

81ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO CHATTANOOGA, TN SEPT. 18-21



CMFO, Utility Board CPEs offered at TML Conference

Maximizing Your Stimulus Dollars, Retail Trends, Budgeting and Managing your Municipal Debt, America Recovery Act Funds (ARP), and Cybersecurity and Ransomware Attacks are some of the handful of workshop sessions scheduled as part of the Certified Municipal Finance Officers training program planned for the TML Annual Conference.

Slated for Sept. 18-20 in Chattanooga, TML's annual conferences have traditionally featured a strong educational component. A total of 18 concurrent sessions covering a broad range of topics important to cities and towns will be offered as part of our conference lineup. Many workshops qualify for CMFO and Utility Board Training continuing education hours.

Beginning on Saturday, Sept. 18 at 1 p.m., and continuing through to the end of the day on Monday, Sept. 20, CMFOs can receive 8.5 financial hours by attending each designated workshop and the Monday General Session on ARP funding. Utility Board members are eligible to receive 9.5 training hours by attending each designated workshop and both the Sunday and Monday general sessions.

For a complete list of eligible workshops and conference schedule, go to www.TML1.org

The four-day conference will feature top-notch speakers, special events, a bustling exhibit hall, and an awards ceremony. To register, go to www.tml1.org/81st-annual-conference-and-expo

The American Rescue Plan



Updates on American Rescue Plan Act Funds

News on Availability of ARPA funds for Non-Entitlement Cities and Towns

The Interim Rule issued by Treasury, which implements the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), provides that Non-Entitlement Communities receive their share of federal funds directly from the state of Tennessee. As such, those communities with populations of less than 50,000 may not draw down the first of their two-installments until the state has drawn its share from Treasury.

Initially, it was believed that the state could make its draw the first week of August. However, discussion during a recent meeting of the State's Financial Stimulus Accountability Group revealed that the state was unlikely to make its draw until the IRS Rule has been finalized. Accordingly, Non-Entitlements Communities will not be able to draw down the first year's funds until sometime in September. TML will keep you apprised of any developments concerning timing and process.

Update on the "Tennessee Resiliency Plan" – How the State intends to utilize its ARPA funds

Last week, the State of Tennessee's Financial Stimulus Accountability Group (FSAG) met and approved Phase One of the "Tennessee Resiliency Plan," which identifies how almost \$2 billion of the \$4 billion in federal ARPA funds allocated to the state are to be utilized.

Under the approved plan, the state will allocate about \$1.35 billion in grants to support local water or wastewater projects. Such projects will be limited to those intended to address deficiencies (repair/replacement) in existing infrastructure. The state will conduct a needs-based inventory of current water/wastewater infrastructure in each locality across the state.

Once a project has been identified and prioritized based on highest and best use of available funds, the state will work with affected local governments and utilities to jointly manage and fund such projects. A local government will be expected to utilize its own ARPA funds to match state grants for chosen projects. Specific matching require-

**TML Conference
Monday, Sept. 20, Chattanooga
10:15 – 11:45 am**

America Recovery Plan Funding Panelists:

- US Treasury
- TN Comptroller's Office
- Finance and Administration
- Office of the Governor

During the upcoming TML Conference in Chattanooga, a panel of experts will discuss the American Rescue Plan Act as it relates to allowable expenditures, distribution of funds, accounting and reporting requirements, and other issues.

ments will be based on a sliding scale.

The approved plan also calls for utilizing \$500 million of the state's share of ARPA funds to address the more than 400,000 Tennesseans that lack access to broadband. The state intends to commit \$400 million in grants to providers to provide access in unserved locations with preference granted to those area within distressed and at-risk counties. An additional \$100 million will be dedicated to assisting those residing in locations that are served by broadband but that are unable to access the service due to financial considerations.

Finally, the FSAG discussed the outlines of program that offers technical support to local government that is to be offered through the Comptroller and the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration. The program includes three components:

1. Training and education for local officials and staff;
2. Planning support and guidelines; and,
3. Advisory review of the annual plans required under the ARPA rule.

Members of your team at TML are scheduled to meet with Administration to discuss the specifics of the plan outlined above and will provide updates as appropriate.

The FSAG will meet again in September and October to consider the two additional phases of its plan, which involves the utilization of the remainder of its ARPA funds to address economic recovery and public health initiatives.

Tennessee, local governments could share in \$600M from opioid settlement

By KATE COIL
TML Communications Specialist

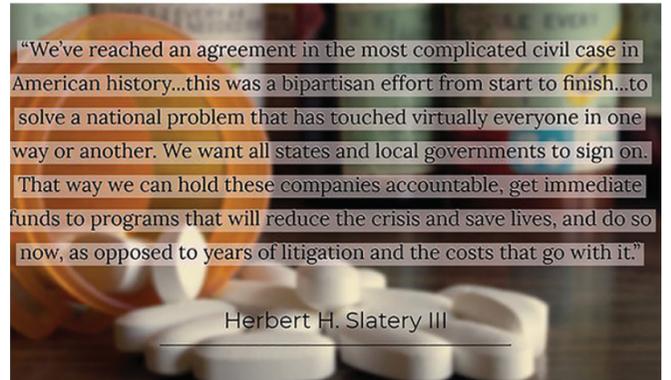
The state of Tennessee could see an estimated \$600 million to fight opioid addiction and abuse as the result of a historic \$26 billion settlement between state and local governments with four major pharmaceutical distributors and manufacturers.

Distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen along with manufacturer Johnson & Johnson settled a suit over their role in creating and fueling the opioid epidemic filed by attorneys general from 14 states including Tennessee.

Tennessee Attorney General Herbert H. Slatery III was one of the lead attorneys on state negotiations in the case.

"We've reached an agreement in the most complicated civil case in American history," Slatery said. "Yes, it took several years. It required a lot of give and take from everyone involved but now we have one. The negotiating states were both red and blue; this was a bipartisan effort from start to finish. We acted on behalf, and at the direction of, a host of other states. Our objective was to solve a national problem that has touched virtually everyone in one way or another."

As result of the settlement, nearly 4,000 lawsuits filed in federal and state courts would be resolved. States have 30 days to



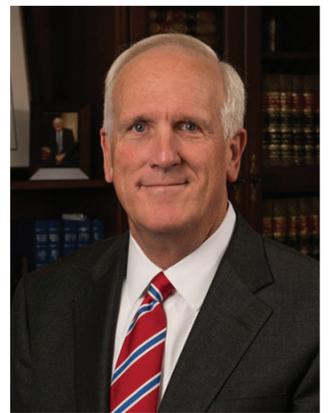
Herbert H. Slatery III

Tennessee Attorney General Herbert Slatery was one of the lead attorneys on negotiations in the recent opioid lawsuit settlement between 14 states and companies Cardinal, McKesson, AmerisourceBergen, and Johnson & Johnson. States will receive funding from based on if the state and local governments sign on in agreement to the settlement.

sign on in agreement to the suit while local governments have 150 days to join. While only 14 states were part of the lawsuit, the suit will benefit all 50 states. In a press conference, Slatery said "north of 40 states" have agreed to join.

The deal's ratification is contingent on a critical mass of states and local governments participating. States and their local governments will receive maximum payments if each state and its local governments join in support of the agreement.

Each state's share of the funding has been determined by agreement among the states using *See OPIOID on Page 5*



Herbert Slatery
Tennessee Attorney General

TBI releases annual Crime in TN report

By KATE COIL

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has released its annual "Crime in Tennessee" report for 2020, which showed a 5% decrease in crime over the past year.

TBI officials believe the pandemic played a role in the decrease in crime reported, especially as workplaces, schools, and other community venues were closed.

The report compiles data submitted to TBI through the Tennessee Incident-Based Reporting System (TIBRS) program, which is an incident-based reporting system designed to collect information on every single crime occurrence and each offense and arrest within the occurrence. TIBRS collects information on 24 crime categories made up of 54 specific offenses (Group A offense).

"The TIBRS program continues to serve as a model for the



The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has released their annual "Crime in Tennessee" report, which indicates a 5% overall decrease in crime between 2019 and 2020. TBI officials believe this may have to do with the pandemic with April - the beginning of the pandemic shut down - being the lowest month for crime on record.

nation and remains successful because of the continued cooperation by Tennessee's law enforcement community," said TBI Director David Rausch. "TBI remains committed to this effort and will continue to provide the training

and technical assistance necessary to collect the most accurate and comprehensive crime statistics for Tennessee and its citizens."

Following the pandemic trend of crime rate decrease, the state *See CRIME on Page 7*

Dickson planning department offers expertise to local TCAT students

By KATE COIL

The city of Dickson's Planning and Zoning Department staff are lending their expertise to the next generation of construction and codes officials.

City staffers have partnered with the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Dickson's Building Construction Technology program to give students hands-on experience in carpentry, brick laying, electrical wiring, plumbing, and the codes requirements that go alongside these professions.

The course is a new one for TCAT Dickson offering students formal instruction and hands-on training in carpentry, block and brick laying, as well as residential electrical wiring and plumbing. Students who successfully complete the 12-month program will earn a carpentry diploma, with the option to continue another eight months to earn an additional general construction diploma. The Dickson program is modeled on the first such TCAT construction program offered at TCAT Clarksville.

Jason Pilkinton, director of



From left to right, Building Construction Technology instructor Mark Nichols, students from TCAT Dickson, and Dickson Director of Planning and Zoning Jason Pilkinton on a job site in the city.

Dickson Planning and Zoning, said the partnership between the city and TCAT Dickson began when a TCAT instructor reached out to the city, asking for a guest speaker.

"Mark Nichols the instructor asked if I could come to speak to the class, and I absolutely jumped at the chance to go meet him, the

students, and learn more about their goals of the class itself," Pilkinton said. "I went and spent a lot of time speaking to them on building codes, zoning, planning commissions, how the city works, how other cities and towns are different, permitting processes, site inspection *See CODES on Page 4*

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BROWNSVILLE

Brownsville officials, citizens, and representatives from the state of Tennessee were on hand to dedicate the newest Tennessee Music Pathways marker in honor of late blues legend Hammie Nixon. A world-renowned blues musician known for his harmonica skills, Nixon was a Brownsville native and immortalized his hometown in songs like "Brownsville Blues" and "Going Back to Brownsville." During his career, he played with fellow West Tennessee natives Sleepy John Estes, Yank Rachell, Son Bonds, Noah Lewis, Hambone Willie Newbern and even hoboed and performed for a while with Jimmie Rodgers, who later became a country recording artist known for his "blue yodels." The dedication of Nixon's marker also kicked off the four-day Brownsville Summer Jamz Music Fest.

