



It's countdown to Chattanooga!

Annual Conference June 21-24

It's count down to the TML conference in Chattanooga; but it's not too late to register!

TML's 75th Annual Conference promises to be one of the best yet.

Educational workshops, featuring experts from across the country, will focus on such topics as smart growth development, annexation, industrial recruiting, transportation funding, workers compensation, risk management, energy efficiency, wine in grocery stores, and much more.

Be sure to arrive early. Aside from taking in all the sights that Chattanooga has to offer, on Saturday, June 21, there will be three "Meet and Greet Receptions" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Chattanooga Convention Center, sponsored by Ameresco, Buxton,

and Servpro Disaster Recovery. It will be a great opportunity to network with your peers, learn about some new programs, while enjoying refreshments.

Other special events will include an evening at Finely Stadium on Sunday, June 22, from 7 to 9 p.m., featuring plenty of good food, drinks and live music from some of Chattanooga's own local bands. And the Monday evening party, hosted by The Pool, is a do not miss event! The conference will conclude on Tuesday morning with the Annual Awards Breakfast, that recognizes the very best Tennessee municipalities and city leaders from across the state.

For more conference information or to register, go to TML's website at www.TML1.org.



The nation transportation system is at a critical intersection. The current federal surface transportation program authorization, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), that became law in 2012, funds highway, transit, and other surface transportation programs through the end of this year, but did not address long-term funding.

Pressure building on Congress to enact a transportation plan

BY LESLIE WOLLACK
National League of Cities

With the current federal transportation legislation (MAP-21) due to expire on Sept. 30, and the revenues that support the program estimated to expire later this summer, city leaders call on Congress to act now and pass a long-term surface transportation bill that adequately funds this intergovernmental partnership.

The nation's vast transportation network is essential to the health of our local economies and job creation efforts. Eighty-five percent of our nation's residents live in metropolitan areas and rely on local transportation networks to travel to work and school every day. The businesses in those same areas depend on modern and reliable transportation options to move goods and provide services throughout our communities and across the country.

Local governments play a vital role in maintaining and constructing local transportation networks. We own 78 percent of the nation's road miles, 50 percent of the nation's bridges, and operate the majority of the nation's transit systems.

However, we receive less than a quarter of the \$57 billion in federal funds spent on transportation each year and have little say in how the federal dollars are invested in our communities. In a true partnership, all of us should have a say.

A strong partnership among the federal, state, and local governments is key to building and maintaining the roads, bridges, highways, and transit systems that make up our nation's transportation network.

The nation transportation system is at a critical intersection. The current federal surface transportation program authorization, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), that became law in 2012, funds highway, transit, and other surface transportation programs through the end of this year.

However, the law did not address long-term funding challenges facing

federal surface transportation funding. The Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund is expected to encounter a shortfall before the end of FY2014, coinciding with the expiration of the current transportation spending program. Any delay in solving the funding shortfall or authorizing a new transportation program will be harmful to local economies and quality of life.

The time is now for Congress to adopt a new, long-term transportation plan that includes local decision making authority, invests in long term equitable transportation solutions, supports sustainable multimodal choices, and maintains a strong federal role.

To protect and strengthen our nation's transportation network, Congress must pass a federal transportation bill now that:

- Provides local governments with long-term funding: Provide local governments with the certainty of a multi-year program so they can plan and fund transportation in their communities.
- Sends funding directly to the projects where people live and work: Increase the funding sent directly to metropolitan areas through the Surface Transportation, Congestion Management and Air Quality, and Transportation Alternatives Programs.
- Gives local leaders a stronger role in the decision making process: Increase the roles for local officials to make decisions about project funding through metropolitan planning organizations and rural planning organizations.
- Supports alternative financing: Fund the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program, incentivize local innovation, and preserve the federal tax exemption for municipal bonds.
- Streamlines the planning and approval process: Continue MAP-21 provisions that help cities deliver transportation projects quickly, eliminate red tape, and maintain environmental standards

Governor signs Liquor-by-the-Drink bill

On May 14, Gov. Bill Haslam signed legislation adopted in the final days of the 108th General Assembly that addressed the majority of the issues and questions surrounding the distribution and allocation of liquor-by-the-drink revenues (mixed drink tax).

In general, the Act contains two distinct sections. First, the bill details the distribution and allocation of the proceeds of the liquor-by-the-drink tax; effective July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. Second, the bill sets out the options available to local governments to settle amounts owed for prior years.

TML staff has prepared information to assist municipal officials in interpreting and implementing the new law. You may access these documents through the Hometown section of our website at www.TML1.org.

If you have any questions regarding the Act or the impact of this law on your municipality, contact your TML staff at 615-255-6416.

TML will also conduct a workshop at the upcoming Annual Conference in Chattanooga. The workshop is scheduled for Monday, June 23, from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

KEY DATES

May 14, 2014 – Any agreements entered into concerning the payment of proceeds owed from prior years before May 14, 2014, are automatically ratified and constitute the final understanding of the obligations between the parties and the city is not subject to additional requests or demands.

July 1, 2014 – The new regimen concerning the distribution of liquor-by-the-drink proceeds, detailed in Public Chapter (*No. not yet assigned*) takes effect. Pursuant to this law, the new regimen is to govern the distribution of such proceeds through June 30, 2015.

August 1, 2014 – By Aug. 1, 2014, every city that has adopted liquor-by-the-drink must provide written notice to each school system operating within the city limits. The notice must include the following:

1. Inform the school system that the city has adopted liquor-by-the-drink;
2. Inform the school system that students residing within the city limits attend schools operated by the school system; and
3. Inform the school system that it is authorized to receive all, or a portion, of the liquor-by-drink revenues collected within the city.

August 31, 2014 – Affected parties have until Aug. 31, 2014, to enter into binding agreements that address the city's responsibility to remit liquor-by-the-drink proceeds from collections within the city to a school system. Such agreements must be submitted to and received by the comptroller by Aug. 31, 2014.

September 1, 2014 – If the affected parties have not entered into an agreement, by Sept. 1, 2014, that addresses the city's responsibility to remit liquor-by-the-drink proceeds from collections within the city to a school system, then the parties have two options available:

1. Binding arbitration with Comptroller
2. File lawsuit in Chancery Court of Davidson County

December 31, 2014 – Any claims or demands concerning liquor-by-the-drink proceeds owed by a city to a school system must be made by one of the means outlined above prior to Dec. 31, 2014. If such claims or demands are not made prior to this date, then the parties are barred from pursuing any other means of obtaining these monies.

Memphis Bootcamp spotlights effects of incremental change

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Small's the new large in Memphis, and municipal leaders are tallying the score. It's all part of a study on future growth and investment and the positive effects of incremental change. The topic was discussed in depth recently at the Memphis "Boot Camp," four days of workshops and discussions led by three national consultants Charles Mohran, Mike Lydon, and Joe Minicozzi. Individuals from all sectors, both public/private, local government, businesses and philanthropy—turned out to learn about the latest trends in municipal planning from tactical urbanism to bootstrapping.

"We have to change how we invest to create growth, and how we measure our impact on neighborhoods," Mayor A. C. Wharton said in his address. Wharton, along with the Mayor's Innovation Delivery Team, funded by the Bloomberg Foundation, have been doing the math and running the numbers that show, despite decades of growth, prosperity in the city has been elusive.

In 2005, the Community Development Council of Greater Memphis began examining how the blighted and disinvested neighborhoods of Memphis became that way. Later, they launched an education and advocacy program – now known as Livable Memphis – highlighting the connection between urban sprawl and core-city quality of life.

"The answer is that we have mistaken growth for wealth creation," notes Charles Marohn, president of Strong Towns out of Minnesota. "Memphis does not lack growth; it lacks productive growth through transactions that build the community's wealth over time," he said. "When cities expand horizontally, they trade the immediate increase in revenue that comes along with expansion for the long-term liability of maintaining and servicing the new, far-flung infrastructure. We need to return to a pattern of development that creates neighborhoods of value, focused on improving the lives of people and not just their automobiles."

"The conversation that we're having in Memphis is not unique to Memphis. It's a conversation communities across the nation are having," said Innovation Delivery Team leader Tommy Pacello. "Memphis is just an early adopter of the conversations the rest of the country are going to be having."

One of the key foundations to community change, according to Pacello, is "doing the math."

"We are believers that you can't



Above: The last line of Memphis' original streetcar network closed on June 15, 1947. Opened in 1993, these heritage streetcars made 1.34 million trips in 2011-2012. Below: The area around Broad Avenue in Memphis was challenged by crime and some businesses were slowly dying but in a few years since, artists who lived there and others have banded together to create a successful arts district where people now shop, eat, dance, bike and enjoy the day with their families, friends and neighbors.

manage what you can't measure," he said. "We've been investing at the edge for a long time and not been investing as much in our historic neighborhoods, which, in a lot of instances, have been outperforming in terms of value and return on investment, property tax being generated per square foot."

Utilizing two vastly different developments in the city as an example, Minicozzi, the principal at Asheville's Urban3, LLC (U3), explained how neighborhood design is critical to the long-term financial health of communities.

