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# 107th concludes business

# Legislative Wrap Up

The 107th Tennessee General Assembly officially ended May 1, concluding its work several weeks earlier than in past years.

Legislators adopted a \$31 billion budget that included \$3.9 billion to fully fund the Basic Education Program; \$342.6 million for higher education capital improvements and maintenance; 2.5 percent pay raise for state workers, \$50 million to rebuild the Rainy Day Fund to \$356 million; \$29.6 million for Tennessee state parks; and \$40 million in payments to local jails.

Here's a sampling of key pieces of legislation that were approved. Synthetic drugs

Three bills criminalizing the sale and manufacture of synthetic drugs, and defining them by their effects rather than their chemical compositions, all became law.

SB3018 by Sen. Mae Beavers and HB3175 by Rep. Tony Shipley creates various felony offenses regarding controlled substance analogues, provides that most present law provisions regarding controlled substances would also apply to controlled substance analogues, and increases the penalties for the present law offense regarding the hallucinogenic plant salvia divinorum or certain synthetic cannabinoids.

SB 2280 by Sen. Mike Faulk and HB 2286 by Rep. Jon Lundberg, makes it a Class E felony for a person to knowingly manufacture, deliver, sell, or possess with the intent to sell, deliver or manufacture an imitation controlled substance. This bill specifies that a person who commits the above offense, in addition to any incarceration imposed, must be

fined between \$2,000 and \$5,000. SB 2507 by Sen. Jim Tracy and HB 2645 by Rep. Ryan Williams, makes it a Class A misdemeanor for a person to knowingly produce, manufacture, distribute, sell, synthetic drugs.

# Gang related crimes

Other public safety legislation includes new laws that make it a felony to aid or abet street gang activities, and increases penalties for gang members engaged in felonious

SB 3005 by Sen. Bo Watson and HB 2868 by Rep. Vince Dean adds "street gangs" to the state's existing Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act or RICCO.



RICCO is a statute designed expressly for organized crime.

• As part of Gov. Haslam's public safety package, SB 2252 by Sen. Mark Norris and HB 2390 by Rep. Gerald McCormick establishes tougher sentencing for crimes of force or violence committed while acting in concert with two or more other persons.

Other key components of Gov. Haslam's public safety package in-

Domestic abuse: Requires mandatory jail time for repeat domestic abuse convictions. (SB 2251 by Norris/HB 2389 by McCormick)

**Corrections transfer:** Merges the Board of Probations and Parole into the Department of Corrections. (SB 2248 by Norris / HB 2386 by McCormick)

#### Tax cuts

Reduction in the state sales tax rate on sales of food (SB3763 by Norris / HB 3761 by McCormick). Effective July 1, 2012, the state sales tax rate on food will be reduced from 5.5 percent to 5.25 percent. With the change, food and food ingredients will be subject to a reduced state sales plus the applicable local sales and use tax rate. Prepared food, dietary supplements, candy, alcoholic beverages and tobacco continue to be subject to the general state sales and use tax rate of 7 percent plus the applicable local sales and use tax rate. Existing laws defining which items are considered food and food ingredients remain unchanged by the new legis-

Other tax cuts include:

Repeal of Tennessee's gift tax (SB 2777 by Sen. Randy McNally and HB 2840 by Rep. Charles Sargent). The new law is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2012. Tennessee is one of the last state's to retain a tax on gifts.

• Repeal of the state's inheritance tax in stages with full elimination of the levy on Jan. 1, 2016. (SB See LEGISLATIVE on Page 6

# State Capitol starts \$15 M renovation project

#### Governor and staff relocated to Tennessee Tower

#### BY VICTORIA SOUTH

Gov. Bill Haslam has left the building—the state Capitol building, that is. He, along with 35 members of his staff and other offices, have relocated to the 27th floor of the Tennessee Tower, directly across the street, while a series of anticipated repairs are underway at the 150-year-old institution.

The \$15 million project includes upgrades and repairs to heating and air conditioning, plumbing, and electrical systems throughout the Capitol. The existing original mechanical and electrical equipment in the Capitol was installed in 1955.

Also affected by the renovations are the offices of the House and Senate clerks and the state's Treasurer, Comptroller and Secretary of

The Legislative Plaza and War Memorial Building are not included in the construction plan. "There is a separate renovation that has vet to be brought before the legislature for approval for the Plaza and War Memorial area, and we have not re-

ceived funding for those yet," said Kelly Smith, assistant commissioner of communications, Department General Services.

Workers could be seen loading prized artwork and valuables from the Capitol into vans, transporting the items to safekeeping while the work is underway.

stored in a controlled

space," said Smith. "A lot of it is on loan from the Tennessee State Museum. They loan artwork for all government buildings, mainly the Capitol, so many of the pieces will just go back to the museum."

According to the Capitol Pre-Construction Report, throughout the renovation, the grounds and structure will be adequately secured.



A worker loads precious artwork from the state "Most of the art- Capitol into a van. Valuable items will be placed in work is very valuable storage for safekeeping as the building underand is going to be goes a \$15 million renovation project.

> Construction fencing will be erected on the grounds, incorporating the greater part of the entrance drive. parking areas surrounding the Capitol and the loop drive. Entrance doors to the Motlow Tunnel will be closed and locked as well. And pedestrian traffic from Legislative Plaza will be closed.

See CAPITOL on Page 6

# **NLC files Amicus Brief in Arizona** immigration law Supreme Court Case

Stresses immigration as a Federal responsibility

**BY GREGORY MINCHAK** 

Nations Cities Weekly

Immigration policy is a federal responsibility and should remain so. That's the message NLC and dozens of cities sent to the Supreme Court last week as it heard oral arguments in State of Arizona v. United States, which challenges the authority of the state of Arizona to enact its own immigration law, SB1070.

"It is important that the federal government, on behalf of the nation, adopt a comprehensive immigration policy that advances the highest and best interests of all residents," said NLC Executive Director Donald J.

Under SB1070, which became law in 2010, local law enforcement officers are required to investigate individuals' immigration status, detain all arrestees until their immigra-

tion status is verified, and enforce state laws that criminalize both the failure to carry registration documents and any attempt by an undocumented resident to apply for or perform work in the state.

NLC, in an amicus brief joined by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and more than 40 municipalities from across the country, including Phoenix, Flagstaff, Tucson and San Luis, Ariz., argues that allowing states to create their own immigration enforcement policies will detract from local public safety priorities and stretch already limited resources. SB1070 effectively requires local law enforcement to spend considerable time and money detaining individuals who may eventually not even be charged with a crime, while researching their immigration status.

The law also creates an unreasonable burden on law enforcement to enforce an unworkable law. If a city chooses, for whatever reason, not to enforce the law to its fullest extent, then it may be sued by any resident of the state. Localities also risk depleting resources defending themselves from a surge of lawsuits contending that arrestees were stopped using constitutionally questionable tactics, like racial profiling.

More troubling than the financial implications, SB1070 makes many members of immigrant communities — including those who are lawfully present in the United States — justifiably afraid of interacting with local officials. When fear makes residents reluctant to seek law enforcement assistance, crimes go unreported, witnesses fear coming forward, victims lack protection, and communities become less safe for all members — non-citizens and citizens alike.

'A positive working relationship between law enforcement and immigrant populations is essential for effective community policing," said Borut. "This law creates more harm than good in straining the resources and relationships needed to keep See IMMIGRATION on Page 2

# Countdown to TML Conference Have you registered yet?

Slated for June 9-12 in Knoxville, TML's Annual Conference is fast approaching and so is the hotel deadline. In order to receive TML's group rate at the conference hotel, Holiday Inn Downtown World's Fair Park, hotel reservations must be made by May 22.

With a theme of Charting a Course for Local Progress, TML's annual conference promises to be packed full of educational workshops and speakers that will focus on helping community leaders plan for a progressive future.

In addition, the University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) will offer several conference sessions this year as part of the Certified Municipal Finance Officer program. Workshop sessions have been approved by the State Comptroller as continued education units (CEU). Sessions are open to all conference regis-

City Shirt Day Sunday June 10

TML is encouraging city officials to show their city's spirit by



### See the backpage for a complete conference lineup.

wearing shirts with their city logos on Sunday, the opening day of the conference.

Other conference highlights include a welcome reception Saturday night, a Sunday morning golf tournament to benefit the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service Scholarships, a full exhibitors' program, and a Host City reception.

The conference will kick off Sunday, June 10, with district meetings and the opening general session, followed by two dynamic workshops and the host city reception. An awards breakfast on Tuesday will conclude the conference.

To register, go to the League's website: www.TML1.org.

# Forty years balances into retirement for municipal audit director Dennis Dycus

BY VICTORIA SOUTH

TML Communications Coordinator

A native of Lyon County Ky., Dennis Dycus graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1969, where he earned a BS in Accounting. A distinguished authority on municipal fraud, he served 39 years with the State Comptroller's Office as director of Municipal Audit, the entity which audits all local governments in Tennessee, with the exception of counties. Now, set to retire June 28, in the grand scheme of things, Dycus has assisted local governments for close to 40 years. But in the beginning, there was a strange fly in the ointment. He never wanted to work for the state.

"I arranged all my interviews with accounting firms in Nashville and received offers on all of them." Dycus confides, recalling his fledgling years as a young CPA in Music City. His first job was at Price Water House, then on to a local accounting firm managed by Frank Greathouse. Following a two-year stint working for the former Newspaper Printing Corporation, the agent for the Nashville Banner and Tennessean, Dycus decided to try his luck again, sending out fresh resumes citing Mr. Greathouse, as a reference.

"Somebody called him," said Dycus, recounting the recruitment conversation that changed the course of his life. In the interim, Greathouse had moved on, becoming director of what was then called the "special audit" branch for the State Comptroller's Office, a divi-



Dennis Dycus, longtime audit director, retires in June after 39 years with the State Comptroller's office.

sion created in 1973.

"He called me and said "If you want to change jobs, come talk to me," Dycus recalls. In the course of the meeting, Greathouse said "We're not under civil service and about as close to a CPA firm as you can get, except we don't do taxes."

"He also said I'd be on the ground floor, where there was nobody else but him. And that I'd have a good future based on merit," Dycus said. "And I said, 'Alright, because I know you, I'll give it a chance.' That was over 39 years

As for his role in conducting investigations related to fraud, waste, and abuse in local governments—it evolved. "Well, I was sort

of drug into it," Dycus concedes. "Once we did our first fraud investigation, people read about it and I think they thought 'here's somebody that may do something about it.' We began getting all kinds of information—just like the Bible—the part where so and so begat so and so- and so forth."