BULLS GAP

Barrette Outdoor Living will expand its operations in Bulls Gap, investing \$33 million and creating 162 jobs. With a workforce of more than 700 employees, Barrette Outdoor Living is one of the area's largest employers and has been located in Bulls Gap since 2001. Barrette will add 40,000 square feet of manufacturing space, including four new extruders, co-extruders and cooling tanks as well as additional fabrication and packaging equipment. Barrette was founded nearly 100 years ago in Canada and employs approximately 2,000 people today across North America. As the leading North American supplier of exterior home products to the residential market, Barrette Outdoor Living manufactures and distributes vinyl, aluminum, steel, and composite fencing and railing, composite decking and other outdoor products.

FRANKLIN

Integrated Biometric Technology, LLC (IBT) will establish new operations and locate its corporate headquarters to Franklin, creating 142 jobs and investing \$2.3 million. IBT specializes in biometric technologies for identity authentication, identity management and criminal history background checks through the FBI. IBT was originally founded in 1999 as an alternative to the traditional fingerprinting methods. After 9/11, IBT partnered with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to implement biometric enrollment and state criminal history checks. Twenty years later, IBT is focused on bringing the next evolution of biometric enrollment technology to the public with reliable, easy-to-use biometric enrollment, while working to develop new enrollment delivery models for consumer market and government marketplace.

FRANKLIN

Kaiser Aluminum will relocate its corporate headquarters from Foothill Ranch, Calif. to Franklin, investing approximately \$3 million and creating 80 jobs. Kaiser Aluminum, a \$1.8 billion, publicly traded corporation, is a leading producer of semi-fabricated specialty aluminum products, serving customers worldwide with highly engineered solutions for aerospace and high-strength, packaging, general engineering, custom automotive and other industrial applications. The company will transition and expand corporate functions to its new office space located at 1550 West McEwen Drive in Frank-

lin. Kaiser Aluminum employs approximately 3,700 people and operates 14 production facilities across North America. Engineers, metallurgists and technicians work collaboratively to produce complex flat-rolled (plate, sheet and coil), extruded (rod, bar, hollows and shapes), drawn (rod, bar, pipe, tube and wire) and certain cast aluminum products. In addition, the company has dedicated research and development Centers for Excellence focused on product performance, enhancement and process elimination.

GALLATIN

The city of Gallatin has been awarded a \$950,000 Multimodal Access Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation to construct a greenway along Nashville Pike in front of Volunteer State Community College. The city will provide \$50,000 in matching funds for the project. The 12-foot-wide section of the greenway will extend a half-mile to an existing project near Gap Boulevard. The greenway will eventually connect to Gallatin and Hendersonville as part of a larger greenway project.

KINGSPORT

The city of Kingsport has received a 2021 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Natural Resources for the completion of the Kingsport Greenbelt Master Plan. A project that began in the 1980s, the Kingsport Greenbelt provides more than 10 miles of linear park that connects residential areas, traditional parks, downtown Kingsport, commercial areas, historical landmarks, schools and community centers. Providing transportation links, waterway access, environmental enhancement, ecosystem protection, and recreational opportunities, the project has leveraged \$7 million in investments from community donations, private sector partners and 35 state and federal grants.

MEMPHIS

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis has announced a \$94.5 million expansion, the largest since the hospital opened in 2010. A four-story addition will allow the nationally-recognized children's hospital to enlarge its cardiovascular and neonatal floors as well as its surgery recovery area and main floor. The hospital will add an additional 14 beds to its neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and 10 beds to the cardiovascular ICU. The plans call for 128,575 square feet of construction and renovation with the west side of the hospital extended to the sidewalk at Dunlap Street between Poplar and Washington avenues. This expansion will allow the hospital to create an 11-bed step-down cardiac unit. A new MRI-guided catheterization lab will also be added.

MEMPHIS

The city of Memphis has been named one of *Time* magazine's World's Greatest Places to travel for 2021. With attractions like Graceland, the historic South Main Arts District, Memphis Central Station, and Beale Street, the city won high accolades for its food, culture, and history. Memphis was one of only 17 U.S. cities and 20 U.S. locations on the list of 100 places and ranks on the list alongside global destinations including Athens, Greece; Bangkok, Thailand; Berlin, Germany; Cairo, Egypt; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Jaipur, India; Marrakech, Morocco; Osaka, Japan; Paris, France; Sydney, Australia; and Zurich, Switzerland.

MT. JULIET

Chewy, Inc., will establish a new regional e-commerce fulfillment center in Mt. Juliet, creating 1,200 new jobs. Chewy, Inc., a trusted destination for pet parents and partners, will have its new facility located at Couchville Pike and Maddox Road in Mt. Juliet, which is projected to open in fall 2022. Founded in 2011 and dually headquartered in Dania Beach, Fla., and Boston, Mass., Chewy is a leading innovator in pet e-commerce, offering pet parents a broad selection of more than 2,000 of the best and most trusted brands, including pet products, supplies and prescriptions.

Bartlett cuts ribbon on pickleball court



Bartlett Mayor A. Keith McDonald, CAO Mark Brown, Alderman Kevin Quinn, Shelby County Commissioner Mick Wright, Parks Director Shan Criswell, Assistant Parks Director Paul Wright, park employees, and pickleball players cut the ribbon to the new outside pickleball courts located in Shadowlawn Park in Bartlett. Pickleball is becoming one of the fastest growing sports in the area and these six outdoor courts have already seen a lot of players.

NASHVILLE

The city of Nashville has received a 2021 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award Winner for Pursuit of Excellence. Metro Nashville was recognized for its national leadership in renewable energy for the city's new solar array, its 12 rooftop solar installations, and work to cut greenhouse gas emissions while still building community infrastructure. In the pursuit of excellence, Nashville has also conducted two citywide greenhouse gas emissions inventories, hosted the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network annual conference, created outreach programs that have meaningfully engaged more than 3,000 residents, and shepherded a historic investment to build 100MW of solar to offset city energy use.

NASHVILLE

Smart USA Co. will locate its U.S. headquarters to Nashville, creating 128 jobs and investing \$2.2 million in the next five years. The London-based retirement technology company is the U.S. division of Smart Pension Ltd., one of the world's fastest growing retirement technology businesses. Founded in 2014, Smart has more than 70,000 retirement plans on its platform throughout the U.K., Ireland, Dubai and Australia. Smart USA's offices in Cummins Station will support its new venture into the U.S. retirement services industry.

OAK RIDGE

Kairos Power will establish a low-power demonstration reactor in Oak Ridge, investing \$100 million and creating 55 jobs. The privately funded, advanced nuclear engineering company will deploy a low-power demonstration reactor at the East Tennessee Technology Park in Oak Ridge. Kairos Power's low-power demonstration reactor, called Hermes, will demonstrate the company's capability to deliver low-cost nuclear heat. The Hermes reactor is a scaled version of Kairos Power's Fluoride Salt-Cooled High Temperature Reactor (KP-FHR), an advanced reactor technology that aims to be cost competitive with natural gas in the U.S. electricity market in order to provide carbon-free, affordable and safe energy. The project will be a redevelopment of a site at the Heritage Center, a former U.S. Department of Energy site complex. Scheduled to be operational in 2026, the Hermes reactor will move forward Kairos Power's iterative development process from prototype toward commercial scale by demonstrating complete nuclear systems, advancing Kairos Power's manufacturing capabilities for critical components, testing the supply chain and facilitating licensing certainty for the KP-FHR.

SMYRNA

Vi-Jon officials announced they will expand their operations in Smyrna, investing \$45 million and creating 64 jobs. Vi-Jon will expand its operations at 1 Swan Drive in Smyrna, where the company currently employs more than 600 people. Vi-Jon produces personal care products including mouthwash, soap, hand sanitizer, first aid, baby care and hair care. In addition, Vi-Jon markets and manufactures the second largest national brand of hand sanitizer under the Germ-X label. With more than 140 years of collective R&D experience, Vi-Jon is the nation's oldest private label manufacturer in the health and beauty sector. Between its Tennessee and Missouri operations, Vi-Jon has the capacity to manufacture more than three million bottles of products daily.

Memphis unveils statue honoring former city resident Ida B. Wells



Photo by Ariel Cobbert/Commerical Appeal

Relatives of activist, journalist, and teacher Ida B. Wells gather at the new statue honoring the former Memphis resident near her former newspaper offices on Beale Street. Wells' famous anti-lynching campaign began when she was working as a journalist in the city in 1892. In addition to her civil rights advocacy, Wells also became a prominent women's suffrage activist.

Loudon Fire Department holds wet down ceremony for new truck



Members of the Loudon Fire Department push the city's newest fire truck into its bay following a wetdown ceremony for the apparatus. The new truck is a 2021 Pierce Arrow XT with a 750 gallon water tank capacity and a 1750 gallons per minute pump. Loudon Vice Mayor Tim Dixon, Mayor Jeff Harris, and Harris' grandson all participated in the ceremony to welcome the new truck to the city.

Brownsville dedicates new family justice center



The city of Brownsville recently opened the city's new 1 Safe Place Family Justice Center, which is being dedicated in honor of Brownsville Police Chief Barry Diebold. Brownsville Mayor Bill Rawls, left, thanked Chief Diebold, right, for his 23 years of service to the community. Public safety workers, stakeholders, and community members donated times, materials, and talents to create the new family justice center, which will serve as a safe place for victims of abuse.

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY

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TML, TMBF continue city visits



Pictured in Henderson are Wade Morrell, TMBF CEO and president; Henderson City Recorder Jim Garland; Anthony Haynes, TML executive director; Henderson Mayor Bobby King; Joe Barker, South-west Development Director executive director; and Henderson Alderman Keith Smith.



Pictured in Parsons are Morrell, Parsons Mayor Tim Boaz, and Haynes.



Pictured in Three Way are Haynes, Three Way Mayor Larry Sanders, Alderman Mary Ann Tremblay, and Morrell.



Pictured in Tullahoma are Haynes and Tullahoma Mayor Ray Knowis.



Pictured above in Decaturville are Haynes, City Recorder Lindsey Montgomery, Public Works Director Chad Keeton, Alderman Jay England, and Morrell.



At right: Haynes and Morrell stopped in Scotts Hill and met with members of the city staff.

