

Mayors talk challenges, growth, and successes at TML Conference forum

BY KATE COIL
TML Communications Specialist

A group of mayors from municipalities across Tennessee got their chance to weigh in on issues cities and towns in the state are facing as well as how they have approached their own unique challenge during a forum at the Tennessee Municipal League Annual Conference in Murfreesboro.

Facilitated by keynote speaker and *Governing* magazine publisher Mark Funkhouser, the forum featured Kingsport Mayor John Clark, Livingston Mayor Curtis Hayes, Erwin Mayor Doris Hensley, and Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland.

Development and managing growth were issues all four mayors said they are experiencing in various capacities. For Erwin, Hensley said the biggest challenge is the loss of jobs after two major industries closed or laid off employees in the town of 6,000 people.

"The challenge that we are facing now is that 52 percent of our county is owned by the state and federal governments, so there is a limited amount of developable property," she said. "We are focusing this time on getting more retail in our downtown. We have invested more than \$5 million in our downtown revitalization, but there is not enough retail in the area. Our biggest challenge right now is rebranding our town."

With the closing of the railroad, Hensley said Erwin is learning to market its natural resources to bring in more visitors and businesses. Hensley said the local Downtown Merchants Association and local Millennials that formed the group called RISE Erwin are working with local officials to reinvent Erwin.

"They came up with things they want to see, like having residences downtown so they can walk to



John Clark
Kingsport Mayor



Curtis Hayes
Livingston Mayor



Doris Hensley
Erwin Mayor



Shane McFarland
Murfreesboro Mayor

church, walk to school, and get out on the sidewalks at night," Hensley said. "We have passed ordinances that allow residences and multi-use downtown business district with retail on the ground floors and accommodations upstairs. We have incorporated liquor-by-the-drink that allows for jazz bars. Since the railroad closed, we have held three festivals in the last year that RISE Erwin volunteers have helped put on. Those new annual festivals bring in thousands of people. Even though we are a small community, we are working together."

Growth was also one of the

biggest challenges for Livingston, Kingsport, and Murfreesboro.

"Due to the annexation laws passed in the state of Tennessee, there is no room for growth as far as expanding outside the city limits," Hayes said. "Our urban growth boundary has shown us there is room for growth. It hurts us for attracting retail."

More retail, chain restaurants and a hotel are goals for Livingston. While these businesses exist 20 minutes away, Hayes said the city has had an issue with bringing these businesses to the city because those

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Millennials provide insight into what they want from their communities, elected leaders

BY KATE COIL

As aging Baby Boomers retire and a new, younger generation makes its way both into the workforce and as citizens, many municipal officials are finding themselves asking the same question: What do Millennials want?

Also known as Generation Y, Millennials are typically considered to be those born from around 1980 to those born in the year 2000. The Millennial generation is often described as having an increased use and familiarity with digital technologies, media and communications as well as a skepticism about long-term economic prospects due to the fact most Millennials came of age during the Great Recession. Volunteerism and advocacy — though not necessarily in tradition forms — are also common among the Millennial generation.

Four members of this generation were on hand at the Tennessee Municipal League Annual Conference in Murfreesboro to provide some insight on both what Millennials can do for government and what government can do for Millennials.

Drew Danieleley, a sales manager at the Nashville Convention and Visitors Corporation; Courtney Brandon, the MTSU Student Government Association president; Hannah Leyhas, the MTSU Student Government Association attorney general; and Dhilan Ramaprasad, a recent graduate of Morristown West High School and student council president; all weighed in on how their generation and government can best work together.

All four panelists said very little time was spent on state and local government or civics lessons in their schools and those who wanted more information about how local governments operate had to seek it out themselves, often from



Drew Danieleley, Courtney Brandon, Hannah Leyhas, and Dhilan Ramaprasad all weighed in on how their generation and government can best work together.

non-school sources such as scouting or volunteering opportunities.

Recent surveys have indicated that Millennials tend to have a more negative view of government. Brandon said she felt the reason is because Millennials are more focused on social media and the negativity portrayed therein. Danieleley said Millennials believe government is important but are dissatisfied with the lack of cooperation and cohesiveness in modern government.

"Our generation is one of openness and cohesiveness between many different groups, but I think as of late, a lot of that isn't there in government," he said. "For a lot of us — since the time we started really paying attention to government — all we've known is gridlock. It gives you a certain sense of skepticism. We recognize how important government work is, but for us, the manner in which you do it is just as important. We are looking for leaders who are open to practicing and perfecting the lost art of compromise. We haven't had that in our experience."

Leyhas said Millennials also have a hard time understanding that government operations can be a long process.

"We are a generation that is very big on instant gratification," she said. "I mean, when my Facebook app doesn't load fast enough I get frustrated so naturally it is going to make us frustrated when government takes a while. A lot of us also haven't been taught why government can take a while."

Ramaprasad said the fact that everyone can voice their opinion and do it instantly can also lead to information overload on issues.