The job also opened a new window of opportunity for Dycus to showcase his public speaking talent. As a sought after speaker, through the years, he has developed and/or conducted training programs in all states, along with Puerto Rico, Guam, Canada and Europe, authoring articles related to the detection and prevention of fraud for See **Dycus** on Page 3

# TDEC requests public input on Solid Waste reduction proposal

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on proposed regulatory amendments to the solid waste reduction and planning rules on Thursday, June 21, 2012, at 1:00 p.m. CST, at the L & C Tower, in Nashville, TN. A redline version of the Notice of Rulemaking Hearing, as well as teleconferencing locations and mailing instructions are listed at <a href="http://tennessee.gov/environment/">http://tennessee.gov/environment/</a> swm/ppo/rules 0400\_11\_01\_09\_and\_10\_redline2.pdf. The department invites both oral and written comments.

# NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



#### **BYTML STAFF REPORTS**

#### CHATTANOOGA

One of the top bicycle races in the nation will be on the move to the Scenic City, and local officials predict that the impact could be significant. Chattanooga city and county officials gathered with officials from USA Cycling and executives from Volkswagen of America to announce a three-year contract to bring the USA Pro Cycling Championships to Chattanooga beginning in 2013. The relocation of this major sporting event was part of a fouryear partnership between USA Cycling and Volkswagen, making VW the official car of USA Cycling and including participation in 17 national championship events run by USA Cycling throughout the United States. USA Cycling is based in Colorado Springs, Colo., along with other major U.S. sports teams at the Olympics Training Center.

#### **CHATTANOOGA**

Chattanooga was named #4 of the Top 10 Affordable Vacations article released by Livability.com. According to the article, cities were ranked by their offering of unique, free activities, both indoors and out, and by the availability of discounts on otherwise pricey attractions. Livability.com consulted the Family Travel Network to help determine what makes a great vacation destination.

#### **CLEVELAND**

The new roof on the old Norfolk Southern Railway Depot in the Five Points area appears to be terra cotta, but the material has been updated to aluminum instead. The depot is undergoing renovations to be used as the transportation hub of Cleveland Urban Area Transit System. The depot will feature a historical display and small retail area in the lobby where dispatchers will be stationed. The north end of the building is reserved for offices and the south end will be a break room for drivers. There will be a total of about 30 employees moving to the building. built in 1909 at a cost of \$17,400, including the property, the depot was placed on the National and Tennessee Register of Historic Places April 2008. A ribbon cutting is being planned for sometime in June.

# DECHERD

A new engine manufacturing plant for auto giants and partners Nissan and Daimler will create 400 new jobs. Officials for the Japanese and German automakers broke ground on the new 310,000-square-foot factory that will go up next to Nissan's existing powertrain plant that already employs 1,100 people in Franklin County. The facility about 60 miles northwest of Chattanooga, will make engines for Nissan's luxury Infiniti brand and Mercedes Benz models. The plant is slated to open in 2014.

# FARRAGUT

The city held a Civil War Trail Marker Dedication ceremony honoring Admiral James David Glasgow Farragut. Following local and state speakers, including Tennessee Tourism commissioner Susan Whitaker and Hola Hora Latina president Dr. Angela Masini, the marker was unveiled near Adm. Farragut's birthplace at Lowe's Ferry along Admiral Farragut Park's shoreline.

# FRANKLIN

To help raise awareness of building safety, Franklin is celebrating Building Safety Month this May. The theme, "An International Celebration of Safe and Sensible Structures" highlights four areas: Energy and Green Building; Disaster Safety and Mitigation; Fire Safety and Awareness; and Backyard Safety. Building safety and fire prevention codes address all aspects of construction, such as structural soundness of buildings, reliability of fire prevention and suppression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency and sustainability. To ensure buildings are safe requires the active participation of building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, builders, engineers, contractors and others in the construction industry, as well as property owners.

# GREENEVILLE

By-pass traffic accidents and inju-

ries in Greeneville have been significantly reduced due to two new police cruisers. The new cruisers were purchased in June 2011 with the intent of reducing speeds and decreasing accidents along the Andrew Johnson Highway. From July 2011 to December 2011 police responded to 103 traffic accidents along the Andrew Johnson Highway. Police responded to 132 accidents during that same time period in 2010, or 22 percent fewer accidents in 2011 as compared to 2010. The reduced accidents along the By-pass also contributed to fewer accidents and injuries citywide. Accidents in Greeneville decreased from 410 during the period of July 2011 to December 2011 to 366 over the same time period the previous year. Accidents with injuries fell from 108 to 88, or a 19 percent decrease over the same time in 2010. Most significant is the reduced number of injuries from traffic accidents. Injuries dropped from 158 to 120 in 2011 as compared to 2010. The new cruisers are specially designed to enhance safety through enforcement of traffic laws.

#### JONESBOROUGH

Construction of a \$5.5 million expansion of Jonesborough's wastewater treatment plant will soon be underway and continue through next spring. Representatives of USDA Rural Development, the Washington County Economic Development Council and Washington County Mayor Dan Eldridge joined Jonesborough officials to ceremoniously break ground on the project at the sewer plant for two new 500,000-gallon wastewater treatment basins. The project is being funded through about \$2.2 million in grants from USDA Rural Development and about \$1.5 million in Rural Development loans. The Appalachian Regional Commission also provided a \$500,000 grant for the expansion.

### KNOXVILLE

Knoxville has been designated a "Let's Move!" city in the fight against childhood obesity. The "Let's Move!" campaign began with First Lady Michelle Obama under the tagline "America's Move to Raise a Healthier Generation of Kids." The city recently hosted "Let's Move!" events planned by a committee of health experts, recreation specialists, dietitians and other related professionals from 15 local organizations at both Victor Ashe Park and Holston-Chilhowee Ballpark. Both locations featured a "greenway of activities" in an effort to introduce Knoxville youth to eating healthy and moving more outside. Participants received an official "Let's Move!" Adventure Map stamped for each activity station, along with door prizes, free walking kits, vegetable plants, and free fluoride treatments.

# LENOIR CITY

A 10-year tax break wasn't enough to keep 230 manufacturing jobs in Loudon County. The first round of layoffs at the Yale Commercial Lock and Hardware facility in Lenoir City are expected to take place in August, with a closure of the plant anticipated in the first quarter of next year. Yale is consolidating the operations with an existing facility in Berlin, Conn.

# LIVINGSTON

Ten new T-hangars for single engines are being added at the Livingston Municipal Airport with ten more to be added in 2013. According to Mayor Curtis Hayes, there is a waiting list of pilots who want to store their planes at the airport. A grand opening and ribboncutting ceremony was held May 9.

# **MEMPHIS**

Pinnacle Airlines Corp. said it is ditching a 900-employee division that provides professional ground-handling services to 16 airlines at 11 American airports. Nearly 400 workers in Memphis, 330 part time and 68 full time, including 10 managers, will be affected. The company notified PinnPro Professional Ground Services workers that it would wind down the operation by September as part of bankruptcy-related restructuring. While the company previously said its overall downsizing would result in fur-

loughs of about 450 pilots, this is the bankruptcy's biggest impact so far on the airline's home city. The decision comes less than a year after Pinnacle rebranded and expanded contract ground services under PinnPro for its own airlines, Pinnacle and Colgan, as well as Delta, American, United and US Airways or their regional partners. PinnPro services include customer handling and check-in, baggage handling, aircraft cleaning, facility cleaning, skycap and wheelchair services. The move isn't expected to affect Pinnacle's feeder flights for Delta Air Lines at Memphis International Airport.

#### **MEMPHIS**

Hostess Brands' 251 Memphis employees are among 18,500 nationally who've been put on notice they could lose jobs in the company's bankruptcy restructuring. The Irving, Texas, company filed "conditional" layoff notices with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development that the Memphis workforce is at risk. Hostess said layoffs could occur under any of six scenarios that are possible outcomes of the bread and pastry maker's Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization.

#### **MILAN**

American Ordnance will lay off 429 people from the Milan Army Ammunition Plant within the next 90 days. Local news reports say the company has contracted with Iowa-based BEM Lighthouse to help recruit new business to the Milan arsenal to replace the lost jobs. According to a company e-mail, American Ordnance is moving production work from Milan to its plant in Iowa in a cost-cutting move aimed at saving the U.S. military money. The Milan arsenal's main mission is being shifted from one of production to inventory and distribution.

#### **MURFREESBORO**

As another extension of the city's community engagement efforts, Murfreesboro City Manager Rob Lyons will now be "Tweeting" on Twitter. His address is BoroCityManager. Lyons plans to use Twitter to provide information about the city, including news, city jobs and emergency management updates during severe weather situations as well as employee news and more. "Offering Twitter is another link to city government and is just another step in our efforts to be transparent to our citizen customers," Lyons said.

# NASHVILLE

Nashville-based Asurion plans to expand into downtown's Ragland Building at 300 Second Avenue South. Asurion, which provides mobile phone insurance plans for some of the nation's top carriers, had been scouting Music City for about 100,000 square feet to accommodate an expansion. The company will occupy the Ragland Building and the connected XO Communications building, according to commercial real estate sources. The Ragland Building, originally built in 1930, went through a multi-million dollar renovation in 2010, which included installation of several green aspects, including an energy efficient heating and cooling system and insulated glass. The rapidly expanding company has previously said it plans to create more than 500 jobs in Nashville in the coming years. A year ago, when the company explored moving its headquarters out of Nashville, it was awarded \$12.4 million in local and state incentives to stay and create hundreds of jobs.

# WHITE HOUSE

Celebrating a quarter century, the number of patrons at the White House Inn Library has more than quintupled. In fact, the total number of registered borrowers — 10,163, is almost equal to the town's total population of 10,255. The library's collection of books has nearly quintupled, too, from 5,500 volumes to 25,250. The library's size, however, has remained the same. Now, State Reps. Debra Maggart, Joshua Evans and Secretary of State Tre Hargett are working with community leaders to develop a new library. Although the existing building is owned by the city and located within the city limits, nearly two-thirds of the library's users live outside of White House. Of those out-of-town users, roughly half live in Robertson County and the other half live in Sumner County. The project is projected to include a broad coalition of public and private stakeholders.

# Franklin flips the switch on first solar array



Franklin's first solar array is complete and will be connected to the grid soon. Under the arrangement, the city is leasing one acre of land at the wastewater treatment facility to Nashville based Energy Source Partners who designed, permitted, funded, and installed the ground mounted 200 kW array.

The city owns about 100 acres at the wastewater treatment plant but, according to Mayor Moore, does not have the capital needed to finance a solar system. Leasing the property allows the city to explore public/private joint ventures and to test the model while also keeping its options open for the rest of the property.

Franklin did not commit any funds nor will be responsible for maintaining the system. Because the site is a former sludge field, the city did not want to turn any dirt (or

sludge), but instead make the project as low impact as possible.

In addition, local installers and contractors were used, the racking system was fabricated by a Nashville business, the blocks used to weigh down the panels are made from recycled tires, and all 940 panels were manufactured in Memphis and shipped for no cost.

All of the power generated is sold back to TVA and transmitted to the electric grid. The revenue generated from the solar power is split 80/20 in favor of Energy Source Partners until they have received payments totaling \$393,690.

