6,250 subscribers www.TML1.org Volume 66, Number 6 April 13, 2015



June 7 - 9 Nashville Convention Center

Annual Conference lineup to feature CMFO workshops

Several of the workshop sessions at the TML Annual Conference in Nashville are also eligible for CPE credits for Certified Municipal Finance Officers.

MTAS consultants will present five workshops during the conference that are eligible for CPEs.

Ralph Cross, MTAS finance consultant, will present two sessions. Debt Update will discuss key points of the Local Government Public Obligations Act of 1986 (TCA Title 9 Chapter 21) and will cover the past two years of legislative changes affecting debt laws. Internal Control and Fraud will cover internal control best practices and the elected official's responsibility and oversight for internal controls. Some consequences of the lack of internal controls will be highlighted.

Kay Stegall, MTAS finance and accounting program manager, will conduct a session on Financial Red Flags. This session will identify and discuss red flags that municipal officals should notice and be concerned about.

Gary Jaeckel, MTAS management consultant, will offer a session on Change Management. This session will explore the effects of change and what leaders can do to help employees effectively deal with the change. In an organizational context, just hearing or reading the word "change" is sufficient to create

stress, and cause staff to worry about their jobs. Today, however, change is constant, and leaders who anticipate change and react rapidly and responsibly are successful. Leaders must also know how to assist and lead others through complex and difficult change situations.

John Grubbs, MTAS HR consultant, will conduct a workshop on Performance Management and Succession Planning. This informative session will introduce a model that shows how to analyze staffs' methods and behaviors and see how well they match with organizational goals. It will also help identify key staff competencies, which is helpful when succession planning by determining what people resources a city needs to reach its goals.

All CMFO workshops are open to all conference attendees.

As in the past, MTAS will also offer the Elected Officials Academy Level II program on Friday and Saturday, June 5–6, as a pre-conference event. EOA session will be held in the TML Board Room at 226 Capitol Blvd. in Nashville.

To register for the EOA, please visit the MTAS Solution Point training registration system or call Doug Brown at 865.974.9140.

To register or for more information on other conference workshops, go to www.TML1.org. See Page 3 for a conference schedule.



Tennessee Town & City photo

After one of the coldest winters in decades, signs that Spring has finally arrived are a welcomed sight.

Gov. Haslam files budget amendment

Gov. Bill Haslam unveiled additions to the FY 2015-2016 budget that reflects \$30 million more in recurring funding and \$300 million in one-time non-recurring funds.

The proposed budget amendment designates those \$30 million in additional recurring dollars to K-12 education, specifically to increase state funding of health insurance coverage for teachers.

"This budget proposal continues our administration's ongoing commitment to quality education in Tennessee," Haslam said. "All of our additional recurring money is going to fund K-12 education in addition to the \$144 million from our original budget proposal. We are also making significant investments in higher

Due to Franchise and Excise tax collections that exceeded estimates last month as a result of an unusual one-time event, along with other revenue collections and program

savings, there are nearly \$300 million more than anticipated in non-recurring funds.

The budget amendment proposal includes the following non-recurring investments:

• \$120 million to fund the state's

commitment to a new \$160 million Tennessee State Museum, \$40 million of which will be raised through private funds;

• \$50 million for economic devel-See BUDGET on Page 4

Algood Police Department offers safety of parking lot for online sales

BY KATE COIL TML Communication Specialist

As the success and popularity of ecommerce and internet auctions continue to increase, one police department in Tennessee is working to bring a little more security to buying and selling online.

Both buyers and sellers who have used online sales sites like Craigslist, Odds and Ends, and LSN have been victims of crimes ranging from financial scams and fraud to even murder.

Perhaps one of the highest profile cases was when a 42-year-old man was murdered by a Pennsylvania couple dubbed "the Craigslist Killers" for their use of the website in luring their victims. And closer to home, a Georgia man was charged with murder in the death of an Atlanta-area couple who responded to an ad selling a classic car as recently as January.

A study released by Law Street Media in October 2014 found that since 2009, 45 people had been killed after responding to Craigslist postings and 58 people had been charged with murder

Algood Police Chief Gary Harris said it was the more recent incident that prompted his department to look for a way to help those buying and selling online.

"A lot of people, myself included, use the internet to buy and sell stuffall the time," Harris said. "It can become a dangerous situation."

The department now offers up their parking lot as a place to meet up for internet sales. Harris said three officers are typically on duty, giving a police presence to the meet ups, and Harris' office even overlooks the lot where transactions take place.

"A police department in Pennsylvania started doing it first, and we picked up on it," he said. "Sgt. Dana Looper, who does all of our



Algood Police Chief Gary Harris, center, has opened up his department's parking lot for use by online buyers and sellers to protect those engaging in ecommerce.

social media, suggested it to me, and I thought it sounded like a great idea. It ballooned into something bigger than I expected."

Security cameras are also posted around the lot.

"It provides a safe place for people to come in and trade stuff," Harris said. "The community loves it. We've gotten nothing but positive feedback."

The parking lot is available for use any time of day since officers are always on duty. Harris said buyers or

sellers can call the police department ahead of time to let them know a trade is taking place.

"Our parking lot is always open," he said.

Harris said anyone who buys or sells online should always meet in a well-lit, public place.

"Even if it's not at the police department, meet at Walmart or a public place where you know there are going to be a lot of people," he said. "Never meet someone at their house"

Municipal broadband bill put on hold in Tennessee Legislature

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Put on hold yet another year, legislation to grant municipal electrics the authority to provide broadband service outside their utility footprints has been taken off notice by

State Sen. Janice Bowling of Tullahoma and Rep. Kevin Brooks of Cleveland have put the legislation on hold "to make it easier to revisit in the next legislative session."

its sponsors.

"Next year, I hope the needs of the hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans with little or no broadband service will override the vested interests of the legacy carriers who refuse to serve them while lobbying to prevent community-based providers from meeting the needs of the people

in our state," Sen. Bowling said.

Currently, municipal electric systems can provide their broadband services only within their electrical service footprint. The respective bills (SB1134/HB1303) would revise the existing legislation to remove territory restrictions.

This is the third session such legislation has been presented. Those in support of the legislation were hopeful they would have a better outcome this year due to the



Sen. Janice Bowling



Rep. Kevin Brooks

recent ruling by the Federal Communications Commission to allow Chattanooga's Electric Power Board (EPB) to expand broadband service outside the city boundaries.

The FCC ruled in February that Tennessee laws present barriers to broadband deployment, investment and competition, and, therefore, conflict with the FCC's mandate to promote these goals.

Roughly 20 states, including Tennessee, have passed laws restricting municipal broadband projects and preclude provision of service to neighboring communities and surrounding residents.

The recent FCC order was welcomed news to the municipal systems, but was only short-lived. Soon after the FCC issued its ruling, Tennessee Attorney General Herbert Slatery announced his plans to sue the Federal Communications Commission for pre-empting a 1999 state law. In a petition to the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, Slatery said the regulatory agency has "unlawfully inserted itself" between the See BROADBAND on Page 6

NLC Asks EPA to delay new ozone standards

BY CAROLYN BERNDT

National League of Cities

NLC submitted comments in rch on the U.S. Environmental

March on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone. Under the proposed rule, EPA solicited comments on reducing both the primary and secondary standard to within a range of 65-70 parts per billion (ppb) over an 8-hour average. EPA also took comments on setting the standard at a level as low as 60 ppb. The current standard is 75 ppb, which was set in 2008.

Because of the financial and administrative burden that would come with a more stringent NAAOS

for ozone, NLC asked EPA to delay implementation of a new standard until the 2008 standard is fully implemented. The 1997 standard of 80 ppb is still generally used by regions and it will take several additional years to fully implement the more stringent 2008 standard.

A more stringent NAAQS for ozone will dramatically increase the number of regions classified as non-attainment. By EPA's own estimates, under a 70 ppb standard, 358 counties and their cities would be in violation; under a 65 ppb standard, an additional 558 counties and their cities would be in violation. According to EPA, under this proposed rule a 70 ppb standard would cost approximately \$3.9 billion per year;

a 65 ppb standard would cost approximately \$15.2 billion annually to implement. (The cost to California is not included in these calculations, since a number of California counties would be given a longer timeframe to meet the standards.)

As required by the Clean Air Act, EPA would make attainment/nonattainment designations for any revised standards by October 2017; those designations likely would be based on 2014-2016 air quality data. States with nonattainment areas would have until 2020 to 2037 to meet the primary standard, with attainment dates varying based on

the ozone level in the area. EPA plans to issue final ozone standards by October 1, 2015.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRENTWOOD

The city of Brentwood recently received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting presented by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This marks the 23rd year the city has received the award, which indicates the city has met the highest principles of governmental budgeting and guidelines for effective budget presentation. A certificate of recognition was also presented to Brentwood Finance Director Carson Swinford for his leadership in achieving the award.

CHATTANOOGA

Five downtown Chattanooga neighborhoods will look and feel different if the property code changes proposed by city leaders and urban planners are approved later this year. The North Shore, Riverfront, City Center, M.L. King and Southside neighborhoods are tabbed to be the first in the city governed by new zoning laws focused on introducing trees along the street, wider sidewalks and more sidewalks -- as opposed to parking lots. The new model is called form-based zoning, and is centered squarely on how humans interact with the city. The new codes are a major shift from the decades-old, current way of regulating property. Instead of solely focusing on a property's residential, commercial or industrial designation, form-based codes add a level of aesthetics by taking the surrounding area's character into account. The proposed codes would impact some of Chattanooga's trendiest neighborhoods, as well as the tourist district and the new innovation district. The move comes as many cities across the country search for a way to breathe life back into their downtown areas, after years of focusing on suburban areas and neglecting urban upkeep. This type of zoning is a national trend and one not hard to understand when you imagine your favorite street in your own town.

CLARKSVILLE

The Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) recently kicked off the Northwest Corridor Transit Study to evaluate transit options between Clarksville and Nashville. The study area consists of five corridors linking Clarksville and Nashville: Interstate 24; Highway 12/Ashland City Highway; a combination of the existing Nashville & Western freight corridor and needed rail right-of-way; CSX Rail east of I-24; and Highway 41-A, which runs parallel to I-24. One of the anticipated outcomes of the study is short- and long-term transit solutions to alleviate congestion along I-24.