"We are provided with so much information now," he said. "It can leave some of us in a state of confusion as to which is the right path. The divisiveness of our political system makes it hard to know who to believe. We do believe in the effectiveness of government, but we want to see a compromise and our leaders working together."

Ramaprasad said local government leaders can help Millennials gain a more positive impression of government, especially on the local level, by showing them how government is working in their favor.

"I think it can be very important to tap into our generation by showing us what you are doing and why it is important to us," he said. See MILLENNIALS on Page 5



Construction crews work to repair the Tennessee State Capitol cupola. The \$2.2-million project will repair damaged stones and mortar, and will also include sending off the cupola's cast iron for cleaning. This is the first major work done on the cupola since 1959.

Supreme Court preview for local governments in 2018

BY LISA SORONEN
State and Local Legal Center

Several measures of interest to local government officials and citizens will be brought before the Supreme Court when it returns for its next term on the first Monday in October.

It is rare that the Supreme Court's docket for the next term is this interesting for local governments — much less anyone else — at the end of June. But it is hard to get more interesting than the travel ban, religious liberty, technology and parties, and the Fourth Amendment. Four of the most interesting cases for local governments accepted so far are discussed below in detail.

The so-called travel ban executive order prevents people from six predominately Muslim countries from entering the U.S. for 90 days, freezes decisions on refugee applications for 120 days, and caps total refugee admissions at 50,000 for fiscal year 2017.

The Fourth Circuit ruled it likely violates the Establishment Clause, noting that its "text speaks with vague words of national security but in context drips with religious intolerance, animus and discrimination."

The Supreme Court concluded that until it rules on the merits of this case the executive order cannot be enforced against persons, including refugees, who have a "bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United States."

In *Trump v. International Refugee Assistance Project* the Supreme Court will decide whether the de-

cision to deny a visa is reviewable in this case, whether the travel ban violates the Establishment Clause, and whether the travel ban became moot on June 14.

In *United States v. Carpenter* the Supreme Court will decide whether police must obtain warrants per the Fourth Amendment to require wireless carriers to provide cell-site data.

Cell-site data showed that Timothy Carpenter and Timothy Sanders placed phone calls near the location of a number of robberies around the time the robberies happened. The federal government obtained the cell-site data from Carpenter's and Sanders' wireless carriers using a court order issued under the Stored Communications Act, which requires the government to show "reasonable grounds" for believing that the records were "relevant and material to an ongoing investigation."

The defendants argued obtaining the information was a "search" under the Fourth Amendment requiring a warrant.

The Sixth Circuit held that obtaining the cell-site data does not constitute a search under the Fourth Amendment because while "content" is protected by the Fourth Amendment "routing information" is not.

In *District of Columbia v. Wesby** the Supreme Court will decide whether, when the owner of a vacant house informs police he has not authorized entry, an officer assessing probable cause to arrest those inside for trespassing may

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DOL overtime rule update

BY STEPHANIE MARTINEZ-RUCKMAN
National League of Cities

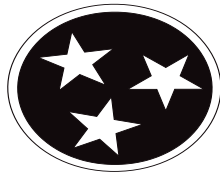
Last month, before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) defended its authority to set a salary test to determine qualifications for overtime pay. Should the court uphold the authority of DOL to set a salary test, this will represent a first step toward ensuring that DOL can move forward with further rulemaking processes to determine what, if any, salary update would be proposed for overtime by the department. In his confirmation hearing earlier this year, Secretary Acosta noted that he would support a salary threshold increase, but he questioned the sharp increase as proposed in the rule.

As you may recall, the U.S. Department of Labor's overtime rule, finalized during the last ad-

ministration, increased the overtime salary level to \$47,476, which is double the current level, and called for automatic adjustments every three years. The rule was originally scheduled to go into effect on Dec. 1, 2016; however, it was delayed due to the issuance of a nationwide preliminary injunction blocking the rule by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas.

NLC supports modernizing the overtime rules, but has concerns about the fiscal impact of the rule as originally written and opposes automatic three-year updates. For cities as employers, absorbing the impact of the rule would be felt significantly on municipal budgets, particularly those of small and medium-sized cities. NLC will continue to follow DOL's actions within the courts and looks forward to actively participating in future rulemakings that would look to update and revise overtime regulations.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRISTOL

Bristol's Ida Stone Jones Community Tennis Center located on Edgemont Avenue is only one of 12 tennis facilities recognized as a 2017 United States Tennis Association Facility Award Winner. Facilities that were constructed and/or renovated throughout the country were considered for the 36th Annual USTA Facility Awards program. In mid-October the award will be presented at the USTA meeting in Orlando, Fla. To be considered for an award, facilities must be under the jurisdiction of a parks and recreation department, an educational institution, a nonprofit corporation, or be a private or commercially owned and operated facility. The facility must offer both USTA and public programming designed to help grow tennis. Facilities were judged on overall layout and adaptation to site, excellence of court surface and lights, ease of maintenance, accommodations for players, spectators and press/officials, aesthetics, and other criteria.