"39 South Main Street, (a tiny development that sits on 0.06 acres) has a stunning 12 times the potency of the Wolfchase Galleria (a 144 acre development accessed at \$81 million)" he said. "The reason for the difference is the building type and how that building uses the land. Those same choices are relevant because there is a direct effect on your community's tax base," he said.

Memphis' community leaders have been accomplishing great things through tactical urbanism, short-term, low-cost projects intend-

ed to spur long-term neighborhood investment. A shining example of this strategy is the Memphis' Broad Avenue Arts District success story. Today, a national model, the area was originally the main street of Binghamton, a small railroad town chartered in 1895, annexed by Memphis in 1919. The district gradually fell into blight and disrepair. As crime settled in, businesses were slowly dying.

Hoping to spur other citizens to invest in the rejuvenation of Broad Avenue, in 2010, concerned neighbors, in conjunction with Livable Memphis, launched a successful kick off; a festival-styled event called "A New Face for an Old Broad." The initial \$20,000 investment resulted in a private investment of \$20 million to renovate 29 properties into store fronts and the launching of 25 new businesses.

"Too often, cities only look to big-budget projects to revitalize a neighborhood. Think small and invest minimal capital in an idea, see whether or not that idea works and why and then implement it on a

See **BOOT CAMP** on Page 6

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRENTWOOD

Livability.com, a Franklin-based website that focuses on American cities, has named the Williamson County city in the national Top 10 “Best Cities for Kids.” Brentwood comes in as No. 7 on the list. *Livability* arrived at the rankings by looking for cities with a high number of school-aged children in households. The list was narrowed down by considering the quality of education in these areas through GreatSchools.org; low rates of child mortality and a great number of youngsters covered by health insurance, compiled with the help of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The percentage of local eateries that have kids’ menus available, was measured with Food Genius, a company that delivers insight into the food industry. The number of parks, playgrounds, libraries and recreational venues with kids in mind also factored into the rankings. Brentwood has 11 parks and eight green spaces and greenways covering more than 861 acres of recreational land. In 2013, *Livability* named the Brentwood Library’s Children’s Library as one of the top 10 children’s libraries in the country.

CHATTANOOGA

The third largest flour milling company in America will be headquartered in the city with a new corporate name, following the merger of Cereal Food Processors into Milner Milling Inc. The new corporate name, Grain Craft, brings together three milling companies combined over the past 11 years. Milner Milling Inc., which bought half of Pendleton Flour Mills LLC in 2003, said it completed its previously announced purchase of Cereal Food Processors. The Grain Craft footprint consists of 16 mills in 11 states with a combined daily capacity of about 11 percent of U.S. flour sales. The company is the third biggest flour milling company. Pendleton Flour Mills was formed by joining two prominent milling companies in the Pacific Northwest and professionally managed from Chattanooga.

CHATTANOOGA

The city unveiled a new incentive for expanding small businesses to bolster job growth. Companies that add five or more employees will receive a \$500 per worker credit in the Grow Small Businesses credit initiative. Companies must be 100 employees or less to qualify and the program set to begin July 1. Plans are to provide a yet-unspecified amount of money into the city budget for the effort. Qualified workers must work for a year before the company receives the cash incentive.

DICKSON

The city has had zero reports of West Nile Virus in its history, and officials

want to keep it that way. Soon to be placed around town will be five “gravity traps” to capture and test the mosquito population. The program was brought to town by project coordinator, Chris Hooper. Tennessee’s Department of Health will be doing the testing, Hooper said, because the traps have batteries and are not immediately recognizable. The gravity traps will be in five locations throughout the entire season’s warmer months, and anywhere there is water or where reports have been called in. The traps will be collected and taken to Nashville to be tested once a week.

FARRAGUT

The town has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report. The city has received the award for 22 consecutive years. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The GFOA is a nonprofit association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

FRANKLIN

More bicyclists may one day pedal to work, home or shopping around downtown and Cool Springs, if a \$2.9 million grant is approved to create a bike-sharing program in Franklin. The Transit Management Authority (TMA), which oversees Franklin’s bus system, wants to create a grant-funded, bike-sharing program similar to the one launched in Nashville in 2012. Fifteen bike stations outfitted with 150 bicycles would be added on city property at locations in historic Franklin and Cool Springs starting in 2015, if transportation officials at the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization approve the grant. Nashville has 20 bike-sharing hubs around downtown and nearby neighborhoods, which are funded by a \$1.2 million federal grant. Instead of money, city officials would be asked to donate the use of city property for bike-sharing stations. TMA leaders would pursue \$2.34 million in grant money from the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and then seek corporate partners to cover a \$580,000 commitment in matching funds needed to secure the grant.

GALLATIN

As part of the Tennessee Valley Authority’s \$1 billion clean-air project at Gallatin Fossil Plant, construction is underway on a new hatchery and aquatic center along the Cumberland River. TVA is investing almost \$1.5

million to build the new Cumberland River Aquatic Center, which will replace an aging facility next to the Gallatin Fossil Plant that was removed at the start of the plant’s emissions control project last year. Like the old one, the new facility will be operated by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Under a new operating agreement, TVA will provide essential services, including the supply of river water necessary to nurture the various aquatic species to be housed at the facility. The new facility will have a more flexible design and will include a long-term use agreement to meet TWRA’s long-term goals. The new center will allow TWRA to better manage endangered species to help retain nature’s balance while offsetting impacts of changing river conditions.

GATLINBURG / PIGEON FORGE

Cities Journal listed Gatlinburg in the top spot with Pigeon Forge following close behind as No. 2 in Tennessee’s Top 14 Small Cities designation. Noted for having everything you could want to do in a vacation spot. The article lauded Gatlinburg for its relaxing hotels and mountain cabins with hot tub, amenities and the Great Smokies with plenty of biking, hiking and camping opportunities. A small town with a huge tourist draw just five miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National park, Pigeon Forge was noted as “Home to Dollywood and Dollywood’s Splash Country,” and some of the best shopping in the area. To see the complete list, visit <http://www.citiesjournal.com/top-14-small-cities-in-tennessee/14/>.

HENDERSONVILLE

A manufacturer of automotive electronics and lighting systems is investing more than \$3 million to relocate and expand its operations and hire about 30 workers. Novita Technologies designs and makes on-board lighting systems for original equipment manufacturers and aftermarket use. The company was formed in 2007 when Trico Electronics was spun off from the Trico Products Group. The company is relocating to Old Shackle Island Road.

JACKSON

Jackson is listed as the third least expensive city to call home in the nation, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, which measures the regional price parity of American cities. Mayor Jerry Gist credited steady growth as a contributing factor. “We had an increase of 10,000 people from the last census to this one,” he said.

JACKSON

The Tiger Jones Technology Park, a 120.6-acre data center site, has been designated by the Tennessee Valley Authority’s (TVA) data center site designation program as an Enterprise site. It is the first site to be designated in TVA’s seven state region. Selection criteria used in the designation process included accessibility, telecommunications infrastructure, electric power availability and reliability, and other characteristics beneficial to data center development. Located in a private campus setting a half mile from Interstate 40, the park offers commercial development nearby and presents various layout potential with an on-site electric substation dual-served by the TVA 161 kV transmission system. The park also has a variety of workforce training opportunities including, four, four-year colleges and universities and two colleges of applied technologies, all of which offer CIS programs.

NASHVILLE

Nashville has become the latest city to join the open data movement, and people who live, work and play in Music City might soon be able to access a treasure trove of information about the city. Mayor Karl Dean signed an open data executive order that increases the public access to government data. Currently, the public can access more than 20 data-

Franklin 3rd annual photo contest features \$100 prize



In honor of Preservation Month in May, the City of Franklin Planning and Sustainability Department is partnering with local photographer David Braud and Starbucks for the third annual “My Historic Franklin” photo contest. Amateur and professional photographers are invited to post their photos on the City’s Facebook page from May 15-31. The top 10 photos will be displayed at Starbucks in Historic Downtown Franklin on their magnetic photo wall in June. New this year are two categories, landscapes and buildings! The top winner in each category will win \$50 gift cards. People can enter both categories if they like. There will be a winner in both categories; a people’s choice who will win \$50 gift card, chosen by number of “likes” on Facebook; and an overall winner who will win a \$100 gift card. To enter, go to the city’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityoffranklin and post your photo. The photo with the most likes will get the people’s choice award.