COLLIERVILLE

The Collierville Police Department was awarded with their seventh Award of Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The Collierville Police Department first became accredited in 1995 and has gone through the voluntary accreditation process every three years. Most recently, two accredited law enforcement officials from police departments in Mason, Ohio, and Cape Coral, Fla., spent four days in Collierville to review and assess all aspects of the Police Department. Operations,

services, policies, procedures and management are evaluated to ensure that the department is in compliance with 484 performance standards. The Collierville Police Department is the only accredited, suburban police force in Shelby County.

FRANKLIN

Franklin leaders are considering spending about \$1.6 million over seven years for a Civil War battlefield park. In exchange for the \$1.6 million, much of the space would be deeded back to the city to be operated as a city park. That operation annually would cost about \$59,000. \$1.5 million would come from the city's hotel/motel tax fund and would be divided up over seven years. That money would be used to help buy two key parcels of land for the park, known as the Lovell tracts, while private fundraising would pay for the demolition of buildings on the land. The remaining \$116,290 from the city would fund site development, including a trail system, trash cans, fencing, electricity and other infrastructure costs. In total, the city would own 11 properties — about 12 to 14 acres valued at almost \$7 million, City Administrator Eric Stuckey said. Combined with the state-owned Carter House historic site, which adjoins the land, the proposed Carter Hill Battlefield Park would be about 20 acres, much of which, supporters say, will be open

GALLATIN

Starting this spring, the Gallatin Fire Department firefighters will be collecting information throughout the city for its preplanning program, gathering information from businesses to help them better respond to emergencies. Preplanning includes making notes about access points and stairwells, fire department connections, sprinkler systems, fire alarms, utilities and hazards. The visits are not inspections and do not incur a fee. According to the Gallatin Fire Department, fighting fires has evolved from being a reactionary response to becoming more proactive. Fire preplanning has become increasingly important to enhance fire ground efficiency and effectively promote the safety of fire personnel during emergency incidents. The information collected during the visits should quicken response times and increase safety for everyone involved in the emergency. For more information about the pre-plan program, call the fire department at 615-452-2771 or visit gallatinfd.org/fire-prevention.

HENDERSONVILLE

Hendersonville recently completed a sidewalk project as part of Tennessee's Safe Routes to School Program. The city was awarded a \$193,000 grant in January 2012. The grant was made possible through the federally funded program administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The city did not have to match the funds. Hendersonville was one of 10 Tennessee cities that year to be awarded more than \$1.6 million in Safe Routes to School funding. The 0.7-mile stretch along the west side of Walton Ferry Road runs from Morris Drive to Hawkins Middle School, and extends the existing sidewalk to Walton Ferry Elementary School.

JACKSON

The city of Jackson and Waste Man-

agement are adding alternative fuel trucks into the Waste Management fleet. The additions come after a Jan. 22 press conference where the city of Jackson Police Department, city of Jackson Health and Sanitation Department, Jackson Energy Authority, and the municipal utility division, introduced cars and utility vehicles fueled by compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquid petroleum gas (LPG). Residents may notice the newly branded THINK GREEN, THINK CLEAN garbage trucks on the city garbage collection routes. Waste Management of Jackson implemented the addition of CNG-fueled trucks to the fleet for garbage collection March 26.

KNOXVILLE

Total Quality Logistics (TQL) officials announced the transportation services company will expand its operations in Tennessee by opening a new location in Knoxville. The company will invest \$1 million to open a sales office in downtown Knoxville to meet the needs of its expanding client-base, creating at least 100 new jobs over the next five years. This is TQL's second expansion in Tennessee in just over a year. In January 2014, TQL invested \$1 million to open its first Tennessee office in downtown Nashville. With the announcement of its Knoxville office, TQL will operate 31 offices in 17 states across the country. TQL is one of the fastest growing providers of transportation logistics services in North America, connecting shippers who have product that needs to be moved with truckload carriers who have the capacity to move it. The company works with thousands of customers and more than 50,000 carriers across North America to move more than one million truckloads of freight per year. TQL moves approximately 3,500 different types of commodities including fresh fruits and vegetables, packaged foods and beverages, meat and poultry, machinery and equipment. TQL's Knoxville office is expected to open July 2015.

NASHVILLE

The 2014 Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl brought \$19.7 million directly into Nashville's economy, officials reported. The bowl, one of the city's biggest annual events, has produced nearly \$270 million in economic impact over the 17 years of the game. The bowl also yielded \$13.6 million in additional value via media exposure, according to data provided by Sponsorship Science, a third-party organization. That number is nearly double last year's total and is attributable to the new 12-year deal with ESPN and the high-profile matchup between Notre Dame and LSU.

PEGRAM

The Pegram Board of Mayor and Aldermen recently approved an agreement with Cheatham County that will allow for the construction of a new fire station in the Pegram rural fire district. The county is building the new fire station on property owned by the town at the intersection of Little Pond Creek and Indian Springs roads. Pegram purchased the property for the station in 2014. The station is one of three that the county will construct as part of a \$995,000 long-range fire plan approved by the commission in 2013. Officials said that the station, which will be a twobay metal building, will be ready in late summer. The estimated cost of the new station is \$130,000, which will be paid for the by the county.

Mayors salute volunteers



Sumner County mayors pose for a picture with Vol State students, faculty and staff. In the front row, from left, are Dr. Rick Parrent, director of Service Learning at Vol State; Paige Brown, mayor of Gallatin; Scott Foster, mayor of Hendersonville; Anthony Holt, Sumner County executive; Kenneth Wilber, mayor of Portland; Jerry Kirkman, mayor of Westmoreland; Mike Arnold, mayor of White House; and Dr. Mani Hull, executive director, Tennessee Campus Compact.

Mayors from across Sumner County gathered at Volunteer State Community College earlier this month to salute volunteerism.

The Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service event on April 1 acknowledged the importance of service work in the community, and the contributions of Vol State students, faculty and staff in that effort.

Each mayor spotlighted volunteers and community groups that have worked in their communities.

It is estimated that more than

6,300 people, of all ages and backgrounds, are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in Tennessee.

Mayors from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico participated in the national event.

The national initiative is being led by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the National League of Cities, and Cities

Brothers from White House named Citizens of the Year



Connor and Cayden Long are being honored for bringing national recognition to children and adults living with cerebral palsy and other special needs.

The city of White House has named two young brothers Citizens of the Year for their work in bringing an all-inclusive playground to the White House Municipal Park. Conner Long, 11, and his 9-year-old brother Cayden, were recently the guests of honor at the city's annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

Cayden, diagnosed with hypertonic cerebral palsy, is unable to walk or talk – but with the love and support of his brother Conner, the two have been competing in triathlon races across the country for the past four years.

After learning of a children's triathlon in 2011, Conner saw an amazing opportunity to become more involved with his brother. With the guidance of a children's athletic trainer and the support of his family and community, Conner entered the race to bike, swim and run – all with Cayden in tow. It marked the beginning of "Team Long Brothers," leading to superstar recognition as the 2012 Sports Illustrated "Sports Kids of Year." The story highlighted the Long family's advocacy for children and adults living with cerebral palsy and other special needs.

To recognize Conner and Cayden, Miracle Recreation, a national company that specializes in

designing and building innovative playgrounds, donated a state-ofthe-art, accessible playground to the city of White House with inclusive features that allow children of all abilities to play together.

"These two brothers have such an impact upon those who know them, their community and others from the Middle Tennessee area as well as achieving things well beyond their dreams at the national level," White House Mayor Mike Arnold said. "They are responsible for a lasting impact on the lives of our children for years to come ... If the goal of the citizen of the year is to make White House, Tenn., a better place to live, then our recipients have achieved this goal far and above its requirement."

Recipients of White House's Citizen of the Year award are chosen by a committee comprised of board members from the city's Chamber of Commerce after a nominating process. The Long Brothers received more than one nomination for Citizen of the Year.

In addition to the Citizen of the Year Award, the brothers were also given a proclamation from the Tennessee House of Representatives during the banquet, honoring their work for White House.

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76th TML Annual Conference June 6 - 9

Nashville Convention Center Renaissance Hotel

Schedule At-A-Glance

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 1 - 8 PM

MTAS EOA

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

8 am - 12 noon MTAS EOA

3 - 5 PM

TML BOARD MEETING

Sunday, June 7

10 am - 5 pm Registration &

Exhibit Hall Open

10:30 - 11:15

Vendor Presentation 11:30 am - 1:15 pm

Lunch

1:15 - 2:15 pm TML Affiliate Workshop CMFO Workshop

1:30 - 2:15 pm District Meetings

2:30 - 3:45 pm

Opening Session

4 - 5 pm Workshops

6 - 8 pm Host City Reception

Monday, June 8

8 - 8:45 am Breakfast

9 -10:15 am

Second General Session

10:30 - 11:30 am Workshops

11:30 am - 12:15 pm TML Affilate Workshop

11:45 - 12:30 am **Business Meeting**

12:30 - 2 pm Lunch

2:15 - 3:15 pm

Workshops 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Workshops

6 - 11pm Pool Party

Tuesday, June 9 8 – 10 am

Awards Breakfast

To register, go to TML's website, www.TML1.org; Or contact Sylvia Trice at (615) 425-3903 or by e-mail at strice@TML1.org.

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Strengthening communities through the Arts

BY KATE COIL TML Communications Specialist

Whether to spruce up local parks or used as an economic tool, public arts programs have proven their worth to municipalities across

Tennessee. Cities and towns across the state, regardless of their size, have established their own arts councils and committees to promote the arts, acquire and maintain public art pieces and bring local awareness to literature, dance, music, theatre, film and visual arts.