CLARKSVILLE

A new micro-brewery will be opening in Clarksville in August. Stars and Bars Brewing Co. is owned and operated by military veteran Josh Romaker, who began home-brewing beer before raising funds to open his own business. Soon to retire from active duty, Romaker said the company will use ingredients sourced from Tennessee and U.S.-made brewing equipment to create nine beers and a homemade root beer on tap for customers. Much of the furniture at the brewery was also homemade from salvaged supplies.

COLLIERVILLE

Work is now underway at the future Linda Kerley Senior Center in Collierville, which plans to open in September. The Quonset style building at 176 College Street previously housed the College Street Recreation Center. The gym inside the center will stay as is, says Collierville General Service Director Derek Honeycutt, but the front of the building is being renovated to serve the senior population in Collierville. The senior activities already in place at the Community Center on Powell Road will be moved to the large open area in the front of the new Linda Kerley Center. Those include a chair exercise class; a stretch-balance-breath program; bingo twice a month; a bridge group and various educational programs. New programs will be added once the center is opened. The center is being named in honor of late Mayor Linda Kerley, who was the city's first alderwoman and first female mayor.

DECHERD

The Decherd Police Department will be purchasing a new computer software system that helps maximize efficiency on the job while catching traffic violators. The \$4,000 system known as Courtware is a mobile records management system for police vehicles, allowing officers to write incident and crash reports from the field while still running radar and responding to other calls. In order to pay for the software, the Decherd Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved an increase of \$20 on all traffic violations. The digitalized forms will also make things easier in the courtroom by reducing the number of tickets that have to be thrown out for being illegible. The software also gives offenders the opportunity to pay their fines online rather than just over the phone, via mail or in person.

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY

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HUMBOLDT

Bongards' Creameries will invest \$35 million and create approximately 95 jobs in the next five years as it expands its manufacturing operations in Humboldt. The food producer is a farmer-owned cooperative and has operated in Humboldt since 2010. The Humboldt facility produces a range of cheese products. Bongards will add around 80,000 square feet to its facility, allowing the company to increase production, packaging and processing capabilities. The company also plans to create a new fund to help grow education opportunities for local residents and improve job prospects.

KINGSPORT

The city of Kingsport is looking at two new projects that will add new paths to its Greenbelt. The first new path will be a looped, wooden boardwalk running through the wetlands behind the Overlook and the Kmart Supercenter. It will start at the Greenbelt entrance behind PetSmart, stretch about a quarter-mile into the wetlands and be self-contained. The boardwalk will be ADA accessible and rise four feet off the ground with interpretive signage relating to the wetlands. A second new path off the Greenbelt's existing boardwalk will work to create an asphalt bypass for walkers and cyclists. The second path is located down the trail from PetSmart and is designed to reduce congestion. Both projects are being funded through a \$120,000 state grant with the city of Kingsport contributing the remaining portion of the \$350,000 project cost. Work is expected to begin in August with a 120-day construction period.

KNOXVILLE

The city of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods (OON) has collaborated with the Knoxville-Knox County Geographical Information System (KGIS) and the city's engineering department to integrate Knoxville's neighborhood groups, homeowners' associations and neighborhood watch groups into the multitude of maps available at www.kgis.org. The maps allow users to view the approximately 100 neighborhood groups in the city as well as neighborhood boundaries and contact information for neighborhood groups. Other map layers provide information like KAT bus stops, info on local parks, watersheds, zipcodes, and census tracts. The map was designed to allow officials remain in contact with neighborhood groups and leaders, property owners being affected by zoning changes, and neighborhood organizations that want to work together.

MEMPHIS

ABB and Thomas & Betts will expand its operations and consolidate its R&D functions to a new location in Memphis, investing \$20.7 million and creating 90 new jobs. Thomas & Betts, a member of the ABB Group, is a global leader in the design, manufacturing and marketing of essential components used to manage the connection, distribution, transmission and reliability of electrical power in utility, industrial, commercial and residential applications. With a portfolio of more than 200,000 products marketed under more than 45 premium product brands, Thomas & Betts products are found wherever electricity is used.

MORRISTOWN

Team Technologies, Inc. will be investing \$6 million and creating 160 jobs to expand their Morristown operations. Team Technologies is a leading custom contract manufacturer of dental, medical, cosmetic and industrial products. Founded in 1988, Team Technologies is headquartered in Morristown, where it also operates its main production facility. The company's investment will expand manufacturing capabilities and product lines at the Morristown facility. In 2013, Team Technologies announced it would invest \$11 million to upgrade its productions facility in Morristown and create 200 jobs.

MT. JULIET

The Mt. Juliet Police Department has been equipped with kits in-

cluding a nasal spray intended to prevent opioid overdose deaths. The naloxone nasal spray can be used to help those suffering from an opioid overdose or help officers who have accidentally come into contact with drugs containing dangerous substances, like fentanyl. Officers were trained on how to identify the signs of an overdose and administer the nasal spray. In 2015, 37 people in Wilson County died from drug overdoses and opioid overdoses have quadrupled statewide since 1999.