Safety Partners Grant
Application Window: June 28th – August 20th
Applications will be considered in the order they are received

Visit www.pepartners.org
 for more information

PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS



PEOPLE



Matt Austin has been selected as the new police chief of the Bristol Police Department. Austin has 30 years of experience in law enforcement and first joined the department in 1991. During his career, he has served in numerous capacities including as a narcotics investigator, school resource officer, patrol captain and SWAT team leader. He advanced through the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and most recently to the rank of major where, since 2013, he has overseen the department's Operations Bureau, comprised of the Patrol and Criminal Investigations Divisions. Austin has served as interim chief since June following the retirement of long-time Chief Blaine Wade.



Matt Austin

He is also a graduate of the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University and FBI-LEEDA Trilogy. He also serves as a guest instructor at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy. During his tenure, Chief Davis has also been involved in the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Officers Association, Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition of Tennessee, and Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police.

Cecilia "C.H."

Harwell, councilman for the city of Lewisburg, died Sunday, July 24, 2021, at the age of 78 due to multiple health conditions. Harwell has been on the Lewisburg City Council, serving the city's Ward 3, since 2017 and has also served on the city's cemetery board, historic zoning commission, and Tree City board. Harwell was retired as a warehouse supervisor at Peterbilt Motors.



C.H. Harwell

Ginger

Hausser has been selected as the senior advisor for intergovernmental affairs to Nashville Mayor John Cooper. Hausser will lead state and federal government relations, as well as support fellow senior advisor Mike Jameson in his work with Metro Council, in order to move the mayor's policy priorities forward. She brings nearly 30 years of community building experience to the mayor's staff, including serving at Nashville State Community College, as director of external and legislative affairs for the Tennessee Board of Regents, and at Tennessee State University. Hausser is immediate past chair of the Metro Nashville Industrial Development Board, having served as a member since 2011, and served as a Metro Nashville Councilmember for District 18 from 1999 until 2007. Hausser holds a master's degree in public policy and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she served as a Patricia Roberts Fellow of Public Policy.



Ginger Hausser

Tony Parker has announced his retirement as Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Correc-

tion after 38 years of dedicated service to the state. Parker began his career as a correctional officer and rose through the ranks to serve as a warden, correctional administrator, and assistant commissioner among other roles. At the time Parker served as warden, he was the youngest warden in the TDOC. He was appointed commissioner of the department first by former Gov. Bill Haslam in 2016 and again by Gov. Bill Lee in 2019. As commissioner he has led the agency's more than 6,000 employees, supervision of more than 20,000 incarcerated individuals and 70,000 people on community supervision. Parker also served as president of the American Correctional Association. Parker holds an associates degree in criminal justice from Dyersburg State Community College, a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and a master's degree in security studies with an emphasis in homeland security from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, Calif.



Tony Parker

Caleb

Potter has been selected as the new code enforcement officer for the city of Brownsville. A graduate of Haywood High School, Potter received his post-secondary education at Jackson State Community College and Middle Tennessee State University. Potter will focus on enforcement of the city's codes and ordinances in his new position.



Caleb Potter

Richard

Shasteen, chief of the Tullahoma Fire Department, has retired after more than 33 years of service. Shasteen first joined the Tullahoma Fire Department in 1986 as a part-time employee. Two years later, he became a full-time employee at the department and worked his way up the career ladder to serve as a lieutenant in 1996, captain in 1999, and finally fire chief in 2007.



Richard Shasteen

Oscar Brock has been selected by Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly to serve in the newly created role as the city's director of intergovernmental relations. The new position is part of Mayor Kelly's efforts to forge stronger ties with neighboring municipalities, Hamilton County leadership, and cities and counties throughout Southeast Tennessee. Brock is a realtor and has served as a managing partner of several real-estate management companies. He is also one of the Tennessee Republican Party's two national committee members. Brock is the son of the late U.S. Sen. Bill Brock.



Oscar Brock

Burrell

"Chip" Davis has been selected as the new chief of police for the city of La Vergne. Davis has 22 years of law enforcement experience, 17 of which he spent at the La Vergne Police Department. He has also served as the interim chief of the La Vergne Police Department since October. Before that, Davis served as the sergeant over training and planning for LPD since 2007. Davis holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a master's degree both from Bethel University.



Chip Davis

Dickson planning department offers expertise to local TCAT students

CODES from Page 1

tions, stormwater, and more. I took two examples of our files: a normal regular housing building permit file and a commercial building permit file. I talked through each one and what goes into a project from start to finish."

After the success of the first visit, it was arranged for Dickson planning officials to host a field trip for TCAT students.

"I took them on a small field trip to a new project: McAllister's Deli on Highway 46 South," Pilkinton said. "We walked the site on an actual inspection, and I was able to show them what I had gone over in class, what we look at and how the project comes together. That project is in the framing stage, probably like 70% complete. I had them take notes and observations."

Pilkinton then returned to the class to answer follow-up questions about the site visits and plans to take students back to watch a final inspection of the site before it opens.

He said the partnership with TCAT Dickson is an extension of education partnerships the department already has with local schools.

"I work with Dickson and Creek Wood High Schools with their work base learning class," Pilkinton said. "I have had students come here as an intern and shadow my staff on what we do and I show them how the office generally runs. I also talk to them about the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals and ask them to visit at



least one meeting of both boards."

Pilkinton said he hopes that the city's knowledge can help benefit the next generation of construction officials.

"I think a little insight from us at the city will help these students have a little more knowledge of how the system works on the inside," he said. "I am super excited to see how it helps them in the future. As they learn more and hopefully move into whatever field of work they choose, they will have some knowledge of what to ask for when they go into a community to build. All towns work a little different, but knowing to go into those cities and ask the right questions to the right people I think is a huge advantage to them."

With trade work in high demand, Pilkinton said he thinks it is important to support TCAT programs.

"There are plenty of opportunities to learn and make a good living here and around Tennessee with all necessary trade work," he said. "The list is long on how many types of trades are in demand, and

anything we can do to spark that interest helps that cause. The local schools do a great job with several trade programs, so this is one more option that maybe a student didn't think about or even know about."

Pilkinton said the municipal codes and planning industry can also benefit from students who have been through programs like the ones offered through TCAT.

"On the code side, we have a huge shortage in the code world with inspectors," he said. "Most are older and getting close to retirement, and the young generation is not getting into the inspection side of construction. More and more young people are needed to learn construction, welding, concrete, all those types of trades. It's no different with building code inspectors. As we continue to grow, we will need more people to help ensure these projects are built according to codes and approved plans, which is extremely important. Inspectors have a hard job behind the scenes. They get these projects through the planning process, off the ground, and oversee it until its 100% complete and approved."

Bolivar Mayor named to EPA local gov committee

The Tennessee Municipal League is pleased to announce that Bolivar Mayor Julian McTizic, has been appointed by EPA Administrator Michael Regan to serve as a member of the agency's Local Government Advisory Committee, and to also serve as vice chair of its small community subcommittee. EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee is a formal advisory committee that advises the EPA Administrator on critical environmental issues impacting local governments.

On April 7, TML sent a letter of recommendation to Administrator Regan recommending McTizic for the appointment. "Mayor McTizic will bring a perspective shared by many towns and cities across this state and nation to the agency's top decision making in Washington," said TML Executive Director Anthony Haynes. "We congratulate him and applaud his appointment."

Mayor McTizic has served as mayor since 2017, and was re-elected to his second term in May 2021. He has spearheaded a number of projects since taking office, including working with the University of Tennessee in establishing the Water Education Training Center. The Center will provide education and outdoor simulations for public officials of the proper installation of various drainage and transportation structures.

In addition to his EPA appointment, he was recently named West Tennessee Coordinator of the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC) and will help TREEDC transform more West Tennessee communities into sustainable communities that create new jobs and economic development in the region. In 2019, Mayor McTizic was given the TREEDC Community Champion Award for Bolivar's downtown LED Lighting project. This award is given annually to a Tennessee mayor who best serves his or her community through the advocacy and advancement of renewable energy and economic development.



Julian McTizic
Bolivar Mayor

Other community projects since taking office include establishing an arboretum and a community garden in one of the local parks, recruiting several businesses to the area, and redesigning the city website to be more user friendly. City council meetings are now streamed live via social media. In addition, he streamlined the city's sanitation collection process, established local jobs fairs, and encouraged community-based policing programs and initiatives to strengthen relationships between the local police department and the neighborhoods they protect.

Prior to becoming mayor, he served as a city councilman for four years. He is an active member of various local civic groups, including the Bolivar Chapter of Rotary International, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Joint Economic and Community Development Board. He also serves on the Executive Board of the Southwest Tennessee Development District, a state government agency aimed at promoting rural/urban renewal and revitalization. McTizic is also a Certified Economic Developer credentialed by the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

His awards include the African American Emerging Leader Award, the 2018 Rising Phoenix Award, and the TN State NAACP Race Relations Trailblazer Award.

His expertise and determination will certainly be valuable to the EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee.

Wanamaker selected to lead UT's Howard Baker Center

Marianne Wanamaker, associate professor of economics at the University of Tennessee Knoxville, has been appointed executive director of the university's Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy.

She takes over from former executive director Matt Murray, who announced his retirement in March.

A native of Martin, Wanamaker joined the UT Haslam College of Business in 2009. Wanamaker recently served for a year on the White House Council of Economic Advisers, first as senior labor economist and then as chief domestic economist. She was responsible for the administration's economic analysis of labor, education, workforce, immigration, health care, environmental, and tax policy.

She serves as a U.S. member of the Global Partnership for Artificial Intelligence, an international effort to promote research and cooperation on responsible



Marianne Wanamaker

AI adoption; a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and a research fellow at the Institute for Labor Economics in Bonn, Germany, and at Stellenbosch University in South Africa.

She is a 2001 graduate of Vanderbilt University with degrees in mathematics and economics, and earned her master's and doctorate in economics from Northwestern University in 2004 and 2009, respectively.

Mt. Juliet makes local student mayor for a day



Mt. Juliet Mayor James Maness, left, sits with honorary Mt. Juliet Mayor Alden Shade during a Mt. Juliet Commission Meeting. Shade was declared mayor for a day to honor his positive impact on Mt. Juliet Middle School and the community at large. Shade earned the nickname "the Mayor of Mt. Juliet Middle School" because of his positive attitude, confidence, and popularity among his peers. The Mt. Juliet Commission also proclaimed Alden Shade Day and presented him with an honorary mayor's hat with the city seal and a city proclamation.

