirement system.

Republicans outnumber Democrats 69-63. Democrats were hoping that with the dire financial situation facing the state, that their seasoned incumbents would prevail — Secretary of State Riley Darnell, Comptroller John Morgan, and Treasurer Dale Sims.

Shortly after the historical November elections, when the Republican party won the majority in both Houses — a first since 1869 — the GOP established an application and vetting process for Republican candidates interested in the positions.

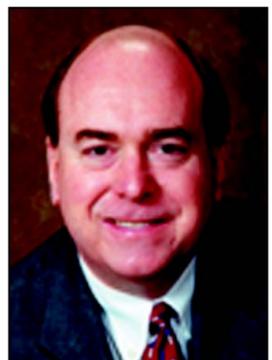
Fourteen Republican applicants were interviewed — five for treasurer, eight for secretary of the See **OFFICERS** on Page 4



Tre' Hargett



Justin Wilson



David Lillard

Road salt a hot commodity in 2009

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

A lifesaving wintertime staple has been in shorter supply lately in communities across the nation, including Tennessee, as requests for road salt go unmet into 2009.

According to the Salt Institute's website, a bi-partisan trade group, heavier than average snowfall throughout the Northeast to the Midwest contributed to a near record use of road salt in the U.S., 20.3 million tons in 2007, leaving salt mines and suppliers depleted and customers scrambling for emergency supplies and road salt substitutes mid-winter. Additionally, salt transport by barge was drastically impeded after the snow thawed with flooding and high water present along the upper Mississippi. Other factors, according to Dick Hanneman, Salt Institute president, include \$4/gallon fuel prices and concerned customers increasing their salt orders for the following year.

Sales in January-June 2008 surged 12.4 percent higher than in the first half of 2007, according to Hanneman, with record-high bids from state transportation departments.

"2008 may well set the all-time record," notes Hanneman. "State agencies that maintain interstate

highways are supplied first, leaving smaller communities the hardest hit by the shortage."

"Salt suppliers have indicated a very limited supply this year, which has caused many concerns across the nation for state, city, county, and local governments," said Estel Hagewood, Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) manager.

"Each spring, we work with the Department of General Services, Purchasing Division to determine early order quantities to be used on the Bid Solicitation to help salt companies have a market forecast for salt supplies needed to fill our salt bins. These quantities are to refill our salt bins only and does not include any projected usage of the upcoming winter."

TDOT received salt placed on early purchase orders, according to Hagewood, enough to keep the 119 bins located across the state replenished "under normal winter conditions."

No Fees and No Limits. City residents, including all family members, may use the discount card anytime their prescription is not covered by insurance. There are no fees, no restrictions and no limits on how often the card may be used.

The NLC Prescription Discount Card program is a member service of the National League of Cities. In order for a city to participate in the program, the municipality must be a member of NLC.

There is no cost for member cities to participate in the program, but interested cities must:

- Promote the program to the local media with mutually approved communications: Pre-launch press release, launch press release and PSAs.
- Promote the program through



TDOT's Nashville District receives 700 tons of salt.

"Our supply problems occur when we have to re-order during a harsh winter," Hagewood continued, "Late January or February, when the northern states are receiving the available salt."

The same cannot be said about local governments this year, where some officials claim to have experienced a rude awakening when purchasing road salt.

"We were only able to get 25 tons, just a truckload, for emergencies" said Baxter Mayor Jeff Wilhite, who said the city had been reduced to manually shoveling what little salt they had and spreading it by hand.

"We want drivers to be aware of See **SALT** on Page 8

NLC offers prescription drug card to member cities for residents to use

NLC has launched a new program for member cities to help residents cope with the high cost of prescription drugs. Now it is possible for city officials to offer savings on prescription drugs to their constituents who are without health insurance, a traditional pharmacy benefit plan, or have prescriptions not covered by insurance.

The NLC Prescription Discount Card program, in collaboration with CVS Caremark, can save an average of 20 percent off the full retail cost of prescription medication.

There is no cost to the city to co-sponsor the program with NLC. CVS Caremark will provide each city with personalized (with your city seal/logo) prescription discount ID cards as well as press releases, public service announcements, toll-free Customer Care, etc.

Residents will see an immediate benefit!

Easy Access. Residents may save

an average of 20 percent at more than 59,000 participating pharmacies across the country, including many pharmacies in your city.

No Fees and No Limits. City residents, including all family members, may use the discount card anytime their prescription is not covered by insurance. There are no fees, no restrictions and no limits on how often the card may be used.

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- Promote the program through

various city venues or communications to the residents using the standard communication vehicles the city currently uses. All communications must be reviewed and approved by NLC and CVS Caremark unless the city is using supplied communications.

- Provide city wide ID card distribution points to distribute the template ID card that will be printed with the relevant city's seal. Stands will be provided to display the cards.
- Provide a link to the co-branded web site www.caremark.com/nlc from the city web site, as this site contains the program information and useful tools for city residents, including online enrollment with the ability to print an ID card and use it immediately.
- Identify a person on the city staff to serve as the principal program contact with NLC and CVS Caremark.

Certified Municipal Finance Officer Program to begin

The Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) program is ready to get started, with MTAS set to roll out the first in a series of classes leading to this designation beginning in February 2009.

The Municipal Finance Officer Certification and Education Act of 2007 requires most cities to have a chief financial officer (CFO), who is either a Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO), or be exempted from earning the certification, or a qualified contractor of these services as according to the law. The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is charged with administering the educational program and testing to achieve the CMFO designation.

MTAS has developed, with the assistance of and review by staff of the Tennessee State Comptroller's Office, the first in this class series

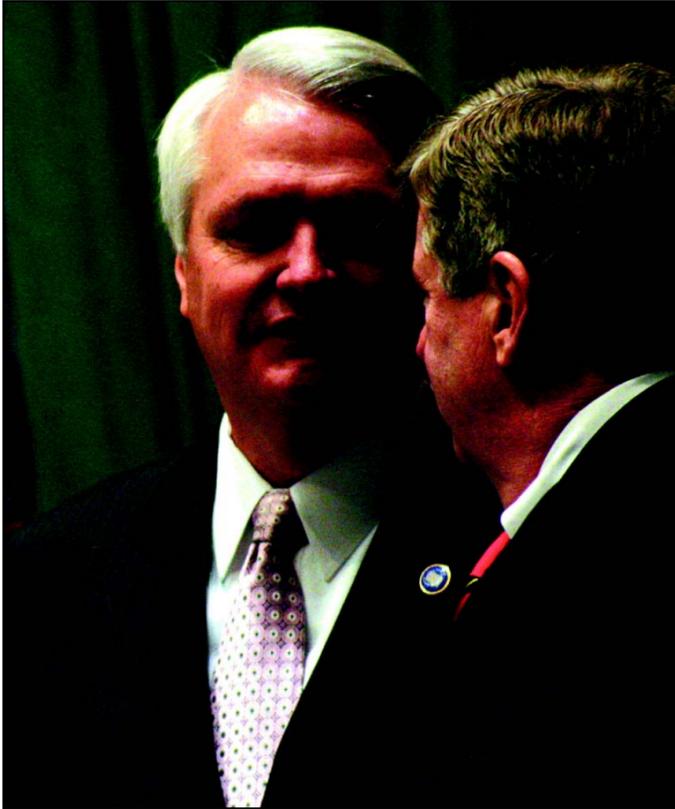
entitled "Government Environment" which covers many of the state and federal laws, regulations and compliance issues which Tennessee municipalities must deal with on a day-to-day basis.

The eight-hour class, the first of 11 as required in the law, will be offered in a number of locations across Tennessee beginning in February.

MTAS has developed a data base of municipal finance officers who have qualified to apply as candidates in this program and has recently notified those individuals of the registration procedures and classroom sites, together with a study guide for review prior to attendance.

In announcing the beginning of the CMFO program Mike Tallent, Executive Director of MTAS, stated See **CMFO** on Page 7

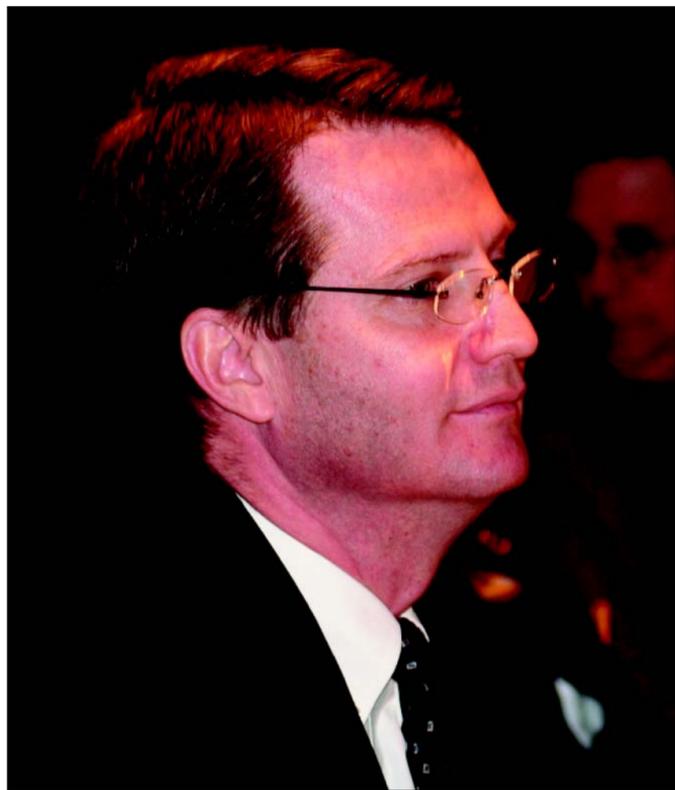
Senate convenes for 106th Tennessee General Assembly