NASHVILLE

The Metro Nashville Civil Service Commission has voted unanimously to approve a paid family leave plan for Metro employees. The new benefit, effective immediately, will allow Metro workers to have approximately six weeks of paid time off upon the birth or adoption of a child, or to care for a seriously ill spouse, parent, or child. The benefit is available for employees who have worked for Metro Nashville's government for at least six months. Employees did not have access to any paid family leave plan prior to passage. Mayor Megan Barry's office worked with her Council on Gender Equity to research and make recommendations regarding paid family leave. Adoption of this program will allow the Metro Human Resources Department to gather more data on this policy in order to do a cost-benefit analysis that will help in future budgeting.

NASHVILLE

The Nashville International Airport served a record number of passengers during the last fiscal year, the fourth consecutive year of record-breaking numbers. BNA authorities said the airport served more than 13.5 million people between July 1, 2016, and July 30, 2017 – more than 1 million more than it served in the previous fiscal year and a 10 percent increase in passengers. June 2017 also set a record for the busiest month at BNA with 1,314,069 passengers. BNA is currently served by 12 airlines with 440 daily flights, offering nonstop air service to more than 50 destinations.

PIKEVILLE

Textile Corporation of America will locate its headquarters and manufacturing facility in Pikeville, investing \$27.1 million and creating approximately 1,000 new jobs. The largest private investment in Pikeville and Bledsoe County's history. Textile Corporation of America Textile will be moving to a 186,000-square-foot existing building that includes offices and sits on 16 acres of land. The company is one of the country's leading textile manufacturers and utilizes state-of-the-art plants and machinery to produce quality industrial and institutional textile products including apparel, bedding, healthcare, hospitality, and kitchen linens.

SURGOINSVILLE

Cooper Standard will be investing \$1 million in new plant equipment and creating 98 new jobs at its facility in Surgoinsville. The automotive supplier manufactures coolant tube and hose assemblies, transmission oil cooling lines, and fuel and brake lines. Cooper Standard, headquartered in Novi, Mich., is a leading global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry. Products include rubber and plastic sealing, fuel and brake lines, fluid transfer hoses and anti-vibration systems. Cooper Standard employs approximately 30,000 people globally and operates in 20 countries around the world.

THREE WAY

The Three Way Board of Mayor and Aldermen have purchased an additional seven acres to add to a planned municipal complex. The parcel is adjacent to Pine Hill Park and the Three Way Municipal Complex. The \$44,980 purchase includes a small amount of road frontage on the Highway 45 Bypass. The land could be used as part of the new city hall project, which Three Way is working on with architect Vaughn Associates and construction managers Lashlee-Rich Contractors.

Aerial drone to aid Spring Hill PD in work, training



From left to right, Spring Hill Police Chief Don Brite, Detective Geoff Betts, and Public Information Officer Lt. Justin Whitwell are pictured with the city's new police drone. The Spring Hill Board of Mayor and Aldermen recently approved a SHPD Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operation Policy, allowing the department to use the unmanned aerial vehicle for training, take aerial views of crime scenes, as well as use for other approved situations.

Public mural comes to downtown Johnson City



Johnson City will soon unveil the finished results of an in-progress mural, seen here, at the developing park in the King Creek basin next to Atlantic Ale in downtown. The mural is based on the wildlife of East Tennessee and is being painted by Asheville, N.C.-based artist Ian Brownlee. The idea for a mural near the future park was suggested by the Johnson City Public Art Committee and approved by the city commission of Johnson City.

Gallatin facilitates major move for historic house



Employees with the Gallatin Public Works Department prepare the 100-year-old Franklin House for its move from Tulip Poplar Drive to its new home at the public works facility on Long Hollow Pike. Moving the home required transporting it across railroad tracks. After Volunteer State Bank announced plans to demolish the structure on the 2.4-acre property it owned, the Gallatin City Council approved the move of the two-story building to the public works facility. The move and renovation of the building is expected to cost \$1 million while construction of a new building on the same site that would be 1,700-square-feet smaller would be \$900,000.

Smyrna kids come out for tie-dye and s'mores



Around 50 residents came out to participate in the Tie-Dye and S'mores event hosted in Smryna's Sharp Springs Park. The event was hosted by the Smryna Parks and Recreation Department's Smryna Outdoor Adventure Center.

Sustainability practices at Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame help feed hungry, reduce food costs, save environment

BY BRIANNA BJORDAHL
TDEC Sustainable Practices

As part of a new sustainability initiative, Nashville Mayor Megan Barry implemented the Food Saver Challenge, a program to get businesses across the city to cut back on their food waste. In doing so, they help feed food insecure people across the city, reduce their food costs, and cut back on harmful landfill gases. The Food Saver Challenge is also part of a larger goal for the U.S. to reduce its food waste by 50 percent by 2030.

Statistics say that 40 percent of food produced in the U.S. goes uneaten, and of the food that is thrown away, 95 percent ends up in a landfill. The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum is one of 50 Nashville restaurants and venues that have answered the call to change that statistic.