Staff estimates that the payoff point will be reached in the first quarter of the 9<sup>th</sup> year of the agreement. Once that total has been reached, the revenue will be split 80/20 in favor of the city for the duration of the 20 year lease.

# Kingsport cuts ribbon on state-of-the art wastewater treatment facility



City officials cut the ribbon on Kingsport's \$23 million, completely renovated wastewater treatment plant. Pictured left to right are: Niki Ensor, Water & Wastewater plant manager, John Campbell, Kingsport city manager; Mike McIntire, alderman; Ryan McReynolds, Public Works director; and Tom Parham, Kingsport vice mayor.

Kingsport officials cut the ribbon recently on a completely renovated wastewater treatment plant that continues Kingsport's path as an environmentally conscious city.

"This facility represents the Board of Mayor and Aldermen's commitment to making Kingsport an environmental leader in the region and the state," said City Manager John Campbell. "At the same time, the investment in this renovated treatment facility goes a long way to helping us maintain the lowest possible rates while providing the best possible service to the citizens of Kingsport."

The new facility features three unique concepts to improve the environment and the efficiency of the facility itself. Chlorine has been replaced with ultraviolet light as the plant's principal anti-microbial disinfectant, also reducing concerns about chlorine storage.

Methane gas is captured in a new anaerobic digester, which breaks down wastewater solids, with the gas then used to help power treatment processes.

Finally, treatment processes and flows within the system have been improved, with the facility now capable of seeking a permit expansion from the current 12.4 million gallon per day rate capacity to 16

million gallons per day, although there are no current plans to seek a permit expansion.

"What we have created is a treatment facility that should meet all foreseeable environmental regulations for the next 20 years," said Ryan McReynolds, Public Works director. "At the same time, even at the currently rated capacity, we have more than enough capacity to handle roughly 20,000 new customers and several large business users."

The \$23 million project represents the first major city investment in the plant in the last 27 years. The results, so far, are striking, reducing permit exceptions by 86 percent in the collection system that feeds into the plant. The five remaining exceptions were due to collection system impediments that can be expected in virtually any wastewater collection system, with ongoing maintenance efforts working hard to reduce total exceptions to zero.

"This is a clear example of the BMA's commitment to making Kingsportan environmental leader in the state and the region," McReynolds said. "Our mission is to continue building the most environmentally sensitive system possible, at the lowest possible cost, with zero exceptions to our permit."

# **NLC files Amicus Brief in Arizona immigration law**

**IMMIGRATION** from Page 1 residents safe and neighborhoods strong.

"Immigration has supported our nation over many decades and has been a source for economic growth and innovation for our cities and the nation," he continued. "The Arizona law underscores the urgent need to move forward now with comprehensive reform at the federal level."

Over the years, NLC has examined the role that cities can take to

help immigrants integrate into the civic fabric of American life. Barriers of miscommunication over language and cultural difference are just some of the challenges facing police departments and local residents. Successful efforts often rest on community leaders reaching out and building trust to overcome these challenges.

A copy of the amicus brief is at <a href="http://bit.ly/NLCImmigration">http://bit.ly/NLCImmigration</a>
<a href="mailto:AmicusBrief2012">AmicusBrief2012</a>.



# PEOPLE IN THE

Dr. Philip Oldham



Dr. Oldham comes Oldham to UTC from Mississippi State University where he serves as Professor and Dean of Arts and Sciences. In 1995, Oldham served as visiting scientist in the Health Sciences Research Division at Oak Ridge National Library. He will assume his new position in July.

Cheatham County Director Schools, Dr. Tim Webb, has resigned to take the principal's position at Richland High School in Giles County.



Webb

Webb served as the Tennessee commissioner of education before starting as director of schools in November 2010. He will serve as the director for up to the next 90 days.

Murfreesboro city councilmember Ron Washington, has been appointed vice mayor. A councilmember since 1998, Washington will preside



over meetings and Washington make public appearances if Mayor Tommy Bragg is unavailable. Wash-

ington is the second minority to hold the position since the late Robert Scales.

William B. Herbert IV has started his new position as Metropolitan Zoning Administrator in the Department of Codes and Building Safety succeeding long-time zoning administrator Lon F. (Sonny) West. Herbert is an attorney with the law firm of Johnson & Herbert in Nashville and also serves as county Attorney in Cheatham County. In his private law practice, he has specialized in zoning and land use law, as well as municipal and county law.

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation has chosen a Franklin man for an annual award. **Scott Davis**, director of conservation programs for The Nature Conservancy's North American Central Division, was chosen Land Conservationist of the Year. He secured tens of thousands of acres in the Cumberland Mountains, and also developed a state wildlife action plan for Tennessee.

The Tullahoma Pride Foundation have planted a Norway Spruce, to honor former city Mayor George C. Orr, who passed away recently. Orr was mayor of Tullahoma from 1982-1986. The memorial tree was planted by the city at History Park on Atlantic Street.

Greeneville Building Official Jim **Snyder** is retiring After 18 years of service. He has worked for the town since April 1994.

# Fayetteville's Eddie Plunket named TBOA's Codes Official of the Year

The Tennessee Building Officials Association has named Eddie Plunkett, Fayetteville's director of public works, Code Official of the Year for the state of Tennessee.

Plunkett received the honor at TBOA's annual training meeting recently held in April in Gatlinburg.

The honor is the most prestigious award that is bestowed upon any code official by the Tennessee Building Officials Association. A person recognized to receive this award is considered to be hardworking and dedicated to their community and profession.

"On behalf of the citizens of Fayetteville, the employees of Public Works and the Board of Mayor and Alderman, we would like to congratulate Eddie Plunkett for this most prestigious award," said Fayetteville Mayor John Ed Underwood.

In 2009. Plunkett was elected to the TBOA Board of Directors as secretary and served in 2010 and 2011 as treasurer. At this year's annual conference, Plunkett was elected to the TBOA Board of Directors as the 2nd vice president.

Plunkett began working for the city of Fayetteville in 1996 in the codes department and received his building inspector certification in 1997. Plunkett worked in the position of building inspector until being promoted to director of Public Works for the city of Fayetteville in

"Plunkett's knowledge of his duties and work ethics are invaluable



Eddie Plunkett, Fayetteville's director of public works (right), is named Tennessee's Code Official of the Year by the Tennessee Building Officials Association .Plunkett began working for the city of Fayetteville in 1996 in the codes department and received his building inspector certification in 1997. Presenting the award is Terry Cobb, director of Development Services for Metro Nashville and representing the TBOA Awards Committee.

to the citizens of Fayetteville," said Mayor Underwood. "We all applaud Eddie for his accomplishments."

The Tennessee Building Official Association met recently in Gatlinburg for their 49<sup>th</sup> Education

Conference, where 203 building, plumbing, mechanical and fire inspectors attended. The conference helps educate inspectors on changes in codes and new product technol-

# Dycus to retire, Jim Arnette new director of Local Government Audit

**DYCUS** from Page 1

several national publications.

In his interview with TT&C, Dycus said there are two or three developments he is particularly proud to be associated with. The first is the establishment of the Utility Management and Waste Water Facility Review Boards. One is over city utility water and sewer systems; the other is over utility districts. The other is the passage of The Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) legislation.

"Although we have laws that said utilities had to charge rates to be self supporting, one third of municipal operated water and sewer systems and one third of utility districts were in deficit situations with debt retained earnings and we had several utility districts in default on their bonds," Dycus said. "Now that those boards are up and running, we can count the number of utilities with problems on your fingers and have some left over. It's been very, very successful. And lots of states have looked at Tennessee and come up with similar models to address their utilities."

The Municipal Finance Officer Certification and Education Act of 2007 (Act), passed by the Tennessee General Assembly, requires each municipality to have in its employ a Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) by a specified date. The 11-course program administered by The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS), includes an exam at the end of each course. On Jan. 27, 2011, the inaugural class graduated in a ceremony at the state

"We received nationwide attention for that," Dycus said proudly. "There were 96 people in our first graduating class and we've never seen such smiling people in our life. It's been an astoundingly successful program and has raised the level of knowledge of city financial people tremendously. Lots of them that were opposed in the beginning, say it's the best thing that ever happened to them."

Essentially, Dycus will go down in history as the last Director of Municipal Audit. Effective July 1,

the Division of Municipal Audit will no longer exist. The investigative section will become part of a new Division of Investigative Audits. The review section will be merged with the review section of the Division of County Audit, which will be renamed the Division of Local Government Audit.

"Municipalities won't see a lot of change in the conversion, as they'll be seeing the same people," Dycus notes. "Jim Arnette, director of County Audit, says he doesn't want to change a thing because everything has been working smoothly."

And it won't be the last local governments see of Dycus, who says he's being courted by several organizations that he can't mention until his retirement. "I will continue to do my own thing and then I may have some part-time affiliation in the future," he said.

In September, with their two daughters Kemble, 31, and Lane, 27 looking on, Dycus and his wife Angela, will celebrate their 44th anniversary. They are looking forward to spending quality time traveling and pursuing their favorite hobbies.

The pair plan to take an Alaskan Cruise in August. Then, they will revisit some of the cities Dycus has breezed through on the conference circuit. "Although I've been to every state, the only thing I see most of the time is the hotel and the airport," he explains. "We're going to take advantage of my traveling experiences by taking some mini-vacations across the US." The pair also raise and show prize orchids. "We have about 450 right now in a green-

house," Dycus notes. Thankful for the relationships built through the years, in parting, Dycus had nothing but praise for his colleagues. "Oftentimes a boss is afraid they will hire someone smarter than they are. Well- most of my staff are smarter than me. And I thank God everyday because they make me look good. I am constantly thanked by CPAs for their ability to call in and talk to my people about problems."

"I've also always had a very good relationship with MTAS," Dycus continues. "Our goals are the same. About 95 percent of the time we agreed on everything. Another great organization is Local Government Corporation. It's the best thing to happen to local government, especially the small ones, with regards to computerized accounting, filling a vast hole where once there was no one."

"We have some very dedicated individuals out there that are trying with limited resources," Dycus surmises. "I admire elected officials, those who are sincere, for taking that responsibility, because it's truly a thankless job. They do well with what they have."



Jim Arnette

Effective, April 2, the audit and contract review function of the Divisions of County Audit and Municipal Audit were officially combined. With the merging of these functions, the Division of County Audit will be renamed the Division of Local Government Audit, with former County Audit Director Jim Arnette at the helm.

"This whole merge coincides with a formation of a comptroller investigations unit," said Arnette. "The investigators from state, county and municipal audit are forming a centralized investigation unit for the comptroller's office." Rene Brison has been named assistant director of the new Division of Investigations.

Both county and municipal governments will see little, if any, changes, according to Arnette.