First Soddy-Daisy Pioneers Days celebrates history, old-time skills

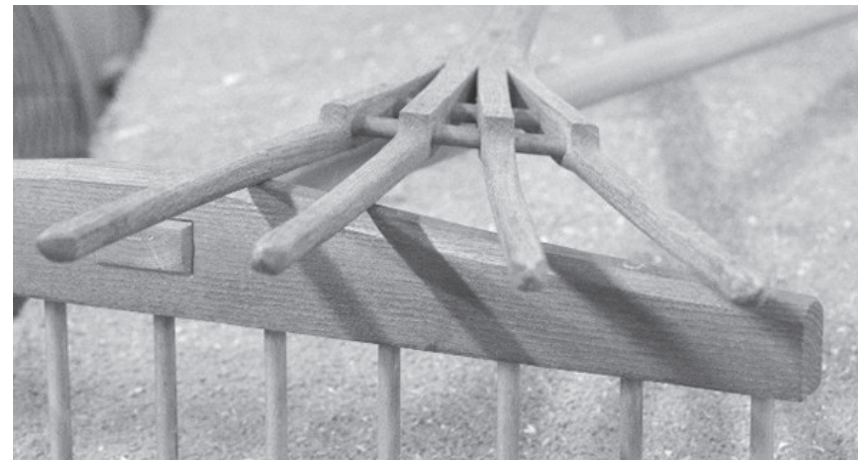


Photo by Angela Lewis Foster

Poe’s Tavern, originally built in Poe’s Crossing, eventually called Soddy-Daisy, has been an important landmark in the area for almost 200 years. On May 31, crafters will gather on the tavern lawn at 9835 Dayton Pike, adjacent to Soddy-Daisy City Hall, for the community’s first Pioneer Days. As a free celebration of the history of the tavern, the area and the time when things were made by hand, organizer Bud Ellis says the event is not designed to be a craft fair, with vendors selling their wares, but as a demonstration of how things were once done by the area’s early pioneers. Poe’s Tavern was built in 1817 and was Hamilton County’s first courthouse and county seat. It also served as a way station for the Trail of Tears and as a hospital during the Civil War. The Tavern was reconstructed by University of Tennessee students in 2011. Pictured: A wooden rake made by Larry Ridge is an example of some of the handmade tools on display at the festival.

sets by 15 Metro departments. The information includes data on public Wi-Fi hot spots, historic markers, public art and the salaries of Metro employees. Additional datasets will be added in the future. Open data in other cities has spurred the creation of several apps, including ones that use restaurant inspections to warn people where not to eat and others that show what neighborhoods have the most sidewalks.

NASHVILLE

“Nashville” will be returning to Nashville. The ABC drama, which was renewed for a third season, will receive a combined \$8 million incentive package from the state, Metro Nashville, the Nashville Convention and Visitors Corp., and Ryman Hospitality Properties in order to keep the production filming in Middle Tennessee. The deal was struck after weeks of negotiations, serious flirtations with moving to Texas or Georgia and anxious waiting for news of renewal from ABC. The incentive package is lower than the Season 2 incentives, which totaled \$13.25 million. But the state legislature and Gov. Haslam passed a conservative budget that included less money for film incentives. Public officials and show supporters say “Nashville” has greatly benefited the local economy in terms of direct spending and tourists who visit Music City because of the show.

OAK RIDGE

Oak Ridge was designated as a 2014 Playful City USA for the 3rd time by the KaBOOM Playful City USA program in partnership with the Humana Foundation. The city’s annual Play Day is scheduled for June 14 at the Secret City Festival, where children will be rewarded for moving around the festival and trying out a variety of activities. Also, the city’s new dog park, which opened in 2013, is encouraging local families to get out and play. A partnership with Oak Ridge Schools’ Coordinated Health Office ensures kids are getting adequate recess time at the 14 public playgrounds built around the city. The KaBOOM!, program honors cities, towns and communities across America that are taking bold steps to ensure that all children have easy access to balanced and active play in their communities. The city of Nashville also made the list.

PORTLAND

The city is building a \$1 million fire hall through a \$1.5 million loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The hall addresses the city’s ongoing and projected growth, especially on the north side of town, where several infrastructural upgrades are in the works, including a Highway 109 bypass and an interchange on Interstate 65. The new fire station would benefit the Robertson County Industrial Park, which is within Portland’s city limits. Portland’s industries also are expected to widely utilize the new I-65 interchange and 109 bypass funded by the Tennessee Department of Transportation. About \$150,000 also is budgeted for six full-time firefighters to staff the new facility, projected to be complete by April.

SPRING HILL

Four local subdivisions have been put on the short-list to participate in Spring Hill’s first-ever public-private partnership to finance and pave incomplete sidewalk projects. City staff have ranked what they consider the top projects for the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program. The city set aside \$50,000 for the program.



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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Franklin will swear in former state Inspector General **Deb Faulkner** as the police department's next deputy chief on June 10. Selected from more than 70 applicants, Faulkner was the first inspector general for the Office of Inspector General, a criminal investigative unit that focuses on TennCare fraud. The selection fills a vacancy in the department's top ranks since veteran Deputy Chief Bruce Bateman retired in December. A retired Metro Nashville police officer, Faulkner served in Metro's patrol division and various other assignments before retiring at the rank of deputy chief of police.



Faulkner

Jimmie Temple, former mayor of Sevierville and longtime Sevier County Commissioner, has died. He was 85. Temple served on the county commission for almost a half century, from 1966 until his death. He also served as mayor of Sevierville from 1959 until 1963.



Temple

C. Thomas Robinson, CECd, executive director of the Tullahoma area Economic Development Corporation (TAEDC), has been awarded re-certification by the International Economic Development Council

(IEDC). The designation denotes a mastery of principal skills in economic development, professional attainment and a commitment to professional growth. Robinson holds 32 years of economic development experience and has served as director of the Tullahoma organization since August of last year.

Former state Rep. **Donna Rowland-Barrett**, of Murfreesboro, has been appointed to the State Election Commission. Barrett, principal of The Barrett Group, a business consulting firm, formerly served 10 years in the House representing part of Rutherford County. The seven-member State Election Commission appoints county election commissioners in all of Tennessee's 95 counties and monitors their activities and performance. The panel also works closely with the state coordinator of elections to ensure elections are run in a uniform fashion across the state. Prior to her retirement in November 2010, Barrett served on several legislative committees, including the Fiscal Review Committee.



Rowland-Barrett

Ashley Miller is Farragut's new assistant director of community development. A Maryville native, Miller most recently served as the assistant city planner for the Gatlinburg's planning department since 2004. During her tenure, she was involved in all aspects of the department, including the review of applications, zoning requests and site plans; oversight of the city's GIS

program; support to the planning commission, Environmental Design Review Board and Board of Zoning Appeals. Miller is a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) by the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

La Vergne Police Officer **John Fesmire** has been recognized as a "Drug Recognition Expert" by The International Association of Chiefs of Police. Certified officers are up-to-date on drug trends and fully trained in recognizing someone under the influence and identifying the drug the individual is using. Fesmire will be able to testify as a certified expert witness in court. He has been with the La Vergne Police Department since December 2012.



Fesmire

Shane Ray, former Pleasant View fire chief and mayor, has been named executive vice president of the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA). Ray, who now lives in Columbia, S.C., will begin his new position on July 16. Ray began his fire service career in 1984 and worked through the ranks of career and volunteer organizations serving from firefighter to chief. He also served six years as mayor of Pleasant View.



Ray

Winners announced for 2014 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards

The 11 winners of the 2014 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards include two municipalities: the city of Kingsport, awarded for Excellence in Clean Air, and the Chattanooga Airport, awarded for Pursuit of Excellence Recognition. The Awards program recognizes exceptional voluntary actions that improve or protect the environment and natural resources with projects or initiatives not required by law or regulation. The program covers nine categories: Building Green; Clean Air, Energy and Renewable Resources; Environmental Education and Outreach; Environmental Education and Outreach (school category); Land Use; Materials Management; Natural Heritage; and Sustainable Performance. The 2014 awards roster includes one Pursuit of Excellence Award, which recognizes past award winners who continue to demonstrate a high regard for environmental stewardship practices. The winner of one additional honor, the Robert

Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award, will also be announced at the awards ceremony in Nashville in June. **Excellence in Clean Air**—The city of Kingsport began the first of three propane conversions in 2008, adding several other propane vehicles and their own private refueling infrastructure. The program has grown to more than 40 vehicles that run on propane, including police cruisers, work trucks, and propane-powered mowers. In addition, they have several hybrid vehicles, including one heavy-duty hybrid bucket truck, as well as three all-electric Nissan Leafs, one of which is a police car used for code enforcement. The gasoline project alone has saved the city almost \$27,000 in fuel costs. More than 36,000 gallons of gasoline use has been eliminated and 44,000 gallons of cleaner-burning propane has been used reducing their CO2 emissions by over 85,000 pounds (43 tons).

Pursuit of Excellence Recognition—Over the past 40 years, Chattanooga has transformed itself from one of the most polluted cities in the nation to one of the cleanest. More than six years ago, The Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport Authority pledged to reduce its environmental footprint and started small by initiating sustainable practices both on the airfield and within the commercial terminal. The CMAA received the 2013 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Sustainable Performance. Since then, significant strides have been made, including lighting improvements and pavement rejuvenation, the installation of a 2.1 megawatt solar farm, which generates the equivalent of 85 percent of the airport's energy consumption, the first aviation facility in the world to achieve LEED Platinum certification, along with two LEED Gold certified hangars, installation of gate electrification equipment, a national water quality demonstration project, and a terminal renovation. In addition, the airport has developed a recycling program to reduce waste and the airport provides recycling bins throughout the terminal and in office areas. Materials recycled at the airport include paper, cardboard, aluminum, plastic, light bulbs and debris from maintenance, construction and demolition projects.

TML Risk Management Pool Board to meet

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. local time in the Signal Mountain Room at the Chattanooga Marriott Hotel Downtown, Two Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 38402 for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before the Board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling The Pool's office at 800-624-9698.