After seeing the amount of food that was thrown away at their catered events, Karl Ebert, associate director of Operations, realized there had to be a change. It was from there that Ebert led the museum to start looking for ways to reduce their food waste, an action that would be both beneficial to the environment and turn the museum into a leader for sustainability.

Their program started in December 2016 when the museum began a partnership with the Nashville Rescue Mission. Rather than go to the trash, Ebert thought the excess food from their catering events should go to people in need. Now the museum donates three to four trays every week, the equivalent of feeding about 13,000 people a year.

Following their success with the Rescue Mission, the museum looked into starting a compost program. The museum staff was already purchasing compostable material for their dining services, so this new program simply took that a step further. The museum established a partnership with the Compost Company, Middle Tennessee's organic waste recycling business. Two days after the first compost pickup, they officially signed onto the Mayor's Food Saver Challenge. They now compost about 1,147 pounds of material every week, and estimate that roughly 51,600 pounds will be composted by the end of the year. Considering that these pounds once went to waste, this is a huge accomplishment.

The museum has seen a 19 percent reduction in food waste going to the landfill, and a 10 percent increase in materials being recycled. All of this was accomplished with just a few simple changes — ones

that, in addition to saving money and reducing waste, have fed thousands of people and made thousands of pounds of compost to be used in gardens, farms, and landscaping projects across the state.

But the museum has not just been tackling their waste stream. As a multifaceted business, the staff has also been looking at sustainability initiatives higher up the food cycle, in their restaurant 2|22. Thanks to these initiatives, their restaurant now utilizes local farmers and growers, which benefits the local economy and cuts back on harmful emissions from transportation. Bobby Hammock, executive chef of 2|22, like Ebert, believes that sustainability should be a top priority. When he joined their culinary team, he pushed the museum to keep favorite southern style meals while simultaneously keeping supplies local. By keeping supplies local, he also keeps the focus on Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

Looking to the future, the museum has also recently created their own hydroponic system, where they have planted six different types of herbs, four tomato plants, and three types of peppers. In its first six weeks of operation, the garden produced 28 ounces of herbs and two peppers, with more plants still growing. This produce is already being used at 2|22, and Ebert hopes to expand this in the future, possibly even branching into their small catering events. For the time being, the only thing preventing this is space and finding the room to expand.

At the end of the day, Ebert hopes that with these new programs, the museum can help Nashville "grow, but grow in the right way." Lots of new businesses are popping up around the city, and every year, more and more people are moving to Nashville. Ebert wants to better reach these people by bringing their programs to the front of house, and it is because of this that the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum has made such a name for itself. All these new measures happened



The Country Music Hall of Fame recently created their own hydroponic system, where they have planted six different types of herbs, four tomato plants, and three types of peppers. By making some simple everyday changes, the Hall of Fame is becoming a leader for sustainability and has set the stage for other businesses to follow.



The Hall of Fame composts about 1,147 pounds of material every week. They estimate that roughly 51,600 pounds will be composted by the end of the year.



The Country Music Hall of Fame donates three to four trays of food every week to the Nashville Rescue Mission. The donated food leftover from catering events is the equivalent of feeding about 13,000 people a year.

within a few months of each other, and each was done with the intent of helping others and the earth. The Hall of Fame and Museum has set

the stage for other businesses to follow, with simple changes any restaurant or venue could make. In the meantime, the museum will

keep pushing ahead, finding new ways to take their environmental sustainability efforts to the next level.

Mayors talk challenges, growth, and successes at conference forum

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parcels of land that are open outside the city limits and those with property within the city limits are unable or unwilling to sell it at reasonable prices to facilitate development.

"When the economy gets bad, people tend to stay at home more," Hayes said. "As it begins to get better, people are looser with their pocket books and go out of town. We have a major issue with sales tax leakage. We are ranked third in the state for sales tax leakage, so keeping people in Livingston is one of our goals."

McFarland said Murfreesboro has gone from 40,000 residents in 1992 to nearly 150,000 25 years later.

"Having the largest state university in Murfreesboro and with the growth they have had as well, transportation, trash and all of those things that come along with that growth we have to deal with," he said.

As a result, the city is increasingly facing urban issues. McFarland said it can sometimes be difficult to explain to citizens the need to plan for future growth when residents are more concerned with issues like pot holes and road construction.

"My biggest job as mayor is to manage those expectations and keep us going in the right direction," he said. "I don't really get to say that one thing is my one priority or the one thing I'm working on. Like most elected officials, you have to juggle a lot of balls."

Clark said Kingsport's top challenge is to maintain and grow the city's population — both residential and business — in a modest and affordable way.

"We are a city of more than 53,000 people and 4,000 businesses," he said. "We have a lot of manufacturing, and I know a lot of people want manufacturing. It's a great thing to have. But there is a downside in manufacturing, which is a livability piece. Cities with both residents and industry both growing together have to figure out a way to coexist."

To face these challenges, Clark said cities need to learn to embrace change and run more like businesses in terms of providing customers with what they want, establishing visions for the future that are citizen-supported, managing cities in more financially sound manners with balanced budgets, marketing and promoting cities, and to try to grow through public and private partnerships. Investments in cities that attract customers are also valuable for maintaining and attracting residents and business, he said.