The city of Columbia's Arts Council only began meeting in January 2014 and has already unveiled one of its first major public arts projects, an exhibition of Nashville-based sculptor Alan LeQuire's work "Dream Forest" at the Maury County Library. LeQuire is well known for two major works in Nashville: "Athena Parthenos" at the Parthenon and "Musica" on Music Row. Columbia Assistant City Manager Jennifer Moody said the city's arts council and the public library are working together to create more lectures, workshops and events to coincide with the exhibition.

When the city's art council announced it was working to bring some of LeQuire's work to the city, the reaction from the community was instantaneous, Moody said.

"After the first newspaper article ran in the Columbia Daily Herald, the Columbia Arts Council received enough unsolicited, financial donations to support the event," she said. "The Arts Council was also successful in seeking its first grant award from the Tennessee Arts Commission's Arts Build Communities Grant Program, which provided additional financial support for the exhibit. The outpouring of partnerships, in-kind and financial support has been a tangible sign of success and endorsement for the Columbia Arts Council."

Moody said Columbia had become a popular destination for individuals in the music industry who were retiring or looking for a place to live where they were still in close proximity to Nashville.

"Columbia is increasingly being recognized as a treasure trove of beautiful architecture and scenery that has become the backdrop for a variety of films, music videos, and television productions. Plus, Columbia offers a variety of unique venues for artists to play music or display their works," Moody said.

Before the city's art council was established, Moody said city officials reached out to the Tennessee Arts Commission to see what resources and guidance were available to establish a council as well as communities with already established councils - including Tullahoma, Farragut, Nashville, and Clarksville – to see what they had accomplished.

Additionally, Columbia Mayor Dean Dickey held a public meeting in August 2013 about the formation of a council. Moody said there was a huge outpouring of support from citizens interested in creating a local arts council and, within two months, a steering committee had created bylaws and recommended members for the inaugural committee.

She said the council has been successful because it was community driven and the city has received support from neighboring communities and the Tennessee Arts Commis-

"The idea for the Columbia Arts Council came from our local, existing arts community requesting that the city council look into the idea," she said. "It was a response to an emerging trend, not a catalyst in itself. We already had a talented pool of artists living in Maury County and we were hoping to foster and incentivize growth of our community assets, not to create something from nothing. This is a key lesson for other communities; economic development strategies need to be developed with an understanding of a community's own, unique assets in order to be successful."

In addition to highlighting art in the community, Moody said the council has helped with community engagement both within the city itself and neighboring municipalities.

"The benefits of the arts are not limited to our governmental bound-

aries; instead, the arts have economic and social benefits that are shared regionally," Moody said. "The Columbia Arts Council created a community-wide arts events calendar that provides information about all arts-related entities in Maury County and participates in a county-wide 'Tourism Advisory Committee' hosted by the Maury County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Our local non-profit, arts organizations have ation that the unifying and strategic

approach that the Arts Council has taken toward promoting all local artisans and their events."

The arts council also hopes to help Columbia reap economic benefits. "By growing our local arts and music industry and working harder to promote our existing local artists we know that we are creating a more attractive, livable community that further helps us to attract and retain businesses and brings more people to Columbia for entertainment, shopping and dining," she said. "By increasing tourism to Columbia and Maury County, we generate more revenue for not only the city and

businesses as well." One way the council is looking

to bring a positive economic impact to Columbia is by bringing in artists to help neighborhoods in need or revitalization. Moody said the Columbia Arts Council and city officials recently met with consultants from Paducah, Ky., who established a successful artist relocation project. The Paducah project attracted 80 artists to that community, generated \$35 million in private investment and \$3 million in public investment. Moody said Columbia is in the process of and living spaces for artists and mu-

The city also wants to build on the success of the Dream Forest public art project.

"Building upon the success of bringing the Dream Forest exhibit to Columbia, the Columbia Arts Council hopes to continue a conversation about the value of art in public spaces," she said. "Part of their ongoing work is to identify opportunities to create more indoor and outdoor galleries or venues for the arts." See **ARTS** on Page 8



The city of Columbia unveiled one of its first major public arts projects, an exhibition of Nashville-based sculptor Alan LeQuire's work "Dream Forest." Pictured are Columbia councilmember Christina Assistant City Manager Jennifer Moody, Artist Alan LeQuire, and Mayor Dean Dickey.



Grants available for community arts projects

Deadline July 1

The Tennessee Arts Commission is partnering with 13 arts and cultural agencies and development districts across the state to offer Arts Build Community (ABC) grants for Fiscal Year 2016.

ABC grants provide support for arts and cultural projects that positively impact communities across Tennessee.

The grants are designed to help effect positive change in communities through the arts. Funding can be used for arts and cultural projects that: address social issues; strengthen community engagement; target youth for after-school initiatives; enhance a community's identity or brand; add value to tourism efforts; and encourage further economic development.

Program guidelines are available online at tn.gov/arts/community_arts_abc.htm, and the application deadline is July 1, 2015, for projects occurring between Aug. 16, 2015, and June 15, 2016.

Benefitting a wide range of grassroots community organizations, grant awards range from \$500 to \$2000.

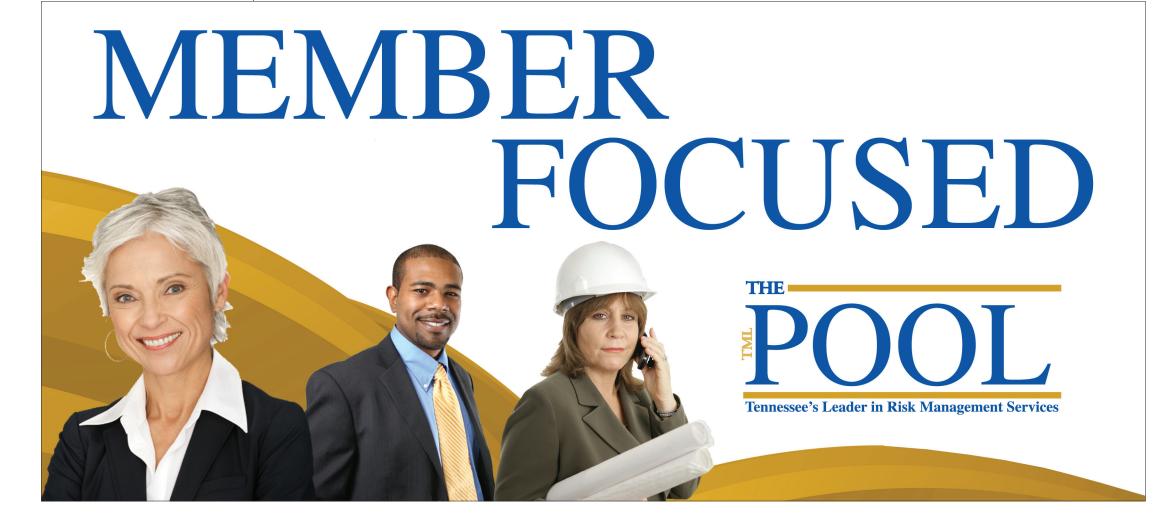
"For every \$1 invested in the communities, the ABC grant program leveraged another \$3 in private and public investments," said Anne B. Pope, Tennessee Arts Commission executive director. The ABC Grant Program lever-

ages local dollars in communities served. In 2014, \$245,000 in ABC

grants resulted in \$969,000 in additional investments—\$426,000 was generated in private support and individual contributions. A total of 901,000 individuals were impacted by the grants, including 140,000 youth. More than 680 business partners were reported, and an estimated 5,715 volunteers contributed 92,492 hours valued at \$1.8 million.

More information and contact information for designated agencies can be found on the Tennessee Arts Commission Community Development webpage, www. tn.gov/arts/ community_arts_abc.htm.

For more information about applying for a grant, contact the Tennessee Arts Commission's Director of Community Arts Development, Shannon Ford at (615) 532-9796.





PEOPLE

Robin Bennett of Chattanooga has been appointed to a full six-year term on the Tennessee Regulatory Authority. Bennett was first appointed to the TRA



Robin Bennett

by House Speaker Beth Harwell in 2013. She currently serves as a Vice President and financial center manager for one of the South's largest banks, First Tennessee, and brings to the TRA broad experience in customer relations, business management, and federal and regulatory compliance.

After winning seven elections over 24 years, Memphis City Council chairman Myron Lowery announced he won't seek reelection. Lowery, who has served on the

also join that race.



Myron Lowery

council since 1991 — making him the longest-serving African-American in council history — said now is the "right time" to vacate his Super District 8, Position 3 seat, which will help to naturally stagger the terms of the city's 13 council seats. Council members Jim Strickland, Harold Collins and Shea Flinn also have announced they will not seek reelection. Strickland has already declared his plan to run for mayor in the Oct. 8 municipal election and Collins may

Former Memphis City Council member Jack Sammons has been appointed as Memphis's new chief administrative officer. He will resign for his current position as chairman of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority board, and will take over as CAO May 9. Current CAO George Little will act as special assistant to the mayor — reporting to Sammons — overseeing various city projects.

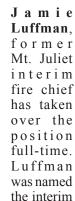
The Tullahoma Police Department announces the promotion of **Sgt**. George Marsh to the rank of Lieutenant. Sgt. Marsh will assume

the duties of



George Marsh

the Patrol Division Commander, April 16. In his role as the Patrol Division Commander he will be responsible for the uniformed division of the department. The patrol division consists of 29 officers. In addition to the supervision of the officers, Lt. Marsh will also be responsible for departmental training, vehicle maintenance, special operations management, and other administrative requirements. Sgt. George Marsh has been with the Tullahoma Police Department for 10 years and has been in law enforcement for more than 23 years. Prior to his employment with the Tullahoma PD, Marsh served at the Bedford County Sheriff's Office and the Shelbyville Police Department. Prior to the Lieutenant's Law Enforcement service he was on active duty in the United States Marine Corps.





Jamie Luffman

chief of the Fire Department in late December after former chief Erron Kinney submitted his resignation. Luffman had been the assistant fire chief since 2013. City Manager Kenny Martin stated Luffman's positive relationship with the Wilson County Emergency Management Agency and Lebanon Fire Department were also factors in the decision. Recently, fire department leaders from WEMA, Mt. Juliet, Lebanon and Watertown held an inaugural meeting to discuss ways the departments can work together and help each other.