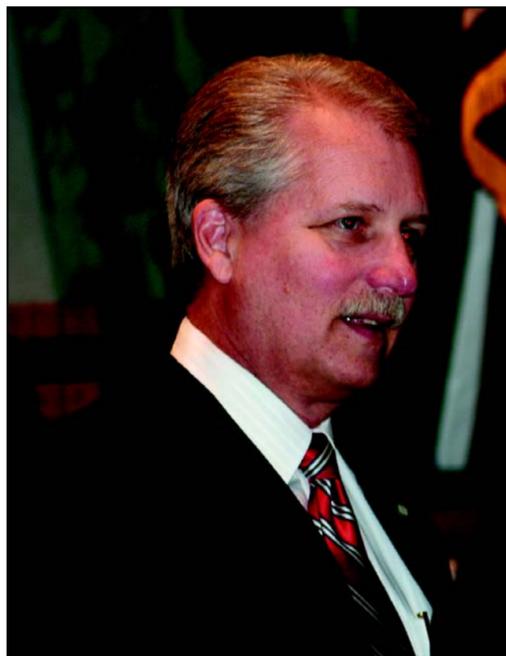
Ron Ramsey was elected by his fellow senators to serve his second term as Lt. Governor and Speaker of the Senate.



Sens. Dewayne Bunch, Paul Stanely, and Jim Tracy



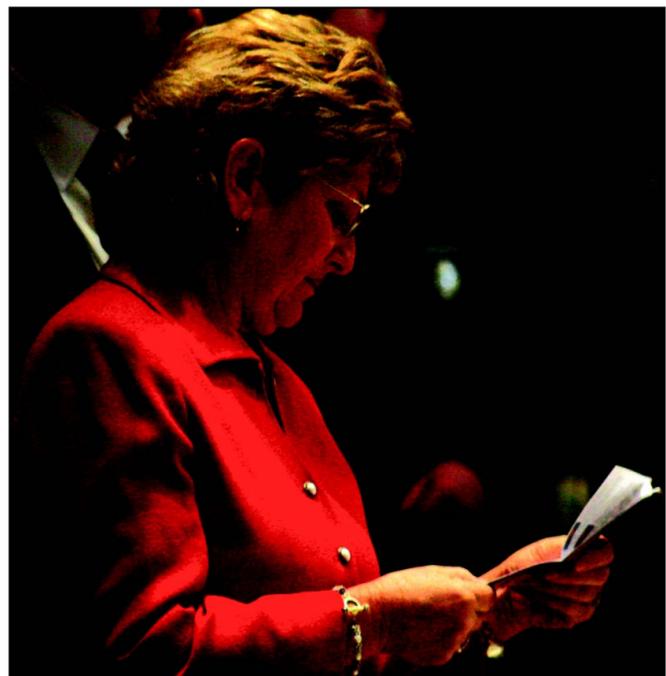
Sen. Tim Burchett



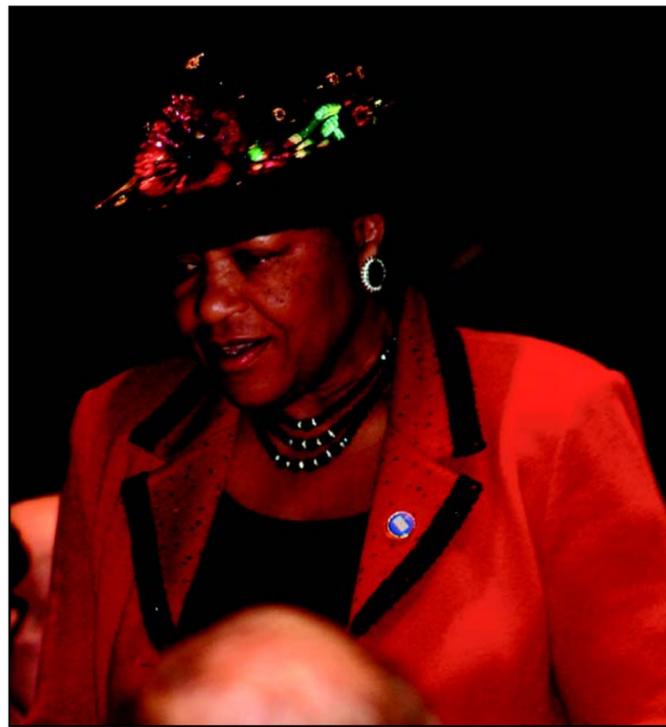
Sen. Bill Ketron



Sen. Bo Watson



Sen. Diane Black



Sen. Thelma Harper



Above, Sen. Charlotte Burks
At left, Sen. Mark Norris

First session of 106th Assembly called to order

ASSEMBLY, from Page 1
porters in a press conference following the House session, that when it was clear that he did not have the one extra vote he needed to keep his position as speaker, the Democrats moved to "Plan B" and nominated Williams.

Williams is considered to be a moderate Republican who has supported Naifeh in the past. However, he, along with the other House Republicans, signed a pledge to vote for a Republican, leaving many Republicans feeling betrayed; whereas, Williams says he promised to vote for a Republican, but never specified it would be Mumpower.

Following Williams victory, mayhem broke out in the chamber among legislators and spectators in the gallery. Republicans booed and Democrats cheered as Williams gave his acceptance speech.

Pledging a bipartisan approach to leadership, Williams said he will make committee chair appointments that will be equally spread between Democrats and Republicans that are based on seniority and ability.

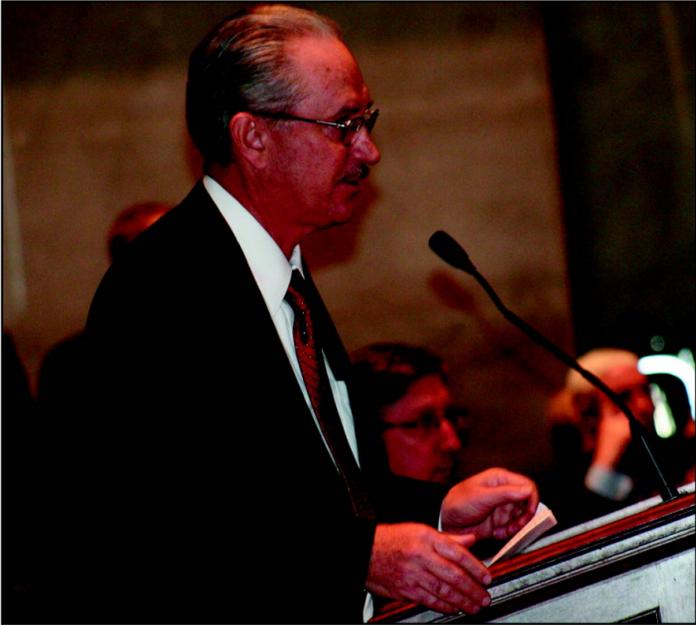
In another surprise move, Lois DeBerry, a Democrat, was re-elected to her post as speaker pro tem, winning over Beth Harwell, the Republican's nominee, with a 50-49 vote.

Proceedings in the Senate chamber flowed at a much calmer pace, as Ron Ramsey was re-elected to his second term as Lt. Governor and speaker of the Senate with a 19-14 vote along party lines. Sen. Jamie Woodson was elected speaker pro tempore

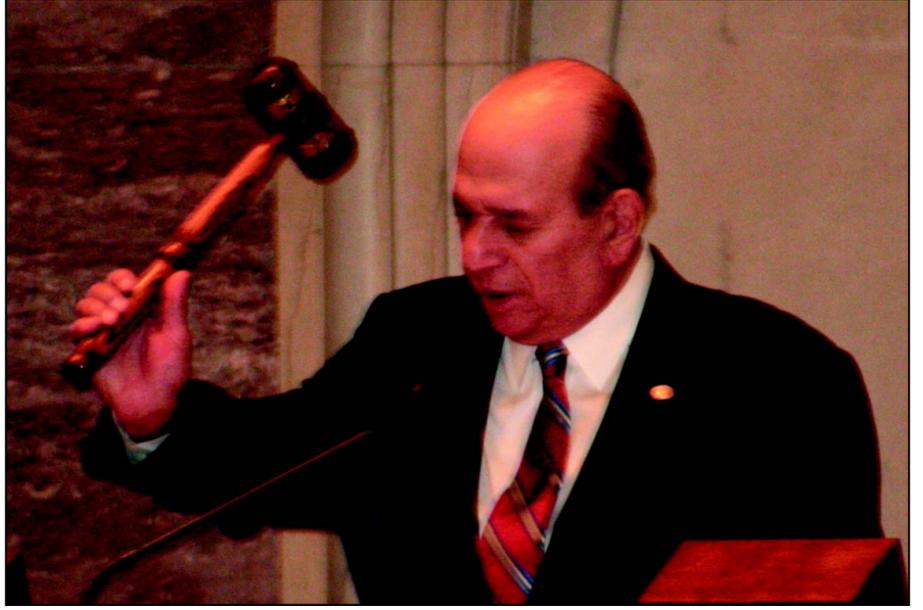
Ironically, in 2007, Ramsey persuaded former Democrat Sen. Rosalind Kurita to cross over party lines to help secure his victory as speaker over longtime leader John Wilder. Ramsey rewarded Kurita's support with the position of Senate speaker pro tem. Kurita lost the support of her party, however, as well as her re-election bid in November.