"What is the quality of life that our customers — who are our citizens, our businesses, our developers and our tourists — want to see, and how much are they willing to pay to achieve that level of quality of life," Clark said. "The second thing is that we need to understand that countries, states and cities are competing for those four customers everyday. Maybe not directly and maybe not indirectly, but competing nonetheless."

While communities face challenges, there are also successes Tennessee municipalities can boast about. Hensley said RISE Erwin and partnerships with regional entities like the counties and other cities have benefited Erwin.

"It didn't start out as a success," she said. "You take your lemons and



Mark Funkhouser (far right), *Governing* magazine publisher, moderated a Mayors Forum during the TML Annual Conference recently held in Murfreesboro. From left to right are Erwin Mayor Doris Hensley, Livingston Mayor Curtis Hayes, Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland, and Kingsport Mayor John Clark.

turn them into lemonade. Our main success has been that we have come together as a community and as a region. That is the reason Erwin is able to do what we are doing now. It is not something I have done or our board has done by themselves. It is something we have done collectively."

Hayes said some of Livingston's major successes include the recently completed \$1.1 million Livingston Central Park as well as the downtown facade project.

"It was called Project Touch-Up and it gave people downtown \$15,000 to \$20,000 to improve their businesses interior and exterior," Hayes said. "The result of that is there is not an empty building around our courthouse. There is a \$600,000 building going up right now — the first major development we've had on the square in 50 years. We have a new retail store and people living downtown for

the first time in a long time. It's all about catching different money."

For McFarland, Murfreesboro's successes include the recruitment of more corporate headquarters to keep jobs within the city limits and maintaining higher sales taxes revenues than from property taxes. Public safety and parks and recreation are also major a pull for the city.

"One of the things people have become accustomed to in Murfreesboro is the level of parks and recreation," he said. "We have a 20-plus-mile greenway system and parks all over the major quadrants of the city. We have great things like Spring Fling where people come in, stay here, pay our hotel-motel tax, spend money in our restaurants, buying things in our shops, buying gas, and then they leave and we don't have to educate them or anything like that."

The new Miracle Field and adjoining playground specifically

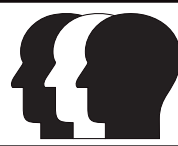
for special needs children is one of the newest accomplishments for the city's park's department, he said.

Clark said the teamwork city employees and elected officials put in is one of the things he is most proud of in his community. Re-engaging with citizens during the recent OneKingsport Summit also helped city officials ensure the city is on the right path.

"We brought the community together to get a check on where we are and where we are going," he said. "We are focusing on the 100 big ideas that came out of the 300 citizens who participated in the summit. It was a really great exchange of dialogue over a two-day period of time. We have seven major areas our citizens wanted us to improve, to help our city be the best city it can possibly be and attract those four key customer segments."



PEOPLE



Tom Bain, a longtime public official in Williamson County, died on July 13, at the age of 73. Bain served as a Brentwood City Commissioner and then as mayor of Brentwood for two years in the 1980s. Additionally, he served on the Williamson County Commission for more than a decade. Bain held positions as president of the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce, vice president of the Brentwood Rotary Club, and president of the Brentwood Civitan Club. During his career, he helped craft local ordinances, was instrumental in funding public schools, and supported the Williamson County Agricultural Exposition Park.



Tom Bain

Greeneville Fire Department. A 29-year veteran of the department, Craft has served as a lieutenant, captain and battalion chief in Greeneville. His father also served with the department, retiring at the rank of captain after 21 years. As assistant chief, Craft will oversee the daily operations of the department, be responsible for budget and personnel matters, and fill in during any absences by the chief. Craft graduated from Greeneville High School in 1981. He holds an associate's degree in fire protection from Walters State Community College and a bachelor's degree in organizational management from Tusculum College.



John Craft

land use and transportation plans, the Old Town Redevelopment Plan and represented the city in regional coordination, such as the Nashville Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Jeff Taylor has been appointed the newest alderman for the town of Greeneville following a vote by the Board of Mayor and Alderman. Taylor will represent Greeneville's Ward 2 after Brian Bragdon resigned from the position after moving outside the city limits. Taylor was sworn in on June 20. He has served as the vice president for procurement at Forward Air since 2007. Taylor graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with a bachelor's degree in transportation and logistics.



Jeff Taylor

Wayne Limbaugh is retiring from his position as director of the city of Tullahoma Public Works Department after a 23-year career with the city. After working in the private sector, Limbaugh came to the city in 1994, working as a purchasing director and director of municipal services before being named the public works director in 2000. He has an associate's degree in business technology from Motlow State Community College and a bachelor's of business administration in computer information systems from MTSU. He is a member of the American Public Works Association (APWA).