STATE BRIEFS

For the 41st year in a row, the state of Tennessee has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The certificate is awarded for the state's fiscal year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, produced by the Division of Accounts in the Department of Finance and Administration. Annual financial reports dating back to 1997 are available electronically on the state's website. The state's Accounts division maintains a statewide structure and related policies and procedures to allow all branches of government to meet their reporting needs and assists all state agencies in the operations of the state accounting system.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Business Development Division has won the 2021 Agricultural Marketing Excellence Award from the North American Agricultural Marketing Officials (NAAMO) organization this week during their annual meeting in Starkville, Miss. Tennessee's Business Development Division was recognized for their social media strategy to promote Tennessee products during the COVID-19 pandemic. Pick Tennessee Products' social media posts reached more than 2 million people in 2020 through a Do Your Part With Pick TN campaign. This effort was coordinated by TDA Business Consultant Will Freeman, who presented during the NAAMO competition.

Register for P.E. Partners Risk & Insurance Symposium

Aug. 25 - 27 Franklin Marriott Cool Springs

The 2021 Risk & Insurance Symposium will be hosted at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs on Aug. 25 - 27. There is still time to register for this free event, which is open to all Public Entity Partners members and local agents. Sessions offered are designed to improve your risk and insurance knowledge and give participants tangible ideas to implement within their entity.

This year's event is offering timely and informative sessions, such as:

- Addressing Risk Management Issues in Public Transportation
- Behavioral Health and Public Safety
- Case Studies in Human Resources
- Cyber Coverage
- Employees' First Amendment Rights and Employment Actions
- Firefighting Liability and Risk Management
- In Pursuit: Safe Driving Practices
- Police Excessive Use of Force and the Impact of Duty to Intervene Policies
- Social Media: What Your Employees Need to Know
- When Ransomware Affects Your Organization
- Winning the FMLA Race
- Workers' Compensation Overview
- Workplace Safety

Keynote speakers include the inspiring story of Billy Parker who survived a catastrophic work-related injury that resulted in the loss of both his arms. Parker now takes his message of workplace safety around the country to help prevent another accident like his from occurring, along with Rudy Kalis who will present a session titled "Be the Right Person to do the Right Thing."

Several of the sessions have been approved for Certified Munic-

ipal Finance Officer (CMFO) and Utility Commissioner continuing education credit hours. To view the most current agenda with the credit hours listed for each session or to register, visit www.PEPartners.org.

In addition to the sessions listed above, there will be networking opportunities where you can share ideas and experiences with your peers. If you have questions about this event, please contact Heather Hughes at hhughes@PEpartners.org or by calling 615.371.0049.

June revenues \$372.3M over estimate

Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Commissioner Butch Eley announced that revenues for June were \$1.9 billion, which is \$372.3 million more than the budgeted monthly revenue estimate.

State tax revenues were \$321.1 million more than June 2020 and the overall growth rate was 20.92 percent.

"June collections in the sales tax and corporate taxes, which are the franchise and excise taxes, continue to reflect extraordinary increases compared to this time last year when economic activity was weakened because of the pandemic," Eley said. "When comparing June 2021 tax growth to June 2019, the monthly growth is 18.61 percent.

"Growth from sales and use tax revenues, reflecting taxable sales activity from the month of May, were supported by a return of consumer spending, heightened inflationary costs and sustained increases from online and remote retail activity. Corporate tax collections also surpassed the month's budget estimate with year-to-date corporate tax growth now surpassing a billion dollars. All other tax revenues, taken together, were lower than June 2020 primarily because of monthly tax filing shifts that occurred last year.

"With one month of revenue reporting remaining in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the state will outperform the revenue estimates set for the year and should put the state in a good position to fund the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Neverthe-

less, we remain steadfast in our commitment to continue to budget conservatively."

On an accrual basis, June is the eleventh month in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

General fund revenues were more than the budgeted estimates in the amount of \$357.1 million and the four other funds that share in state tax revenues were \$15.2 million more than the estimates.

Sales tax revenues were \$173.2 million more than the estimate for June and were 22.64% more than June 2020. For eleven months, revenues are \$1,656.9 million higher than estimated. The year-to-date growth rate is 14.86%. Remote sales and marketplace facilitator laws contributed \$50.2 million to sales tax receipts for the month and for the year, online sales tax revenues represent 35.27% of all sales tax growth to the state.

Franchise and excise tax revenues combined were \$193.4 million greater than the budgeted estimate in June, and the growth rate compared to June 2020 was 45.06%. For eleven months, revenues are \$1,044.4 million more than the estimate and the year-to-date growth rate is 49.01%.

Gasoline and motor fuel revenues for June increased by 18.38% compared to June 2020, and they were \$5 million more than the budgeted estimate of \$104.8 million. For eleven months, revenues are less than estimates by \$6.1 million.

Motor vehicle registration revenues were \$900,000 more than the June estimate, and on a year-to-date basis, revenues are \$16.4

million more than the estimate.

Tobacco tax revenues were \$1.1 million more than the June budgeted estimate of \$20.3 million. For eleven months, they are \$15.7 million more than the budgeted estimate.

Hall income tax revenues for June were \$200,000 more than the budgeted estimate. August through June, revenues are \$22.3 million less than the budgeted estimate.

Privilege tax revenues were \$2.7 million less than the June estimate, and on a year-to-date basis, August through June, revenues are \$99.1 million more than the estimate.

Business tax revenues were \$1 million more than the June estimate of \$8.9 million. For eleven months, revenues are \$44.2 million more than the budgeted estimate.

Mixed drink, or Liquor-by-the-drink, taxes were \$2.2 million more than the June estimate. For eleven months, revenues are \$21.7 million less than the budgeted estimate.

All other tax revenues were less than estimates by a net of \$2 million.

Year-to-date revenues for ten months were \$2,816.9 million more than the budgeted estimate. The general fund recorded \$2,696.3 million more than the budgeted estimate and the four other funds were \$120.6 million more than estimated.

These estimates are available on the state's website at <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/finance/fa/fa-budget-information/fa-budget-rev.html>.

Tennessee, local governments could share opioid settlement

OPIOIDS from Page 1

a formula that takes into account the impact of the crisis on the state – the number of overdose deaths, the number of residents with substance use disorder, and the volume of opioids prescribed – as well as the population of the state.

"We want all states and local governments to sign on," Slatery said. "That way we can hold these companies accountable, as they should be, get immediate funds to programs that will reduce the crisis and save lives, and do so now, as opposed to years of litigation and the costs that go with it."

In anticipation of this agreement, new legislation recently passed by the Tennessee General Assembly and signed by Gov. Bill Lee provides for the creation of a statewide administration system of abatement funding. The legislation resulted from months of coordination among bill sponsors, stakeholders, and the Tennessee Attorney General's Office.

"We look forward to bringing much-needed dollars home to our states to help people recover from opioid addiction and to fundamentally change the opioid manufacturing and distributing industries so this never happens again," read a joint statement from the state

attorneys general involved in the suit.

As part of the settlement, the three distributors will pay up to \$21 billion over the course of 18 years while Johnson & Johnson will pay up to \$5 billion over a nine-year span with \$3.7 billion paid during the first three years.

The total funding distributed will be determined by the overall degree of participation by both litigating and non-litigating state and local governments. More than two-thirds of the money is required to be spent on opioid treatment and prevention.

Additionally, Johnson & Johnson is prohibited from manufacturing opiates for 10 years, cease lobbying activity related to opioids, not fund or provide grants to third parties for promoting opioids, and share clinical trial data.

The distributors must abide by stricter regulation such as providing aggregated data and analytics, eliminate blind spots in current systems, use data-driven systems to detect suspicious opioid orders from customer pharmacies, prohibit shipping and report suspicious opioid orders, and require senior corporate officials to engage in regular oversight of anti-diversion efforts, among others.

The case is one of several ongoing lawsuits between governments and opioid manufacturers and distributors. The state of Tennessee could get part of a \$4.5 billion settlement as part of Purdue Pharma's bankruptcy case, of which all but nine states are presently involved.

In February, the state of Tennessee was one of 47 states that settled a suit with consulting firm McKinsey & Company for more than \$573 million for the company's role in helping opioid companies promote their drugs and profit from the opioid epidemic. The state of Tennessee will receive more than \$15.2 million from that settlement.

On the heels of the announcement that the state had reached a settlement, a settlement has also been reached in the "Sullivan Baby Doe" suit between several Northwest Tennessee counties and an unnamed baby born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) after the sole remaining defendant in the case – Endo Health Solutions, Inc., and Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc. – agreed to a \$35 million settlement.

Jury selection was slated to begin with the suit, brought by several Northwest Tennessee at-

torneys general. After legal fees are taken out, the \$35 million settlement will be shared among the counties involved who will then work with municipalities within those counties to disburse settlement funds.

Additionally, Sullivan County Chancellor E.G. Moody ordered additional sanctions against Endo and their attorneys Arnold and Porter, including apologizing to the plaintiffs and the court about refusals to admit wrongdoing and making false statements during the discovery process of the case, pay the plaintiff's attorneys fees, and for the law firm Arnold and Porter to create an ethics program that must be outlined to the court.

Tennessee and the nation saw a record rate of drug overdose deaths in 2020 with more than 3,000 people dying in Tennessee. Fatal overdoses, most of which involved fentanyl or similar synthetic opioids, rose more than 44% in 2020, according to new data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Opioids have been directly linked to more than 500,000 deaths in the U.S. since 2000 and are a contributing factor to the decline in life expectancy for all Americans.

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Pulaski recently closed on a \$12 million fixed rate loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund (TMBF) for water system improvements. The city has used the TMBF various loan programs 10 times since 1991. The latest loan was with First National Bank in Pulaski. Seated are: Mayor Patrick Ford and Tracy Porterfield, CFO of First National Bank of Pulaski. Standing are: Terry Harrison, Pulaski city administrator, city recorder, and finance director; and Kevin Krushenski, TMBF marketing representative.



The city of LaFollette recently closed on a \$1.5 million note with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund (TMBF) to finance various public works projects for the city. LaFollette has used TMBF programs 16 times since 1993. Seated L to R: Michael Stanfield, and Stan Foust, city recorder. Standing L to R: Steve Queener, TMBF marketing representative; Terry Sweat, finance director; and Jim Jeffries, city administrator.

See us for your special projects needs.
(615) 255-1561





CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising: \$9.25 per column inch. **No charge to TML members.** Send advertising to: Carole Graves: cgraves@TML1.org.