Capt. Danny Perry with the Clarksville Fire Rescue Department is retiring after 25 years of service. He has spent the past 14



Danny Perry

years as the city's first full-time fire and arson investigator. Perry first joined the Clarksville Fire Rescue in 1991. He served as a firefighter for eight years, before becoming an engineer for two years. When a fire investigator job opened in 2000, he applied. In 2005, he was named the arson investigator and was on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He responded to upwards of 160 fires a year for 14 years. A fire investigator determines origin and cause, but an arson investigator can do that and also prosecute arson. During his career he has won several awards including the 2013 Arson Investigator of the Year award from the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson from the State Fire Marshal's office, and the 2012 Fire Fighter of the Year award from Clarksville's Civitan International.

Harrogate mourns the loss of longtime Mayor Bill Fultz who lost his battle to cancer on Feb. 4, 2015. Mayor Fultz served as alderman from the incorporation of the city in 1993 until being elected mayor in 2001. He also served as Claiborne County Road Super-

The city of



Bill Fultz



The BMA appointed Linda Fultz to the position of mayor. She was sworn into office March 2. Mayor Linda Fultz has served the city as alderman since November 2004 and had served as vice mayor since November 2010.



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Carl Holder to retire after 40 years in local government

BY KATE COIL

TML Communications Specialist

Following two decades on the job in Paris and more than 40 years as a public servant, City Manager Carl Holder will be handing over the reins and settling into retired life.

After growing up in Lawrenceburg, Holder attended college at the University of Memphis. From early on, Holder said he started looking into local government as a career as a way to have a positive effect on the world around him.

"I was one of those Baby Boomers who was inspired by the Kennedy brothers and believed I could go forth, do good and change the world by 9:30 tomorrow morning," Holder said. "At that day and time, a lot of us became very politically active and, idealistic as we were, we wanted to have some impact. As I looked around at different levels of government and looked at is a career, I considered going into law. Then I thought 'why don't you just go directly into government."

Holder took his first city manager position in the town of Mt. Pleasant in 1976 then went to Paducah, Ky., as the assistant city manager before being promoted to the city manager position. He then took a position as the city manager of Savannah before taking his position as the city manager of Paris in 1993.

In the more than two decades Holder has worked in Paris, he said the biggest change internally has been the progression of technology.

"We are so much more reliant on technology and quite frankly so much more efficient with our communications and other areas because of new technology," Holder said. "Every aspect of city management has been improved by technological changes."

Outside of the city offices, Holder said the biggest change and challenge has been for smaller cities and towns to maintain their individuality in an increasingly globalized world. "It has been more incumbent on small cities that aren't near a big metropolitan area that we find some way to maintain our identity and economic viability on our own," he said. "That is getting to be a tougher and tougher thing. (Paris) has had to transition from heavy manufacturing to a service area and to, quite frankly, becoming a small regional medical facility and community. We still have some traditional manufacturing, but we have had to place a greater emphasis on tourism. We have had to constantly remix our economy because it is more of a moving target than it was 10, 20 years ago."

Holder said one of his proudest accomplishments is the working



After more than 40 years as a public servant, City Manager Carl Holder is set to retire in May.

relationship the city of Paris has with other local entities, in particular Henry County.

"We have had an excellent relationship with the county. If anything comes up, we try to approach it on a joint basis. We do a number of things on a join basis, not because we are a forced marriage, but because we think it is the best way to do it."

Two of the major projects that have resulted from that partnership include an elementary school, civic center and athletic center operated from a single building within the Paris Special School District, and a project between the city, Bethel University and Henry County Medical Center to develop a physical assistant program. Holder said he worked as the primary coordinator for the program, which allows Bethel University to train students at a facility also used by the county's hospital.

"If you are in local government, especially at the city manager level, you have the ability to impact things on a day-to-day basis," he said. "Your real job is to keep the train running and keep it on track, but every once in a while you get to make the schedules and see if we need to reroute."

With his retirement beginning in May, Holder said the city will be in good hands with new city manager Kim Foster, who is currently serving as the assistant city manager for Paris. Holder said he doesn't plan on doing yard work or taking up golf in his golden years. Instead, he plans to do some writing, catch up on his reading, research some family history, work on some county government projects as a private citizen, and spend time with his grandchildren.

"My eight-year-old grandson looked at my wife and, in his best English said, 'After Pawpaw retires, me and him are going to go places and do stuff, and Granny ain't you nor none of the girls going to come along," Holder said. "That pretty much set my agenda."

Haslam files budget amendment

BUDGET from Page 1

opment projects bringing more

high-quality jobs to Tennessee; • \$40 million to complete renovations of the Cordell Hull building;

• \$36.5 million for the Rainy Day Fund in addition to the \$36.5 million proposed in the original budget bringing the total reserve to 4.5 percent of state revenues;

• \$12 million for maintenance and improvements to higher education facilities across the state;

• \$5 million to fund new equipment in our Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology to meet job training demands across the state;

• \$1.9 million for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to fund adolescent residential alcohol and drug treatment

The proposal also restores full funding to the TennCare Bureau for level two case management services. Nearly half of the funding, \$5.2 million, is included as recurring dollars while the rest of the funding is designated as non-recurring. The administration will continue to review the program and look at possibilities for efficiencies in the process.

Finance and Administration Commissioner Larry Martin presented the budget amendments to finance committees of the Senate and House of Representatives last week.

The state Legislature must approve the amendment and the entire \$33.3 billion budget before it can go into effect for the fiscal year starting July 1.



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STATE BRIEFS

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation is taking applications for two training academies. The Criminal Justice Academy is a one-week event geared toward college juniors and seniors interested in careers in criminal justice or forensic science. Students will have the chance to process mock crime scenes and participate in mock court scenarios. The academy is offered at no cost to those who are accepted. Applications will be accepted until April 30. The 2015 TBI Leadership Academy is for people with at least five years of law enforcement experience who are interested in developing management and leadership skills. The class will be held in September at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy in Bell Buckle. There is no cost to participants. Applications are due by June 30. For more information go to www.tbi.tn.gov/training_division/ training.shtml

According to a recent study conducted by the University of Tennessee Center for Business and Economic Research, the university's statewide annual economic impact is **\$1.6** billion. The figure includes more than \$1 billion last year in payroll and benefits as well as goods and services. In addition, campus events such as football and basketball games create another \$281 million in spending to the local economy. UT-Knoxville also is a job creator almost 33,000 jobs, according to the study. And with its existence it adds more than \$125 million in tax revenues to state and local governments, the study found.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation will begin using all-electric mowers to care for its greens at Warriors' Path, Pickwick Landing, Montgomery Bell, Tims Ford and Cumberland Mountain state park golf courses this

year. The remaining three courses -Paris Landing, Henry Horton and Fall Creek Falls – will receive the new equipment in February, 2016. After total implementation of the program, the Tennessee State Park golf courses will save an additional 8,000 gallons of gasoline, 300 gallons of waste oil and reduce the carbon dioxide output by approximately 160,000 pounds. Coupled with the overall economic and environmental benefits, the electric equipment is virtually silent when it operates, minimizing noise that could disturb both golfers and wildlife. Additionally, there are no fluids to manage, such as hydraulic or other automotive fluids, reducing potential impacts to vegetation and ground water, while also reducing staff resources. Bear Trace at Harrison Bay was the first of the nine golf courses of the Tennessee Golf Trail to use all-electric mowing equipment. The course has proven to be a testing ground for implementing environmentally friendly and cost-effective maintenance practices, which TDEC plans to replicate at the other courses of the Tennessee Golf Trail.

April is designated as national Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security and representatives from Coca Cola Bottling Company Consolidated joined today to share a unified message: Thumbs Down to Texting and Driving. The new campaign will include radio ed in 47 fatalities.

PSAs, online advertisements and a large social media push throughout the month of April to increase education and awareness throughout the state. According to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, there were 20,916 crashes involving a distracted driver in 2014 that result-

No Tennessee child should go hungry

April marks beginning of application cycle for 2015 Summer Food Service Program

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS) have joined forces to find partners to join in the quest to ensure that no Tennessee child goes hungry this summer.

Did you know that one in four children face hunger in Tennessee? During each school day, approximately 649,000 children in Tennessee participate in the free or reduced-price school lunch program. Last summer, Tennessee's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) served approximately 42,000 children per day – clearly indicating the need to reach more children is great. DHS needs help closing this

Access to consistent healthy meals is proven to have long lasting positive impact on children's lives including: better brain functioning, reduced childhood obesity and a prevalence of healthy eating habits into adulthood. Without the availability of steady

nutritious food options, children are more susceptible to health problems and poor academic performance.

The renewed partnership between DHS and USDA-FNS represents a call to action to those interested in finding solutions for the more than 80 percent of Tennessee's children who may be hungry and to reducing the rate of food insecurity across the state.

This month marks the beginning of the application cycle for the 2015 Summer Food Service Program. The SFSP is a federally funded program intended to assure that children who benefit from free and reduced price meals during the school year, have access to nutritious meals during the summer. DHS needs partners, especially in unserved and underserved areas, to help meet these needs.

"DHS is committed to maintaining momentum in our partnerships with families and partners involved in the Summer Food Service Program," said DHS Commissioner Raquel Hatter. "We are working closely with the USDA to implement innovative strategies to increase the number of children who receive nutritious meals in the summer of 2015. This program provides important support to families."

"USDA works in every commu-



A strong champion for reducing childhood hunger and increasing access to nutritious meals, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean helps promote the free meals available at the 44 Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) sites.

nity to fight hunger and improve nutrition," said USDA-FNS Southeast Regional Administrator Robin D. Bailey, Jr. "Research indicates children across the southeast are more vulnerable to hunger and poor nutrition especially during the summer when school is out. We have a strong partnership with DHS and we need more partners to change this outcome for children in Tennessee. No child should have the burden of worrving about where their next meal will come from ... our collective efforts in addressing this challenge will position each child to begin school next

Children age 18 and under are eligible to receive meals through the SFSP. In addition, a person 19 years of age and older who has a mental or physical disability and participates during the school year in a public or private non-profit school program established for individuals with disabilities, is also eligible to receive

year energized and ready to learn."