Williams will most likely face similar repercussions. GOP members have already filed petitions demanding that he be ousted from the Republican party.

2009 Legislative Session opens with new House Speaker



Kent Williams gives his acceptance speech after being elected House Speaker.



Jimmy Naifeh presides over the House in one of his final acts as Speaker, a position he has held since 1992, making him the longest serving House Speaker in the nation.



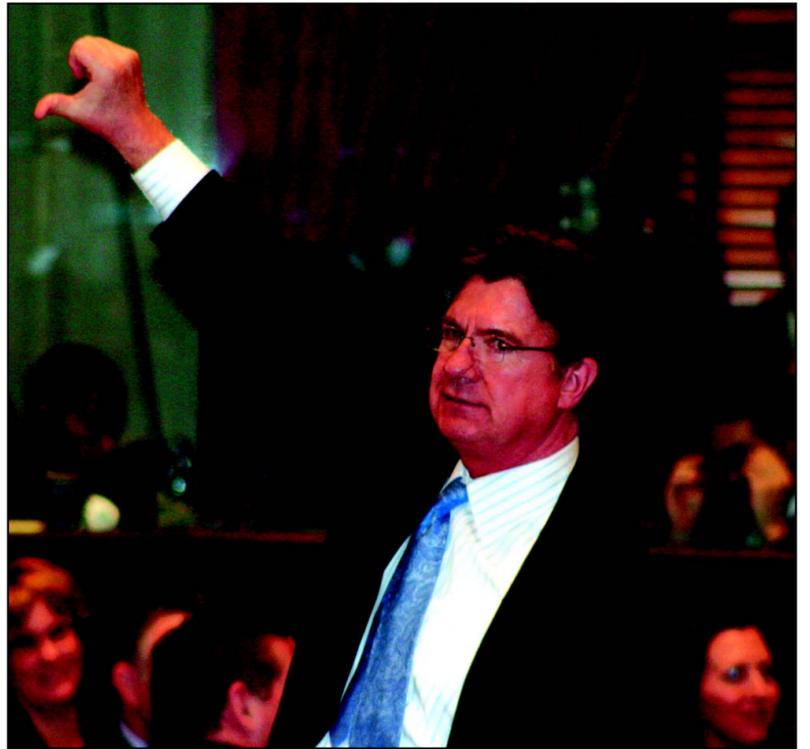
Reps. Gerald McCormick and Debra Maggart



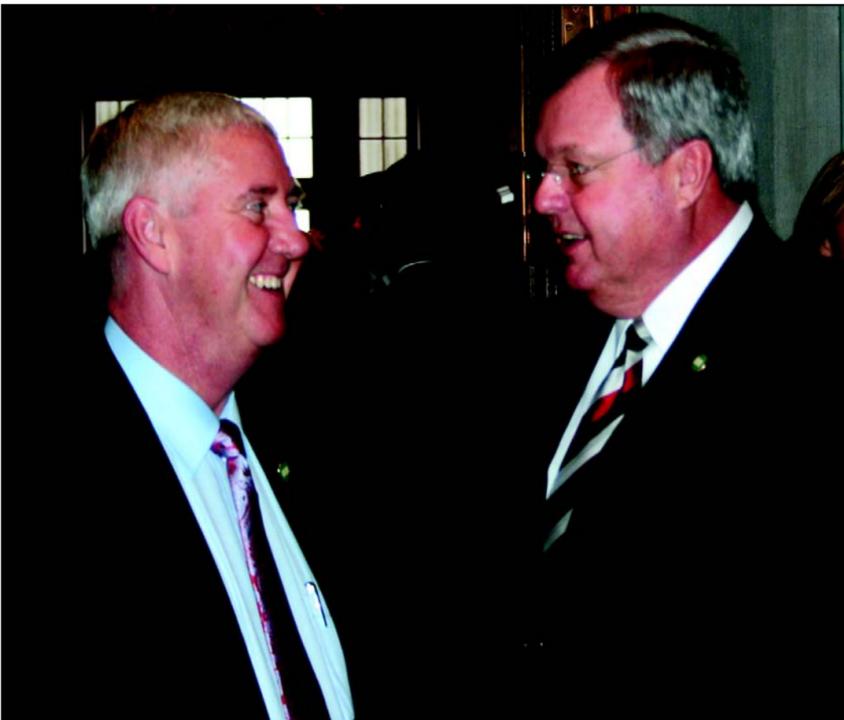
Rep. Jason Mumpower, right, confers with Reps. Harry Brooks and Glen Casada following the 50-49 vote that cost Mumpower the Speaker of the House seat.



Reps. Dennis Ferguson, Mike Turner, and Gary Odom



Democratic Leader Gary Odom urges legislators to vote down a tabling motion that would have prevented the Democrats from taking a recess.



Reps. Vince Dean and Curtis Johnson visit during a session recess.



Rep Charles Curtiss, along with the other 98 members of the House of Representatives, is sworn in as a member of the 106th Tennessee General Assembly.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

GATLINBURG

The National Park Service will allow weapons to be carried in the Smokies after the overturning of a federal rule restricting weapons in national parks and wildlife refuges. The Park Service said the agency will recognize handgun permits from Tennessee and North Carolina, beginning in January. The new regulations will allow people who have valid permits to carry weapons to keep them on their person.

JOHNSON CITY

A telephone call center that markets vacation properties will shut its doors by mid-February, putting 233 people out of work. Wyndham Vacation Ownership, which sells "time share" slots in vacation resorts and homes, is listed in *The Business Journal of the Tri-Cities* as the region's 39th-largest employer.

JOHNSON CITY

Officials are studying whether wind power is a feasible local energy source in the area. The Southern Alliance for Clean Energy will be testing for most of 2009 on Buffalo Mountain, according to Public Works Director Phil Pindzola. "We just want to see if there is enough wind generation there to create a revenue stream that would justify placement of wind turbines," he said. The alliance will install wind measuring devices to antennas at five spots on Buffalo Mountain.

KNOXVILLE

Discount clothing chain Goody's Family Clothing will begin liquidating its stores becoming one of the year's first victims of the worsening economy. The apparel retailer got its start in East Tennessee more than 55 years ago. The move, affects the Knoxville-based chain's 287 stores scattered throughout 20 Midwestern and Southern states. It's uncertain what will happen to the company's 9,800 workers after the liquidation.

MEMPHIS

Two company closings and a hefty round of layoffs by a Memphis logistics company will cost Memphis another 304 jobs. The biggest job losses will come from PFSweb Inc., which will shed around 218 Shelby County jobs. PFSweb is the fifth largest third-party distribution operator in the area, using 1.6 million square feet of warehouse space. The company distributes electronics and other consumer goods. Other jobs on the chopping block include at least 61 positions at ABX Air Inc. A company spokesman said ABX was shuttering its Memphis operation due to DHL's recent announcement that the company would be closing its domestic delivery service. On Nov. 10, DHL said the company would abandon its U.S. domestic package-delivery service and eliminate 9,500 U.S. jobs.

MOUNT PLEASANT

A Maury County manufacturer of floor mats used in cars and trucks will close its operations, laying off 119 employees. Petty Products in Mt. Pleasant plans to lay off its Tennessee employees on Jan. 15, according to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. In 2007 and 2008, all manufacturing operations had been consolidated into the company's LaGrange, Ga. facility.

MURFREESBORO

As the credit crunch and housing market woes show their impact locally, Murfreesboro's Community Development staff hope a new \$491,493 federal grant could help buy 10 to 15 vacant foreclosed houses, renovate them and sell them to qualified buyers. The state reports that the area west and south of central Murfreesboro, including Franklin Road, New Salem Highway to South Church Street and the Thompson Lane area near Stones River Battlefield have 334 homes out of 11,023 being in foreclosure for a 3 percent rate. Congress approved

\$3.9 billion in funding for the Housing and Economics Recovery Act of 2008 and the state picked up a \$72.5 million cut. Tennessee's larger municipalities have already received funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NASHVILLE

2009 will be the first calendar year in which all the courtrooms at Nashville's Juvenile Court will use state-of-the-art digital recording equipment. The digital equipment, which was introduced in stages during 2008 into the eight juvenile courtrooms, enables the Clerk's office to record all docket sessions on computer and eliminates the need to use cassette recorders and store tapes for the more than 50,000 cases managed each year by Juvenile Court.

OAK RIDGE

A new program will bring military veterans to East Tennessee for education and training as engineers and then place them in jobs at one of the area's participating companies, including several based in Oak Ridge. The plan is to eventually sponsor about 30 veterans a year, providing opportunities for military personnel returning from Iraq and helping fill needs for engineers at technical and scientific companies in the region. The program is just beginning, but already eight applicants have been approved and eight others are pending, according to Kevin Smith, deputy federal manager at the Y-12 National Security Complex.