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

SPRINGFIELD. The city of Springfield is accepting applications for an accounting supervisor with Springfield Finance Department. Deadline to apply is Aug. 27. Essential responsibilities include coordination and supervision of accounting staff to ensure the timely production of accurate monthly and annual financial reports as well as timely billing and collection for utility bills, property taxes, and other sources of city funding. Perform difficult professional work in the maintenance and preparation of complex financial records for all funds, general and proprietary. Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in accounting or related field and a minimum of three to five years of accounting and supervisory experience; experience in municipal and utilities accounting preferred; or a combination of education and experience and training equivalent to the required knowledge and abilities. Must possess Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) designation or obtain within 24 months of hire date. Applications can be submitted online at the following website: www.springfieldtn.gov. Salary: \$58,585 - \$80,608/YR. City of Springfield personnel department, 405 North Main Street, P.O. Box 788, Springfield, TN 37172. EOE.

ASSOCIATE PLANNER

SPRING HILL. The city of Spring Hill is seeking a new associate planner. Under supervision of the planning director, the associate planner performs mid-level planning work in the planning department. Work includes the technical review of planning applications and the preparation and presentation of staff reports to the planning commission, board of zoning appeals, and the board of mayor and alderman as needed. Work may involve the collection and analysis of data, interpretation of codes, and other work as assigned. Bachelor's degree in city, regional, or urban planning or in a closely related field, such as landscape architecture or urban design is required. A minimum of two years' experience in a municipal planning agency is required; five years' experience is preferred. The city of Spring Hill offers an extensive and generous employee benefit package, which includes a 100% Employer paid medical coverage option for the entire family, optional vision insurance, employer paid dental insurance for the employee with the option to purchase family coverage, Flexible Spending Account, Employer paid Life, AD&D and LTD Insurance, as well as voluntary life and STD. TCRS Pension. Submit applications/resumes online at: www.springhilltn.org/Jobs.aspx Questions to staylor@springhilltn.org. No phone calls please. Applications will be considered on basis of qualifications, experience, and suitability for position without regards to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. EEO/AA/Title VI Employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

AQUATICS COORDINATOR

SHELBYVILLE. The city of Shelbyville is accepting applications for the position of full-time Aquatics Coordinator for the Recreation Center. Applicants must have Lifeguard Training, First Aid, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuer certifications. Water Safety Instructor (WSI) and Lifeguard Training Instructor certification preferred. Experience in aquatics programs with responsibility in supervisory, maintenance and pool chemistry capacity. Must possess a valid Tennessee operator's license, high school diploma or GED equivalent. This is a full-time position with an hourly rate of \$18.15. The City provides a comprehensive benefits package. Applications and a copy of job description may be picked up at city hall during normal business hours or download from the City website: www.shelbyvilletn.org. Applications must be returned to City Hall Administration Office, 201 N. Spring Street or emailed to stacey.claxton@shelbyvilletn.org and will be accepted until position is filled. EOE/ drug free workplace. Successful applicants required to pass background check, physical and drug screen.

BUILDING INSPECTOR I, II, III

HENDERSONVILLE The city of Hendersonville is accepting application materials for Building Inspector I, II, III in our Building and Codes Department. **MINIMUM CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Building Inspector I: 1-3, certifications, Building Inspector II: 4-7 certifications, Building Inspector III: 8 or more. Although pay rates may be negotiated depending on qualifications and work experience, below is the annual salary range for each position: • Building Inspector I (pay grade 16): \$47,060 - \$71,604 • Building Inspector II (pay grade 17): \$49,435 - \$75,232 • Building Inspector III (pay grade 18): \$51,940 - \$79,040. Complete the City of Hendersonville Job Application and submit along with other required information to the Human Resources Department at Hendersonville City Hall. You can find the application at <http://www.hvilletn.org> and view the Human Resources page or come by City Hall and pick them up. Other required information includes a Resume, a Cover Letter highlighted your work experience relevant to this position, a copy of your college transcript(s) and any relevant certifications you currently obtain in your application packet. Return or email your completed application packet to the Personnel Department at personnel@hvilletn.org or at the following address: Hendersonville City Hall Attn: Personnel Department 101 Maple Drive North Hendersonville, TN 3707. This recruitment is open until position is filled.

CITY ENGINEER

PORTLAND. The city of Portland is accepting applications for the position of fulltime city engineer. Under the direction of the utilities director, the city engineer is responsible for providing highly skilled engineering services to the city on a wide variety of projects. This is a professional position requiring an individual who is capable of exercising independent judgment and who possesses the educational and relevant experience as

relates to civil engineering principles. This position provides engineering services for all city departments primarily the utilities and public works departments; provides as-needed technical assistance to planning/codes; and may interface with other city departments regarding engineering needs. Position will function as the assistant to the utilities director, and may be delegated to make decisions for the department of utilities in the absence of the utilities director. A bachelor's degree in civil engineering or appropriate engineering field required; along with 5+ years of verifiable, acceptable experience in civil engineering, preferably in a municipal environment; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Applicant must be licensed as a professional engineer in the state of Tennessee, or possess comparable PE license with ability to obtain state of Tennessee licensing within city-approved time frame. A complete listing of duties, qualification requirements, work environment and responsibilities; along with applying can be completed online at <https://cityofportlandtn.gov/>; or by submitting a request for application & complete requirements to tkizer@cityofportlandtn.gov. Applications will be accepted until filled. This 'exempt' position is eligible for full benefits and has a salary range of \$59,911 - \$95,702 EOE.

CITY ENGINEER

SPRING HILL. The city of Spring Hill is seeking to fill the full time, exempt position of city engineer. This employee performs administrative/technical functions to ensure that infrastructure proposed through development plans meets city regulations and to provide general engineering support to the Public Works Department, and other departments. Duties and responsibilities include providing technical expertise in areas of construction problems, floodplain and drainage issues; overseeing new development work; reviewing sewer and water system capacity in conjunction with the system managers; setting bond amounts to ensure city protection from developers' defaults; performing site inspections and estimating project costs; project management; and providing information to the public. This employee also supervises and directs the work of the associate engineer and utility inspectors. Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or related field required, with five to seven years of experience as a professional engineer knowledgeable in general construction, water and sewer system construction, stormwater drainage, roadway construction, estimating, and development plans review; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Valid Tennessee licensure as a Professional Engineer required. The city of Spring Hill offers an extensive and generous employee benefit package, which includes a 100% Employer paid medical coverage option for the entire family, optional vision insurance, employer paid dental insurance for the employee with the option to purchase family coverage, Flexible Spending Account, Employer paid Life, AD&D and LTD Insurance, as well as voluntary life and STD. TCRS Pension. Submit applications/resumes online at: www.springhilltn.org/Jobs.aspx Questions to staylor@springhilltn.org No phone calls please. Applications will be considered on basis of qualifications, experience, and suitability for position without regards to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. EEO/AA/Title VI Employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

CITY MANAGER

ETOWAH. The city of Etowah is seeking applicants for the position of city manager who works under the general direction of the commission. The city manager oversees city operations with an approximately \$4.1 million general fund budget and 40 full-time and 40 part-time or seasonal employees in administration, police, fire, public works, parks and recreation, library, and finance. Etowah (3,490 pop) is a welcoming and vibrant community located at the edge of the Cherokee National Forest, Ocoee River, Hiwassee River, and are proud to host the L & N Hiwassee River Train Excursion at the original L & N Depot. Two schools within the city, a youth athletic program, summer camp at the Community Center, summer reading program hosted by the Etowah Carnegie Library area a few of our many activities. Minimum requirement is a bachelor's degree, with a preferred focus in public administration, management, business administration or closely related field. A minimum of five years of municipal leadership experience as a city manager or manager of a public agency or department with related duties is required. Salary range is \$68,931.20 - \$83,200.00 (DOQ). The city offers a comprehensive benefits package including participation in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS). Interested applicants may apply online on our website under the Employment section at cityofetowahtn.com. Please attach a resume, cover letter and professional references. Initial review of applications will occur in July 2021. Applications are subject to public disclosure. EOE / TN Drug Free Workplace.

CITY MANAGER

JOHNSON CITY. Johnson City, with a

population of approximately 65,000 and a metro population of over 128,000, seeks a confident and dynamic city manager. Applicants should possess a high level of emotional intelligence, advanced interpersonal skills, and a proactive, transparent, collaborative, and "no surprises" management style. Johnson City covers 43-square miles and is the eighth-largest city in Tennessee. Nestled in the foothills of the scenic Appalachian Mountains in Washington County, this thriving urban community has consistently ranked as one of the nation's best and most popular small metro areas boasting an affordable cost of living, no state income tax, and outstanding schools, parks, sports, and fitness facilities. The city is accessible from I-26 and I-81 and is a short drive to access commercial air service at the Tri-Cities Airport. The City of Johnson City operates under a Commission-Manager form of government with a mayor and four city commissioners. The city manager is appointed by the vote of 2/3rds of the city commission, to be selected based on executive and administrative merit. The city manager is the chief executive and administrative officer of the organization and oversees government operations within the guidelines of the city charter; implements policies established by the city commission by enforcing all adopted resolutions and ordinances; and is generally responsible for the day-to-day management of all municipal departments. A master's degree in public administration, or related field, from an accredited college or university augmented by course work in municipal planning, civil engineering, public finance, community development, personnel/labor relations, or other related fields is required. The city seeks candidates with a minimum of 10 years of professional experience as a city or county manager or 10 years of increasingly responsible related municipal experience in a full-service city of similar or larger size and complexity to Johnson City. ICMA-CM and advanced executive leadership training/credentials are strongly desired. Please apply online at <http://bit.ly/SGROpenRecruitments> For more information on this position contact: Doug Thomas, Senior Vice President, SGR, DouglasThomas@GovernmentResource.com, 863-860-9314

DEPUTY TOWN ENGINEER

COLLIERVILLE. This is complex and professional engineering work involving land development projects, capital improvement projects, water, sewer, street, drainage, and public works projects and programs and ensures technical competence and compliance with all current codes and criteria. This position directly reports to the town engineer and works under his general guidance and direction. The incumbent may also perform the duties of the division director in the absence of the town engineer. Requires a bachelor's degree in civil engineering or closely related field; previous experience and/or training that includes civil engineering, environmental/utility engineering, computerized mapping, drafting, project management, research, and data analysis is preferred; and five years of previous professional civil engineering experience; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Must be registered as a Professional Engineer (PE) in the state of Tennessee or possess the ability to obtain license within six months of employment and maintain license throughout employment. Salary DOQ with excellent benefits package. To apply, submit an original Town of Collierville application. Applications are available to download at www.collierville.com under the Employment Opportunities tab, or obtain one from our Human Resources Office located at 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN, 38017, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Position will remain open until filled. EOE..