Wayne Limbaugh

Wayne Blasius has been selected as the new director of community development for the city of Oak Ridge, beginning his tenure on Aug. 28. Blasius presently serves as executive director of the non-profit East Tennessee Community Design Center. He has also worked as president of the InSite Development Corporation in Knoxville from 2001 to 2015, a consultant at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and deputy director of the Knoxville Department of Community Development. He holds a master's degree in planning from the University of Tennessee.



Wayne Blasius

Christi Branscom, the city of Knoxville's chief operating officer and deputy to the Mayor, will be leaving city government at the end of September to return to the private sector. Branscom has been the city's COO since 2013 and has overseen major improvements in city operations and significant economic development efforts. She first joined Mayor Madeline Rogero's administration in 2012 as senior director of public works. She is rejoining Partners Development as chief operating officer and general counsel, and will resume her position as president and CEO of Grace Construction. Partners is a 43-year-old real estate development firm located in downtown Knoxville. During her time with the city, Branscom has been involved in scores of projects and initiatives. As COO, she oversees more than a dozen city departments and offices, including finance, public service, engineering, parks and recreation, Knoxville Area Transit and Information Systems.



Christi Branscom

Leonard Rader, the chaplain for the Smyrna Police Department, died on July 15 at age 69 after a long battle with cancer. Rader served the department for eight years, working both with members of the police department and families in Smyrna. Rader served with the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He served as the pastor of Green Hill Baptist Church for more than 25 years and also served as a chaplain at Smyrna's StoneCrest Medical Center.



Leonard Rader

Fred D. Rogers is retiring after 15 years as director of the Hendersonville Planning Department. He came to work in Hendersonville in 2002 and during that time, Rogers has overseen projects including Hendersonville Tomorrow, Hendersonville Horizons, a new zoning ordinance, development and design standards,



Fred D. Rogers

John Craft has been selected as the new assistant fire chief for the

Margaret Norris named MTAS executive director

Margaret Norris has been named as the new executive director for the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) by the University of Tennessee's Institute for Public Service.

Norris has been a municipal government consultant for the East Tennessee region for the past 16 years.

"We are pleased bring Margaret in as executive director," said IPS Vice President Herb Byrd III. "She has a strong background in working with and serving the needs of Tennessee cities. I am confident in her abilities to lead MTAS and promote the services of the agency across the state."

Norris was selected from a final pool of three candidates. The search committee members recommended her as a finalist based on her strengths such as: having strong relationship-building skills; her excellent reputation of servicing and training her customers; and her knowledge of current issues facing Tennessee cities.

Norris received her bachelor's degree in psychology and Spanish



Margaret Norris

from UT Knoxville and her master's in public administration from UT Chattanooga. While in the MPA program at UTC, she served as an intern with MTAS.

Following graduation, she served a post-graduate public management internship with the city of Kansas City, Mo. She's also held the city manager's position in South Pittsburgh and was a finance director for the city of Lumberton, N.C.

She will work out of the MTAS main office in Knoxville and will begin her duties on Aug. 14.

Overbey nominated to serve as U.S. attorney

State Sen. J. Douglas "Doug" Overbey, R-Maryville, has been nominated by President Donald Trump to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

Overbey serves as chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee and as vice-chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Senate Finances Committee. He was first elected to represent Tennessee's 2nd Senate District in 2009.

"I am honored by the president's nomination for considering me for the position of U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee," stated Overbey.

"As U.S. attorney, I am confident he will enforce the law with much skill and expertise. We will miss his unique perspective and wealth of knowledge in the Senate but I know he will do an outstanding job as U.S. Attorney," said Lt. Gov. Randy McNally.

He is currently a senior partner and co-founder of the Robertson Overbey law firm in Knoxville. He has practiced antitrust and commercial litigation law for 38 years.



Sen. Doug Overbey

He has also served an adjunct faculty member at the University of Tennessee College of Law.

He graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1976 followed by the University of Tennessee College of Law in 1979. He also served two terms on the Blount County Commission before running for the Tennessee Senate.

Overbey's nomination will have to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate before he can begin an official role as a U.S. attorney.

Congressman Jimmy Duncan will not seek re-election in 2018

Rep. John J. Duncan Jr., the longest-serving Tennessean in Congress, will not seek re-election next year, bringing to a close the career of one of the state's most enduring officeholders and ending a family political dynasty that has occupied the East Tennessee congressional seat for half a century.

In a statement to the *Knoxville News Sentinel*, Duncan announced he would step down from office when his current term ends at the close of 2018.

"It has been a special privilege to represent the people of the Second District in the U.S. House of Representatives," Duncan said. "However, I will not be running for



Rep. John J. Duncan Jr.

re-election in 2018."

Duncan, who turned 70 on July 21, said he had considered retiring even before his last election in 2016.

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STATE BRIEFS



Tennessee's June unemployment rate was the lowest in state history. The state had a preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.6 percent in June, down from 4 percent in May. The state's previous record low for unemployment was 3.7 percent in March 2000, and the last time the state's rate was below 4 percent was in February 2001. The state began tracking unemployment in 1979. While the state unemployment rate decreased, unemployment rates in each individual county increased in June, which is typical for the month. State officials said county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted, and therefore always increase in June when high school and college students often enter the summer workforce. Teachers, bus drivers, and custodians also increase the number as they do not actively work in the summer.