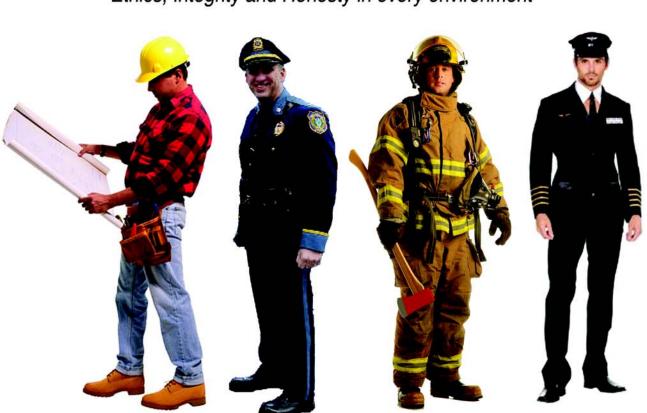
"County audit has a contract review section that does a very similar process as municipal audit, they're just two different entities," he continues. "Our county financial and compliance staff will still be doing the same audits they've been doing. And the municipal contract review functions are going to be working with the same CPA firms. We felt it just makes sense to combine the functions into one unit with the name change to Local Government Audit."

According to a memo by State Comptroller Justin Wilson, the transition will be a significant undertaking. "Audit website and contact information is currently being updated to reflect department changes," Wilson said. "As the transition moves forward, we will keep you informed as needed to ensure our office operations continue running smoothly as changes occur."

"It's a little chaotic right now," Arnette admits. "Not only are we going through a transition with merger of staff, but it's causing us to remodel all our office space. However, "it should be a pretty seamless transaction and transition for local governments."



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# STATE BRIEFS

#### **BYTML STAFF REPORTS**

Prescription drug bill now law

Gov. Haslam signed a prescription drug bill as part of his 2012 Public Safety Action Plan. The action plan is a comprehensive, multi-agency plan designed to improve public safety statewide. The bill, among other things, requires all prescribers and dispensers to register with the controlled substance monitoring database. All prescribers much check the database for a patient's controlled substance history before prescribing a drug.

State's online job database live

The state's new online jobs database went live as a new tool for job seekers and employers. The database — https://www.jobs4tn.gov Jobs4TN Online provides first-run jobs from newspapers, government sites and private job boards, has a searchable list of private sector jobs, and visitors to the site can register to be notified of potential jobs in their fields. It also notifies employers when job applicants fit their needs. It contains positions from job orders placed directly by Tennessee employers, from corporate Internet sites, and from major job search engines.

State ranks 5th in clean energy

Tennessee was 5th in "clean energy jobs" in the nation in the first quarter, according to a new report from Environmental Entrepreneurs. The report highlights more than 2,500 new green jobs in Tennessee during the first quarter, citing activity by solar manufacturer Wacker Chemie and Nissan North America for its Leaf. "Not only are these jobs creating new economic opportunities in Tennessee, but also betterpaying ones," the report said.

#### TN top four for business

Chief Executive magazine named Tennessee one of the top four states in the nation for business in its eighth annual survey of Best and Worst States for Business. More than 650 chief executive officers rated all 50 states in three general categories: taxation and regulation, quality of workforce and living environment. Tennessee ranked fourth for the second consecutive year.

Site Selection names top deals

Site Selection magazine has named its top deals of 2011, along with top non-state-level economic development groups in the U.S. Amazon and the Nashville Chamber have both made the list. The Top Deals of 2011 were determined by level of capital investment, degree of highvalue jobs, creativity in negotiations and incentives, regional economic impact, competition for the project and speed to market. Amazon was honored for its decision to locate distribution facilities in three Tennessee cities: Chattanooga, Cleveland and Lebanon.

# Tick borne illness on rise

The Tennessee Department of Health reports the number of Rocky Mountain spotted fever cases has increased by more than 500 percent compared to this time last year.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, RMSF is a tick borne disease that is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected tick species, including the American dog tick, Rocky Mountain wood tick and brown dog tick. Symptoms typically appear two to 14 days after a bite from an infected tick and can include a fever, headache, vomiting and muscle pain. Experts recommend the best way to protect yourself against ticks is to wear repellant and to stay covered up if you are walking in tall grass or wooded area.

#### TN receives settlement

Tennessee will receive \$1.95 million coming from a multistate settlement between a giant pharmaceutical company accused of deceptively marketing the anti-seizure drug Depakote. The state's cut was part of a \$100 million agreement between 45 states and the District of Columbia and Abbott Laboratories. The agreement is the largest consumer protection-based pharmaceutical settlement ever reached. The states accused the pharmaceutical company of engaging in deceptive marketing practices when it marketed Depakote for off-label uses.

#### ADA pool regs bring closures

Hotel operators are scrambling to install permanent poolside lifts to aid the disabled at a cost of \$10,000 and up to meet a federal mandate in the next month. Some pools and spas may close rather than comply with a federal rule that all public pools and hot tubs must install an expensive chairlift for the disabled. Hotel operators are seeking a delay of at least six months from the May 21 mandate. The rules are being issued by the U.S. Justice Department under the Americans With Disabilities Act - or ADA - and they will affect more than 300,000 pools and spas around the country. "It's going to cost hotel operators nearly \$1 billion to comply with these rules, and in many cases, the answer will be to fill in the pools and take out the hot tubs rather than adding the lifts, which can cost \$12,000 or more each (to install)," said Greg Adkins, president of the Tennessee Hospitality Asso-

# TN posts highway fatalities

Motorists have begun seeing a daily fatality count and safety tips on overhead message boards along Tennessee highways. The state decided to post the information because the number of highway fatalities is climbing. Preliminary reports show 288 people died on Tennessee roadways from January through April 27 — an increase of 27 over the same time period last year, according to the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Nearly half of this year's fatalities have involved motorists who were not wearing a seat belt, officials said.

**State Fair board to be established**A bill that would establish a board to

A bill that would establish a board to govern the State Fair is headed to the governor's desk. Under the legislation, a board under the state's agriculture department would be solely responsible for administering the fair and setting rules about its opera-

tion and management. The board would be allowed to sell and lease property under management of the commission.

### **Broadband driving growth**

Broadband-connected businesses in Tennessee bring in about \$300,000 more in annual revenue compared to businesses that aren't connected, according to a report released by Connected Tennessee. In addition, 42,000 state businesses use the Internet to advertise job openings or accept job applications, including 4,000 that exclusively accept applications via the Internet. "Expanding broadband access, adoption and use is a proven driver of economic growth and is vital to ensure the United States' place in the global digital economy," said Tom Ferree, president and chief operating officer of Connected Nation. The report, "Technology Adoption Among Tennessee Businesses," concluded that \$4.4 billion in annual sales revenue is generated by online sales. Other findings include: 37,000 businesses in Tennessee are still not connected to broadband and 85 percent of businesses use computer technology for their work.

#### Report shows hate crimes rise

After a steady decline, hate crimes in Tennessee spiked in 2011, according to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's analysis of state crime statistics. "Bias motivated" offenses — TBI's term for hate crimes — jumped nearly 51 percent to 261 offenses reported in 2011, compared with 173 in 2010, according to the study. "Before 2011, a three-year analysis of hate offenses showed a decline every year between 2008 and 2010," said TBI spokeswoman Kristin Helm about the increase. The statistics have been compiled in the report "Tennessee Hate Crime 2011," which is based on required monthly reports from local law enforcement agencies state-

# April revenue collections continue upward trend

Tennessee revenue collections continued an upward growth trend in April, with a net positive growth of 9.67 percent over April collections one year ago. Finance and Administration Commissioner Mark Emkes reported that overall April revenues were \$1,386.4 million or \$82.8 million more than the state budgeted.

"Sales tax collections recorded the 25th consecutive month of positive growth dating back to April of 2010," Emkes said. "In addition, corporate Franchise and Excise tax collections continue to be very encouraging, but the Hall Income Tax recorded a negative growth over last April and fell considerably short of the budgeted estimate.

The general fund was over collected by \$83.1 million, and the four other funds were under collected by \$0.3 million.

Sales tax collections were \$42.9 million more than the budgeted estimate for April. The April growth rate was positive 8.77 percent. For nine months revenues are over collected by \$183.4 million. The year-to-date growth rate for nine months was positive 7.26 percent.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$16.5 million above the budgeted estimate of \$361.4 million. For nine months revenues are \$215.1 million over the budgeted estimate.

Hall Income tax collections for April were \$15.7 million less than the budgeted estimate. For nine months collections are \$18.1 million below the budgeted estimate. The growth rate for the nine month period was negative 4.41 percent.

Inheritance and estate tax collections were \$38.3 million above the April estimate. For nine months collections are \$38.0 million above the budgeted estimate.

Privilege tax collections were \$724,000 more than April's budgeted estimate, and for nine months collections are \$254,000 above the budgeted estimate.

Gasoline and motor fuel collections for April decreased by 4.07 percent, and were \$2.7 million less than the budgeted estimate. For nine months revenues are negative 1.03 percent, and \$6.4 million below the budgeted estimate of \$625.9 million.

Tobacco tax collections were \$349,000 under the budgeted estimate of \$23.0 million. For nine months revenues are under collected in the amount of \$12.3 million.

All other taxes were over collected by a net of \$3.1 million.

Year-to-date collections for nine months were \$412.9 million more than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was over collected by \$400 million and the four other funds were over collected by \$12.9 million. The FY 2012 revised budget assumed an over collection of \$209.6 million in General Fund Taxes. The amount over collected above and beyond what's already in the budget is \$190.4 million.

The budgeted revenue estimates for 2011-2012 are based on the State Funding Board's consensus recommendation of April 15, 2011, and adopted by the first session of the 107th General Assembly in May. They are available on the state's website at http://www.tn.gov/finance/bud/budget.shtml. The State Funding Board met again in December to hear updated revenue projections from the state's various economists and adopted revised revenue ranges for 2011-2012. The revised ranges assume an over collection of \$187.8 million to \$220.5 million in total taxes and \$177.0 million to \$209.6 million in general fund taxes from the fiscal year 2011-2012 bud-

# Tennessee film incentives get funding boost

Changes to state law made during the 107th General Assembly will mean \$2 million in anticipated funding for the state's film incentive program, administered by the Tennessee Film Entertainment and Music Commission (TFEMC). In addition, reforms to the state's film funding grant formula will give smaller, indigenous film productions access to a larger share of available grant dollars.

Sen. Majority Leader Mark Norris, Collierville, sponsored a repeal of the refundable tax credit available to film productions under TCA § 67-4-2109(j). The repeal will mean an additional \$2 million in funding for the Tennessee Film/TV Incentive Fund.

Norris said the move makes TFEMC the "one-stop shop" for film incentives in the state and ends a complex system of incentivizing productions through both TFEMC grants and refundable tax credits issued by the Department of Rev-

"We recognize the importance of the film industry not only to the economy of the state but to the welfare of countless Tennesseans whose livelihoods depend on it,"



Norris said. "This new program simplifies, streamlines and strengthens our commitment to the film industry."