SMYRNA

The town has received the AA rating from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services for the series 2008 general obligation (GO) bonds. The rating is based on the general creditworthiness of the town, including its location within the Nashville metropolitan statistical area, strong financial position, and moderate overall net debt burden. An unlimited ad valorem property tax pledge secures the bonds, which will be used for general government projects and capital equipment outlays, as well as some improvements to the city's waterworks and sanitary sewer utility system.



Gov. Phil Bredesen and ECD Commissioner Matt Kisber joined with the chief executive officers of Hemlock Semiconductor and its parent company, Dow Corning, to announce plans to locate a polycrystalline silicon manufacturing operation in Clarksville.

Hemlock Semiconductor plans to move to Clarksville

Gov. Phil Bredesen and Economic and Community Development Commissioner Matt Kisber recently joined with the chief executive officers of Hemlock Semiconductor and its parent company, Dow Corning, to announce a project that is potentially the largest corporate capital investment in Tennessee history. Hemlock Semiconductor's plan to locate a polycrystalline silicon manufacturing operation at the Commerce Park megasite in Clarksville.

The facility, which will produce a primary component used in the manufacture of solar panels and other energy equipment, will mean an investment of \$1.2 to \$2.5 billion dollars by the company and the creation of 500 jobs, with the potential of employing up to 900 people within five to seven years.

At the formal announcement ceremony on the campus of Austin Peay State University, Gov. Bredesen and Commissioner Kisber were joined by Rick Doornbos, Hemlock president and CEO, along with the chairman, president and CEO of Dow Corning, Dr. Stephanie Burns, and U.S. Sen. Bob Corker.

"This announcement shows Tennessee's commitment to becoming a significant player in the development of 'green collar' jobs related to clean energy technologies," said Gov. Bredesen. "Hemlock Semiconductor and Dow Corning have signaled a major shift in the direction of Tennessee's and the nation's economies."

"An excellent quality-of-life and a hard-working, productive work

force were key ingredients in convincing Hemlock Semiconductor that Clarksville is the best place for the company to expand," said Clarksville Mayor Johnny Piper. "We're excited about the opportunity this presents for our people and excited about the future of Clarksville."

The plant will occupy the entire 1,215 acre Commerce Park megasite and the company plans to acquire an additional 947 acres adjacent to the site for additional build-out and to provide buffer space.

When complete, the facility will have the capacity to manufacture up to 10,000 metric tons of polycrystalline silicon annually but is being designed with the capability to manufacture up to 34,000 metric tons.

"This huge success proves that going through the diligent megasite certification process and being prepared gives a community a strong advantage," said John Bradley, senior vice president, economic development, Tennessee Valley Authority. "Tennessee, Clarksville-Montgomery County and community leaders have been working towards this day for two and a half years."

Reports by the Leaf Chronicle list the tax savings incentives to the company to be approximately 50 percent over the first 23 years with a total tax abatement consideration of \$5.5 million.

To develop and train the work force, the state will give Austin Peay State University an initial \$6.4 million to create a training center, and an additional \$5 million will be given to Hemlock for training purposes.



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Ed Bryant, a former congressman and federal prosecutor, has been sworn in as a federal magistrate in Jackson. Bryant replaces District Judge S. Thomas Anderson after he was appointed to the federal bench by President George W. Bush earlier this year. Magistrates are appointed to their eight-year terms by federal judges in the district. They handle pretrial matters and can be assigned to preside over civil and misdemeanor criminal trials.



Bryant

Leslie Newman, Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner, has been elected Secretary-Treasurer of the National Insurance Producer Registry (NIPR), a nonprofit affiliate of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). One of her chief duties will be to serve as chairwoman of the NIPR audit committee. Newman was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Insurance in January 2007 by Gov. Phil Bredesen and has more than 28 years of experience as a regulatory attorney in both public and private practice.



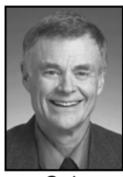
Newman

Circuit Court Judge **Muriel Robinson**, 64, after 41 years on the bench, has submitted her resignation effective Feb. 15.

Deborah Taylor Tate announced her resignation as commissioner of the FCC. Tate, whose term has expired, served as an FCC commissioner since 2005, when she was appointed by President Bush.

Former Hamilton County school superintendent Jesse Register, has been selected by the Metro Nashville school board as its new director of schools.

Ed Cole, the Tennessee Department of Transportation's environmental bureau chief has delayed his Dec. 1 retirement to focus on key state legislation and other big-ticket items in front of the department in the coming year. Cole, hired to crack down on TDOT's environmental enforcement policy, has served as environmental bureau chief since 2003.



Cole

Rep. Lincoln Davis has landed a coveted seat on the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, bringing the number to two Tennesseans on the influential panel. Rep. Zach Wamp, also serves on the committee.

Milissa Reierson has been appointed as Franklin's new communications manager. Reierson has served as communications director for the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development since 2002 overseeing public information and media relations for each of the department's six diverse divisions. Prior to her work with the state, Reierson worked as an anchor and reporter with several TV stations including WKRN in Nashville, WVLT in Knoxville, and television stations in Augusta, Georgia, and San Diego, California.



Reierson

Steve Cook, deputy director of the 9th Judicial District Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force, has been named drug agent of the year in both East Tennessee and the state. The Tennessee Narcotics Officers Association honored Cook for his role in busting one of the largest cocaine distribution rings in East Tennessee.

Larry Miller, Huntingdon's Assistant Public Utility Superintendent, has received the Doc Murphy Award for excellence in water treatment. Miller is responsible for the oversight of a Grade III iron removal water treatment plant along with training, distribution and collections.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



Like families pawning the silver to get through a tight spot, states such as Minnesota, New York, Massachusetts and Illinois are thinking of selling or leasing toll roads, parks, lotteries and other assets to raise desperately needed cash. Such projects could be attractive to private investors, including foreign firms, and public pension funds looking for safe places to put their money in this scary economy, according to the Reason Foundation

in Los Angeles. Some states struck major privatization deals well before the economic crisis hit, following a practice of leasing toll roads that is more common in Europe and Asia. Indiana brought in \$3.8 billion in 2006 by leasing the Indiana Toll Road to an Australian-Spanish partnership for 75 years and Chicago stands to collect \$2.5 billion by leasing Midway Airport to a group of U.S. and Canadian investors, if the federal government approves.

Legislature elects new slate of state officers

OFFICERS from Page 1

state, and one for the comptroller.

As stipulated in the Tennessee Constitution, the General Assembly elects all three positions during a joint session of the legislature. The secretary of state is elected every four years, whereas the comptroller and the treasurer are elected every two years.

The secretary is responsible for keeping records of the official acts

and proceedings of the governor, and all acts and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, among other duties.

The Office of the Comptroller is responsible for auditing state and local government entities and the general financial administration of state government.

Treasury is responsible for the receipt and disbursement of state funds.

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STATE BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

For the third straight year, Interstate 40 in Tennessee tops the list of best roads in the country according to the nation's truck drivers. In addition, for the 10th consecutive year truckers rated Tennessee's overall roadway system as third best in the nation (tied with Georgia) according to a recent survey published in *Overdrive Magazine*. *Overdrive Magazine* polls more than 300 truck drivers across the nation each year asking them to rate the nation's roads and drivers, state by state. The survey includes opinions about the quality of the roads, the smoothness of the riding surface, road markings, construction detour availability and more. "Interstate 40 is one of the busiest roadways in the state, so this is another great honor for TDOT," said TDOT Chief Engineer Paul Degges. "... it is up to TDOT to look for more ways to improve not just our roadways but our entire transportation system."

Gov. Phil Bredesen was among those asked to participate in *Esquire* magazine's January "All-American Edition" featuring representatives from all 50 states sharing their life wisdom. Bredesen shares his thoughts alongside Clint Eastwood, who is on the cover and represents California, actor Peter Fonda and musician Conor Oberst.

The Tennessee Department of Education became the third in the nation to launch a new Electronic Learning Center, a virtual catalogue of digital lessons that can be downloaded through Apple iTunes software. The \$350,000 initiative is designed to make learning possible anytime and to put the state in front in terms of education technology. By logging onto www.Tnelc.org, parents, teachers and students can watch lessons in language arts and math and teachers with classroom computers and projectors can use the technology for group lessons.

Tennessee is joining about seven other states, including California and Arizona, which have passed laws permitting hybrid vehicles to travel in high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes regardless of the number of passengers. But although there are more than 30,000 registered hybrid vehicles in Tennessee, only about 1,300 are expected to qualify under the new law because they're also on the Environmental Protection Agency's low-emission vehicle list. The state Department of Revenue began accepting applications Jan. 5 from hybrid owners who want decals to mark their hybrids as "good to go it alone."

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council is offering a new state license plate honoring trees. Each \$35 "Trees Make a Difference" license plate will produce \$17.50 for the council, which will apply the money to continue tree plantings and arboretum programs. The council must pre-sell 1,000 license plates before June 30, 2009 in order for the state to manufacture the tags.