Fann honored with PRIMA's Distinguished Service Award

Michael Fann, ARM-P, has been selected by the international Public Risk Management Association's (PRIMA's) board of directors to receive the 2014 Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to the public risk management industry. The PRIMA Distinguished Service Award honors an individual working within the field of public risk management who has made a significant contribution to the profession and given sustained service to PRIMA as an organization.



Fann

"Michael Fann has a passion for risk management that has led him to make extensive contributions to both the industry and PRIMA," said Betty Coulter, PRIMA president. "He shares his knowledge and enthusiasm with stakeholders within his home state of Tennessee and at meetings across the country. He truly represents the best that risk management has to offer."

Fann, director of loss control with the TML Risk Management Pool, is a charter member of the Tennessee chapter of PRIMA. As one of its founders, he has helped make TnPRIMA one of the most successful chapters in the country. He spearheaded the development of the chapter's risk management roundtables, which are quarterly networking luncheons for anyone working in public risk management in the state. Fann has been honored by the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service with the Project of the Year award, for his contributions to the development of a statutory statewide mutual aid agreement. His popular presentation on incivility in the workplace has made him a sought-after speaker at risk management meetings across the United States, as well as earning him Public Risk magazine's author of the year for an article on the subject. In an effort to facilitate international public risk management networking, collaboration and idea sharing, Fann coordinated a

post-conference exchange in 2012 with delegates from Australia to those from Tennessee and Kentucky. The exchange not only advances, promotes and contributes to the field of risk management, but also transcends international borders in the process. This single act of bringing together diverse risk management philosophies, governance structures and practices created additional opportunities for international public risk management learning and networking. Previously, Fann has participated in international exchanges with China and the U.K.

In addition to serving on the Tennessee chapter board, Fann has served on the PRIMA board of directors two times—from 2000 to 2003 and again in 2012. He has served as PRIMA conference chair and also serves on the board of the Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI). Fann's career spans nearly three decades and his accomplishments are varied and far-reaching—not just helping those in the state of Tennessee, but across the United States. He has made presentations at PRIMA chapters, municipal leagues, pools, universities, and individual public entities in more than 20 states, from Maine to Arizona, and from Florida to Washington. His dedication and perseverance on behalf of public sector risk management has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers. It has also earned him the 2014 Distinguished Service Award.

TN Dept of Safety launches 'Move Over' campaign in wake of officer's death



Pictured left to right: Stewart County Sheriff Deryk Wyatt, Dover Police Chief Kim Wallace and Cumberland City Police Chief Jason Gillespie display their #MoveOver signs honoring the THP's recent #MoveOver Campaign.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol launched the #MoveOver campaign on Twitter after Nashville police officer Michael Petrino lost his life while trying to direct traffic around an overturned pickup truck on the on-ramp from Old Hickory Boulevard. Law enforcement officers across the country are raising awareness about Tennessee's move over law using the social media campaign, which encourages drivers to #Move

veOver when you see emergency vehicles. It's a law that several states have on the books, but people still don't realize can save lives. When you type #MoveOver into Twitter, you'll find picture after picture of people begging drivers to obey the Tennessee move over law and prevent the needless loss of life of officers doing their jobs along the highways.

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Nationwide Retirement Solutions



STATE BRIEFS

TBI study shows drop in murders
A recent study by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation shows the number of murders reported in Tennessee in 2013 decreased nearly 20 percent from the previous year. The TBI's "Crime in Tennessee" report compiles data reported from each law enforcement agency in the state. According to the report, murders decreased by 18.6 percent from 2012, and the number of reported DUI arrests dropped 10 percent.

Tow truck law effective July 1
Tennessee law already requires tow truck operators to notify local law enforcement before taking a vehicle when the owner of the vehicle is not present. However, there is no penalty for failure to notify police of the vehicle's identification number, registration information, license plate number, and description before towing. Starting July 1, towing violators would face as much as 12 months behind bars and/or up to \$2,500 fines. Sen. Becky Massey, Knoxville, told members of the Senate Transportation and Safety Committee, the new law will cut down on the confusion that may occur when owners discover their vehicle missing, and report it to police as stolen.

Friend of Smokies plates reaps \$85,000 in sales
Sales of the Friends of the Smokies specialty license plate in Tennessee brought in \$85,285 during the first quarter, according to reports. Holly Scott, Friends marketing director, said the revenues are used to help fund important projects in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP), including 26 seasonal internships for young people.

Revised principal evaluations debuts this fall
A revised principal evaluation model debuted this year. The evaluation, known as the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model, or TEAM, will be used in almost all of the districts across the state this fall. Before 2011, there was not a state-wide evaluation measure for principals in Tennessee. "The revised model reflects the changing work of the administrators to use student data to impact decisions and support teacher instruction," said Paul Fleming, the executive director of leader effectiveness and deputy assistant commissioner of teacher and leaders with the Tennessee Department

Gov. Haslam signs Tennessee Promise at schools statewide



As members of the Sullivan Central High School Junior Class Officers and Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey (a Central graduate) look on, Gov. Bill Haslam ceremonially signs the Tennessee Promise bill. Starting next school year, every high school senior in Tennessee will have the opportunity to attend a 2-year community college completely free of charge. The initiative is part of Haslam's "Drive to 55" campaign to improve the state's graduation rates from the current 32 percent to 55 percent by 2025. The governor has said the measure will help improve overall job qualifications and attract employers to the state. The program will be paid for by using excess lottery reserve funds.

of Education. The new evaluation gives more weight to the second of the two required principal observation scores and requires principals to give specific examples of how they have worked with teachers. Giving the second observation more weight allows the administrator to correct and improve any areas cited during the initial observation period. Increasing the accountability of Tennessee's teachers and principals has been at the forefront of education reform discussions in the state since it won the federal Race to the Top competition earning more than \$500 million to overhaul education.

DHS, USDA kick off summer food service program
The Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS) is partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and local agencies across the state to kick off the 2014 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). For many children who receive free and reduced-price meals at school, summer can mean hunger. The SFSP provides free meals and snacks to children of low income, ages 18 and under, when school is out for the summer. To celebrate the beginning of the statewide 2014 SFSP, the kick-off event provided information on how any community

may have a successful program and meet the critical need for proper child nutrition when school is out. Authorized and funded by Congress, and administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and each respective state, to implement the SFSP in Tennessee, DHS contracts annually with local agencies that sponsor the preparation, delivery and serving of free meals and snacks to children at approved feeding sites in low-income areas. For those interested in sponsoring the SFSP contact TNSFSP.DHS@tn.gov.

State, Memphis negotiate Hill Building exchange
The state wants to give its Donnelley J. Hill State Office Building on Civic Center Plaza Downtown to the city of Memphis in exchange for 400 parking spaces at Peabody Place. The state is leaving the 12-story Hill Building, which opened in 1968 at the corner of Poplar and North Main, and moving seven blocks south into newly leased space at One Commerce Square formerly occupied by Pinnacle Airlines. The move of 596 state employees, who work for nine different state agencies, is scheduled to start June 1. The 194,900-square-foot building has a value of up to \$2.2 million and deferred maintenance costs of \$18.4 million.

State revenues collections show small growth for April

Tennessee revenue collections in April ended with a net positive growth over a year ago. Finance and Administration Commissioner Larry Martin reported that overall April revenues were \$1.5 billion or \$74.7 million more than the state budgeted. It represents growth of 0.96 percent over April 2013.

"Total reported collections in April were significantly skewed by a change in the law which affected the due date for business tax payments," Martin said. "The tax due date is now tied to the taxpayer's fiscal year, meaning that tax payments for more than 90 percent of businesses subject to the tax were due on April 15. Previously, the taxes were paid periodically throughout the year, depending on business classifications."

"We will end this year with a balanced budget, but it will require us to continue monitoring revenue and expenditure patterns."

On an accrual basis, April is the ninth month in the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The general fund was over collected by \$69.8 million, and the four other funds were over collected by \$4.9 million.

Sales tax collections were \$4.8 million more than the budgeted estimate for April. The April growth rate was positive 4.04 percent. For nine months revenues are under collected by \$18.6 million. The year-to-date growth rate for nine months was positive 3.64 percent.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$4.9 million above the budgeted estimate of \$454.2 million. For nine months revenues are \$222 million below the budgeted estimate. The year-to-date growth rate August through April was negative

10.28 percent. Inheritance and estate tax collections were \$1.5 million above the April estimate. For nine months collections are \$19.1 million above the budgeted estimate. Privilege tax collections were \$3.3 million less than the April budgeted estimate, and for nine months collections are \$10.4 million below the budgeted estimate. The year-to-date growth rate for the nine month period was positive 3.28 percent. Hall income tax collections for April were \$37.8 million more than the budgeted estimate. For nine months collections are \$35.1 million above the budgeted estimate. Business tax collections were over collected by \$35.1 million due to a change in the law which went into effect Jan. 1, 2014. The new law changed the due date of the tax payments to coincide with the fiscal year of each business subject to the tax.

Gasoline and motor fuel collections for April decreased by 9.20 percent, and were \$4.5 million less than the budgeted estimate. The growth rate for nine months was positive 0.03 percent, and collections are \$1.3 million below the budgeted estimate of \$617.9 million.