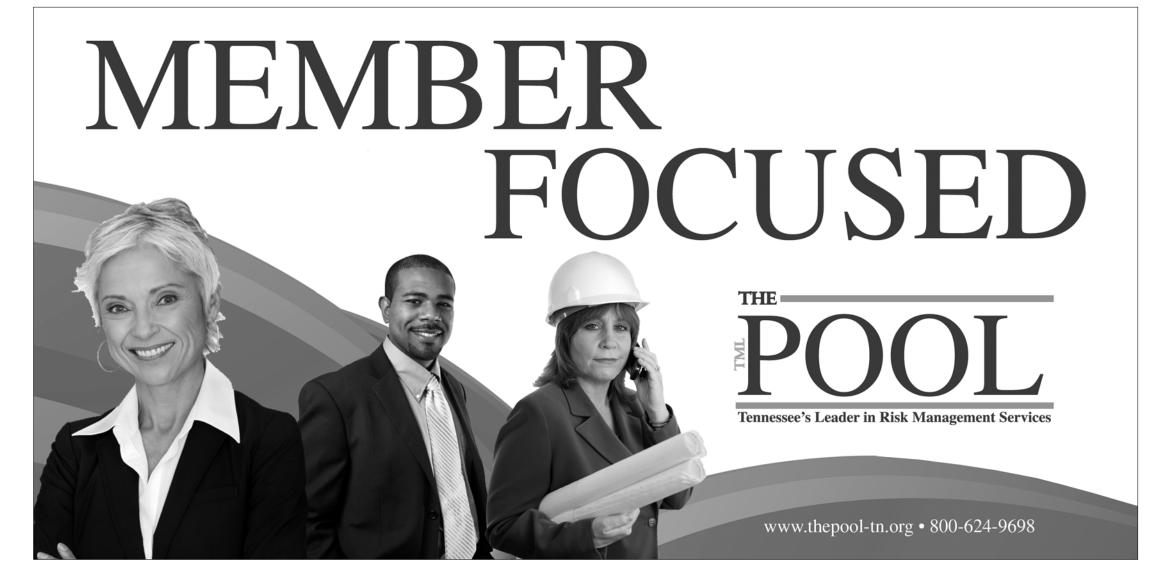
Changes made to the Tennessee Film/TV Incentive Fund grant formula by the TFEMC are designed to promote the development of indigenous production and attract independent filmmakers by streamlining the incentive delivery process.

Under the new program, projects with budgets more than \$200,000 will be eligible to receive grants equal to 25 percent of their qualified Tennessee expenditures. Previously, the combined grant and tax credit system awarded a

17 percent grant and 15 percent refundable tax credit only to productions with budgets over \$1 million.

"As part of Governor Haslam's Jobs4TN economic development plan, the entertainment industry was identified as one of the key industries in which the state has a clear competitive advantage," Bill Hagerty, commissioner, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, said. "I would like to thank Sen. Norris for his vision on this bill and members of the General Assembly for their support."

The TFEMC is part of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.



# Disposing of a personal computer

BY JUSTIN O'HARA MTAS IT Consultant

Disposing of old computer hardware by auction or donation is a good way to get rid of older personal computers (PC) and provide them with a second life, which is also good for the environment. These are two noble ways to dispose of an old PC; however, something to keep in mind is that the hard drive on that PC could contain a treasure trove of information.

There are data thieves who purposefully mine places such as public auctions, flea markets and garage sales. These data thieves purchase old hard drives with the intent to find personal information to sell on the Internet. Not only do these thieves seek information on personally-owned equipment, they also look for public auctions of equipment such as PCs, printers, fax machines, copiers, etc. as all of this equipment contains hard drives and bits of electronic information that can be mined for profit.

According to the Tennessee disclosure statute (T.C.A. § 47-18-2107) releasing unencrypted personal information in this manner would most likely be considered a data breach. This, at the very least, would incur the notification section of the statute but could also go as far as a civil action against the information holder. In addition, the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACTA) contains a specific rule specifying the proper disposal of consumer information, which includes electronic records. FACTA also outlines penalties for "willful noncompliance" that also could include civil liability and punitive damages. Outside of what is required by law or statute it makes good cyber security sense to assure you do not have data left on an old PC.

For example, you have audited all your municipal PCs and know that you do not have any business processes that require you to gather and store consumer information, therefore not calling into effect either of the above instances. However, a PC might have an unencrypted file containing all of the user's passwords, compromising that user or wireless network settings and puts the municipality's wireless network security at risk, allowing someone access to municipal information technology (IT) resources.

A municipality should establish a written policy or procedure outlining the disposal process from start to finish, including methods of removing all data from existing PCs. The two options for removing the data from a hard disk are either a software tool to wipe (erase/overwrite) the dataor physical destruction of the hard disk. Just deleting the files on the hard drive or reformatting and reloading the Operating System are not sufficient means to completely remove the data. If this has been your chosen method, the files can be recovered fairly easily.

A simple Internet search will help you find a number of good data recovery tools to retrieve files that have been deleted from the hard drive or other removable media. Some recovery tools will even work on drives that have been reformatted. I have used a few to recover photos and other files that have inadvertently been lost or deleted from PCs, memory cards, USB drives, etc. Most recovery tools have graphical user interfaces to make recovery as simple as possible. Most of the tools were not designed for nefarious reasons but could easily be used in such a manner. More

sophisticated tools exist, but have difficult time recovering data when using either of the data destruction methods discussed.

### Establishing a written procedure

Establishing a written procedure will help to assure everyone involved that the municipality has planned ahead and thought through the entire process of PC/data disposal The plan should include the method of removing the data from all IT equipment so you can be assured that unencrypted data is not leaving your organization unintentionally. This policy should include a list of equipment that you know has or could potentially contain sensitive information. It could include copiers, faxes, servers, laptops, smart phones, desktops or basically anything that contains a disk drive (memory) and stores information. You would also want to outline the basic process for each device. For example, you could use the same process for all of the hard disk-based equipment, but you might have to use a different process for a smart phone. Next, you would outline the process you will use to auction or donate the equipment. This could include your method of selecting the receiving entity.

#### **Software destruction**

A couple of software tools for software destruction include DBAN (www.dban.org/) or Killdisk (www.killdisk.com/). DBAN a free self contained boot utility that securely wipes data from hard disks. Killdisk is very similar, but it is available in both a free/lite version and a paid/professional version. The professional version offers additional options for the type of wiping that is done on the drive. In both versions, you will download the .iso file from their website. The .iso file is a CD or DVD image file that you will need to burn to the appropriate media. Windows Vista and Windows 7can do this natively, but Windows XP will need a third party utility such as Nero, Sonic or Ulead in order to burn the .iso file to CD/ DVD. Once the .iso file has been burned to CD or DVD, you will then start from this CD/DVD on the PC

containing the hard disk you would like to wipe. NOTE: This procedure cannot be reversed. Once you have started wiping the disk, you will no longer be able to retrieve the data.

Both the DBAN and the free version of Killdisk can be used in a home/personal or business environment to completely remove data from an existing hard disk and render it very difficult, if not impossible, to recover. I would recommend Killdisk Professional for use in a municipal environment. DBAN does not disclose the method it uses to wipe the data and will not make a statement of conformity in removing data in compliance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Sarbanes-Oxley, etc. Killdisk, however, provides a basic statement as to the methods used to wipe a drive and allows you to choose the method you prefer, as well as verifies (professional version) the data has been wiped. The biggest advantage of the software method is that it does not destroy the hard disk. This allows the hard disk to be reformatted and the OS reinstalled afterward, allowing the computer to be set up and once again become a functioning computer.

Physical destruction

The second method of purging the data is physical destruction of the hard disk. This can occur in many ways, including a sledge hammer, industrial shredders, degaussed, etc. However, with this method, you are destroying the media so the PC

would have to be sold/auctioned/ donated without a hard disk. Depending on the information that was stored on the hard disk, this may actually be the preferred method. For example, if you have lots of confidential information (names, addresses, credit card numbers or Social Security numbers), you may want to choose physical destruction. Some advantages of this method include ease of use, time (typically much faster) and convenience. The software method of wiping data removes the data and then writes a series of 1s, 0s and random characters to the entire surface of the disk. Killdisk Professional defines the US DOD 5220.22-M standard as three complete writes of data across the disk. Both free versions of the software tools only make a single pass across the disk, effectively taking one-third the amount of time. Depending on the number of writes that you choose and the size of the disk, you could be looking at hours or days with some of the larger 1TB drives. However, with a sledge hammer and the proper safety equipment, destruction can be handled in a short amount of time. Just remember to make sure the platters are in multiple pieces when you are done.

### Policy assistance

If your city does not have an existing disposal policy that outlines the above process, MTAS information technology consultants can help you develop one to fit your organization. For more information, visit www.mtas.tennessee.edu

# West Tennessee cities awarded safe-room grants

Dyersburg State Gazette

The cities of Dyersburg, Newbern and Halls have been awarded grants by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to construct safe rooms in their respective communities capable of withstanding 250-mph winds of an EF5 tornado. These are the first community safe rooms to be federally funded in West Tennessee. The community safe rooms will be built according to FEMA standards

"We pursued the FEMA grants for our two projects in order to provide Dyersburg with a higher level of protection against destructive tornadoes," said Dyersburg Mayor John Holden.

The city of Dyersburg will receive over \$2 million to build two safe rooms within its city limits. The first will be built adjacent to Dyersburg High School. The DHS safe room will be the larger of the two safe rooms at approximately 8,300 square feet in size with 6,800 usable square feet capable of accommodating 1,350 people. The second community safe room will be constructed across from Fire Station No. 1 in downtown Dyersburg. The building will be 7,198 square feet in size with approximately 6,100 square feet of usable space to accommodate 1,200 people.

Dyersburg already has some experience housing citizens in the event of severe inclement weather as pointed out by Dyersburg Emergency Operations Manager Mark Grant. Last spring, as a result of a partnership with Dyersburg City Schools, DHS was opened and provided shelter to more than 500 residents in advance of projected tornado activity.

Both Newbern and Halls will incorporate their community safe rooms on school campuses in the heart of their communities.

Each municipality received \$1 million toward the total cost of the structure through FEMA, with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency covering the majority of the remaining costs.



Residents of Dyersburg, Newbern and Halls will soon see four buildings similar to this artist's rendering in the heart of their communities. The buildings are the first community safe rooms to be federally funded in West Tennessee. Provided through funds from the Federal Emergency Management and Tennessee Emergency Management agencies, the structures will provide shelter from EF-5 tornadoes beginning as early as spring 2015.

The city of Newbern will receive \$6,597 in TEMA funds for the new 6,608-square-foot facility, which will be constructed on the campus of Newbern Grammar School. The safe room will be constructed as a separate building on the NGS campus, featuring 5,600 square feet of usable space to protect 1,400 students, faculty and members of the surrounding population.

"Since the town of Newbern experienced a major tornado in 2008 that generated catastrophic damage with many lives lost, we are very excited about the ability to (construct a community safe room)," said Newbern Mayor K.W. Dennison. "(This project will allow us to) shelter (approximately) 1,000 students and vulnerable residents and business visitors nearby."