Thirty-percent of Tennessee nursing homes received the worst possible rating in a new federal report, giving the state a more

dismal showing than almost every other state in the nation. Only Louisiana and Georgia have poorer ratings. Most of the 319 Tennessee nursing homes in the report rated well below average, and less than 7 percent were judged well above average. The comparative report mirrors the *Zagat* restaurant guides, with each nursing home given an overall score of one to five stars, with five stars being the best. Nursing homes also were given specific marks on quality of care, staffing levels and health inspections.

Tennessee would be one of the hardest hit states if the U.S. auto industry were to fail, according to a new study by the Economic Policy Institute. The state could lose up to 106,400 jobs, or 4 percent of its work force. The collapse of General Motors alone, would lead to an estimated reduction of 900,000 jobs. Using that range of job-loss estimates, unemployment would rise by 3 to 8.9 percentage points in the nine hardest hit states in the United States.

Tennessee broadband Internet adoption rose 16 percent from July 2007 to January 2008, according to a new report from Connected Tennessee, a state-run technology advocacy group. Some 1.2 million residents in the state's urban counties have broadband Internet access, a 12 percent increase. Also, 518,000 rural Tennesseans have broadband now, a 37 percent increase. The report says 64 percent of businesses in the state have broadband access, up 55 percent from six months ago. Connected Tennessee is the group charged to implement Gov. Bredesen's "Trail to Innovation," a statewide program to accelerate technology growth in Tennessee.

Analysts predict the state unemployment fund will be broke in just over a year, if things continue at the current rate. State officials want Tennessee legislators to raise taxes on employers to keep the fund solvent. The employer tax covers the unemployment benefits of laid-off workers. Currently, they're taxed for the first seven thousand dollars of each worker's pay, but the state labor department is requesting to raise that amount to nine thousand in 2009, and 10 thousand a year later.

Electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) systems that allow doctors to select lower cost or generic medications can save \$845,000 per 100,000 patients per year and possibly more system-wide, according to findings from a new study funded by Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Gov. Bredesen launched e-Prescribe Tennessee, a collaboration of health care leaders working to make electronic prescribing the primary prescription method in Tennessee. The program will work with health care providers and pharmacies to incorporate e-prescribing into their daily workflow. It will also establish e-prescribing requirement standards and best practices and remove barriers to e-prescription adoption.

Paint chip waste from the General Motors Corvette plant in Bowling Green, Ky., will soon help fuel a Tennessee Valley Authority coal-fired power plant. The project, dubbed "From Vettes to Watts," will take 360 tons of paint bits from overspray a year — about a ton a day — and burn them along with coal at a plant about 50 miles northeast of Bowling Green. Previously, the paint bits were shipped to a landfill in Russellville, Ky. "The 'Vettes to Watts' initiative will allow GM to maintain its com-

mitment to reducing the amount of landfilled waste produced by the Bowling Green plant," according to GM officials.

About 125,000 children in Tennessee — or 8.3 percent of the state's children — are uninsured, according to a recent report by Families USA, a national organization for health care consumers. The report covers 2005-2007 and doesn't take into account the worsening economic situation in 2008. The report, titled "Left Behind: Tennessee's Uninsured Children," found that the state's uninsured children come from working families. The vast majority of uninsured children (91 percent) come from families where at least one parent works, and almost two-thirds (64.3 percent) live in households where at least one family member works full-time, year-round.

Tennessee will get \$239,000 from the toy company Mattel as part of a multi-state settlement related to lead paint found last year in recalled toys. Tennessee joined with 36 other states in a 16-month investigation started last year that led to the voluntary recall of toys. An agreement between Mattel and the states resulted in a \$12 million payment split among the states involved in the investigation. Roughly two million toys made by the company in China were recalled after it was discovered that they contained levels of lead paint more than 10 times the amount considered safe.

Tennessee's gateway to the Southern Appalachian Mountains, the 10,000-acre property known as Rocky Fork, has been acquired by The Conservation Fund and the U.S. Forest Service from New Forestry, LLC. The 10,000 acre tract includes 4,000 undeveloped mountain acres in Greene County and had been considered the largest high-elevation, single-ownership holding" in the eastern United States.



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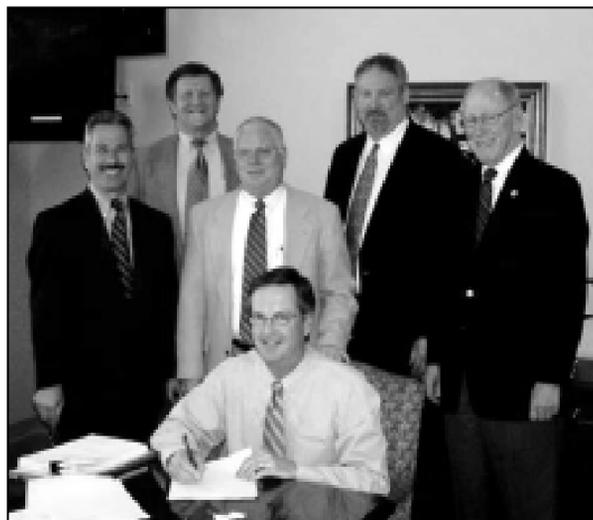
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Meet the Tennessee Municipal League staff



Margaret Mahery
TML Executive Director

Margaret Mahery became executive director of the Tennessee Municipal League in October 2002.

Having served in municipal government since 1989, Mahery brings first-hand knowledge of local government operations, and city needs and concerns to her position with TML.

Raised on a five-acre farm outside of Athens, Mahery became her hometown's first woman to be elected to the Athens City Council in 1989. In 1993, she was elected vice mayor, and became mayor in 1999.

In 1990, she was elected to the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors, and in 1996, TML third vice-president. In 1999-2000 she became the first woman to be elected TML president. In 2001, she was named TML's Mayor of the Year.

She has also taken an active role with the National League of Cities, serving two terms on the Board of Directors, as well as serving on the Southern Municipal Conference Board of Directors.

Mahery's bachelor's and master's degrees are in education, and she has taught at nearly every level. In 1976, she began teaching at the Tennessee Technology Center at Athens and in 1989, became its director. She resigned that position to become the TML director in 2002.



Chad Jenkins
TML Deputy Director

Chad Jenkins joined TML in October 2005 as the League's deputy director.

A 12-year veteran on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C., Jenkins brings to the League a proven record of bipartisan success. He is a skilled negotiator, accomplished political and legislative strategist, and an effective communicator.

During Jenkins tenure in Washington D.C., he developed and analyzed policy positions and communications strategies, developed lobbying initiatives, created coalitions in support of legislative initiatives, led negotiating efforts on a myriad of political and policy matters, and prepared briefing materials for legislators.

Prior to joining the League, he served as director of congressional and public affairs for the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Jenkins holds a bachelor's degree in political science from The Citadel and has attended leadership training at Georgetown University.

Proud to return home to Nashville, Jenkins and his wife, Ashley, are the parents of two boys, Grant, 4, and Clark, 18 mos.

Mark Barrett
Legislative Analyst

Mark Barrett started with the Tennessee Municipal League in September 2007 as a legislative analyst.

Barrett, who graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in May 2007, also completed a five-month internship in the General Assembly working with Rep. Kent Coleman who shared an office with Reps. Rob Briley and Janis Sontany.

Barrett grew up in Madeira, a suburb in north Cincinnati, where



Mark Barrett

he graduated from Madeira High in 2002, attended Sinclair Community College for three quarters and transferred to MTSU in July 2003. He was drawn by that school's recording industry major but got his degree in Liberal Studies with an emphasis in political science and mass communications and a minor in religious studies. A hard worker, he supported his educational endeavors working after school every year from 1998 through 2006 as a server in the food industry.

His main responsibilities with TML include web site management, video production, and research.



Carole Graves
TML Communications Director

Carole Graves joined the TML staff in February 2002 as communications director. She has more than 20 years of communications and public relations experience. Her main responsibilities include overall communications for the League, which includes editor of *Tennessee Town & City*, website development, media relations, and strategic communications. In addition, she helps plan and coordinate conference workshops and serves as the staff liaison for TML Districts 4, 5, and 6.

Prior to TML, Graves spent six years with the Municipal Technical Advisory Service as the agency's communications consultant. There, she developed public education campaigns for municipalities across the state, worked on sales-tax referendums, provided training in media relations, and served as editor of MTAS publications. Previous work experience includes community, employee, and media relations with the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority; public relations director for the Charleston Symphony Orchestra in South Carolina; and a reporter and photographer with the *North Myrtle Beach Times*. A Knoxville native and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Graves received a bachelor's degree in mass communications with an emphasis on news and public affairs.



John Holloway
TML Government Relations

John Holloway was born in Jonesboro, Ark; but he was raised in Covington, Tenn. After graduating from Covington High School, Holloway attended the University of Mississippi, where he graduated in 1992 with a degree in business administration. He moved to Nashville where he went to work for the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System in the Tennessee Department of Treasury. He served nine years managing membership in the state pension plan, dealing mainly with local governments. While working with local officials, he became acquainted with the division

for pensions and insurance, and became interested in working more within the legislative process with members of the General Assembly and local officials as a lobbyist.

In October 2001, he joined the TML lobbying team. As part of his daily legislative activities, he serves as the staff liaison for TML Districts 7 and 8.