Tobacco tax collections were \$0.2 million under the budgeted estimate of \$22.5 million. For nine months revenues are under collected in the amount of \$7.1 million. All other taxes for April were under collected by a net of \$1.4 million. Year-to-date collections for nine months were \$182.3 million less than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was under collected by \$194.0 million and the four other funds were over collected by \$11.7 million.

TN receives \$140,000 grant for mine safety training



The state has two mine rescue teams, made up of part-time employees who train in Caryville and who respond to mine emergencies under intense pressure and time constraints. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As well as training rescue team workers, the Mine Safety Unit instructors conduct mine safety training required for all miners working in coal mines, crushed stone quarries, and sand and gravel pits. The U.S. Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) awarded the Tennessee Mine Safety Unit a grant of \$140,000. The funds will be used to support health and safety training courses and programs designed to reduce mining accidents, injuries, and illnesses, according to Tennessee's Department of Labor & Workforce Development. The last time a Tennessee mine rescue team received a callout to a mine emergency was in December 2013 for an underground fire at the Nyrstar Immel mine near Knoxville. There were no injuries in that incident. The grant money will assist in strengthening the state's mine safety programs, such as the 4th Annual Metal/Nonmetal Mine Rescue Contest held in Caryville on May 9. At those events, competing teams are judged on their response to a mining accident scenario — such as a fire or explosion — on merits of accuracy of exploration, mapping, ventilation, and speed. Tennessee has approximately 270 mines across the state, mostly metal/nonmetal.

Worker's Comp appoints eight judges under new administrative court system

The Tennessee Department of Labor's Division of Workers' Compensation is announcing the appointment of their first eight workers' compensation judges. The Tennessee Legislature passed comprehensive Workers' Compensation reform legislation last year. The reform created a new, administrative Workers' Compensation Court within the Workers' Compensation Division. The new judges will begin work prior to July 1, 2014, when the new law goes into effect. "Workers' Comp reform will result in a system that is fair to both employees and employers and will speed up the settlement of injury claims," said Labor Commissioner

Burns Phillips. "This should result in more predictable outcomes."

The appointees are as follows:

- Brian Addington, Kingsport, Attorney with the Division of Workers' Compensation
- Joshua Baker, Nashville, Administrative Attorney and Legislative Liaison with the Division of Workers' Compensation
- Lisa Knott, Knoxville, Attorney with the Division of Workers' Compensation
- Pamela Johnson, Knoxville, Of Counsel with the Leitner, Williams, Dooley and Napolitan law firm in Knoxville.
- Allen Phillips, Jackson, partner with Waldrup & Hall in Jackson.

- Jim Umsted, Memphis, Attorney with the Division of Workers' Compensation
- Thomas Wyatt, Chattanooga, partner with Summers & Wyatt
- Ken Switzer will be the Chief Judge. He is an associate with the Howard Tate law firm.

The appointments were made by the Workers' Compensation Division Administrator, Abbie Hudgens, and were selected from recommendations from the Workers' Compensation Interview Committee, which was composed of representatives of employees, employers, and the legal community from all three grand divisions of the state.

Searching for ways to fund increasing employee benefit costs?

The **Employee Benefit Funding™ (EBF)** Program is a long-term program designed to help *fund* employee benefit costs and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) without necessarily affecting City cash flow. The program creates a revenue stream that is an asset *and* can save taxpayer dollars.

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- Enhances the overall financial stability of the City by creating an asset for the balance sheet.
- Maintains future benefits without the need to make cuts.
- Cost-effective so the budget is not necessarily negatively impacted.
- Can reduce the need to increase taxes to fund increasing employee benefit and OPEB costs.

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Unwanted Pharmaceuticals: Tennessee is taking action to face the challenge

BY MARK PENLAND
TDEC Office of Sustainable Practices

In 2000, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) were named by the EPA as one of the top five “emerging” contaminants affecting human and ecological health. The trend was confirmed in 2002 with a report from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) that received national media attention stating that a survey of waterways serving several large metropolitan water systems revealed 80 percent of the waterways sampled contained common medications such as acetaminophen (24 percent), the hormone estradiol (16 percent), Diltiazem – a blood pressure medication (13 percent), Codeine (11 percent), and antibiotics (10 percent). Of the 95 chemicals the USGS measured, one or more were found in 80 percent of the streams sampled and about one-third of the streams contained 10 or more of the chemicals.

Management of unwanted pharmaceuticals is a growing problem in the United States. These medications can result in health, safety, or environmental problems when being disposed or handled improperly. Stakeholders are forming partnerships in Tennessee to face the logistical challenges to educate and protect residents with proper disposal. National statistics suggest that nearly 90 percent of Americans improperly dispose of outdated or unwanted prescription and over the counter drugs.

The problem is potentially larger in Tennessee. According to the Tennessee Medical Association, our state ranks second in the nation for prescription drug abuse. A 2011 Blue Cross Blue Shield study showed that Tennesseans had more prescriptions per capita (15) than any other state in the United States. Tennessee ranks eighth nationally in the number of fatal drug overdoses, doubling since 2009.

While this problem was an emerging national concern, no viable disposal options were apparent due to strict requirements on the handling of scheduled narcotics. In 2008, the Knoxville Police Department recognized this challenge and coordinated with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to hold the state’s first unwanted medications collection event. As a result of the positive public response to the event, the Tennessee Department of Environment and

Conservation, in partnership with the Knoxville Police Department, began a pilot project to develop an unwanted medications collection program and discovered that such a diversion program could be successful. To date, Knoxville Police Department has diverted 8,376 pounds of unwanted medications from entering the environment. Officer Craig McNew of the Knoxville Police Department is a strong supporter of the program. He says “This program is only successful by the joint efforts of those committed to making a difference. Our goals were to join forces through a multi-jurisdictional collaborative focusing on removal of potential harmful and abused drugs from the criminal element and to protect the environment. By using alternative disposal and collection methods, we gained support from the community and government officials and are making a lasting impact in both areas.” As result of the favorable response to the pilot project in Knoxville, a more formal program was launched in Nashville which led the department to seek funding to take the program statewide.

In 2012, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Office of Sustainable Practices began formally supporting the voluntary unwanted pharmaceuticals collection program by providing collection kiosks to local law enforcement agencies. Financing for these bins was made possible through a portion of the settlement funds received by Tennessee, as a result of the Tennessee Valley Authority coal ash spill, which are to be used to fund water quality improvement projects throughout the state. The only obligation local law enforcement agencies have is to regularly report their collection totals to the Office of Sustainable Practices as a means of measuring the effectiveness of the program and to identify areas where additional collection bins could be located.

The program quickly grew with

52 counties across the state currently participating. To date, the effort has successfully diverted 38,777 pounds of unwanted medications, preventing those items from entering area landfills and waste water collection systems.

The Greeneville Police Department has also enjoyed success with their collection program, with more than 700 pounds of medications taken in. Lt. Michael Ottinger of the Greeneville Police Department has expressed his support of the program by saying “Our drug collection bin has become a great benefit to the citizens of Greeneville and Greene County. No longer do our citizens worry about how to destroy their unwanted prescription and over the counter medications.”

Other examples of successful community collection programs include



TDEC began providing collection kiosks to local law enforcement agencies in 2012. Funding for these bins was made possible through a portion of the settlement funds received by Tennessee, as a result of the TVA coal ash spill, which are to be used to fund water quality improvement projects throughout the state.

the Cookeville Police Department’s efforts to divert nearly 1,300 pounds of medication from area landfills and the Johnson City Police Department and its collection of more than 7,000 pounds of unwanted and outdated medications.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation understands the importance of partnerships and is working closely with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) across the state to provide assistance to local law enforcement agencies with proper management and disposal options for the unwanted medications that they collect. DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Michael Stanfill is supportive of the program, stating, “The Drug Enforcement Administration realizes that prescription pill abuse and diversion is the number one drug threat in the state of Tennessee. DEA has worked diligently with our state and local law enforcement partners, and community coalitions, to aggressively address this issue through criminal and regulatory investigations along with educating the public on the abuse and diversion of pills. During DEA’s 8th nationally coordinated Drug Take Back event on April 26,



To date, the effort has successfully diverted 38,777 pounds of unwanted medications, preventing those items from entering area landfills and wastewater collection systems

2014, DEA and 80 law enforcement agencies throughout Tennessee collected approximately 10,800 pounds of unwanted or expired medications, ensuring that these medicines were not abused or diverted for illegal purposes.”

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Robert Martineau commented on the program saying, “This joint effort involves numerous local, state and federal partners supporting education for Tennessee citizens on the appropriate disposal of pharmaceuticals while increasing the number of unwanted drug collection locations for them. Working together, Tennessee has become a national leader for this coordinated strategy with more than 50 percent of our counties participating in our statewide Pharmaceutical Collection Program. Our department is pleased to be part of this effective partnership providing Tennesseans with safe and viable disposal options to keep drugs out of our water and off the streets.”