The town of Halls received \$12,986 in TEMA funds to construct its safe room on the adjoining campuses of Halls High School, Halls Junior High School and Halls Elementary School. The 8,300-square-foot building will be built between HJH and HES, with 7,100 square feet of usable space available to protect 3,500 residents.

to protect 3,500 residents.

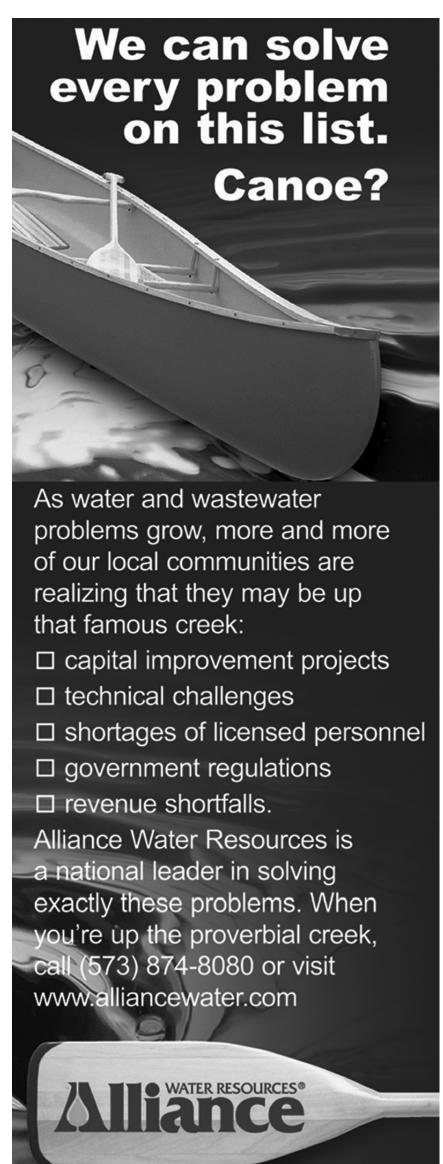
"The town of Halls will be much better positioned to protect

our school children with the new community safe room on the school complex grounds," said Mayor Eugene Pugh. "And when school is not in session, area residents and businesses will be able to access the shelter when a tornado is approaching."

The town of Halls is also no stranger to the effects of a tornado. In January 1999, a tornado slashed through Halls' downtown district as a part of a major outbreak of tornadoes throughout the Mississippi Valley.

"With greatly improved forecasting accuracy from the National Weather Service and local TV media, local residents often receive 15-30 minutes advance warning of an approaching highly destructive longtrack F3 to F5 tornado," said Vic Young, grants developer at Fisher and Arnold Inc., whose company has chosen to invest in these safe room projects at no cost to the client. "That advance warning allows students during the schools' hours, and nearby residents and business visitors to travel to the safety of the concrete and steel shelter," added Young.

According to FEMA award documents, the projects are expected to be completed by March 26, 2015.





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#### CITYADMINISTRATOR

DOVER. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of City Administrator. The position is responsible to a five member board of mayor and aldermen for the administration of all city services and departments, including, but not limited to, finance and administration, public works, budgeting, code enforcement, sanitation, streets, industrial development, recreation, planning and zoning, personnel, water and wastewater systems. The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's Degree in public administration, business, or related field, and will have some experience as city administrator/assistant city administrator or equivalent experience. Experience in budgeting, control of expenditures, management of multiple departments, legislative issues, economic development, water/ wastewater operations and planning are high priorities. The city has an annual budget of \$3,000,000 and 22 full-time employees. The salary range is \$48,500-\$64,400 (dependent upon qualifications) plus excellent benefits. Resumes, along with cover letters and three (3) professional references, may be mailed to: UT-MTAS, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 606, Nashville, TN 37219, attn.: Dover City Administrator; or resumes may be emailed to gary.jaeckel@tennessee.edu Resumes are public record. Resumes will be accepted until June 1, 2012.

#### **ENGINEER**

BRENTWOOD. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Engineer. The position will perform site inspections of commercial and residential construction and also monitor storm water drainage systems and erosion control for compliance with municipal regulations. This position has the responsibility to coordinate new developmental construction with existing developments; coordinate construction activities with departmental maintenance activities and with other governmental agencies. This position requires a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or related field with at least two (2) years of experience as an engineer knowledgeable in residential/commercial construction, storm water management, and general construction inspection. The starting salary for this position is \$46,400 DOQ plus excellent benefits. More information and applications are available at www.brentwood-tn.org. Submit applications to City of Brentwood, Attn: Human Resources, 5211 Maryland Way, Brentwood, TN 37027.

# FINANCE DIRECTOR

CLEVELAND. The city is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Director of Finance. Qualified applicants will possess a BS Degree in Accounting, and will be a Certified Public Accountant with more than ten years related experience preferably in the field of governmental accounting, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Job duties for the position include: assist the city manager and other department heads with the development and implementation of financial policies, procedures and controls; supervise the preparation of financial statements and related reports; supervise disbursement of city funds; coordinate development of the annual budget with the city manager, assistant city manager, department heads, city council and outside agencies; update statistical tables and schedules and complete an application and grading sheet for a government sponsored budget recognition program; manage preparation of city council agendas and review minutes of Council meetings; coordinate city code updates; maintain official city files, records, minutes, leases, deeds, contracts and other financial records; assist the public with requests for information and attest official records; supervise staff and participate in various personnel functions including hiring, training employees, planning, assigning and directing work, appraising performance, rewarding and disciplining employees, addressing complaints and resolving problems; other duties as assigned by the city manager. Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest and resume by mail to the City of Cleveland, P.O. Box 1519, Cleveland, TN 37364-1519, ATTN: Human Resources Department, or by email to jdavis@cityofclevelandtn.com. Salary range entry level is \$72,619. EOE.

### FIREFIGHTER

FRANKLIN. The city is seeking qualified applicants for the position of firefighter. Under general supervision, performs all duties of a firefighter which includes fighting fires, salvage and rescue work, and administering minor first aid. Completes regular training sessions and performs some maintenance work on the fire station and vehicles as required. Reports to the  $Captain\, and/or\, Lieutenant.\, HS\, \hat{D}iploma\, (or\,$ 

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GED), 21 years of age, the ability to work under stressful and dangerous conditions, active EMT Basic (minimum) license required, active Paramedic license preferred, a valid TN driver's license, and a record free from habitual use of drugs or intoxicants, felony convictions & misdemeanors involving dishonesty or false statements. Applicants will be pre-screened for training, education, and experience. Highestrated candidates will be invited to written test and a pass-fail physical agility test (date yet to be determined). Must score 63 or higher on written test. As a condition of employment with the City of Franklin Fire Department, all firefighters must attend and successfully complete Franklin Fire Academy training school as specified by the Franklin Fire Department. Must work a 24 hours-on/48 hours-off shift (average 56 hours week), and live within 45-minute drive of Fire Department Headquarters within 12 months of employment. May be subject to call-back 24 hours a day. Please submit applications online at www.franklintn.gov/jobs. EOE/Drugfree Workplace.

#### **POLICE CHIEF**

JOHNSON CITY. The city is seeking a proven and committed Police Chief that will provide professional leadership that will positively promote and affect the community, organization and the department. Candidate should be a self-starter, energetic, progressive and visionary. The Chief will lead a dedicated staff of 150 sworn officers and 23 civilians, manage the non-union police department's \$13 million budget and oversee the entire operations. The department is nationally accredited and is organized into two divisions: Administration and Operations which includes, but not limited to, canine, drug task force, EOD, minimum security jail, special operations, and SWAT. The candidate must possess strong interpersonal and communication skills (both verbal and written); experience presenting to elected officials and public speaking; ability to motivate and inspire staff to build on past successes; demonstrated ability to develop and achieve long-range planning and budget goals; comprehensive and broad knowledge of the principles and practices of modern police administration; at a minimum have a bachelor's degree and ten years experience in similar-sized department, supplemented with formal training in police administration and scientific methods of crime detection; and demonstrated progressively responsible supervisory experience in several police specialties including command experience at a police captain rank or above. Send a confidential resume and application to City of Johnson City, Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 2150, Johnson City, TN 37605. Min. salary is \$66,574 or higher depending on experience. Visit our website at www.johnsoncitytn.org to access an application. EOE

# 107th legislative wrap up

**LEGISLATION** from Page 1 2777 by McNally / HB 2840 by Sargent)

Amazon sales tax: Requires Amazon.com to begin collecting Tennessee sales taxes in 2014. (SB 2232 by Norris / HB2370 by McCormick). Amazon already has begun notifying Tennessee shoppers of their 2011 Amazon purchases on which they potentially owe sales tax. It will be up to individuals to file the required form with the state and to pay the tax. Amazon is not sharing that information with the state.

Civil service reform: Revises state civil service laws that creates a personnel environment more akin to the private sector. The Tennessee Excellence, Accountability and Management (TEAM) Act gives more control to the executive branch over the hiring and firing of its state workers. Once fully implemented, the TEAM Act will create two service divisions: "executive service," made up mainly of senior-level positions, and "preferred service,"

mostly comprised of middle management and front-line employees. Those in executive service will remain at-will, meaning they can be fired at any time for any reason; while those in preferred service (formerly known as career service) will maintain a streamlined appeals process for wrongful termination. In addition, the new law will: abolish the current hiring system in place of a new one; maintain the hiring preference given to veterans if two candidates are equal in experience and skill level; overhaul the state's employee performance evaluation system; make job performance the primary consideration during layoffs; reduce the layoff notice timeframe to 30 days; and end "bumping," the practice of laid-off employees snagging jobs away from less-experienced employees in similar posi-

# Renovations underway at Capitol

**CAPITOL** from Page 1

Public access to the Capitol grounds will be prohibited with the exception of the East garden area, which may be scheduled contingent on availability during renovation. Tours of the building's interior will also be suspended until the Capitol reopens in January 2013.

"With any renovation project, there are unexpected circumstances," Smith said, "but our plan is to have everybody back in there no later than January. 1."