FINANCE DIRECTOR

BRISTOL. The city of Bristol, TN, with a budget of \$70 million, is seeking a well-rounded professional with proven leadership skills to serve as the director of finance. This position is responsible for planning, directing and supervising the city's financial management, including financial planning and reporting, account practices, revenue collections, cash management and internal controls. Position reports to the city manager. Full understanding of accounting principles, GAAP, GASB, and financial management systems (including Excel) with strong interpersonal, organizational, supervisory, and decision-making skills required. Must be a team player who can work well with other city departments, the city manager, outside agencies and the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, or public administration, or a related field; supplemented by five or more years of progressively responsible work experience in Finance, with demonstrated administrative and management skills; or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. CPA, Master's degree, CMFO, and/or CPFO preferred. The successful candidate can expect a competitive benefits package with an annual salary range of \$68,522 to \$106,210. Salary offered will be dependent on qualifications. To read more about the City of Bristol, TN, the position and to apply, candidates must complete an online application and upload a resume at: <http://bristoltn.org/jobs.aspx>.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

SPRING HILL. The city of Spring Hill is seeking to hire a new finance director under

the general supervision of the city administrator and assistant city administrator. This employee plans and directs the disbursement and accounting of revenues and expenditures for the city. Work involves supervision of the budget, purchasing, accounting, general revenue collections, and payroll operations. This employee must exercise considerable independent judgment and initiative in planning and directing the fiscal control system. Work is performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, established municipal finance procedures, local ordinances and state and federal statutes governing the responsibilities of local government accountants. Work is evaluated through conferences, reports, and by an independent audit of financial records. Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Public Finance or a closely related field; 10+ years of professional finance experience, including 4-6 years of extensive, progressively responsible experience in municipal finance for a similarly sized agency; Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and/or Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) preferred. CMFO designation strongly preferred, or the ability to obtain within 1 year. The city of Spring Hill is an EEO/AA/Title VI Employer. Minorities and Women are encouraged to apply.

FIREFIGHTER-AEMT/PARAMEDIC

COLLIERVILLE. The town of Collierville has 23 immediate openings for the following positions: 11 firefighter-AEMT. and 12 firefighter paramedics. Collierville Fire & Rescue currently has five stations located in Town, and we are looking to expand and better provide for our citizens. Working in the fire service, no two days will ever be the same. We provide amazing benefits including medical, dental, and vision insurance, Town provided life and long-term disability insurance, paid time off, pension, and more. Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED; Firefighter I Certificate (Firefighter II preferred but not required); Advanced EMT License or Paramedic License; Valid Driver's License; Maintain permanent residence east of the Mississippi River no greater than thirty (30) miles from the Town's corporate limits; If a veteran, must possess an "Honorable" discharge from any military service; Must not have been convicted of a felony; Must not have been convicted of a Class A or Class B misdemeanor within 36 months of hire; Must be at least 21 years of age. If this sounds like the perfect job for you, please visit www.colliervilletn.gov and download our Fire Department application, or you can also visit Town Hall and submit a physical application in the Human Resources Department. EOE.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

MCKENZIE. The city of McKenzie is currently accepting applications for a Parks and Recreation Director. The position performs a variety of complex and administrative work in planning, developing, scheduling, directing and implementing a year-round, city-wide parks and recreation program. Desired but not necessary qualifications include graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in parks administration, recreation, education, or physical education including course work in organization and administration, and five years of progressively responsible experience in parks and recreation programs. Salary is based upon experience and qualifications and has a comprehensive benefits package including health insurance, and retirement through the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System, paid time off, and paid sick leave options. Interested candidates must submit a cover letter, resume, at least five job related references and a City of McKenzie job application by 5 p.m. Aug. 6, 2021. The job application and additional information may be found at the city of McKenzie website: www.mckenziezn.org. All materials should be emailed to HR Director, jennifer.waldrup@cityofmckenzie.com or mailed to HR Director, 2470 Cedar Street, McKenzie, TN 38201 Attn: Parks and Recreation Director Position, or brought by McKenzie City Hall, 2470 Cedar Street, McKenzie, TN. Any questions, please call 731-352-2292. Interview times and locations will be set after the application process closes on August 6, 2021. EOE

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

OAKLAND. The town of Oakland is seeking a strong, innovative, engaging, and visionary planning and community development director to oversee the town's planning, zoning, development reviews, and planning initiatives. The town of Oakland is a rapidly growing community; the director of planning and community development will have wide-ranging responsibilities within the town's organization. This position is responsible for the administration, direction, supervision, and operation of the planning and community development department. Minimum Qualifications: graduation from accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in urban planning, architecture, engineering, or public administration required. (Master's degree desired). Five to seven years of increasingly responsible administrative experience involving planning and zoning required. Experience in city or county government desired. Direct department budgetary experience required. American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification preferred. A full job description is available online at www.oaklandtennessee.org This is a full-time salaried exempt posi-

tion with a salary range of \$49,920 - \$62,380 depending upon qualifications and experience. The Town of Oakland is an EOE/Drug Free Workplace employer. Cover letters and resumes should be submitted on or before Wednesday, July 28, 2021. Please submit to: Attention: Town Manager, Town of Oakland, P.O. Box 56, Oakland, TN 38060 or emailed to: jjohnson@oaklandtn.gov

TOWN PLANNER

ARLINGTON. The Town of Arlington is seeking a highly motivated individual for a full-time position at Town Hall. Applicants shall have excellent project management, oral and written communication skills. Applicant must have an a bachelor's degree, master's degree preferred, from an accredited college or university in urban or regional planning, civil engineering, or a closely related field. At least five years of public management and professional planning experience, preferably in a municipality. AICP certification is preferred. Salary Range \$70,000-\$80,000 depending on education and experience. A detailed job description & application are available at Town Hall, 5854 Airline Rd. Arlington, TN or by visiting www.townofarlington.org. The town of Arlington is an EOE.

TOWN RECORDER

JONESBOROUGH. The town is seeking applicants for the position of Town Recorder. This position is the town's authority on all aspects of financial management and requires a comprehensive understanding of city government finance. Director manages the accounting, accounts payable, tax collection, debt service and cash management functions of the town and participates in certain aspects of the payroll process and purchasing. Bachelor of business administration in accounting, finance, or closely related field; Master's degree preferred. Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with governmental accounting practices and experience preferred. The ability to be bonded. Must have an ability to become certified as a city recorder by the state of Tennessee. Five to seven years of progressively responsible managerial positions in accounting and financial management required. Similar experience in the public sector is preferred. Salary is DOQ.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNICIAN

MARYVILLE. The City of Maryville is accepting applications for a Traffic Signal Technician who performs skilled technical work repairing and maintaining traffic control devices and related infrastructure affecting safe traffic flow in Maryville and Alcoa. This position works within the Maryville-Alcoa Central Traffic Operations group to coordinate a centralized communications network of traffic coordination throughout the Cities. Must possess a thorough knowledge of materials, techniques and equipment used in traffic control. Excellent analytical and electric trade skills are required. Must have a strong mathematical aptitude and the ability to read and interpret blueprints, schematics, and applicable State and Federal rules and regulations. A high school diploma or GED and moderate experience working with traffic signals, or equivalent combination of education and experience is required. Starting hourly pay rate is \$20.07 DOE. A complete job description, required application and instructions on how to apply are available on our website www.maryvillegov.com/jobs. Deadline to apply is August 17, 2021.

UTILITY DIRECTOR

SPRING HILL. The city of Spring Hill is accepting applications and resumes for a full-time, exempt utility director. He or she will perform administrative and managerial work in the planning, organizing, and directing of overall operations amongst the water and wastewater treatment plants; and, the water distribution, and sewer collection. This employee must possess the ability to make prudent and independent decisions as they apply to daily activities. The incumbent in this position will supervise assigned employees; coordinate activities between departments, and maintain records and budgets for various projects. The utility director provides substantive and highly complex staff assistance to the city administrator and operates under his or her direct supervision. The employee will perform other related and/or non-specific work as required, some of which will be mechanical. Must possess a bachelor's degree in engineering; Must possess Professional Engineer (P.E.) licensure from the state of Tennessee; Must possess a valid driver's license; 10 years' experience in water or wastewater system maintenance or construction, hydraulic engineering, or civil engineering of which some experience having been in an increasingly responsible administrative or supervisory capacity. The city of Spring Hill offers an extensive and generous employee benefit package, which includes a 100% Employer paid Medical coverage option for the entire family, optional vision insurance, employer paid dental insurance for the employee with the option to purchase family coverage, Flexible Spending Account, Employer paid Life, AD&D and LTD Insurance, as well as voluntary life and STD. TCRS Pension. Submit applications/resumes online at: www.springhilltn.org/Jobs.aspx Questions to staylor@springhilltn.org No phone calls please. Applications will be considered on basis of qualifications, experience, and suitability for position without regards to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. EEO/AA/Title VI Employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

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TBI releases annual TN Crime report for 2020

CRIME *from Page 1*

reported a 7.1% decrease in DUI arrests, a 34.1% decrease in juvenile arrests, and a 27.7% decrease in Group B arrests since 2019. The state also saw a 2.5% decrease since 2019 and a 7% decrease since 2018 in the number of Group A victims with incidents of simple assault decreasing 10.7% since 2018.

In Group A crimes, 39.1% of crimes were cleared by arrest or exceptional means. The state reported a total of 265,115 arrests, including 13,118 juvenile arrests and 84 arrests of individuals of unknown age.

Simple assault was the most reported crime against persons with 73,011 incidents followed by aggravated assault at 37,795 incidents and intimidation at 24,298.

There were also 682 murders, 30 incidents of negligent manslaughter, and 15 incidents of vehicular manslaughter reported. Agencies also reported 2,200 incidents of forcible rape, 451 incidents of forcible sodomy, 220 of sexual assault with an object, 2,239 incidents of forcible fondling, and 408 incidents of statutory rape.

The most reported crimes against property were destruction, damage or vandalism with 47,915 incidents followed by shoplifting at 35,648, and theft from motor vehicles at 33,339 incidents reported. Drug and narcotic violations led the crimes against society category with 49,576 incidents followed by drug and narcotic equipment violations with 31,161 reported incidents, and weapon law violations at 12,827 incidents.