Debbie Kluth-Yarbrough
TML Marketing Director
& Member Services

Debbie Kluth-Yarbrough, was born in Union City in northwest Tennessee where her grandfather, Squire Elbert Reeves was city magistrate for many years. She was raised in the Chicago area, worked in the areas of bookkeeping, inventory control, and computer services in the Loop before coming back to Tennessee. She began at TML in August 1990. Her current duties include maintaining membership services including collecting and administering dues. As director of marketing, she seeks opportunities for revenue enhancement such as associate memberships, and edits and publishes the *TML Product & Service Guide* annually. She is also responsible for advertising in *Tennessee Town & City* newspaper, the vendor program offered at the TML Annual Conference each year, and securing conference sponsorships.



Mona Lawrence
Receptionist &
Administrative Assistant

Mona Lawrence was born in Cairo, Ill., and raised in the small western Kentucky town of Bardwell where her father was mayor for 25 years. After graduating from high school, she enrolled in Murray State University and graduated with an associate's degree in secretarial science. After college, she became executive secretary to Paducah's mayor and city manager in the late 1970s. After five years, she left municipal government to become a route sales representative and district sales manager for Frito-Lay.

Lawrence, who began at TML in August 2001, has the titles of administrative assistant to the director and receptionist; but she is involved in most TML activities.

During the 1980s, she and her husband Larry, were the directors of CareerCom College of Business in Knoxville. In the late 1980s and 1990s, she worked for Thompson and Associates convention planning division in Knoxville and Anderson News Co.-Treat Entertainment in Knoxville and Clarksville. The Lawrences moved to Adams, Tenn., in 1997.

Kevin Krushenski
TML Research Analyst

Kevin Krushenski joined the staff Jan. 12.

A six-year veteran with the State Comptroller's Office, Krushenski brings to TML extensive knowledge of the legislative process. During his tenure with the Comptroller, he has authored and negotiated passage of legislative initiatives, researched a wide variety of topics at the will of the legislative members, moderated negotiations between competing interests, testified before House and Senate committee meetings, as well as authored various publications and



Kevin Krushenski

reports issued by the Comptroller's office.

He began his career as a legislative intern for House Majority Leader Eugene Davidson and was voted Best All-Around Legislative Intern. He holds a B.S. degree in Business Management with minors in Statistics and Economics from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he graduated Cum Laude.

In 2002, he participated in a Global Leadership Program in Prague, Czech Republic, where he lived for one month while attending leadership training seminars with multinational participants.



Denise Paige
TML Government Relations

Denise Paige has been with TML since November 1999. In addition to her daily activities as a member of the TML lobbying team, she also serves as the staff liaison for TML Districts 1, 2, and 3.

Paige is a 1992 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Ky. She has a bachelor's degree in paralegal science with a minor in English. Her professional experience includes working in municipal government, insurance, and general practice law firms. Prior to TML, she worked as a contract paralegal.

A daughter of an army sergeant, Paige has lived in Texas, Mississippi, and Virginia, as well as Kentucky, where her family currently resides.



Victoria South
Communications Coordinator

Victoria South was employed in January 2006 by the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Advisory Service to serve as TML's communications coordinator.

Her primary responsibility is TML's newspaper, *Tennessee Town and City*, as a writer, photographer, and production assistant.

She brings with her experience as editor, photographer and chief writer of *The Chronicle* of Mt. Juliet and *Madison Messenger* newspapers where she covered and wrote city, county, school board, and planning commission articles as well as features and local news.

Prior to joining TML, South's previous experience includes five years in Higher Ed Administration at Vanderbilt University where she served under the University Registrar and as Registrar's Assistant at Peabody College.

She is a lifelong Nashvillian, holding a bachelor's degree in English from Middle Tennessee State University and an associate's degree in Humanities from Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin. She has also completed Levels I and II of the Elected Officials Academy offered by MTAS.



Sylvia Trice
TML Conference Planning
Director

Sylvia Trice is TML's director of conference planning. The middle of five children, Trice was born and reared in Henderson, Tenn. After graduating from Chester County High School and attending West Tennessee Business College in Jackson, she moved to Nashville in 1981 to work for the United States Guaranty and Fidelity Insurance Company. In 1982, she was employed by the UT's Municipal Technical Advisory Service to work in the Tennessee Municipal League offices.

She was hired by TML in 1985, joined the Conference Planning team in 1989, and became director in 1997.

In 2008, Trice was presented the Planner of the Year Award by the Society of Government Meeting Professionals.



Jane Alvis
TML Urban Coordinator

Jane Alvis serves as TML's Urban Coordinator, representing the interests of the Big 4 cities.

Prior to joining TML, she spent five years as director of legislative affairs for Metro Nashville. During that time, she was responsible for the development and management of all governmental relations on the local, state, and federal levels.

Additional experience includes partner and board member of the Ingram Group, a public and government relations consulting firm, and six years in the news and publishing industry. During her stint with the *Tennessee Journal*, she covered state government, statewide elections, actions of the Tennessee General Assembly, and a broad range of political issues.

She began her career, fresh out of college from David Lipscomb University, in the press office of former Gov. Lamar Alexander, working with the local and state media. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science.



Edna Holland
TML Risk Management Pool

Edna Holland has been lobbying for the TML Risk Management Pool and TML for 14 years. She previously worked for the Tennessee Senate for 22 years – the last nine as legislative assistant to former Lt. Gov. John Wilder.

Holland started working for the Tennessee General Assembly during the legislative session of 1973 in a temporary position working for Senate Majority Leader Bill Peeler and Sen. Ed Blank. That was when the legislators had just begun to have permanent staff and offices. In 1975, the newly created Legislative Plaza offices opened for business, and Holland joined the permanent staff of the Senate Leadership.

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Tenn. Municipal Attorneys work with planning, utility groups on joint seminars

The Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Association worked with the Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association (TAPA) and the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD) to produce two seminars that will take place at the Franklin Cool Springs Marriott on Thursday, Feb. 26. In addition, TMAA's regular Winter Seminar will take place at the same location all day Friday, Feb. 27.

The seminar in conjunction with TAPA will explore sign and billboard law from local, state, and national perspectives. Featured speakers are David Pike of Pike Legal Group in Shepherdsville, Ky, on using zoning to control signs, Mary Byrd Ferrara of Farrar and Bates in Nashville on issues encountered in drafting local sign ordinances, and Bill Brinton with Rogers Towers in Jacksonville on national trends in sign regulation.

This seminar will take place from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Feb. 26 and will yield three general CLE

hours for attorneys attending the whole seminar. Planners will also be eligible for continuing education credit. The registration fee for this seminar is \$75.

The utility law seminar in conjunction with TAUD will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Feb. 26. Former state senator Bud Gilbert of Knoxville and Don Scholes, TAUD general counsel, will cover consolidation of utility systems. Scholes will also cover identity theft. Phillip Young of Columbia will speak on bankruptcy and debt collection, and C. Dewey Branstetter of Nashville will speak on underground damage prevention and one-call issues. TMAA has applied for four general CLE hours credit for this seminar. The registration fee for this seminar is also \$75.

The TMAA regular Winter Seminar on Friday, Feb. 27, features Tom Trent of Boulton Cummings in Nashville talking on economic development incentives including payments in lieu of taxes and tax increment financing, David Haines and

Aaron Conklin of the Administrative Office of the Courts speaking on municipal courts, Supreme Court Justice Connie Clark on ethics from a judicial perspective, Karen Beyke of Franklin on ouster law, and Mike Billingsley of Kingsport giving a case law and AG opinion update. TMAA has applied for 6.5 (5 general; 1.5 ethics/dual) hours CLE credit for this seminar. The registration fee for this seminar is \$75 for TMAA members and \$150 for nonmembers.

In addition to the seminars, TMAA has arranged a dinner for seminar attendees and spouses or significant others beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 26. The dinner will be at the Boxwood Bistro in Franklin, which is a short distance from the Marriott. The all-inclusive charge for the dinner is \$38.50 per person.

Agendas and registration materials for the seminars, dinner, and hotel are available on the TMAA website, www.tmaa.us. If you have questions, call Dennis Huffer (615.741.8628) or Nelle Greulich (615.834.4616).

Classes for Municipal Finance Officer to begin

CMFO from Page 1

"MTAS has worked very hard in developing course material necessary to comply with requirements of the new law and at the same time make the course challenging for all levels of finance personnel in Tennessee municipalities. We are encouraged by the interest shown by finance officers across the state in this program. We feel that those participating will reap tremendous benefits which will be used in operating their offices and providing a higher level of service to their city and its citizens."

Topics to be included in the complete program include governmental accounting and reporting, internal control and auditing requirements, debt administration, strategic

Compliance deadlines for individual cities to have certified staff who are CMFOs are based on the level of gross revenues during FY 2007, as follows:

Gross Revenues	Compliance Date
\$10 million or more	Jan. 1, 2011
\$5 million to \$10 million	Jan. 1, 2012
Less than \$5 million	Jan. 1, 2013

and capital improvement planning, payroll and benefits, and purchasing. Instructors for each of the eleven separate modules will be MTAS finance consultants, all of whom are certified as Certified Public Accountants, Certified Government Finance Managers, or Certified Public Finance Officials. Each full day class will include an hour of testing to verify the applicants understanding of the course material.

Upon certification as a CMFO by the Comptroller's Office, an applicant is required to maintain certification by earning at least 24 hours of continuing education each calendar year.