According to the Capitol Pre-Construction Report, repairs in the renovation project include:

#### **HVAC Systems**

- Replacement of all ductwork serv-
- ing ground, first and second floors • Replacement of steam, condensate and chilled water piping throughout
- Installation of new digital control energy management system (EMS) **Plumbing**
- Replacement of all existing plumbing mains on the ground floor and in
- vertical chases • Replacement of ground floor water
- heater • Replacement of drinking fountains and associated plumbing throughout the building
- **Electrical** • Replacement of existing fire alarm
- system, including the attic • Replacement of all data and tele-

phone cabling in the building and tunnel

- New installations for cable TV, Wi-Fi, and cell phone services
- rior security systems
- Relocation and relamping of existing square light fixtures from first

**Ground Floor and Tunnel:** 

- Replacement of suspended ceilings and installation of new gypsum board ceiling
- Re-carpeting and repainting
- Installation of new draperies and
- · Refurbishing of decoratively painted (grained or marbleized) sur-
- Replacement of carpeting
- Replacement of draperies and
- wood blinds
- ing ceiling areas to increase energy performance

- Replacement of interior and exte-
- and second floors to the House gallery offices
- Installation of reproduction chandeliers, as required, on the first floor and in second floor House and Senate offices

- First Floor:
- Installation of new carpet (to match existing historical patterns)
- wood blinds to match existing
- Re-painting
- Repair of damaged plaster ceilings Second Floor:
- Repair of ceilings in north corridor
- Placement of insulation in remain-

TRA overhaul: Overhauls the Tennessee Regulatory Authority with a part-time board. (SB 2247 by Norris/ HB 2385 by McCormick)



### June 1-2: Wartrace

8th Annual Wartrace MusicFest Thirteen allstar blues and rock bands will take the outdoor stage beginning at 5 pm both nights. Festival attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Alcohol is prohibited. Smoked Bar-B-Que meal includes beans, cornbread, cobbler and ice cream. Tickets, available at the gate, are \$5 per person and children under 12 free. Free parking and rough camping sites available. Visit www.wartracemusicfest.org or call 931-389-6144, for more information.

#### June 1-3: Johnson City

10 Annual Blue Plum Festival Held at 325 ½ E. Main Street. A free outdoor music and arts festival that covers seven city blocks. Music and entertainment on numerous stages, paintings, photography, textile arts, pottery, beadworks, sculptures and wood turning. Exhibits will be located on both Main Street and Roan Street. A 5K run/walk kicks off the second day's events, and cycling races the third day. The second annual Urban Art Throwdown features the best graffiti artists in the region. Food vendors. For more information, call 423-737-5818 or visit the website blueplum.org

### June 1: Smyrna

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Taste of Smyrna Hosted by StoneCrest Medical Center, features signature menu items from local restaurants, live music and a healthy play zone. For more information, contact Elaine Hanks at ehanks@ymcamidtn.org or call 615-394-7245.

### June 15 – 16: Oak Ridge

Secret City Festival

Live music and entertainment featuring The Village People and Ricky Skaggs. Headliners A1A Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band and 38 Special. The south's largest WWII reenactment, Oak Ridge history exhibits, Manhattan project site tours, expanded children and teens areas, zipline, TN Creates juried art show, antiques and collectibles, food and much more. Sat. at 7:30 am, Secret City Home Run-5K Run/Walk. For a full schedule of events and information, visit the website http:// www.secretcityfestival.com/

# June 29-July 1: Jonesborough

Days & Nights Festival Grammy Award-winning country and bluegrass artist Ricky Skaggs and his band, Kentucky Thunder along with The Whites are scheduled to perform June 30 behind the Washington County Courthouse. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. followed by the city's annual Fourth of July fireworks display. A variety of arts & crafts, storytelling, music and children's activities along with a classic car display. A kickoff dinner will be held at the International Storytelling Center. Third annual dog jog on Fri. and a parade at 10 am Sat. To purchase concert tickets or for more information, visit http:// www.trulightfoundation.com/



TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE STAFF Margaret Mahery, Executive Director Chad Jenkins, Deputy Director Mark Barrett, Legislative Research Analyst Carole Graves, Communications Director &

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# Tennesseans should consider obesity a crisis

**BY DOT LAMARCHE** Farragut Vice Mayor

During 35 years as a registered nurse, I cared for many patients suffering from heart attacks and strokes, obesity being a significant contributing factor to their condition.

Today, as vice mayor of Farragut, a leader in the Tennessee Municipal League and a volunteer in the outpatient surgical waiting area of Tennova at Turkey Creek Medical Center, I'm concerned by both the physical and fiscal costs of the obesity epidemic in my beloved native state of Tennessee.

Tennessee ranks among the states with the worst weight problems. In 2011, Tennessee ranked fourth in obesity in a study compiled by the nutritional data company Calorie Lab Inc., trailing only Mississippi, Alabama and West Virginia. In this same analysis, it was found that 67.8 percent of Tennesseans are overweight and 31.7 percent of the state's population suffers from obesity.

Tennesseans don't have weight problems because we're lazy or less than responsible. We're hard-working, church-going, family-oriented, patriotic people. As in other Southern and border states, Tennessee's weight problems may result from

traditional tastes as well as economic constraints that create stressful work schedules and tighten household finances, forcing families to buy inexpensive, unhealthy foods. The lack of fresh fruits and vegetables in low-income and urban neighborhoods can also be to blame for our state's obesity crisis.

But, as vice chair of the National League of Cities' Human Development Committee, I'm all too aware that obesity extends well beyond Tennessee. Nearly 93 million Americans are affected by obesity, a figure that's anticipated to increase to 120 million over the next five years. As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported, obesity increases the risk for chronic conditions, including heart disease, hypertension, strokes, diabetes, liver and gallbladder disease, and cancers of the breast, colon, kidney, prostate, ovary, cervix, esophagus, pancreas and thyroid. Moreover, the CDC estimates that medical conditions associated with obesity cost the nation almost \$150 billion a year.

While many factors contribute to obesity, it will take a comprehensive approach to address the problem, a point reinforced by the Tennessee Obesity Taskforce. The task force supports systematic, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and evidence-based strategies. Tennesseans need more health and exercise programs, and healthier foods and beverages in our schools. We need to provide and maintain more and better parks, playgrounds, playing fields, pools, gyms and pedestrianfriendly streets and pathways, where our children can exercise, play, walk, run, hike, bike and swim in a clean and safe environment.

But for some adults with weight problems, even more must be done, including access to affordable drug therapies and professional counseling. Weight problems are most serious among Americans 45-64 years old. Fortunately, for these adults, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute has reported that even a 5 to 10 percent weight loss — 10 to 20 pounds for someone weighing 200 pounds — can improve health outcomes and cut health care costs. From healthier eating habits and exercise to drug therapies, adults need an all-out treatment response in order to prevent associated health problems and costs.

Some crises require an urgent. immediate, all-hands-on-deck response. Obesity is such a crisis, and we need to do everything we can to overcome it.



June 6: The 5th Southwest Tennessee Development District Annual Charity Golf Tournament held at at Pickwick Landing State Park. For more information, call Debbie Dunaway at 731-668-6439, ddunaway@swtdd.org or Teresa Sanders at 731-668-6412, tsanders@swtdd.org.

### TML Board to meet

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Municipal League will meet in regular public session on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in room 200-BC of the Knoxville Convention Center, 701 Henley Street, Knoxville, Tenn., for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Thursday, June 7, 2012, at the offices of the Tennessee Municipal League, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained from Mona Lawrence at 615-255-6416.

#### TMBF Board to meet

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund will meet in regular public session Saturday, June 9, 2012, at 10:30 a.m., in room 200-A of the Knoxville Convention Center,701 Henley Street, Knoxville, Tenn., for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before said board. Some members of the Board of Directors may participate in such meeting by telephonic means, which will be audible to any member of the public attending such meeting. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Thursday, June 7, 2012, at the offices of the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 502, Nashville, Tennessee. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained at 615-255-1561.

### Risk Pool Board meets

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Saturday, June 9, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. local time in Room 200-A of the Knoxville Convention Center, 701 Henley Street, Knoxville, Tennessee for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before said board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling the office of the TML Risk Management Pool, telephone number (615) 371-0049.

# NATIONAL BRIEFS

Bending to strong public opposition, the nearly bankrupt U.S. Postal Service backed off a plan to close thousands of rural post offices after May 15 and proposed keeping them open, but with shorter operating hours. The move to halt the shuttering of 3,700 low-revenue post offices followed months of dissent from rural states and their lawmakers, who said the cost-cutting would hurt their communities the most. The Senate approved a bill that would avert closings of post offices and distribution centers for two years and continue Saturday mail delivery. It also would trigger early retirement for as many as 100,000 postal workers, as part of a plan to save \$20 billion a year at the financially distressed U.S. Postal Service. But a congressional rescue of the 237-year-old service remains in doubt as another bill languishes in the House. Under the bill, the early retirements would save \$8 billion a year, and the Postal Service would receive \$10.9 billion from the U.S. Treasury, money the service has overpaid to the federal employee

pension system. The bill would allow current Postal Service retirees to opt out of the federal employee health-benefits system and use Medicare, which is generally cheaper, as their primary source of health-care coverage. It also would allow the Postal Service to set up its own health-care plan if management and labor unions agreed to do so. If Congress doesn't act, the Postal Service has warned, it would embark on its cost-savings plan, one that could see as many as 3,700 post offices and 223 distribution centers closed and overnight first-class mail delivery stopped in many rural areas of the country. In a statement, the Postal Service's board of governors said the Senate action "falls far short" of a plan to return to financial viability and that "It is totally inappropriate in these economic times to keep unneeded facilities open." The Postal Service is under intense financial pressure as email and packagedelivery services have been on the rise. The service lost \$3.3 billion in its fiscal first quarter, ended Dec. 31, its worst loss ever in a period that is generally its strongest.

Solar power is on track to become a major source of energy for the United States, and will likely need less federal incentive than other energy sources to get there, according to a study by the University of Tennessee's Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public **Policy.** The 128-page report — Assessment of Incentives and Employment Impacts of Solar Industry Deployment — touts the potential of solar power to reduce energy costs, produce hundreds of thousands of jobs and create a favorable trade balance for the country as American companies export products and materials for international clean energy markets. The study was commissioned by the Solar Energy Industry Association. The study estimates the solar industry will produce 200,000 to 430,000 jobs in the United States by 2020. Installed solar capacity has grown by 77 percent a year over the last five years and the number of installed systems nearly doubled between 2009 and 2010.

# No loan is too large or too small



The city of Dyersburg closed a \$4.5 million loan to use on various municipal projects.





The town of Cumberland Gap closed a \$5,000 Highway Safety Grant Anticipation Note.

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# **Charting the Course for Local Progress**

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 9**

3 - 5 pm7- 10 pm **TML Board Meeting Knox Vegas Night** 

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 10**

City Shirt Day: TML is encouraging city officials to show their city's spirit by wearing shirts with their city logos.