The report found that the majority of Group A crimes were committed between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. with the second-highest time for crime from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the

third-highest between noon and 3 p.m. The least amount of crime was reported between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m.

August was the month with the most offenses reported, slightly trailed by July and then January. April – also the start of many stay-at-home orders toward the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic – had the lowest number of crimes reported followed by March and February. The summer months on average had the highest rate of crime with the number of incidents reported dipping in the fall and winter.

Men accounted for 69.2% of all Group A arrests while women only accounted for 30.8%. Arrestees who identified as white or Caucasian made up 66% - roughly two-thirds – of all Group A offenders while 33% identified as black or African-American. The lowest number of arrestees were of Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander heritage followed by Native American or Alaskan Native individuals.

Female victims accounted for 52.9% of all victims while males accounted for 46.8%. Echoing the age groups most frequently arrested, victims of Group A crimes were most likely to be between the ages of 25 and 34 – roughly 25% of all victims – followed by those between the ages of 35 and 44, accounting for 19.1% of all victims.

The most frequently arrested age group were individuals between the age of 25 and 34, accounting for 31.7% of arrestees. This age group has been the most frequently arrested group for the past four years. The second most frequent arrested group were those between the ages of 35 and 44, making up 22.9% of all arrestees. Juvenile arrests made up only 6.8% of all Group A arrestees while the lowest number of arrestees were those age 65 and older at only 1,515 arrestees. The age of offenders begins to trend upward, peaking at the 25-34 age group, and then trends downward as age progresses.

Likewise, victim ages trend upward to peak at 25 to 34 and then trend downward as age progresses.

Similarly, the majority of victims of Group A offenses identified as white or Caucasian (61.8%) followed by victims who identified as black or African-American (35.9%)

A total of 69,665 crimes were reported involving victims of domestic violence in 2020. Domestic violence was involved in 47,958 simple assaults, 11,149 aggravated assaults, and 8,492 incidents of intimidation. Domestic violence was also a factor in 94 murders, 653 rapes, 31 cases of incest, and 1,428 cases of kidnapping or abduction.

Women remained the majority victims of domestic violence at nearly 50,000 incidents while nearly 20,000 incidents of domestic violence against men were also reported. Just like in general Group A offenses, those between the ages of 25 and 34 were most likely to be victims of domestic violence followed by those between the ages of 35 and 44. The ages of domestic violence victims' trend upward to the 24 to 35 age range and then down again as age progresses.

The highest number of domestic violence reports involved relationships identified as "boyfriend/girlfriend" followed by those who identified their relationship as "spouse." For the third year in a row, simple assault was the highest reported domestic violence-related crime.

TBI discourages the use of the annual crime report to rank jurisdictions because data does not include population, urbanization, police per capita, economic conditions, modes of transportation, cultural conditions, family conditions, climate, and other factors that contribute to crime and enforcement.

All law enforcement agencies as well as colleges and universities are mandated under state law to report crime statistics monthly to TBI. At the time of the report's release, all agencies were in compliance with reporting requirements.

For the full report, visit <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tbi/documents/000%20Crime%20in%20Tennessee%202020.pdf>

NATIONAL BRIEFS

The home sales boom created by the pandemic has busted with home sales dropping to the lowest levels since April 2020. The U.S. Census Bureau said sales of new single-family homes fell 6.6% in June from May and 19.4% from this same time last year. The median price of a newly built home in June was also 6% higher than those sold in June 2020. The inventory of new homes for sale also increased from a 5.5 month supply in May to a 6.3 month supply in June. After a year of buying and price gains, newly built homes are once again financially out of reach for most of those seeking housing. Skyrocketing costs mean builders cannot turn a profit by constructing homes with the financial reach of the majority of home seekers. Shortages of lumber, appliances, labor, and afford-

able lots are all contributing to construction costs, and while there is a large demand from buyers, there is a significant disconnect between what is affordable for buyers and the cost of housing stock.

The U.S. economy grew at an annual rate of 6.5% during the last quarter, a sign that vaccinations and government aid are helping sustain recovery from the recession created by the pandemic. The total size of the economy has now surpassed its pre-pandemic level and the U.S. Department of Commerce reported the GDP accelerated in the second quarter. The gains were less than initially predicted due to supply chain slowdowns, which subtracted 1.1% from annual growth rates. Consumer spending – the main fuel of the economy – was more robust, growing at an annual rate of 11.8%. Spending on goods grew at a rate of 11.6% and spending on services like restaurants and travel grew at a pace of 12%.

U.S. manufacturing activity grew for the second straight month in July, but at a slower rate as raw material shortages and supply-chain bottlenecks continued.

A survey from the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) said prices paid by manufacturers fell by the most in 16 months while supplier deliveries decreased from the 47-year high reported in May. While supply-and-demand dynamics appear to be moving closer to equilibrium for the first time in months, the ISM's index of national factory activity fell to 59.5 last month, the lowest reading since January, from 60.6 in June. A reading above 50 indicates expansion in manufacturing, which accounts for 11.9% of the U.S. economy. Nearly all manufacturing industries reported growth in July with only textile mills reporting a decline. Factories also reported hiring more workers in July, the highest number since November of last year.



Aug. 11-17: Memphis Elvis Week 2021

Graceland celebrates the music, movies, and legacy of the King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley. Featuring a 50th anniversary concert, contests, exclusive tours, and more. For more info, visit <https://www.graceland.com/>

Aug. 13-14: Shelbyville MaupinFest

MaupinFest celebrates the old-time dance and music heritage of Thomas Maupin, a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellow. Features the National Old-Time Buck Dancing Championship, a variety show, music, old-time workshops, and more. For info, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/maupinfest/home>

Aug. 21: Ardmore

Ardmore Crape Myrtle Festival
Come to John Barnes Park in Ardmore for vendors, food, music, arts, crafts, and fun. For more info, visit <https://greaterardmorechamber.com/crape-myrtle-festival/>

Aug. 21: Townsend

Great Smoky Mountains Hot Air Balloon Festival

Join us for a summertime spectacle when professional balloonists light up the evening sky with a beautiful glow and spectacular rides. Learn more at <https://gsmballoonfest.com/>

Aug. 24: Cleveland

4th Annual Ragin Cajun Seafood Music Fest

Come and enjoy live music, a crawfish eating contest, shop nearly 70 vendors, and taste a variety of seafood dishes. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/events/816884302400139>

Aug. 24: Smyrna

Depot District BBQ Festival
Enjoy some great barbecue, live music by the Clayton Mann Band and some great fun at the Depot District BBQ Fest. Learn more at <https://www.town-of-smyrna.org/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/10387/359?cur-m=8&cur-y=2019>



Sept. 1-3, 2021

TCMA Fall Conference
Chattanooga

Sept. 15 -17, 2021

TAMCAR Fall Conference
Franklin

Sept. 18-21, 2021

TML Annual Conference
Chattanooga

Sept. 21-23, 2021

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Ed Stewart, ChFC, CLU, CFP
Financial Advisor

Tennessee byways make perfect destination for family road trips

By KATE COIL

TML Communications Specialist

Tennesseans hoping for some summer adventure or even to find fall foliage need look no further than the longstanding American tradition that is the family road trip.

Tennessee is home to 10 nationally designated scenic routes, putting it fourth on the list of states with the most designated American Byways running through it. The state saw the inclusion of five new routes in 2021 as part of the Reviving the America's Scenic Byways Act of 2019, which added 49 new routes to the national list.

Created in 1991, the America's Byways system includes 184 routes in 48 states and include 15 All-American Roads and 34 National Scenic Byways. Officials with the U.S. Department of Transportation have expressed their hopes that the announcement of these new road designations will encourage travel as the nation emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Scenic roads have always been popular with travelers, and support a wide array of businesses, too," Federal Highway Administration Executive Director Tom Everett said. "Whether hotels, eateries, or gas stations, Scenic Byways and All-American Roads support the nation's small business community and are economic drivers for entire regions."

These 10 routes offer plenty to do in terms of outdoor adventure, history, heritage, and local color.

CHEROHALA SKYWAY

The Cherochala Skyway was christened in 1996 as a 43-mile route between Tellico Plains and Robbinsville, N.C. The Tennessee section of the road is 35 miles starting in Tellico Plains and ending at Beech Gap on the state line. The name Cherochala is a combination of Cherokee and Nantahala, the two national forests the road traverses. The skyway took more than \$100 million and more than 30 years to construct because of the difficult path it takes through the Appalachian Mountains. When traveling the road, visitors will go from 900 feet below sea level along the Tellico River to a height of more than 5,400 feet above sea level near the state line. Along the way, visitors can stop off at a number of overlooks, picnic areas, and hiking trails that lead through old growth forests, to views of the surrounding mountains, and to cascading waterfalls.

CUMBERLAND GAP HISTORIC BYWAY

Located in the historic gap in the Cumberland Mountains, the Cumberland Gap Historic Byway travels from the city of Celina through Harrogate at the Cumberland Gap at an average of 1,304 feet in altitude. When English explorer Dr. Thomas Walker mapped the area in 1750, it opened up travel west of the Appalachian Mountains to settlement and became the location of the Wilderness Road, an immigrant road that brought 200,000 settlers into Kentucky and Tennessee. The Cumberland Gap Historic Byway travels from Celina through Livingston, Byrdstown, Jamestown, Allardt, Rugby, Huntsville, Caryville, Jacksboro, and LaFollette as well as Standing Stone State Park on its way to the Kentucky border, where it ends at the Cumberland Gap Tunnel and Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. Travelers on this 144-mile route can retrace the steps taken by early settlers including Daniel Boone and the grandparents of Abraham Lincoln.

EAST TENNESSEE CROSSING BYWAY

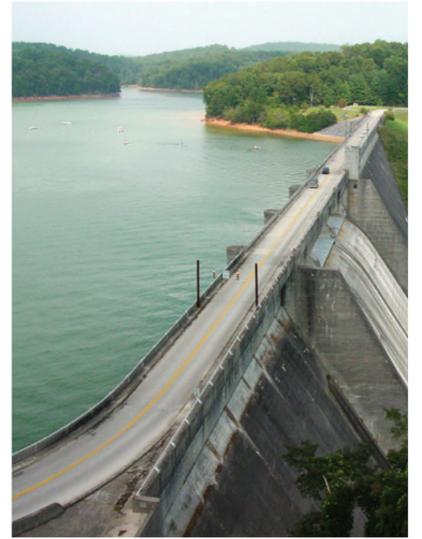
The route known as the East Tennessee Crossing Byway goes by several names, including Highway 25 East, State Route 32, and the Dixie Highway. This 83-mile route can also be picked up at the Cumberland Gap near Harrogate and traveled Southeast to the Cherokee National Forest. An ancient route that has been used since prehistoric times by paleolithic and Native American hunters as well as by early pioneers, the road was once known by early Tennesseans as the Cherokee Warriors' Path. This was the favored route used for trading and hunting bison when they were still found wild in Tennessee. From Harrogate, the route passes through Tazewell, Bean Station, Morristown, White Pine, past Baneberry, and then through Newport before following the course of the French Broad River into the Cherokee National Forest and to the Tennessee state line.