Eligible sponsors include schools, private non-profit organizations, government entities, and non-profit residential camps. Sponsors are reimbursed on a per meal basis for meals served to eligible children and may sponsor the SFSP at one or more sites.

The criteria for sponsorship are simple and straightforward, as outlined in the USDA Administrative Guidance for Sponsors Manual. Sponsoring organizations serve meals to all children in attendance regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

There is a mandatory online training for potential sponsors, followed by SFSP workshops across the state to train new sponsors, refresh existing sponsors on program requirements, and present new requirements on federal regulations.

The deadline for new organizations to submit applications for SFSP sponsorship to the Tennessee Department of Human Services is at least 45 days prior to the anticipated start date of their program.

If your organization is interested in sponsoring the SFSP in your community, or becoming a feeding site under an existing sponsor, please contact Myra Foxworth or Pamela Norton before June 15, 2015 at (615) 313-4749; or by e-mail TNSFSP. DHS@tn.gov.

For more information on the Summer Food Service Program, please visit: http://www.tn.gov/ humanserv/sfsp/index.shtml or http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program-sfsp.

TDEC offers radon test kits as part of Earth Day

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), in observance of Earth Day, will offer free radon test kits for a limited time as part of its ongoing efforts to inform Tennesseans about

the dangers of radon exposure.

According to the EPA, Americans spend approximately 90 percent of their time indoors. This can be problematic, as radon is a naturally occurring gas that can seep into homes through cracks and openings in the foundation. Radon cannot be seen, tasted or smelled, but in concentrated levels can pose a threat to human health.

The EPA estimates approximately 70 percent of Tennessee's population lives in high risk or moderate risk radon areas. According to the EPA, radon is the number

one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers and is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S.

Radon test kits are the first step toward a solution and are easy to use. Tennesseans can visit radon booths at the following events to receive a complimentary short-term test kit:

- Nashville's Earth Day Festival at Centennial Park in Nashville on April 18 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Knoxville's Earth Fest at World's Fair Park in Knoxville on April 18 from 10 a.m.to 7 p.m.

For additional information about radon and to register for a complimentary test kit, please visit http://www.tn.gov/environment/ sustainable-practices radon-program.shtml or contact the Tennessee Radon Program at 1-800-232-1139.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

More good news for the housing market: Pending home sales increased 3.1 percent in February to their highest level in 20 months. A National Association of Realtors' index based on contract signings rose to 106.9 in February. That's 12 percent over where it was a year earlier. The Pending Home Sales Index has been above 100 — the level indicating average activity — for 10 straight months. NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun said the increase in pending home sales was "driven by a steadily improving labor market, mortgage rates hovering around 4 percent and the likelihood of more renters looking to hedge against increasing rents." First-time buyer accounted for 29 percent of pending home sales in February, up from 28 percent in January.

In a move that could heighten the hurdles faced by states attempting to execute prisoners, a leading association for U.S. pharmacists has officially discouraged its members from providing drugs for use in lethal injections. The policy adopted by American Pharmacists Association delegates at their annual meeting makes an ethical stand against providing such drugs, saying they run contrary to the role of pharmacists as health care providers. The association lacks legal authority to bar its more than 62,000 members from selling execution drugs, but its policies set pharmacists' ethical standards. Tennessee has approved the use of the electric chair if lethal-injection drugs aren't available, while Utah has reinstated the firing squad

as a backup method if it can't obtain the drugs. Oklahoma is considering legislation that would make it the first state to allow the use of nitrogen gas as a potential execution method.

A federal judge has ruled in favor of a controversial backcountry camping fee that took effect in the Great **Smoky Mountains National Park** in 2013. The ruling is in response to a lawsuit filed by a citizens' group called Southern Forest Watch that claimed the \$4 per-person, per-night fee is illegal under several federal statutes, and that the park service did not adequately weigh public opposition to the fee as expressed at public meetings and in written comments. Unlike a number of national parks, the Smokies had never charged a user fee for backcountry camping. Park officials argued the fee would improve services by paying for an online reservation system, 24-hour call center, and the hiring of two backcountry rangers to patrol the park's 80-plus backcountry campsites and trail shelters. U.S. District Judge Thomas Phillips ruled the Smokies does have the legal right to charge an "expanded amenity recreation fee" for a specific service under the federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, and that the park's decision to implement the backcountry fee was not "arbitrary, capricious, or an unlawful impairment of the public's access to the park as charged in the lawsuit. The ruling concludes Smokies officials dutifully informed the Washington Support Office of the substantial number of negative public comments generated over the proposed fee. However, Judge Phillips also noted that opponents of the fee were understandably disappointed and could easily assume that the park did not truly consider public comment.

The U.S. economy added a disap-

pointing 126,000 jobs last month, the weakest growth in more than a year and a sign that the labor market is finally being tripped up by a broader economic slowdown. The unemployment rate held steady at 5.5 percent, as the size of the labor force shrank slightly. The latest government data puts the brakes on what had been the most rapid period of sustained job growth in two decades. It also could influence the Federal Reserve to push back the timing of an interest rate hike planned for later this year. Not since December 2013 has the nation created fewer jobs in a month. March's data, released by the Department of Labor, ends a 12-month streak in which the U.S. economy had added at least 200,000 positions. Economists polled by Bloomberg had expected employers to have added 245,000 jobs in March. In addition, job growth for January and February was revised downward by a combined 69,000 positions. The latest numbers act as something of a course correction, putting the labor market more in line with an economy that is going through a slow patch after a period of rapid expansion in mid-2014. A nasty winter kept some consumers indoors, while the appreciating dollar has trimmed the profits of exporters and could ultimately undercut their hiring plans.

Harpeth, Holston make group's list of USA endangered rivers

American Rivers named the Holston River among America's Most Endangered Rivers of 2015, highlighting the threat toxic chemical explosives from an army ammunition plant pose to clean drinking water supplies.

The Holston River flows 274 miles from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the confluence with the French Broad River and becomes the Tennessee River.

The Holston Army Ammunition Plant discharges RDX, a toxic chemical explosive and possible human carcinogen, into the Holston River, which supplies drinking water for more than 56,000 residents in Tennessee and Virginia.

The Environmental Protection Agency's RDX lifetime health advisory limit is 2 ug/L for drinking water. In March and April of 2014, RDX was found in all five drinking water samples taken by the First Utility District of Hawkins County and the samples indicated RDX levels at more than double the EPA's limit.

American Rivers called on the U.S. Army and the ammunition plant operator, BAE Systems, to stop or significantly reduce the amount of RDX they are dumping into the Holston River.

Another river in Tennessee, the Harpeth River, also made this year's Most Endangered list because of threats from sewage pollution. The

Harpeth River, 115 miles (185 km) long is one of the major streams of north-central Middle Tennessee and one of the major tributaries of the Cumberland River.

The Most Endangered listing of two rivers in Tennessee this year underscores the importance of the state's role in safeguarding clean water. "Clean water and healthy rivers are vital to Tennessee's heritage and the health of our families and communities. It's critical that the state takes its enforcement responsibilities seriously and protects our clean drinking water from polluters," said Renée Hoyos, executive director of Tennessee Clean Water Network.

Nashville's Bridgestone Arena breaks into the world's Top 5 for ticket sales

Bridgestone Arena in downtown Nashville ranks second in the United States and fifth in the world for concert ticket sales, according to international trade publication *Pollstar's* First-Quarter Ticket Sales

The Top Five attendance ranking comes on the heels of February's announcement that Bridgestone Arena had been named Pollstar's 2014 Venue of the Year.

Pollstar announced Bridgestone Arena ticket sales as 203,915, inclusive of solely show and concert tickets. When including the SEC

Men's Basketball Tournament and Nashville Predators home hockey games, Bridgestone Arena has hosted nearly 800,000 people in the

building year to date. Buildings in the world Top 10

- include: The O2 - London
- Manchester Arena (Manchester, U.K.)
- Lanxess Arena (Cologne, Germany)
- Allstate Arena (Rosemont, Ill.) Bridgestone Arena
- The SSE Hydro (Glasgow, U.K.) O2 World Hamburg
- 8. American Airlines Center (Dallas)
- 9.) Ziggo Dome (Amsterdam) 10.) O2 World (Berlin)

Allstate Arena, the only U.S. arena ranked ahead of Bridgestone, sold 217,523 tickets in the first quarter.

"Night after night, fans continue to fill the seats at Bridgestone Arena because of the high-quality entertainment and top shows that seek out Nashville and Bridgestone Arena as a regular tour stop," Bridgestone Arena Senior Vice President of Booking David Kells said.

"We are incredibly appreciative of the support from the city, the building staff, great performers and promoters, the entire community and most importantly the fans – all of whom work to make Bridgestone

Arena a go-to destination." Stretching into 2015, Bridgestone Arena continues to undergo renovations. This summer, all of the seats in the Arena's lower bowl will be replaced, followed by the replacing of the seats in the club level and upper bowl in the summer of 2016 to improve patrons' experiences during their visits



CLASSIFIED ADS

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

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR

WHITE HOUSE. The city of White House is currently accepting applications for the position of Assistant Finance Director. This position performs administrative and specific accounting duties of considerable difficulty for the Finance Director. Starting compensation range is \$18.78 - \$22.88 per hour depending on experience plus benefits. Visit www.cityofwhitehouse.com for full job description and application. Applications and resumes should be returned to the HR office located at 105 College Street, or fax to 615-616-1058, or emailed to abrewton@cityofwhitehouse.com. EOE Application Deadline is open until filled.