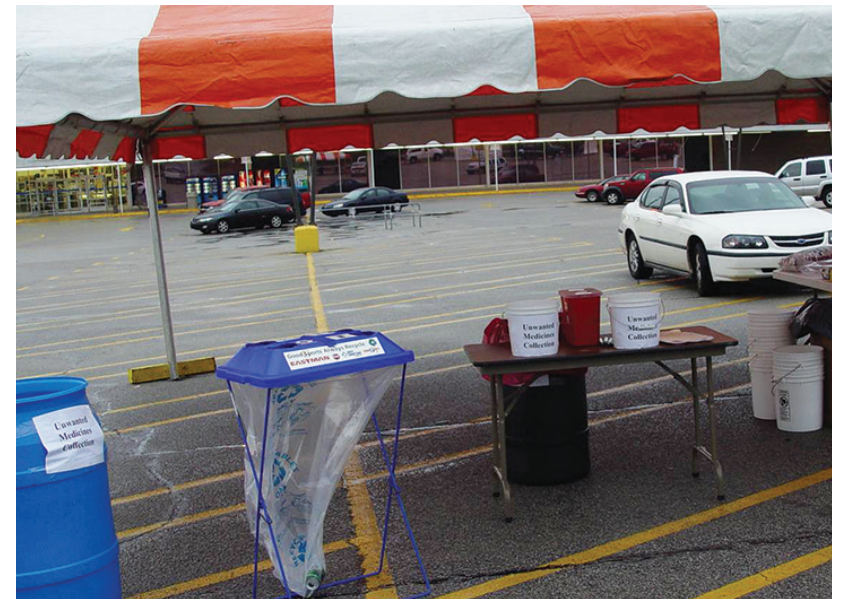
Captain Barry Diebold of the

Brownsville Police Department agreed. “The Brownsville Police Department implemented the Prescription Take back program in 2012. Since the box has been put in place, we have had overwhelming response and success in Brownsville. Citizens bring in medications all the time. We have found that this program particularly helps families that have lost loved ones to safely destroy old medications.”

George Bernard Shaw once said “The question should be, is it worth trying to do, not, can it be done?” and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, the Drug Enforcement Agency and various local law enforcement agency partners across the state are showing that it is worth trying to do and that they are having a positive effect in their communities.



Knoxville hosted its first drug take back event in 2010. Since the police department has been involved in the program, the city has diverted 8,376 pounds of unwanted medications from entering the environment.




TML Board to meet in Chattanooga

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Saturday, June 21, 2014, at 3 p.m., local time, in Plaza A-B of the Chattanooga Marriott Hotel Downtown, Two Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 38402, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, June 16, at the TML offices, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 710, in Nashville. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained at 615-255-6416.

Bond Fund Board to meet June 21

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Saturday, June 21, 2014, at 10:30 a.m., local time, in the Lookout Mountain room of the Chattanooga Marriott Hotel Downtown, Two Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 38402, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. Some members of the board may participate in such meeting by telephonic means, which will be audible to any member of the public attending such meeting. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, June 16, at the offices of TMBF, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 502, in Nashville. Additional information may be obtained at 615-255-1561.

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Memphis Bootcamp spotlights citizen-led projects, measure incremental community change

BOOT CAMP *from Page 1*
larger scale,” said Lydon, a principal of The Brooklyn-based Street Plans Collaborative. “Small, low risk, community-driven improvements all across our city can add up to larger, long-term change,” he said.

Today, Broad Avenue offers “a sense of place” to the community, a place to see and be seen, with an eclectic vibe punctuated by a variety of shops, fine art, pubs and cafe’s along with weekly performances and dance offerings, beckoning customers to shop, eat, dance and even bike.

A number of bike riders visit the area and use Broad Avenue’s bike lanes liberally, which helped spur support for a major connector project. Supporters for the Hampline have raised more than \$75,000 for the project, through a public fundraising campaign using crowd resource websites, such as ioby.

“If a handful of people will go out and do these projects, a lot more in the neighborhood will support it financially,” said Pacello. “In the past few months, one project raised almost \$2,000 in just two days to do a mural under an overpass. Neighbors raised the money in \$25 or \$30 donations raising \$100,000.”

As a two mile, on-road/multi-use trail designed for all levels of experience in walking and biking, the Hampline features two miles of public art murals and sculptures, an amphitheater and numerous art galleries. This bicycle and walking track is located in the Binghampton Community and links Overton Park and the Shelby Farms Greenline via a state of the art, two-way protected cycle track.

In addition to adding vital connectivity to the growing bicycle network across the Memphis region, the Hampline will provide residents and visitors with safe access to facilities and amenities in the Binghampton neighborhood including the five neighborhood schools, Tillman MPD Precinct Station, Howze Park, Lester Community Center, Benjamin Hooks Public Library, spiritual and medical facilities, the Arts

District, and the amenities located within Overton Park.

“Neighbors are using the lessons learned at the Bootcamp in how they measure the value of their neighborhood,” said Pacello. “Neighborhood leaders are developing these projects, whether it’s an eyesore lot turned into a community garden, an underpass they want to hang a mural on, or other things that provide the texture of a neighborhood. They are developing the ideas, building the team with similarly interested neighbors.”

Pacello also notes that city leaders are learning to be more flexible and nimble regarding their responses to these neighborhood-driven efforts. “The citizens are being provided mechanisms by which they can affect change in their neighborhoods,” he said.

“There is now a codified process, (with the adoption of Memphis’ Unified Development Code of 2010) by which neighborhood associations are brought to the discussion sooner and the goal is...if we bring in the neighborhood sooner, they can be more instrumental in the design of the project,” said Josh Whitehead, planning director for the Memphis & Shelby County Office of Planning and Development in the article “What Smart Cities Can Learn From Memphis.”

But by no means does the city want people to think tactical urbanism is a silver bullet solution. “It is just one of many, many tools necessary to rebuild a neighborhood,” Pacello added. “But it also requires a little reorientation of local government to be able to respond to what neighborhoods are doing and to learn how to measure the return on investment in infrastructure decisions, annexation policy, etc. Its not going to happen overnight and conversations are taking place which is the purpose of the Boot Camp.”

“There’s a lot of discussion in developing a vision for the city in a citizen led process,” Pacello said. “And if we’re going to do that, we have to understand how we got into the situation we’re in today.”

For more information and a list of Memphis’ tactical urbanism projects, visit <http://ioby.org/blog/city-of-memphis-supports-community-led-creative-placemaking-as-a-neighborhood-revitalization-tool>. See a mapping tool for Memphis’ citizen-led projects featured at <http://memphis.ioby.org/page/about>.

To access all the op-eds and video spots of the Boot Camp lectures, visit www.memphis2014.com.



Neighborhood volunteers work to restore the Memphis Broad Avenue Arts District, restriping the street, adding crosswalks and protected bike lanes .



Memphis citizens, on the ioby website, collected \$75,000 to help develop the Hampline, a two mile, on-road/multi-use trail for walking and biking, the Hampline features two miles of public art murals and sculptures, an amphitheater and numerous art galleries. Pictured is an artists rendering of The Hampline.



Memphis neighbors rallied around this blighted, crime ridden area on Broad Avenue to develop the popular Broad Street Arts district that is today known as a national model.



TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

May-Oct.: Gallatin
Third Thursday on Main Street
Summer concert and dining event every 3rd Thursday of the month through October. Showtimes 6:30 pm until 9 pm. Great food and entertainment. An exclusive presentation of Greater Gallatin, Inc., and sponsored by several local businesses. Free parking available at city hall, 118 West Main St., and behind the Gallatin Public Library, 123 East Main St. Bring your lawn chairs and the entire family and support your local downtown businesses.

May 30 : Fayetteville
Free Music in the Park Series
Features musical group 4-Way Stop at the Stonebridge Park. For more information, call 931-433-1234.

June 6-8: Johnson City
Blue Plum Festival
Showcasing downtown improvements in a free outdoor festival featuring local, regional, and national musicians, arts and crafts, children’s activities, urban art competitions, roller derby, amazing food, and more. Join the The Blue Plum 5K Run/Walk June 7. The Blue Plum Animation Festival will be located in the JC Penny building beside the Hands On! Museum. The Johnson City Rugby Football Club and the Molly Pitchers Rugby Club will host the 4th Annual Blue Plum 7’s Rugby Tournament in conjunction with the festival. Visit www.blueplum.org or call 423-797-6449.

June: Somerville
Music-in-the-Park
Enjoy an outdoor concert every Thursday evening in June, beginning at 7 pm. The first three Thursday evening concerts will be held at I.P. Yancy Park, 13170 North Main St. The Grand Finale and fireworks extravaganza will be the last Thursday evening June 26 at Fayette Ware High School Campus Football Field, 13520 State Hwy. 59 N., beginning at 7:30 pm. Free admission, free lemonade, cookies, and \$1 hotdogs, along with door prizes. Bring lawns chairs. No pets, alcohol or drugs.