For more information regarding any city's requirements for participating in the CMFO program, including the applicant process and possible exemptions, please contact a MTAS finance consultant in your respective area.

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Jan. 29-Mar. 22: Stitches-in-time Quilt Exhibit

Cleveland Museum Center at Five Points. Features more than 90 quilts submitted from throughout the Southeast for exhibit. Both antique and contemporary quilts on display. New Quilt Challenge themed "Tennessee in the Great Depression." For more information, call 423-339-5745.

Feb. 1-28: Black History Month
Memphis, National Civil Rights Museum celebrates the culture, contributions, and trailblazers of African Americans with educational workshops, lectures, exhibitions, and events. For more information, call 901-521-9699.

Feb. 6-8: Reelfoot Lake Eagle Festival

Tiptonville, Reelfoot Lake State Park. Includes eagle watch tours, art contest, scavenger hunt and more. For more info., call 888-313-8366.



Feb. 19: Governmental Field Day
hosted by Tri-Green Equipment, LLC. Displays, demonstrations and classes on equipment safety and maintenance, chemical applications, on-site parts programs, state contract and GSA purchasing. Cost is free with lunch provided. For more information, contact Cliff Greene at 615-890-6258.

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ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

KINGSPORT. The city is currently taking applications for an Assistant Public Works Director. Please submit completed applications to Human Resources at 225 W. Center St. Kingsport, TN 37660 or fax 423-224-2474 by 5:00 PM (EST) Friday January 23, 2009. Go to www.ci.kingsport.tn.us for additional info. EOE.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FAYETTEVILLE. The city is seeking applicants for the position of City Administrator. The City Administrator reports directly to the Mayor and 6 Alderman and is responsible for oversight of all departments. Candidates must be proven managers with excellent communication and team-building skills. Requirements include a demonstrated success in Public/Business Administration, budgeting and finance, intergovernmental relations, leadership and strategic planning; at least (7) years experience as City Administrator or equivalent; a Bachelors degree required (Public Administration or Business); Salary is competitive and negotiable plus benefits. Resumes should be mailed to Mayor Gwen Shelton, 110 South Elk Ave., Fayetteville, and TN. 37334 or e-mail to gshelton@fpunet.com. Deadline January 27, 2009, EOE.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SEVIERVILLE. The city is seeking applicants for the position of city administrator. The city administrator answers to five-member council and is responsible for 275 full-time employees and \$50 million budget. Candidates must be proven managers with excellent communication and team-building skills. Requirements include a demonstrated success in Public Administration, budgeting and finance, intergovernmental relations, leadership and strategic planning; at least seven years' experience as city manager/assistant city manager or equivalent; a Bachelors degree required (Master's preferred). Salary: \$83,408 to \$136,792 + excellent benefits depending on qualifications. Applications are public record. To learn more about Sevierville, visit us on the web at www.sevierville.tn.org. Resumes should be mailed to Mayor Bryan Atchley, P.O. Box 5500, Sevierville, TN 37864-5500; fax to 865.453.5518; or e-mailed to

mayoratch@aol.com, by Fri., Jan.30, 2009. EOE. The city of Sevierville does not discriminate on the basis of sex or handicap in its programs or activities pursuant to Public Law 93-112 or 101-336.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

SWEETWATER. The city is seeking applications for the position of Codes Enforcement officer. Salary Range is \$38,000-\$43,000 for fully qualified candidate. Bachelor of Science degree in planning or related field is preferred. The Codes Enforcement Officer serves as enforcing personnel for municipal code provisions not under general police jurisdiction, including all building, health, and safety chapters; serves on certain city boards, advisor and staff support to Sweetwater Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals and administers flood regulations and assure city compliance with flood program requirements. Grant Writer for the city; city safety officer; and must administer budget for department. Must have knowledge of personal computers and a valid TN driver's license and be certified as building inspector within one year of hire. Any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and ability for this position can be considered. Job description is available at the Recorder's Office, 203 Monroe Street, Sweetwater, TN 37874 (423) 337-6979.

FIREFIGHTER

BRENTWOOD. The city is seeking applicants for firefighter positions. The minimum qualifications for entrance as recruit firefighter are: applicant must have a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credits from a regionally accredited college or university or 30 semester hours from a regionally accredited college or university and 2 years experience as a paid firefighter, must be 21 years of age before hire date, must be a citizen of the United States, must be able to obtain a valid Tennessee driver's license. The testing date for the open positions is scheduled for Feb. 9, 2009. The deadline for submitting applications for this testing session is Fri., Jan. 30, 2009. The minimum starting salary for a Firefighter is \$32,529 per year with excellent benefits and incentives for higher education, emergency medical training, or fire fighting experience. Applications are available online at www.brentwood-tn.org Applications may be faxed to 615-370-4767 or mailed to City of Brentwood, 5211 Maryland Way, Brentwood, TN 37027, Attention HR.

Road salt a hot commodity in 2009

SALT from Page 1
this situation as early as possible so they can prepare to be extra careful should a snow or ice storm hit Murfreesboro," cautions Street Director Rick Templeton.

Templeton said he was completely unprepared when he received a letter from the same vendor contracted by the state stating that road salt would not be available for municipalities this year. To guarantee low prices, Murfreesboro had routinely purchased salt based on TDOT'S annual contract price.

"A proposal letter from the supplier usually arrives early in the fall," Templeton explained. "But, this year, we got a letter saying that storms in the Northeast had depleted their reserves and we wouldn't be getting any salt. I have talked to all the major vendors and they say they just don't have it."

According to Templeton, the city currently has 200 tons of salt compared to its usual 1,000 tons on reserve for the winter season.

"I've been doing this for 20 years now," said Templeton. "There was no advanced warning. We have always replenished what we use, but we didn't last year. We should have."

"For more than 30 years, the Salt Institute has urged its highway salt customers to take preseason delivery of one full average year's requirements," said Hanneman. "That's advice you can take to the bank."

Cities have also reported unusually high price quotes from salt suppliers this year. "They're tripling the price," said Greg Brown, Cookeville director of Public Works, who also received news that salt would not be available. The city currently has around 400-500 tons reserved from last year.

"Last year's \$50 a ton is now \$150 a ton," Brown said.

"My thoughts are that it's price gouging," said Templeton. "The town of Smyrna would need more than 100 tons, which is going to cost them \$15,000 for road salt. We don't pay that much for asphalt!"

"We purchase salt by the ton and delivery point. We did pay quite a bit more this year, but availability did not seem to be a problem and there were several early delivery requirements," said John Bissel, Tennessee Department of General Services, Purchasing Division director.

"Some counties and cities have asked TDOT to release some of our salt to them, but from our perspective, TDOT can not risk the possibility of facing our own shortage should we receive a large winter storm," said TDOT spokesperson Julie Oaks.

"We certainly sympathize with their predicament, but we must make sure that we maintain enough salt to keep our interstates and major state routes open to traffic."

Oaks suggests cities and counties try to reduce their salt usage by utilizing salt brine to pre-treat roadways when possible and use calcium chloride to treat roadways, which has not been in short supply and did not go up significantly in cost this year, Oaks said.

Calcium chloride is a tool that

TDOT keeps on hand for treating roadways in extremely cold conditions and can be combined with both brine mixtures and road salt to enhance the ability to melt snow and ice from the roadway during very cold temperatures of 20 degrees or lower.

Salt brine is a salt and water mix that crews spray onto roadway surfaces before snow and ice begin to fall. Brine works well until the temperature reaches 20 degrees or below. According to Oaks, TDOT's solution contains 23 percent salt, which reduces the amount of sodium released into the environment and is more cost effective than regular salt at about \$.06 a gallon.

"There are two primary strategies to prevent a salt shortfall," said Hanneman. "Expand local storage and employ sensible salting."

Sensible Salting, according to the Salt Institute, is to train operators to put down only the minimum amount of salt required to keep roads safe and passable. The Institute advises purchasing automatic spreaders and to calibrate them at least once each year.

Additionally, proper care and storage of road salt stretches the product's shelf life from season to season, according to Hanneman. Each year, The Salt Institute presents an award for Excellence in Storage. The award recognizes high standards of environmental consciousness and effective management of winter materials

storage. In 2008, thirty four salt storage facilities operated by city and state transportation agencies in seven states and two Canadian provinces were announced as winners.

"More people are determined to take care of salt properly, taking lower amounts and using less storage space" said Hanneman. "In the past, people just dumped it out along the 'back 40.'"

"To my knowledge, all municipalities are responsible for providing their own salt storage for all purchases," Hagedorn said. "Many probably do need additional storage. Some of the Western states still store salt outside with tarps. In Tennessee, that would not be environmentally accepted."

And, for communities unable to procure road salt for this winter season, Hanneman's advice is to keep asking. He foresees a non-shortage relative to plentiful offshore shipments of salt.

"Imported salt is arriving in New Orleans and more barges are becoming available," he said.

To learn more about road salt and other salt products, visit www.saltinstitute.org.

TDOT provides winter driving tips on their website at www.tngov/tdot/mediaroom/snowbuster.htm. All Tennesseans can monitor roadway conditions before leaving home by visiting the tennessee 511 website at www.tn511.com or by dialing 511 from any land line or cellular phone.