7 am - I pm 9 am – 5 pm II am 12 – 2 pm 12 - 1:30 pm 12 – 2 pm

Golf Tournament Registration **Exhibit Hall Opens TCMA Lunch Meeting Buffet Lunch** J.R. Wauford Ice Cream

#### 1:15 - 2:15 **MTAS** Roundtables

Legal Issues in HR - Sid Hemsley

- Water, Stormwater, & Wastwater Steve Wyatt and John Chlarson
- Codes Stephanie Allen
- Training and Resource Services Gary Petree, Frances Adams Obien and Kurt Frederick
- Budget and Finance Al Major

#### 1:30 - 2:45 pm Workshop I

\* Privatization of Public Services

Speaker: David Angerer, MTAS Management Consultant

Should your municipality consider privatization? Many cities have come to see privatization as a means to saving money and improving the quality of the services they provide to the public. As municipal costs continue to escalate, with the constant pressure on the budget, the trend toward privatization outsourcing is likely to continue. Details concerning this trend and the effects of privatization on cities will be discussed.\* (1.5 CEU - CMFO Category)

#### 2:15 - 2:45 pm **District Meetings**

District 1: Margaret Feierabend, Council member, Bristol District 2: Bill Hammon, Asst. City Manager, Alcoa District 3: Bo Perkinson, Vice Mayor, Athens

District 4: Norman Rone, Mayor, McMinnville District 5: Kevin Helms, City Administrator, Oak Hill District 6: Betsy Crossley, Mayor, Brentwood

District 7: Vance Coleman, Mayor, Medina District 8: David Gordon, Mayor, Covington

#### 3 – 4:00 pm **Opening General Session** Presiding:

Kay Senter, Morristown Pro Tem, TML President Welcome: Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero Keynote Speaker: Rick Baker. The Seamless City

How do we keep America great? Rick Baker, former mayor of St. Petersburg, Fla, provides a compelling and challenging answer: by making American cities great! And great cities are built first of all through strong leadership. During his two terms in office, Mayor Baker worked toward a clear, uncompromising goal: to make St. Petersburg the best city in America. He led a downtown renaissance, rebuilt the most economically depressed area



Rick Baker

**Concurrent Workshops** 

of the city, attracted businesses, worked to reduce violent crime, and made public schools a city priority. In this session, Baker will discuss how to find and implement the most effective solutions to a city's most challenging problems.

# 4:15 - 5:15 pm

Workshop 2

\* Why The Property Tax Matters More Than Ever Speaker: David Brunori

This workshop will provide a nationwide perspective on issues surrounding

property taxation with an emphasis on the property tax relationship to efficient and responsive local government. Brunori will discuss this push for statutory or constitutional limits that cap how much local governments can collect in revenues and spend on services – and once set in motion – how these caps



David Brunori

can have unforeseen consequences. This session will be fun and informative.\*(I CEU - CMFO Category)

# Workshop 3

Maturing of America –

Getting Communities on Track for an Aging Population

Speaker: Sandy Markwood

Only 46 percent of American communities have begun planning to address the needs of the exploding population of aging Baby Boomers. The Baby Boom generation - born between 1948 and 1964 - is rapidly approaching retirement age. When this trend hits its peak in 2030, the number of people over age 65 in the



United States will soar to 71.5 million - Sandy Markwood twice their number in the year 2000 - or one in every five Americans. What are communities doing to prepare for this? Although many communities have some programs to address the needs of older adults, very few have undertaken a comprehensive assessment of what it would take to make their community "elder friendly."

#### 6:30 - 8:30 pm **Host City Reception** Join the city of Knoxville for refreshments while you

network with your fellow peers.

# 8:45 - II pm

**Hospitality Suite** Cook Loft, 722 S. Gay Street (4 blocks from Knoxville Convention Center) Sponsored by the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Council (TREEDC), Tennessee Gas Association, (TGA), Vis-Solis, and Asset & Equity Corporation.

#### MONDAY, JUNE 11

8 am – 5 pm TN Municipal Attorneys Associate Meeting 8:15 - 9:15 am Continental Breakfast

9 am – 2 pm Registration Exhibit Hall Open 9 – 10 am **Concurrent Workshops** Workshop 4

Civility in Government (Part 1):Surviving and Thriving when under Attack Speaker: Scott Paine

Back by popular demand, Dr. Scott Paine will discuss the decline in civility in public discourse. Where does all this venom come from? And how can we deal with it in a way that gives us peace and makes us more effective leaders.



Scott Paine

Workshop 5 Civic Engagement in a Digital World Speaker: Michael Ashford, CivicPlus

Changes in the Internet, the invention of smart phones, and how citizens consume information are placing a demand on governments to offer more public services in a digital environment. This workshop will provide an overview of the evolution of mobile functionality and offer real-world examples of how communities are engaging the public digitally in new and exciting ways. Through an assessment process, attendees will be given a blueprint for utilizing the technology and setting the course for a new generation of involved citizens.

### Workshop 6

Raising Revenues without Raising Taxes Speakers: Don Schulte and Anne Buchanan, Alliance for Innovation

With tight budgets and decreased spending being a common theme across all local governments, finding new and unique revenue streams is critical in maintaining a high

level of citizen service. In this session, you Don Schulte will learn how to discover and market your city's assets, find corporate partners, and develop mutually beneficial partnerships.

### Workshop 7

\* Ethical Standards for Finance Officers Speaker: Melissa Ashford, MTAS Legal Consultant

The public should reasonably expect that those who serve government are trustworthy. By accepting the opportunity to serve, financial officers must also recognize the obligation to be accountable. This session will address expectations, standards and rules of the position; accepting personal responsibility and consequences of actions; and consideration of the longterm interest of the local government and its citizens. \*(1.0 CEU - CMFO Category)

10 - 10:15 am

**Break** 

#### **Concurrent Workshops** 10:15 - 11:15 am Workshop 8

Civility in Government (Part 11):

Becoming the Leader You (and Your Kids) Can be Proud Of Speaker: Scott Paine

We all need a pep talk every now and then. Here's one tailored just for you. How can local leaders play a key role in setting the tone and culture for civic engagement? Dr. Paine draws upon 35 years of experience in politics and public service in this inspiring look at the paradox and the promise of public service.

# Workshop 9

Workshop 10

Mobile Government: There's an App for That! Speakers: Andy Huckaba, Council Member, Lenexa, Kansas, and Vice Chair, NLC Information Technology and Communications Committee; and Sgt. Charles Warner and Officer Chris Grant, Franklin Police Department

With the explosion of smartphones and iPads, cities across the country are making their services even more accessible to their constituents by creating applications for smart devices. This workshop will give specific examples of what apps and tools cities have in place for making government services and information more accessible and more responsive to the public.

As the number of foreclosures within

Tennessee communities continues to

mount, elected officials, department lead-

ers, and code enforcement officers are

faced with the negative impacts of prop-

erty abandonment. For most cities, ad-

\* Addressing Abandoned Properties

Speaker: Michael Halpern





Michael Halpern

dressing vacant properties is a priority, yet it can pose incredible strains on budgets, department resources, and staff man hours. A city's ability to identify the responsible party for an abandoned property is sometimes impossible, creating great frustration and resulting in non-compliance with local codes, deteriorating values, and posing a threat to neighbors. In this session information and free resources will be shared to combat these issues and ease such strains. Solutions will be provided for how cities can communicate directly with mortgage servicers, improve department efficiency, expedite compliance for neighbors, and achieve resolution without straining city budgets.\*(1.0 CEU - American Association of Code Enforcement)

# Workshop II

\* Assessment of Internal Controls Speaker: George Dalton, TML Risk Management Pool

What are your internal controls policies for finances and computer networks? More and more departments within organizations are going to have to leave their departmental silos and work together. In other words, finance, risk management, HR and IT are all going to have to work together on this cyber risk and financial controls issue to prevent losses. This session will discuss preventative measures to prohibit further losses for your communities. \*(I.0 CEU - CMFO Category)

11:30 am - 12:15 pm 12 – 2 pm 12:30 - 1:30 pm 12:30 - 2 pm

Speaker: Mindy Stooksbury

2:15 - 3:15 pm

TML Business Meeting **MTAS Advisory Lunch Buffet Lunch** J.R. Wauford Ice Cream

**Concurrent Workshops** 

Workshop 12 Reducing Generational Turbulence in Workplace

For the first time in history, there are four generations in the workplace. But how well they work together will be the focus of this thought-provoking and entertaining workshop. How will you resolve the clash in values and expectations? How will you foster productivity between those who remember the IBM Selectric and those who have never



Stooksbury

known anything other than the Apple iPad? This session will explore both the positive and negative qualities of each generation, and provide tips for bridging the gaps through communication, culture, and balance.

#### Workshop 13

Public Works Issues for Elected Officials Speaker: Shawn Lindsey, TCAPWA president, Athens Public Works Director

This session will feature updates on critical public works issues such as increased resurfacing costs, stormwater regulations, solid waste issues, and more.

### Workshop 14

Guarding Your Assets

Speakers: George Dalton, ARM-P, MCM, Assistant Director of Loss Control, & Bill Magoon, Property Conservation Consultant, TML Pool

The loss of property can be devastating to any organization. What is worse is when property losses could have been prevented, and/or when insurance coverage is inadequate, or non-existent. However, as with liability and safety exposures, property exposures can and should be managed. Unfortunately, few public agencies take a coordinated approach toward identifying agency-owned property and implementing steps to prevent, control, or mitigate losses caused by various perils. This training seeks to provide a basic framework for public agencies to develop an agency-wide property conservation program.

### Workshop 15

\*Tax Increment Financing Speaker: Kelsie Jones, executive secretary, Tennessee State Board of Equalization

Tax Increment Financing, TIF, is a public financing tool that can be used to fund public improvements to help attract new development, or redevelopment, and generate new revenues that can be captured to pay for those improvements. During the 2012 legislative session, the State Comptroller's office iniated several changes to how TIF financing can be used by local governments. \*(I CEU - CMFO Category)

3:15 - 3:30 pm

3:30 - 4:30 pm Workshop 16 Synthetic Drugs

**Concurrent Workshops** 

New Tennessee laws are strengthening state and local law enforcement's efforts to combat dangerous new synthetic drugs marketed under harmless sounding names such as "bath salts" and "plant food." Over the past several years, a growing number of cities have become increasingly alarmed about the use and sale of these drugs, when ingested can cause harmful side effects such as hallucinations, seizures and in some cases resulting in death. The Tennessee District Attorneys Conference developed legislation to address the synthetic drugs epidemic. This workshop will give a brief overview of this harmful drug sweeping the nation and explain the new laws that ban the sale and manufacture of the drug.

# Workshop 17

Transportation Impact Studies – Analysis of Site Development Impacts for Rural and Small Urban Areas Speaker: Brandon Baxter, Ragan-Smith-Associates

This presentation was developed by Tennessee Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers to assist smaller cities that do not have the technical resources to identify, study, and quantify the impacts that large developments may have on transportation facilities within their jurisdiction.

# Workshop 18

6:30 – II pm

• Budgeting and the Economic Forecast for Tennessee Speaker: Dr. Matt Murray

There's not a community in the United States that hasn't been affected by the current economy. In this session, Dr. Matt Murray will present an economic forecast of the State of Tennessee; how it is shaped by the Federal government; and how this impacts municipal budgeting. \*(1 CEU CMFO Category)

TML Risk Management Pool Party



# TUESDAY, JUNE 12

8 – 10 am Second General Session Annual Awards Breakfast

Mayor of the Year

Presiding: Ken Wilber, Mayor, Portland TML First Vice President TML Achievement Awards TCMA Excellence in Governance Award TCAPWA Murphy Snoderly Award TML Annual Awards Stand by Your Spouse Award City Manager of the Year

Installation of 2012-2013 TML Board of Directors