June 7: Coopertown
2nd Annual Barrel Festival
Celebrating the heritage of the cooper (barrel maker). More than 200 vendors will showcase their wares from 10 am - 4 pm along Old Coopertown Road. Enjoy live music, food, shopping, living history exhibits, and wooden barrel games, “Cooper of the Year” contest, corn hole, kids zone, raffle giveaway trip to Branson, silent auction and barrels of fun at this town fundraiser. Kickoff with the inaugural Barrel Fest 5-Miler at 7:30 am. Register for the race at www.runsignup.com or contact the race director at commissioner@coopertowntn.org For more information, visit www.coopertowntn.org or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/coopertownbarrelfestival

June 12: Manchester
Bonaroo Music Festival
Headliners include: Elton John, Kanye West, Jack White, Vampire Weekend. For tickets and information, visit www.bonaroo.com/tickets.

June 13-14: Lebanon
Grand National SE/Fall Dual Meet
Held Fri. from 8 am-5 pm, and Sat. from 8 am-5 pm at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center, 945 E. Baddour Parkway. Both shows host more than 125 classes of competition. The Mid Tenn Region Automobile Club of America, based in Lebanon, is holding the event. Registration open until May 13, and membership with the Antique Automobile Club of America is required to enter. Cost is \$50 to enter the grand nationals and \$30 to enter the national show. Admission and parking free. For more information, call 615-308-0586.

June 28: Alcoa
36th annual FreedomFest
Springbrook Pool will start the day off with pool contests and activities throughout the day. FreedomFest 2014 events will begin at 6 p.m.at the Duck Pond with live musical entertainment. The annual musicaly choreographed fireworks display will begin at approximately 9:45 p.m. followed by additional live entertainment ending at 11 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for a fun filled night. Visit www.cityofalcoa-tn.gov/freedomfest for more information.



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PLANNING DIRECTOR
Springfield. The city is accepting applications for the position of Planning Director. Individual will plan, organize and direct the activities of the Community Development & Planning Department under a Council/Manager form of government. Current director is retiring with more than 14 years of service in the position. The Community Development & Planning Department administers all planning functions and activities, economic development projects, residential, commercial and industrial development and codes administration. Qualifications include a bachelor’s degree in planning, public administration or other related field, required master’s degree in planning and AICP certification preferred. A minimum of five years (5) of supervisory, administrative or consultative experience in municipal or regional planning, community development or related field required. Salary range\$ 55,703-\$76,066 (DOQ). Applications must be received by Monday, June 30, at the following address: Human Resources Department, City of Springfield, P O Box 788, Springfield, Tennessee, 37172. The City of Springfield is an AA/EOE employer.

UTILITIES CLERK
PIPERTON. The city has an opening for a utilities clerk in its administrative office, with tasks to include reconciling utility customer lists and issuing periodic reports, resolving customer problems and explaining procedures regarding a variety of city functions, including water, sewer, garbage and other issues; must have ability to interact with a variety of city staff, members of boards and commissions, vendors and contractors and have extensive knowledge of Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel, which is required. Experience with automated applications is desirable; High School diploma or G.E.D., plus a minimum of two years related experience is required, along with effective communication (oral and written) and interpersonal skills. Valid driver’s license from state of residence and attention to detail are also required. Email resume to tparker@pipertontn.com. Pay is negotiable, depending on experience and training. Piperton is an EOE employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, gender or disability.

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DA background prepares Gibbons for challenges as Public Safety Commissioner

BY LINDA BRYANT

Bill Gibbons has his hands full as Commissioner of the Tennessee Dept. of Safety and Homeland Security, but he's got his sleeves rolled up and says he's up for the demands of the job. In fact, he's used to facing hard challenges.

Gibbons overcame a hardscrabble childhood and went on to become the District Attorney General of the 30th Judicial District in Memphis and Shelby County for 14 years. He was a Republican candidate in the 2010 Tennessee gubernatorial election.

Gibbon's current job is challenging because TDOS encompasses quite a "big tent" of state services — law enforcement, safety education and crime reduction, driver services, disaster preparedness and prevention programs. He also chairs Gov. Bill Haslam's Public Safety Subcabinet, a group that includes commissioners and representatives from 11 state agencies and departments that impact public safety.

The Subcabinet is in the process of implementing comprehensive, multi-year Public Safety Action Plan that addresses three priorities: significantly reducing drug abuse and drug trafficking; curbing violent crime; and cutting the rate of repeat offenders.

"The role on the Public Safety Subcabinet was very appealing to me and, it's one reason why I decided to take the job," Gibbons said. "It really gave me the opportunity to have a broader portfolio and to continue focusing on a lot of the issues I'd been focusing on as DA—issues such as gang violence, the importance of drug treatment, and so on. The Subcabinet has proven to be a great model for how state government can do business."

Gibbons is married to Julia Smith Gibbons, who currently is a federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit. His daughter Carey is working on a PhD in Art History and lives in London. His son Will Jr. is an attorney at the Wyatt Tarrant & Combs firm in Memphis. Although Gibbons drives back home to Memphis on weekends, Nashville has become his second home. During the week he lives in a downtown apartment near his offices in William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower and enjoys walking to work.

TT&C: Your childhood wasn't easy by any means. You were raised in poverty by a single mom, and at one point you had a reputation for skipping school a lot. How did your background affect you as a public servant?

BG: My upbringing gave me an understanding of challenges that a lot of Tennesseans face on a regular basis. Having said that, I don't wish for anyone to grow up in poverty. It's not much fun. I learned some very important things. I did begin skipping school at an early age. Frankly, I saw no real future for myself. I felt locked into poverty with no place to go. I really didn't have much incentive. Luckily for me I had a number of adults who became mentors to me. That made a tremendous difference. My mother did the best she could. I'm the youngest of six, and my father abandoned us when I was four.

When I was District Attorney of Shelby County, I knew we faced a very serious problem of kids skipping school. We have the authority to prosecute parents for the truancy of their children under state law, but what I really wanted to do was try to make sure that the students who were skipping school could begin to move in the right direction. We did something unique and set up a mentoring program within the District Attorney's office. We got the parents and their children before the court by beginning the prosecution of the parents. It really wasn't for the purpose of sending the parents to jail; it was to get them into court. I wanted to give these parents and their children the opportunity to be in the mentoring program. It began to have very good results. The current District Attorney, Amy Weirich, has continued it and expanded the program.

TT&C: You worked with the Lamar Alexander administration as a special policy assistant. What was it like to work under Gov. Alexander?

BG: Lamar Alexander and I go back almost 48 years to 1966. He was working in Howard Baker's campaign for the U.S. Senate. I walked into Howard Baker's office to volunteer and Lamar asked me to head Baker's youth campaign in Memphis. I think it may have been an act of desperation, but I said yes and we struck up a great relationship. I worked with him in Winfield Dunn's campaign and proceeded to work with him in all of his own campaigns—his campaign for governor in '74, his successful campaign in '78 and then, thereafter. Lamar Alexander has been my mentor more than any other individual. He has taught me about the dos and don'ts of being a public official. One of many lessons I've learned from him, is about the importance of being focused and setting priorities. In order to have an impact, a public official must set clear priorities and goals and stick with them.

TT&C: What is it like being in Haslam's administration?

BG: Gov. Haslam is a great person to work for. He is great at setting clear priorities and goals, and then expecting his cabinet members to go out and do their jobs and stay focused on them. He gives us a lot of freedom to do that in our own way. He really sets the direction and the roadmap so to speak.

TT&C: You were the District Attorney of Shelby County for 14 years. Can you share some lessons from that time?

BG: DAs have to work with the local police department and the sheriff's office as a team effort. We had that kind of team in Memphis. When I was DA, we focused on violent crime and gang activity. Domestic violence was also a big problem. We set up special prosecution units to really tackle those specific areas and created the Drug Treatment Court. I'm a big believer in trying to address the underlying problem of drug addiction. We are one of the first drug treatment courts in Tennessee and it's a model that's proven to be very successful.

TT&C: Have you continued many of the same priorities into your job as Commissioner of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security?

BG: Yes, in many respects I have. As chair of the Public Safety Subcabinet it really gives me the opportunity to have a broader portfolio and to continue focusing on a lot of the issues I'd been focusing on as DA—such as gang violence, the importance of drug treatment, and so on. At first glance they don't seem to have a lot to do with the Department of Homeland Security on a day-to-day basis, but they do have a lot to do with the overall problem of public safety in our state. The Subcabinet has proven to be a great model for how state government can do business. Gov. Haslam recognized he needed to take a broad view of the departments and agencies that affect public safety. It includes a total of 11 state departments and agencies. The governor charged us with creating a multi-year public safety action plan for his first term in office. We were able to develop a plan with 41 specific action steps that fall under three broad goals and interrelate to each other.



Commissioner Bill Gibbons

TT&C: Can you explain these goals?

BG: Goal No. 1 is tackling the problem of drug trafficking and drug addiction. No. 2 is the problem of violent crime and No. 3 is the problem of repeat offenders. These three goals interrelate to each other, you can't separate them. At the same time, they deserve some distinct attention. For example, drug trafficking relates to gang activity and violence, which in turn relates to our high recidivism rate. When you look at the governor's public safety action plan, about half of the action steps deal with drug addiction and drug trafficking—ranging from prescription drug abuse to our problem of meth production in the state. The problems overlap. With regard to repeat offenders, we have a recidivism rate in Tennessee of about 45 percent—they go back into the corrections system within three years of being released. If we can reduce our repeat offenders, we could have a dramatic effect on our crime rate.