The following is a sampling of salt prices per ton bid by North American Salt Company and awarded on contract for the State of Tennessee in July 2007 and in July 2008:

County	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	Increase
Washington	\$ 61.29	\$ 72.32	18 %
Greene	\$ 53.83	\$ 67.29	25 %
Anderson	\$ 51.37	\$ 64.21	25 %
Knox	\$ 50.91	\$ 63.64	25 %
Davidson	\$ 44.75	\$ 52.81	18 %



The city of Cleveland closes a \$1.8 million loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to be used for a library. Pictured are: Mike Keith, city recorder; Mayor Tom Rowland; Joe Muscatello, TMBF representative; and Janice Casteel, city manager.

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The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIP), National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) and National Association of Fleet Administrators (NAFA) endorse the use of Life Cycle Costing as a preferred procurement method.



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Recreational lake a prize catch for West Tennessee

"An economic dream and gift for generations to come"

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

In 2012, a record number of "Gone Fishin'" signs could pop up all around Carroll County in West Tennessee as citizens experience the fulfillment of a dream. A \$14 million, 1000-acre recreational lake project on the front burner for more than two decades, is moving full speed ahead as construction progresses on Reedy Creek Dam, by the Ronald Franks Construction Co. from Savannah.

Projected to be the largest man-made lake in West Tennessee, holding around 17,000 acre-feet of water, the 22.5 miles of new shoreline will be dedicated to incoming residential and business development, while surrounding the lake, 300 acres of farmland will be transformed into a wetland habitat created by the West Tennessee River Basin Authority and the largest wetlands mitigation project in the Southeast. Included will be the restoration of 2.5 miles of Crooked Creek to its original meandering state, the first project of its type in Tennessee.

And, that's just the beginning. Estimated economic impact figures for the lake project are close to \$58 million within the first 10 years, not including skyrocketing property values in store for ecstatic homeowners in the area. Studies show that prior to development, property values could increase 30 to 300 times in value.

"When we started this in 1984, people told me it would take 20 years, but I never thought it would take this long," said Huntingdon Mayor Dale Kelley, secretary/treasurer of the Carroll County Watershed Authority, at a celebration luncheon hosted by The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce and Watershed Authority.

Surrounded by the community and the development's key players, including county and city officials, state senators and congressmen, representatives from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the West Tennessee River Basin Authority, The Tennessee Valley Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation, Kelley shed a few tears of elation and relief as he addressed the project's many challenges, including garnering the stamp of approval from six different federal and state agencies.

"It's a great feeling to see a project of this magnitude become a reality," he said.

Kelley was also instrumental in developing Huntingdon's \$2.7 million, state-of-the-art Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center, christened in 2005, now destined to draw additional tourism dollars to the town's downtown area from vacationers attracted by the lake's ample amenities: boating, jet and water skiing, swimming, beach and picnic areas, playgrounds and hiking, all just 4 miles from Huntingdon on U.S. 70.



This muddy clearing is the current construction site for Reedy Creek Dam, which will create Carroll County's 1,000-acre recreational lake, the largest man-made lake in West Tennessee.

"It's always been our goal to promote economic development, create jobs, tourism and have an economic impact," said Kelley. He and other local leaders highly anticipate Carroll County becoming a major tourist destination.

"We've jumped through a lot of hoops since 1984. And we couldn't have asked for more support from the community."

Going into effect in 2002, 53 percent of Carroll County's residents voted to approve a referendum for a \$10 annual wheel tax to pay one-third of the lake's cost.

"It's been phenomenal," Kelley said. "It shows are citizens are hungry for the right kind of progress."

"There's been an enormous amount of interest," agreed Brad Hurley, Carroll County Chamber of Commerce president. We've had calls from places like Florida, California, Arkansas and Massachusetts. In the past, the county hasn't done well in tourism. We hope the lake will open the door."

Hurley also dreams of large corporations alongside the incoming boat dealers, restaurants, motels and fishing supply stores.

"In today's world, you can run multi-million dollar corporations by simply having the capacity for high speed internet," Hurley said. "Now that the dam is under construction, there's greater interest. People will come here to reside and hopefully, set up business."

"At one time, one in four people here worked in the garment and apparel industry, and in three years, it became one in 20," Hurley said, recalling the massive job losses when the county's garment industry moved overseas in the 1990s.

"If there's one thing that came out of all this it's never let our county become dependent on one business sector again," he said.

"The Carroll County Lake project is an exciting addition to West Tennessee and its tourism in-

dustry," said Commissioner Susan Whitaker, Tennessee Dept. of Tourist Development.

"I commend Carroll County on their attention to sustainability on this project as it will enhance the beauty of the area while inviting economic growth, encouraging visitors to the area, as well as drawing retirees looking for a place to settle down. I look forward to enjoying my first trip out on this spectacular lake."

With a depth ratio of 50 feet at the deepest point and 20 average feet, two-thirds of the lake closest to the dam will be open to all types of watercraft, with the back third only open to fishing boats. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) will be on hand to convert that third into a fisherman's paradise, stocking the lake with bass, bluegill, catfish, sunfish and

crappie.

The Carroll County Watershed Authority will be hiring a person with the necessary skills to manage the lake, according to Kelley, a challenging task in that there are few man made lakes as large as Carroll County's will be. The dam alone compares to the length of seven football fields, 2,400 feet.

"The design characteristics have not been done on a dam this size in West Tennessee, not since Beech Lake built in the 60s," said Ed Crowell, civil engineer with J.R. Wauford & Co.

According to Crowell, a powder-like substance called bentonite will be used to create an almost impervious seal around the dam. Large beams driven into the soil below the surface of the dam when removed, leave crevices 40 feet in depth. Bentonite is poured into these

reservoir. When the substance becomes wet, bentonite expands to 16 times its original size, creating a wall 4-5 inches thick.

Bentonite is also poured into the dam itself producing a core of soil/bentonite mix.

"All the safety features in the Reedy Dam are above the required standards," said Crowell.

As the lead engineer, Kevin Young, senior vice president for J.R. Wauford and Company, Jackson office, has spent several years designing, and planning the project that is fast becoming a national model of environmental excellence.

"I announced that I plan to be the first person to water ski on Carroll County Lake," Young quipped.

Young escorted 30 luncheon attendees out to the old 1880s farmhouse on Reedy Creek Road that will be renovated to become a recreational headquarters on the eastern side of the lake, where visitors park and can buy concessions, fishing licenses, and have access to the public beach and boat ramp.

According to Kelley, other amenities at Carroll County Lake include hiking and bike trails, camping areas and riding stables.

"It will be a haven for all types of wildlife, deer, turkey and fowl," Kelley added.

The project looks favorable for nearby Bethel College in McKenzie as well. The school is catching lake fever, according to Walter Butler, director of finance.

"We hope to one day coordinate our efforts with the Watershed Authority where our Biology classes can study the wetlands area and conduct research there," Butler said.

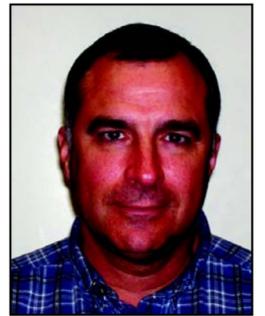
"It's exciting, not just for Carroll County, but for all of West Tennessee," said Young.



Mayor Dale Kelley



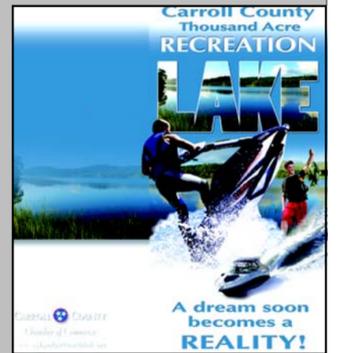
Ed Crowell



Kevin Young

Facts about Carroll County Lake and Reedy Creek Dam

- Carroll County Lake will be built at Reedy Creek, near the Leach community off U.S. 70 on the west and 22 on the east side. It will take about 455 days to construct.
- The economic impact figures of the development have been calculated and are supported by comparison numbers from other areas with lakes the size Carroll County's will be.
- Law requires that for every acre of wetlands the lake displaces, three acres must be replaced in another area. 300 acres of the wetlands mitigation project is comprised of previously converted cropland along with preservation of 72 acres of existing wetland and 2.3 miles of Crooked Creek.
- Engineers plan to drill five wells to fill the lake. The wells will be 370 feet deep and will tap into an unused aquifer. The wells will be capped after the lake is filled. However, according to Mayor Kelley, one well may be left uncapped to supply fire hydrants in the area.
- Planning for the Carroll County Lake project began in 1984. Initially, Beaver Creek was targeted for the lake project, but that idea was abandoned due to larger wetland areas. The project resumed again in 1997 when the legislature formed the Carroll County Watershed Authority.
- Originally, the lake was measured at 977 acres, however the Watershed Authority now



A brochure for the Carroll County Lake project has been created by McNeely, Piggot & Fox Public Relations for distribution by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

possess another 50 feet beyond the highest watermark of the lake.

Projected timeline for the opening of Carroll County Lake:

October 2008 — Groundbreaking on the dam.

January 2010 — Dam expected to be complete.

June 2011 — Lake expected to be filled with water.

2012 — First full year the lake will be complete and open to the public.



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