CITY ATTORNEY / LEGAL **SERVICES**

KINGSTON SPRINGS. The town of Kingston Springs is accepting qualification statements from interested Attorneys or Law Firms for services related to providing legal assistance to the town. Statements will be accepted on or before 4 p.m. on Friday, May 1. No late statements will be accepted. The selection of an attorney or firm to provide the described scope of services will not be made on cost alone, but may be made based on the consideration of qualifications-related factors contained in the Request for Qualifications. Services will begin on, or around July 1. Interested parties should submit three copies of their statement of qualifications to: City Manager Mike McClanahan, Town of Kingston Springs, P.O. Box 256, 396 Spring Street, Kingston Springs, TN 37082

FIRE CHIEF

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Fire Chief. The city is a full service community, with its own airport, regional hospital, community college, and excellent city services, and a popular destination for tourism and recreation. The fire department has 72 employees and a \$4+ million budget that serves a diverse community with 4 fire stations. Starting salary: \$65,684 - \$85,651 with excellent benefits. Reporting to the mayor, and responsible to the city council, the fire chief plans, programs, directs, and evaluates the operation of the department; will be responsible for development of annual department budgets; controls budgeted expenses; formulates and implements fire policies; manages employee relations; attends community meetings; and makes presentations related to fire activities.Minimum qualifications include any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with major course work in fire science, public administration or related areas. Extensive administrative experience (10 years or more preferred) in fire service. Upper-level management experience preferred. Desire individuals with experience in Tennessee, with knowledge of all controlling laws applicable to fire agencies in TN. Highly desire individual with fire experience in diverse community of similar/larger size with experience as chief/assistant chief or command-level position in a similar size department. Must possess a driver's license valid in the State of Tennessee; meet all departmental and statutory standards. Must be willing to meet residency requirement to maintain their residence within the corporate limits or within two miles of the corporate limits, but in no event outside the boundaries of Sumner County, Tenn. Residency requirement does not apply until 90 days after appointment. To apply, please submit an online application, cover letter and resume at www.gallatinonthemove. com. The city of Gallatin is an equal opportunity employer, drug-free with policies of non-discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or military service. Telephone 615-

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

451-5890 (HR).

JOHNSON CITY. The city of Johnson City (65,000) is seeking a progressive and experienced Human Resources Director to lead and direct

the services and programs provided by the human resources department. The city is a growing, progressive community with a solid financial base, large medical services industry, and home to a regional university. Minimum qualifications include the equivalent of a Bachelor's degree in business, management, or public administration with seven years of progressively responsible experience in human resources and health insurance administration. Responsible for planning, organizing, directing and coordinating the personnel activities of the city's 900 FTE employee workforce, including organizational training. The city is looking for an enthusiastic, responsive, team-oriented individual with good management and organization skills, self-starter. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are required. Competitive salary with excellent benefits package. Online applications, including a resume, will be accepted until the position is filled (www.johnsoncitytn.org) EEO/AA

INSPECTOR IV - SENIOR ELECTRICAL

FRANKLIN. The Franklin Building and Neighborhood Services Department has a vacancy for an Inspector IV- Senior Electrical. Please see the full job announcement and submit an online application at www.franklintn. gov/jobs. Deadline to apply is open until filled. Salary: \$23.95/hr-\$26.07/ hr The city of Franklin is an EOE/ Drug-free Workplace

STORMWATER MANAGER

WHITE HOUSE. The city of White House is currently accepting applications for the position of Stormwater Manager. This position is responsibility for developing and maintaining the city's MS4 stormwater program. Starting compensation range is \$18.78 - \$22.88 per hour depending on experience plus benefits. Visit www.cityofwhitehouse.com for full job description and application. Applications and resumes should be returned to the HR office located at 105 College Street, or fax to 615-616-1058, or emailed to abrewton@cityofwhitehouse.com. EOE. Application deadline is open until filled.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

ARLINGTON. The town of Arlington is seeking a new Town Administrator. To view the full job description, please go to the town of Arlington's website located at <u>www.townofarlington.org</u>. Arlington is located in West Tennessee, just 10 miles North of Memphis. The town of Arlington was named "Best City for Young Families 2015." Arlington has a population of approximately 12,000 and 40 full-time employees. Positions that report directly to the town administrator include the director of planning, director of public works, director of finance, director of parks and fire chief. This position is responsible to a seven member Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The successful candidate should have a bachelor's degree in Public Administration, Finance, or related field and/ or equivalent experience with senior level experience with local government. A Certified Public Manager and/or ICMA Credentialed Manager are preferred. This position requires strong supervisory, budgeting, and communication skills. Salary is commensurate with experience. Letters of application, resumes, cover letter along with salary requirements, and three professional references with contact information should be submitted to: The town of Arlington, Attention: Town Attorney, 284 German Oak Drive, Suite 200, Cordova, TN 38018, or to glawson@cperkinslaw. com. Position will remain open until filled. The town of Arlington is an equal opportunity employer.

NOTICE OF BID

The city of Pigeon Forge is receiving bids on existing used equipment to be sold and removed from old wastewater plant. List of equipment may be obtained from the Public Works Department in City Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. All bids must be in sealed envelope with bidders name and address on outside and marked "Bid on Equipment Removal WWTP." Bids will be received until 2 pm, May 6, 2015, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. The city reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept the bid most favorable to the city. City of Pigeon Forge, Public Works Department, P.O. Box 1350, 3211 Rena Street, Pigeon Forge, TN 37868; www.cityofpigeonforge.com



Special Registration for Members of Tennessee Municipal League

Is your city or community a Google Fiber City? If not, you still have many options to join the ranks of "Gigabit Cities" made possible by the city of Chattanooga.

Send your team to Gigabit Cities Live May 13 & 14 in Atlanta to learn all about becoming a "Gigabit City."

Tennessee Municipal League members receive complimentary (\$0) Conference Registration!

Gigabit Cities Live is designed for all stakeholders in the gigabit city ecosystem – including city/municipal leaders, economic development agencies, network operators, technology innovators, application developers and more. This event will examine best practices, explore private/public partnership frameworks, analyze the unique needs of cities and regions, and highlight the most effective business models for any company and any community - large

and small, public and private, rural and suburban.

Gigabit Cities Live is a two-day, three track conference, with multiple opportunities to understand the Gigabit City Model from leaders and civic managers large and small. Hear from cities of Chattanooga, Raleigh, Seattle, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Santa Fe Ne Mexico. Hear from carriers like Suddenlink, Cox Communications, TDS Telecom, Paul Bunyan Communications, Comporium and more.

TML Members will receive a Complimentary VIP Pass to the event by simply registering and in the payment window you will be asked to input a DISCOUNT CODE – use TML – and you're registration fee will be recalculated to \$0.

Register here for Gigabit Cities Live (Use the Discount Code: TML) https://www.gigabitcitieslive.com/ events/gigabit-cities-live-2015/reg-<u>istration-6f90ed9d349047b88e9b-</u> c43b99fbf4dc.aspx

Municipal broadband bill put on hold in Tennessee Legislature

Gigabit Cities Live May 13 & 14 in Atlanta

BROADBAND from on Page1 state and its municipalities.

Most speculate that litigation could take months, if not years, to resolve. And in the meantime, the large telecom providers will continue to block broadband competition from city-owned providers.

"The private telecomm providers are more focused on protecting their bottom line than serving more Tennesseans," said Mike Vinson, executive director of Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association (TMEPA). "Because Tennessee's municipal electric are governed locally, they are focused on and responsive to their communities' needs. Municipal electric broadband offers the fastest speeds available backed up with local customer service. It should be an option for local communities seeking to offer modern services and utilities."

According to the TMEPA, at least 422,000 households across Tennessee don't have access to landline internet speeds that meet the FCC definition of high speed broadband. And at least 1.6 million Tennessee households are served by only one provider. TMEPA says that often this results in the incumbent provider having little motivation to invest in its facilities, offering competitive prices, or being responsive to the local community. In areas with multiple broadband providers, consumers are the ones that benefit. When municipal electric broadband is offered, incumbent provider investments increases, speeds get faster, and pricing gets better.

"Tennessee's private telecomm providers claim they offer 'world class broadband infrastructure," said Jeremy Elrod, director of TMEPA Government Relations. "Tennessee

students are sometimes forced to go to a fast food restaurant's parking lot so they can connect to the internet and complete their homework. Some business owners have \$300 a month internet bills for slow, unreliable service with data caps. Slow DSL and dial-up is still the only option for many Tennesseans. This is far from 'world class."

He said that all municipal electric broadband providers offer speeds that exceed the FCC broadband standard, with five providers offering 1 gigabit per second download/upload speeds, the fastest internet speeds in the country. The seven municipal electric broadband providers with community-wide fiber networks are accessible to 732,451 Tennesseans; 40 percent of the households with access to municipal electric fiber broadband networks are signed up as subscribers.

Elrod said more communities and consumers are asking for municipal electric broadband service and the gigabit speeds it offers, but private telecomm companies are standing in their way.

"Private telecommunications companies are seeking to block legislation that would help bring service to unserved areas, yet they are refusing to offer the service in those areas themselves," said Elrod. "It's similar to a dog guarding a haystack. He doesn't want to eat it, but he doesn't want any other animal to eat it either."

A spokesman for EPB said it's poised to move into southern Bradley County, which is an area that has requested their service, but is uncertain as to what will happen with the challenge at the Federal level and now the state legislation has been put on hold until next year.

TENNESSEE

FESTIVALS

April 16 - 18: Clarksville

Rivers & Spires Festival A three day outdoor festive event in Historic Downtown Clarksville. It features a night of patriotic tribute to military heroes, 6 stages of entertainment, International Streetfest, Kidz Zone, Jazz'N Wine area, car shows, parades, and much much more. For more information about the festival contact Theresa Harrington, 931-245-4343 or email: Theresa@visitclarksvilletn.com

April 17 - 19: Townsend

Sixth Annual Smoky Mountain Fiber Arts Festival at the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center.

An interactive fiber arts event that shows the full fiber art process characterized as "sheep to shawl" (raw materials to finished work), including carding, spinning, dyeing, weaving, felting, tatting, and knitting. Workshops and demonstrations are targeted to both young people and adults. Register online or mail completed class registration forms to: SMFAF, PO Box 403, Townsend, TN 37882, or email to townsendartisanguild@gmail.com.