GREAT RIVER ROAD NATIONAL 'SCENIC BYWAY

One of the longest national byways when taken in its entirety from Louisiana to Minnesota, the Great River Road National Scenic Byway follows the course of the Mississippi and traces the major influences the river itself and then roads connected to it had on American history. The Tennessee section of the route is nearly 180 miles and follows the curving course of the river from Memphis to Reelfoot Lake. Along the way, Tennessee's section passes through Gilt Edge, Covington, Ripley, Halls, Gates, Ridgely, and Tiptonville. Additionally, the route passes through the Alex Haley Museum and Interpretive Center, Lower Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge, Fort Pillow State Historic Park, the Moss Island State Wildlife Management Area, and Reelfoot Lake State Park.

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

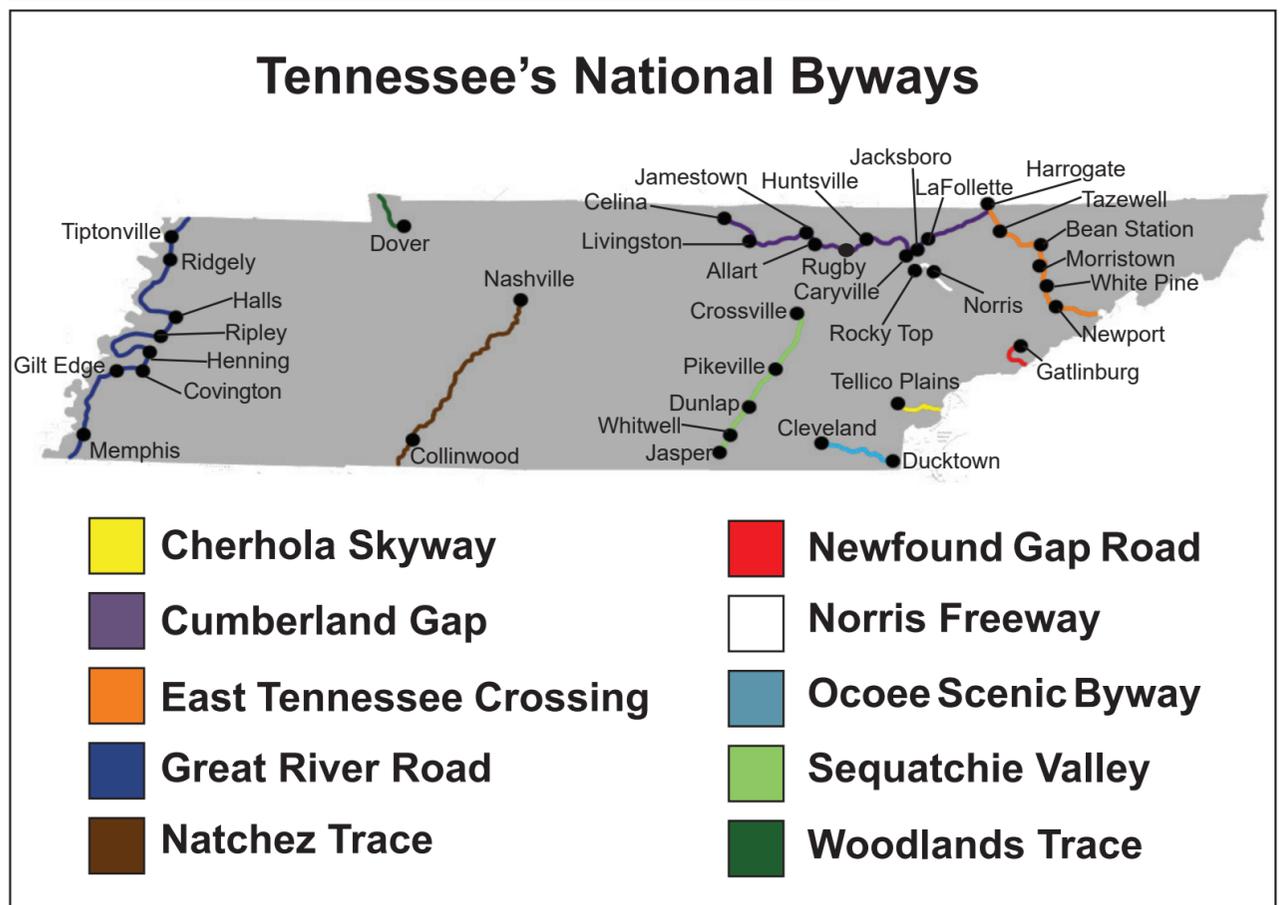
Like the Cherochala Skyway, the Natchez Trace



Top Left: The Cherochala Skyway is one of the most ambitious road projects undertaken by the U.S. Department of Transportation, taking 30 years to construct. The road runs from Tellico Plains into North Carolina and varies in elevation from 900 feet below sea level to more than 5,400 feet above sea level.

Top Right: Constructed in the 1930s as part of TVA projects, the Norris Freeway was built to aid construction of Norris Dam. It became a vital roadway for communities like Norris and Rocky Top.

Left: One of the longest national scenic byways, the Great River Road follows the course of the Mississippi River. In Tennessee, it extends from Memphis north to Tiptonville and Reelfoot Lake, giving a unique glimpse into West Tennessee history along the way.



Parkway was established as a National Scenic Byway in 1996. The Tennessee section is part of a 444-mile recreational and scenic road that traces an important historic corridor in early American history, used by Native Americans, soldiers, slave traders, settlers, rivermen, and even future presidents. Created by Native Americans as a hunting trail, the growth of American settlement and the economic engine that was the Mississippi River bolstered the Natchez Trace into an early major American road. Those who had come south on the Mississippi River could not return upstream by boat and so would travel the trace back northward to connect with steam boats, stagecoach lines, and railroads. The Tennessee section starts near the Loveless Café in Nashville, traveling south through Collinwood, allowing visitors to stop off along the way at numerous sites and destinations, like the Devil's Backbone State Natural Area and Laurel Hill Wildlife Management Area. The parkway is also a short distance from numerous cities including Franklin, Thompson's Station, Fairview, Columbia, Mt. Pleasant, Hohenwald, Lawrenceburg, and Waynesboro.

NEWFOUND GAP ROAD

Also known as U.S. 441, this route stretches through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from Gatlinburg to Cherokee, N.C., for 34 miles. The route crosses its namesake Newfound Gap, one of the major mountain passes located in the park and what was used by settlers as one of the main routes into Southern Appalachia. The route handles more than 5 million motorists annually and is the most traveled road in the park, offering stunning views and access to numerous hiking trails including the Appalachian Trail. At an elevation of 5,046 feet, the route is also one of the lowest elevations at which motorists can drive through the park. Researchers have said the diversity in ecology experienced

from driving this one road is greater than a trip from Georgia to Maine.

NORRIS FREEWAY

As part of New Deal projects in the state of Tennessee, the Norris Freeway was constructed in 1934 initially as part of the Tennessee Valley Authority's first hydroelectric project: the Norris Dam. The Norris Freeway was established when TVA found it needed a way to transport construction materials from what is now Rocky Top to the dam construction site as well as to better connect with its offices in Knoxville. Along the way, the need to house the dam workforce led to the creation of the city of Norris. When completed, the dam, roadway, an accompanying state park, and planned city of Norris were all dedicated by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The nearly 21-mile route takes visitors on a tour of what was one of the most ambitious New Deal projects.

OCOEE SCENIC BYWAY

Not only the oldest scenic byway in Tennessee but also the oldest scenic byway in the nation, the Ocoee Scenic Byway was officially established in 1988. A 26-mile scenic byway through the Cherokee National Forest beginning at the city of Cleveland and ending near Ducktown in Tennessee. Along the way, visitors can make stops to climb the Chilhowee Mountains, boating and fishing at Parksville Lake, or canoeing, rafting, and kayaking the Ocoee River, which was also the site of the Olympic canoe and kayak competitions for the 1996 Summer Olympics. The route follows what was known as the Old Copper Road, which was used in the 1850s for transporting copper mined in Tennessee's Copper Basin in Ducktown and Copperhill to railroads in Cleveland.

SEQUATCHIE VALLEY SCENIC BYWAY

A long, narrow valley passing between

the Cumberland Plateau and Appalachian Mountains, the Sequatchie Valley follows the course of the Sequatchie River for 78.5 miles along Tennessee Highway 28. The route begins in Crossville, passing through the communities of Pikeville, Dunlap, and Whitwell, ending in Jasper. Additionally, the valley includes four state parks, two state natural areas, three state forests, TVA wildlife management and reservation areas, two National Natural Landmarks, and dozens of registered significant natural features. Stop-offs along the route allow visitors to spend time hiking, camping, picnicking, hunting, fishing, boating, bird watching, and wildlife viewing. The valley also highlights numerous aspects of Tennessee history including the Civil War, agriculture, African-American heritage, bluegrass, folk culture, and coal mining and iron making heritage.

WOODLANDS TRACE

While only around 18 of the more than 43 miles of the Woodlands Trace National Scenic Byway are located in Tennessee, the route along Tennessee 49 West/U.S. Route 79 takes visitors through some of the most beautiful areas of the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Established in 1963, the recreation area is located between two lakes created by TVA New Deal dams: Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley. Starting near Dover, the Tennessee area is well-known for serving as the Buffalo Trace, a route early American settlers and Native Americans took hunting the buffalo herds that once roamed the state. Later on, enslaved Africans were brought to work on iron furnaces on the site. The Tennessee side of the area is home to the 1850-style farm known as the Homeplace, which serves as a living museum. Known for its beautiful spring blooms and breathtaking fall foliage, the Woodlands Trace offers plenty of opportunities for camping, fishing, hiking, canoeing, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, boating and more.