TT&C: What are some of the most significant achievements that have come out of the Public Safety Subcabinet?

BG: We have completed almost 50 percent of our 41 action steps. We hope to increase that percentage considerably by the end of this year and we'll have a very sizeable percentage of the actions steps completed by the end of the governor's first term. With regard to specifics, we now have a mandatory database that people with prescriptions and pharmacists must use. Prior to the Public Safety Action Plan it had been voluntary. When doctors prescribe either painkillers or tranquilizers they now must check the database to determine whether that particular patient has received similar prescriptions from other doctors. It's making a big difference to our ability to cut down on doctor shopping.

There's a lot of talk about meth production in our state, and we have a number of steps in the Governor's Public Safety Action Plan that address it. The part that has received the most attention is the need to restrict access to pseudo-ephedrine products. Pseudo-ephedrine is a key ingredient in the manufacturing of meth, and there's been recognition that we're going to need to address access to those products if we're going to cut down on meth production.

In terms of measuring our progress, the bottom line is the crime rate, and we are making progress there. When you look at our overall crime rate in 2013 we were down 5.4 percent compared to 2012 and down 8 percent compared to 2010. In terms of major violent crimes, defined as murders, forcible rapes, robberies and aggravated assaults, we were down about 8 percent in 2013 compared to 2012, and down about 2.7 percent compared to 2010. We are not yet where we need to be. We are still above the national average but the trends are very, very encouraging.

TT&C: How bad is the meth problem?

BG: We have a very serious problem. In 2013, we were second in the nation in the number of meth labs seized. We made some headway in 2011 when we created the statewide database. This year the governor proposed additional limits on access to pseudo-ephedrine products without a prescription. Under his proposal there would have been a limit of 4.8 grams per 30 days and an annual limit of 14 grams. The governor felt that it was the right balance between still making these products available to citizens, but also breaking up the so-called smurfing model where you see individuals going in and buying pseudo-ephedrine products for the purposes of manufacturing meth. Unfortunately, the General Assembly did not pass the governor's proposal. They passed an amended version that an annual limit of 5.76 grams and an annual limit of 28 grams. The good news is that Tennessee has taken more steps than most states. Forty-eight states allow the purchase of some amount of pseudo-ephedrine products. Tennessee will have the lowest 30-day limit in the nation. We will have the second lowest annual limit. Having said that, it does not go as far as we'd hoped. Only time will tell if these limits end up being effective. I think the governor's original proposal would have really had a dramatic impact.

TT&C: What about other signs of progress are you seeing?

BG: With regards to domestic violence, last year the General Assembly enacted legislation imposing mandatory sentences for repeat domestic violence offenders to deter domestic violence activities. We've also tackled the problem of gang activity. First, we proposed legislation providing for enhanced sentences for certain types of serious crimes committed by three or more. In particular, these include the crimes of aggravated assault, aggravated burglary and robbery. We have made it easier to prosecute gang activities. This year we passed legislation to amend the state's nuisance law to clarify that judges can issue orders creating safety zones in certain geographic areas. It means that known members of specific gangs can't associate with one another in public spaces such as parks, schools and so on. We've made a lot of progress in addressing this specific problem.

TT&C: One of your priorities is to reduce traffic fatalities. How are we doing?

BG: We are determined to make sure the Highway Patrol is a proactive law enforcement agency, not just a reactive agency. We have very specific goals in mind. One is to reduce the number of traffic fatalities in our state with the ultimate goal of being below the national average. We aren't there yet; however, we are making progress. In the last three years we've had the lowest number of traffic fatalities since we began keeping track

of them in 1963. We've tried to use data driven deployment of our state troopers to make sure they're in the right places at the right times. We think we can have a maximum impact on our traffic fatality rate through DUI enforcement and seatbelt enforcement. The figures are pretty dramatic. We use 2010 as our base year of comparison, since it's the year immediately prior to this administration taking office. When you compare numbers through April of this year with the 2010 numbers, we've had a 172 percent increase in the number of DUI arrests by state troopers. We've had more than 3,000 DUI arrests so far this year. That's a 46 percent increase over last year.

With regard to seat belts, we've had a 256 percent increase in seatbelt citations by state troopers and compared to 2010, a 62 percent increase since last year. So far this year we've issued more than 40,000 seat belt citations. It's having an impact. Year-to-date we've had the lowest amount of traffic fatalities in the last five years. We are down 14.4 percent compared to 2010 and down 5.4 percent compared to this year. We think our emphasis on DUI arrests is really having an impact. In 2010, 28 percent of traffic fatalities involved individuals driving impaired. This year we are down to 18 percent. We are still concerned about the number of traffic fatalities involving individuals not wearing seat belts. The latest figure shows that 57 percent of those who've lost their lives on our highways were not wearing seat belts. We're working to bring that down.

TT&C: Your department is partnering with TDOT to build a traffic training facility that's the first of its kind in the country. Can you explain its importance?

BG: First of all, I have to commend Col. Tracy Trott, the head of the Tennessee Highway Patrol, for having the vision to really see the need for the training facility. I also commend John Schroer, Commissioner of the Dept. of Transportation, for coming up with the funding to construct this facility. The facility will provide training on how to handle traffic incidents. It will help us address three issues: the safety of the troopers and other first responders, the needs of those who are involved in a traffic incident, and the convenience of all the other motorists. Of course, we are very concerned about our troopers. In the last five years we've had four state troopers lose their lives as a result of traffic related incidents. We also want to make sure those citizens who are injured in accidents are getting help as quickly as possible. We want to save lives. There's also a third group to serve that's composed of all the other motorists who're inconvenienced as a result of a traffic incident. Obviously, sometimes there are inconveniences, like when we have to close lanes of a highway or an entire highway. Still, we want to make sure we handle these scenarios in a way so we can get traffic moving as quickly as possible. Part of this training is making sure we know how to handle a traffic scene as efficiently as possible. Construction will get underway soon, with a target date to finish by September of this year.

TT&C: Your department also oversees driver services. What changes have you made?

BG: For decades we've had problems with our driver's services division. It's not a new problem. But we are trying to do two things. No. 1 is to make sure we have an efficient operation. No. 2 is to make sure we have a customer service operation. Those are two separate things. You can be efficient and not really customer friendly or customer friendly and not very efficient. We are trying to do both. We've created more alternative channels for customers to get a license renewed or replaced. Currently under state law, we can partner with county clerks across the state to handle the renewal and replacement of driver's licenses. Those county clerks are allowed to charge a \$4 fee, which basically covers their administrative costs. We furnish the equipment, but they furnish the personnel. We have some areas of the state where, for one reason or another, county clerks have decided they really don't want to get into the business of license renewal. So we expanded state law to give us the ability to enter into agreements with other state entities. It may be a city mayor's office, a county mayor's office or any number of entities. We are not trying to replace our county clerk partners in any way. We are also promoting online renewals as much as possible, and we now have standalone kiosks across the state. Through these alternate channels, customers can go to other places to conduct their transactions. As a result, we are down to about 30 percent of our customers who actually go to driver service centers to get their licenses renewed or replaced. About a year ago it was about 35 percent. A bank is a good analogy. If you have a complicated transaction, you go into a bank and interact with an employee. On the other hand, if it's a simple transaction you're more apt to use an ATM. We are providing that kind of alternative for Tennesseans. Through the end of April last year, our average wait time in our driver's services center was 31 minutes. Through the end of April this year we were down to about 23 minutes. We are very encouraged by the 8 minute drop.

TT&C: Explain the Homeland Security part of your job?

BG: Our responsibility is twofold. No. 1 is to do what we can to prevent any man-made disaster in Tennessee. No. 2 is to be the lead state agency in handling the actual crime scene and investigation should such an event occur. It's part of our responsibility to provide funding to local communities for Homeland Security needs. We channel federal funds to local communities through 11 Homeland Security districts. Right after 9-11 there was substantial federal money available. Initially, the state was getting about \$48 million. We are now down to about \$4 million. We've looked at our Homeland Security efforts and redirected what we were doing, especially in light of the fact that the federal funding was drying up. We needed to look at other ways to effectively address the problem.

We have become involved in training local law enforcement officials on homeland security issues. We train them on issues involving international terrorism, domestic terrorism, how to use our (FBI) Fusion Center, which is where we analyze information. Last year we trained more than 15,000 people. We also work closely with the Department of Education on school safety plans for every public school system in the state. We have become more active in working with other agencies on assessing our infrastructure in our state. That's important in Tennessee when you look at our unique infrastructures such as TVA.

Finally, we felt that identity crimes were a void that local law enforcement was having trouble meeting. In my experience as DA in Memphis, I found that the police department was great at investigating homicides and aggravated robberies, but when it came to identity crimes it was very difficult for them. They didn't have the background or the expertise to do it. We decided to fill that void. It is an outgrowth of our Homeland Security Office, but it also overlaps into driver licenses because in many cases identity theft involves driver licenses. Interestingly, under state law the Highway Patrol has specific jurisdiction to investigate identity theft. It was a great opportunity for us to create a special identity crimes unit composed of Homeland Security officials, state troopers and driver license officials to help law enforcement investigate these types of crimes.