April 25: Athens

17th annual free Kids Fishing Derby, Saturday, 8 am until 11:30am at the Athens Regional Park. More than \$2,000 in prizes. Free lunch provided to participants by U.S. Cellular. The local chapter of Trout Unlimited will also be on hand to assist young anglers and will have a fish cleaning station set up. For boys and girls ages 12 and under. Participants do not need a fishing license to participate, but must bring their own rod and reel. For more information contact the Athens Parks and Recreation Department at 423-744-2704 or email recreation@cityofathenstn.com.

April 25-26: South Pittsburg National Cornbread Festival

Activities for the festival are held in the beautiful downtown area of South Pittsburg, with cornbread cook-offs, arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, all day entertainment, children's corner, a historic tour of homes via a double-decker bus and a full midway style carnival. For updated information, schedules and other information, please connect to the Festival website at: www. nationalcornbread.com

April 30 – May 3: Nasvhille 29th Annual Southern Women's

Show at the Music City Center It's all about great shopping, creative cooking ideas, healthy lifestyle tips, trendy fashion shows and great celebrity guests. Plus, learn about travel destinations, home décor and improvement ideas, and business opportunities. Admission \$12 at the door; \$6 children ages 6-12; under six is free with paying adult. For more details, go to www.Southern-WomensShow.com

Tennessee Drug Card saves citizens \$30M

With allergy season upon us, TML would like to remind you about one of the League's endorsed programs, the Tennessee Drug Card, that offers a free statewide prescription assistance program for your patients.

To date this program has saved Tennessee residents more than \$30,000,000 on prescription costs.

This program can be used for savings of up to 75 percent on prescription drugs at more than 56,000 regional and national phar-

Here's how you can participate:

- Display cards at your office location for employees and residents to take. Contact Natalie Meyer, program director, at Natalie@TennesseeDrugCard. com or 1-888-987-0688 and a supply will be mailed to your office at NO COST.
- Encourage members of your community to print a FREE Tennessee Drug Card at Tennesseedrugcard.com.
- Inform members of your community that they can ask for the Tennessee Drug Card discount at any CVS pharmacy in the state – even if they don't have



a card in hand.

Through the Tennessee Drug Card program, you can help uninsured and underinsured Tennessee residents access much-needed prescription medications at a discounted rate.

The program is used by people who have health insurance coverage with no prescription benefits, which is common in many health savings accounts (HSA) and high deductible health plans. Additionally, people with prescription coverage can use the program to get a discount on prescriptiondrugsthatarenotcovered by insurance. The program has no membership restrictions, no income requirements, no age limitations, and no applications to complete.

TML hopes you take advantage of this easy and innovative way to help members of your community get the prescription drugs they need.

For more information about the Tennessee Drug Card, visit TML's website at www.TML1.org Tennessee Municipal League 2014-2015 Officers and Directors

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Read it On-line at www.TML1.org

How government officials can benefit from becoming better storytellers

BY KATHERINE BARRETT & RICHARD GREENE

Governing Magazine

When our now 20-something son was in high school, he announced that he learned best when he was being "entertained." Into our minds popped visions of history being taught by a man on stilts, and physics lessons being sung to the tune of "The Impossible Dream." We were dubious.

It's only now that we've begun to understand what he was talking about -- and that he's very much in line with a significant trend in government. Simple statements of fact supplemented by statistics isn't enough when communicating with the public. Storytelling is the key to getting a message across not only to the public, but also to managers, legislators and public-sector employees.

As we mentioned in a prior column, Greg Burris, city manager of Springfield, Mo., is a major advocate of this line of thinking. When he first arrived at his current job about six years ago, his city was the object of derision thanks to deep financial troubles. But he saw lots of good things going on in the city -- things that were unrecognized by the public. "So we studied storytelling," he says. He brought in the head of the theater program at Missouri State University to work with 23 department chiefs and the city's leadership team. He also brought in David Harrison, a children's book author who was asked to identify the elements of a good story and to help train the city's leadership.

The net result of those efforts is that Springfield is finally reaching the public on a variety of important topics. "You don't want to just show up on the front page when you need something," says Burris. "That had typically been the case here and elsewhere."

A good story can rise above the "noise and bombardment of new technologies," says Jay Geneske, who directs the Rockefeller Foundation's digital strategy. "Stories help make ideas more concrete." As he explains it, there's a narrative arc to a story that is personal and human, particularly when it's about the impact of an action. This is far truer than is the case with dry statistics.

Simple data -- no matter how well it's communicated -- is devoid of the kind of emotional content that sticks in people's minds. Jennifer LaFleur, senior editor for data journalism at the Center for Investigative Reporting, says she sees some governments putting up data without context, without any sense of why the data matters or how it affects people directly. "Making it more accessible," she says, "helps to reach more people and makes the text more readable."

These ideas have been around for a while, but they are gaining growing acceptance. Consider Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's 2014 State of the State address. After a series of impressive statistics he went on to say, "Now, I talk about a lot of numbers, but I also want to make sure everyone realizes we're talking about real people and their lives here. And so as we go through this, I'm going to share a story occasionally." That's exactly what he did, and the speech gained power and persuasion when he got to the stories behind the figures.

Michael Ganz is an adjunct as-

sistant professor of social and behavioral sciences at Harvard University. His primary interest, according to his biography, "is in investigating the correlates of health-care utilization and expenditures for children and families." You would have to go far to find a more important -- and complex -- topic in government. And here's the cool part: Ganz also teaches a course called "public narrative," which his syllabus says engages the head and the heart. He also notes that "narrative can instruct and inspire -teaching us not only why we should act but moving us to act."

As with all good ideas, there's a potential land mine in using stories to communicate about public policy issues. It's one that journalists also encounter every day. A single powerful story about a real human being may help move people to support an action, but it may also be misleading. A good yarn that isn't representative of what's happening in the world can lead to bad policies. This is why the phrase "purely anecdotal evidence" is often used with derision.

The key is to avoid stories that are little more than exciting, dramatic, humanizing outliers. "Outliers," says Michael Quinn Patton, founder of Utilization-Focused Evaluation, "make for bad legislative policy and yet that goes on all the time."

Patton counsels that an individual anecdote should be used only if there's evidence that it is one of a range of well-researched stories that make the same point. "People may say that's only one anecdote," he adds, "but it's representative of a pattern found in a number of other stories."

One final note, for those readers who have read through the entirety of this column: The first and third paragraphs were both stories.

COMING

April 15-17: TDEC Greenways and Trails forum, Montgomery Bell State Park. Advanced registration received prior to April 6 is \$99. Registration received after April 6 is \$125. Registration fees include access to the event, educational sessions, networking events, workshops, field trips and lunch and dinner on Thursday. For hotel accommodations, conference attendees will receive a rate of \$77 at Montgomery Bell State Park Inn by calling 615-797-3101 by April 3 and mentioning Tennessee Greenways and Trails or code 7443. More information, visit http://www.tn.gov/ environment/recreation/.

April 15-17: TPMA 23rd Annual Membership Meeting, held at the Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg. The "Three Pillars of Human Resources" certificate training will be offered during the conference. For more information, visit http://tnipma.org/ meetings.htm.

April 15-17: TAMCAR 2015 Spring Conference, in Murfreesboro at the Embassy Suites Conference Center. Hours will apply toward your state certification and your International Institute of Municipal Clerks certification, as well apply as elective hours toward Municipal Administrative Program Certificates.

April 22-24: Tennessee City Management Association 2015 Spring Conference, held at the Hilton Garden Inn -Vanderbilt in Nashville. Attendees will experience two and one-half days of educational programs targeted to the needs of professional local government administrators. Some workshops qualify for CMFO credits. A tentative agenda, registration and lodging information can be found at www.tncma.org. For additional information, contact Mike Walker at Walker@TNCMA.org.

April 29-May 1: Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association 2015 Spring Conference, Gatlinburg, TN.

April 29-30: The 20th Annual Rural Development Conference, Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro. The event features keynote speaker Jon Schallert, an internationally-recognized professional speaker and business consultant specializing in teaching businesses how to turn themselves into Consumer Destinations

UT MTAS APRIL MAP CLASS

DRUG FUND WORKSHOP

This course covers all aspects of drug fund administration and the proper disposal of sensitive property and evidence items, such as drugs, firearms and vehicles.

April 7: Collegedale City Hall **April 8:** Cookeville Leslie Town Center

April 9: Murfreesboro Doubletree Hotel

April 23: Paris Convention Center April 28: Johnson City Carnegie Hotel

April 29: Clinton Junior Achievement Center

Time: All workshops will be held from 8:30-12:30 CST/EST with exception to April 23 workshop at the Paris Convention Center. It will begin at 1 p.m. Credit: CMFO 4CEU/4CPE/ CMFO (Other)

Cost: Tennessee Municipal Employees—\$50/person/class. \$65 for non-municipal attendees.

TENNESSEE L Municipal Technical Advisory Service

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

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Morristown closed a \$20 million loan for sewer system upgrades.



The city of Martin recently closed its 23rd loan through the TMBF loan program in the amount of \$650,000.



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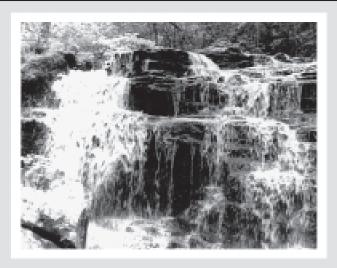
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Strengthening Tennessee communities through the Arts

ARTS continued from Page 3

Public art has also proven successful for other cities around the state.

JOHNSON CITY

Created four years ago, the Johnson City Public Arts Committee establishes policies and develops project ideas for public art displays as well as oversees the location, funding and maintenance of the city's public art collection. The 12-member committee is comprised of local citizens, artists and design professionals with 10 at-large members appointed by the city commission and representatives from the Johnson City Arts Council and Johnson City Development Authority.

Phil Pindzola, director of the public works administration in Johnson City, said the Johnson City Public Art committee has created a public art corridor between downtown and East Tennessee University, which has displayed sculptures visible to both motorists and those visiting the area on foot.

"The idea was to create a visual, artistic corridor that would connect the two entities," he said. "As it turns out, the Founders Park project has been so successful and so appreciated by the public that putting the bulk of the artwork in the park just enhances the park itself."

Since then, he said the public art project has only grown.

"Our first couple of projects centered around a new parks stormwater basin that was constructed in downtown Johnson City," Pindzola said. "Artwork was commissioned for entrances to that park site and the second project involved leasing sculptures from artists. Last year we included about a dozen pieces of art and seven were located within this corridor. On the original lease system, two were actually purchased and donated to the city."

This initial display garnered a great deal of public attention and praise, especially from those who might not ordinarily visit an art museums, Pindzola said.

"Typically, art requires people to go into a building, and that makes some reluctant," he said. "If you bring art out to where it is visible to both motorists and visitors to the park, there is an appreciation for it. The comments are all positive. It enhances the beauty of the park, the corridor and the downtown – and ultimatley enhances the beauty of the community itself."

Bringing art to the public requires a lot of forethought and planning. Pindzola said the committee works behind the scenes on master planning, calling for projects, determining which works are the best fit for Johnson City, commissioning art and fundraising. One of the committee's biggest responsibilities is funding public art pieces that have a "wow factor," he said.

Another important consideration for creating an art committee is ensuring passionate and patient people are involved, he said.

"Make sure you have people who have the energy and willingness to devote time to the effort because it takes a lot of time to develop master plans and put projects together," Pindzola said. "Don't just defer to a government agency to do everything. If the community doesn't support the art, that will obviously be reflected in little or no projects. If the community is willing to support it and take the time for it, that really speaks to the nature of the community."

Johnson City's public arts committee raises the majority funds for its projects, which Pindzola said shows the importance of art to local residents and businesses.

"We had to go out and raise all the money, so all of the artwork is being paid for by private donations," he said. "Frankly, that is actually a statement. It is easy sometimes to look at the government to pay for everything, but you don't know if that is compatible with the wishes of the community. If you go to the community first and they are donating money to an endeavor, such as public art, that sends a signal that the community through government may need to supplement that over time to a greater extent."

Recently, Pindzola said the city unveiled a new sculpture titled "Genesis" that marks the entrance to Founders Park. The sculpture was created by Duke Ousler and Marc Moulton of Outdoor Art-Sculpture LLC.

The city is currently preparing for its second round of public art displays in the corridor, which Pindzola said will go on display for two years starting this May. He said the city is also looking to tie the city library into the corridor, using artwork inspired by children as well as implementing a downtown mural program to draw attention to that area of Johnson City.

Other cities around the state have also undertaken public art projects to draw attention to the arts in their communities.

ATHENS

The Athens Area Council for the Arts began in 1979 at Tennessee Wesleyan College and, since 2005, has called The Arts Center in Athens its home. The AACA has developed educational and children's programing as well as the long-running Arts in the Park. The AACA also sponsors the Art Market, performance series Arts on the Side, the Black Box Concert series, the Big Time Small Town performance series, and works with the Athens Community Theater.

CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga began its public art program in 2001 and launched its first major public art



Johnson City recently unveiled a new sculpture titled "Genesis" that marks the entrance to Founders Park. The sculpture was created by Duke Ousler and Marc Moulton of Outdoor Art-Sculpture LLC.

project in 2003 as part of the 21st Century Waterfront. Since then, the city has undertaken several public art projects including Art in the Neighborhoods, Art on Main Street, the Biennial Sculpture Exhibition, the Hunter Museum Art in Public Places, the Midsouth Sculpture Alliance Exhibition, Over the Fence and the creation of "Four Seasons" by local artist Daud Akhriev. Chattanooga is currently working with artist Meg Saligman and citizens to create a mural at 300 East Martin Luther King Boulevard.

COLLIERVILLE

Founded as a fundraising organization for the Harrell Performing Arts Theatre in 1985, the Collierville Arts Council works to develop, promote, assist and coordinate arts events in Collierville and surrounding areas. The nonprofit organization continues to underwrite productions at the Harrell Theatre and sponsors events including the annual Symphony in the Rose Garden, arts education in the schools and hosts youth workshops and talent shows.

CLARKSVILLE

Established in 2000 through funds provided by the city with administrative assistance from Austin Peay State University, the Clarksville-Montgomery County Arts and Heritage Development Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping arts and heritage groups, and provide a support network for the arts community. The organization has provided funds for the Clarksville Youth Chorus and Youth Orchestra, worked to create a Student Art Gallery for public school students, brought authors to the city through the Clarksville Writers Conference, hosted architectural heritage tours, helps host the 2Rivers Paint-Out, and provides a guide to public art locations in Clarksville.

FARRAGUT

Created to increase the access to and availability of the arts, the Farragut Arts Council is a volunteer-based commission that works with town leaders to advocate artistic and cultural issues and programs, as well as promote arts and culture. The arts council sponsors local events like BookFest, student art shows, and the annual Open Art Show; compiles a local artist directory and features local artists bimonthly.

GALLATIN

Founded in 1988, the Gallatin Arts Council works to support and encourage artists and the arts through cultural activities, entertainment and educational outreach. The council hosts an annual arts-based summer camp for youth, offers scholarships, hosts music and dance workshops, and sponsors other local events.

HENDERSONVILLE

Chartered in 1975, the Hendersonville Arts Council works to expand cultural interest, diversity and opportunities through promoting the arts and preserving local heritage. The organization operates out of Monthaven, a Greek revival mansion built in the mid-1800s, that now hosts arts events and sells works created by local artists. The organization also offers art and drama classes for children and adults, art workshops, concerts, special events, holiday programming and exhibitions.

HOHENWALD The Hohenwald

The Hohenwald Arts Council operates both the Strand Art Gallery and the Strand Theatre, which has hosted performances by Music City Swing, the Nashville Children's Opera and members of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. The council also offers youth summer camps through the theatre and displays works created by the Meriwether Lewis Artist Group and other guest artists. The council also hosts performances at the town bandstand in Wilhelm Tell Platz, including Shakespeare in the Park.

JACKSON

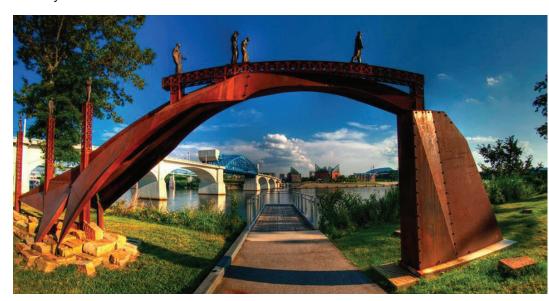
Jackson Art Association works to collect and strengthen the arts and the artistic experience of local residents, partnering with local organizations to sponsor art exhibits, performances,



The Johnson City Public Art committee created a public art corridor between downtown and East Tennessee University, which has displayed sculptures visible to both motorists and those visiting the area on foot.



The community-lead Kingsport Carousel project is expected to hold its grand opening on May 2.



Part of a permanent outdoor collection in Chattanooga, this monumental work was commissioned for Renaissance Park on the banks of the Tennessee River.

projects, festivals and workshops. The organization also administers a grant program funded through the Jackson City Council and Madison County Commission as well as administers Arts Build Communities Grants for the Southwest District of Tennessee. The organization also works with the Jackson Arts Coalition Program, which brings together more than 30 arts groups from the surrounding area.

KINGSPORT

Working in tandem with Engage Kingsport, the Office of Cultural Arts is a department of the city of Kingsport working to engage, connect and coordinate the arts and the public. Beginning with the city's Sculpture Walk, the organization is now promoting the restoration of the community-lead Kingsport Carousel project, which is expected to hold its grand opening on May 2. The office also oversees the Renaissance Arts Center and Theatre and Kingsport Farmers Market, as well as manages the Kingsport Performing Arts series.

KNOXVILLE

The Arts and Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville was created in 2001 and is descended from the Arts Council of Greater Knoxville, which was formed in 1974. The alliance includes artists, cultural organizations and citizens interested in advocating the arts in the greater Knoxville area. The alliance sponsors events like the Arts & Heritage Fund, Arts in the Airport, Penny4Arts, the Knoxville Public Arts Committee and partners with organizations that promote fine arts, music, dance, drama and literature.

MEMPHIS

Arts Memphis raises funds to ensure arts excellence in the greater Memphis Area, promoting mentoring, oversight, promotion and advocacy of local arts programs. In 2014, the organization awarded \$3.3 million in grants to 56 organizations to support and promote access to the arts. The organization also works to eliminate financial barriers for those wishing to attend art events and sponsors events to promote local artists and their works. The Downtown Memphis Commission has also begun installing murals to mitigate blight and

draw interest to the downtown area.

NASHVILLE

The Metropolitan-Nashville Arts Council works to guide and advance the arts in the greater Nashville community as well as provide a directory of local artists, resources for the arts, workshops and training sessions. Additionally, the council sponsors the annual Artober Nashville event, promotes public art and sponsors community arts outreach programs like Poetry in Motion, the THRIVE neighborhood artistic development program and other local arts events.

OAK RIDGE

Arts Council of Oak Ridge has worked since 1956 to raise awareness of arts and art groups. The organization sponsors the Secret City Festival and Secret City Sounds concert series in conjunction with the Oak Ridge Recreation and Parks Department, raises funds for the United Arts Fund Drive and promotes local art events. The council also hosts an annual writer's workshop, promotes local theatre, and works with the Oak Ridge Community Orchestra, Oak Ridge Civic Music Association and Oak Ridge Civil Ballet Association.

PARIS

Created in 1967, the Paris-Henry County Arts Council has spent the past 40 years promoting, encouraging and stimulating the appreciation and involvement in the arts. The council has hosted events like Eye Full of Paris, Arts Round the Square, a local garden walk and annual artist showcase. The organization also offers youth art workshops, scholarships, advocates local art exhibits and provides the Broadway Bus Trip, allowing residents to travel to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center in Nashville.

TULLAHOMA

The Arts Council of Tullahoma works to create an art friendly atmosphere as well as make Tullahoma an arts destination. The council sponsors events like Art on the Spectrum, the Community Playhouse at the South Jackson Civic Center, promote local arts events and holds arts competitions for local citizens.