The state of Tennessee has ranked in the top 10 states for business in an 11th annual ranking conducted by CNBC. The volunteer state ranked ninth overall out of all 50 states, earning a No. 2 ranking for infrastructure, a No. 4 overall

for business friendliness, a top five ranking for economy, and a top six ranking for cost of doing business. Tennessee was one of five southern states ranking in the top 10 with Washington state taking the top spot. Last year, Tennessee was ranked No. 18 out of 50 in the same survey.

Tennessee is the top state in the nation for FAFSA filings and set a new state record for filings. Gov. Bill Hasalm announced the state has had the highest number of students filing for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the third year in a row. Nearly three quarters of all Tennessee high school seniors — 73.5 percent — filed the FAFSA for the 2017-18 academic year, a requirement to be eligible for both federal and state aid, including Tennessee Promise and the HOPE Lottery Scholarship. The U.S. Department of Education is moving to a new method for tracking FAFSA filing rates that includes some 19 year-old high school seniors. Using the new method for calculating the FAFSA filing rate, Tennessee would still lead the nation with 81.5 percent.

Four municipalities receive TDOT alternative transportation grants

Four cities in Tennessee have been awarded transportation alternative grants from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT).

Fayetteville, Franklin, Murfreesboro, and Pulaski were each awarded funds that will advance alternative transportation projects including pedestrian walkways, multi-use trails, and sidewalk improvements.

Fayetteville received a \$1,099,037 grant for its Stone Bridge Park to Camp Blount Connector Project, which will provide a pedestrian connection between Stone Bridge Park and historical Camp Blount via the Elk River.

It will include widening an existing trail from five to 10 feet and addressing current ADA deficiencies. The trail would continue over a proposed 10-foot-wide steel truss pedestrian bridge that would provide a safe crossing over the Elk River, and connect with the historical overlook Camp Blount.

Franklin received a \$1 million grant for Phase II of the State Route 96 Multiuse Trail Project. The trail currently begins near Carlisle Lane and extends to Vera Valley Road.

Phase I of the project is under development, and will extend the trail to Jim Warren Park on Boyd Mill Avenue.

The Phase II project will begin there and run all the way to 5th Avenue North. Once completed, the trail will provide connections between residential areas, schools, shopping, and city centers.

Murfreesboro garnered a \$1,027,178 grant for the Mercury Boulevard Sidewalk Project, which will provide a complete sidewalk linkage from Southeast Broad Street to Middle Tennessee Boulevard along Mercury Boulevard.

All 7,200 feet of sidewalks will be ADA compliant, and will include pedestrian crosswalks at the signalized intersections along Mercury Boulevard. Crossing push buttons pedestrian signal indicators will also enhance safety along the corridor.

Pulaski received \$617,073 grant for sidewalk improvements and landscaping along 1st Street from Jefferson Street to Perkins/Chestnut Street. This will be the eighth phase of sidewalk improvements, and will tie into existing

sidewalks around the downtown square.

The project will provide a connected sidewalk route between residential areas, schools, parks, and the downtown business district.

"Through these grants, TDOT has funded more than \$345 million in non-traditional transportation projects," said TDOT Commissioner John Schroer. "This program has assisted communities all over the state in their efforts to revitalize downtowns, highlight historic areas, provide alternative means of transportation, and increase opportunities for economic development."

A variety of activities, such as the restoration of historic facilities, bike and pedestrian trails, landscaping and other non-traditional transportation projects, are eligible for grant funds under the federal program.

The transportation alternative grant is made possible through a federally funded program formerly known as transportation enhancement, and is administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Millennials provide insight into what they want from their elected leaders

MILLENNIALS from Page 1

Danieley said Millennials are often just exposed to where government goes wrong.

"We need to see the stories of your successes," he said. "We need to see the day-to-day of how government works and where it has made a positive impact on day-to-day lives. And we need to see that on platforms we use like social media."

Brandon said most Millennials are only exposed to local government officials on the campaign trails.

"We only see them when they are promoting themselves or when they are campaigning for something," she said. "A lot of what we also learn about them is negativity coming from their opponents. That negativity makes you feel like you know someone before they are even in office and colors your opinion of them."

None of the four panelists read hard-copy newspapers or magazines, though some do read online versions. All four panelists believed some of the best ways to communicate directly with Millennials through social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter as well as through applications or apps on phones. While the panelists said they didn't really use city websites directly, connecting to a city website via social media to direct Millennials to more information on the city website would be a benefit.

All four panelists also said they had been in contact with a local official — whether through Facebook, attending a meeting or town hall, signing petitions or writing letters and emails.

When communicating with public officials, Danieley said Millennials want feedback and it will encourage them participate in government or listen to local

leaders.

"Last month I had a question about a piece of legislation being considered in Washington, D.C.," Danieley said. "I sent an email to my Congressman just asking why he chose a particular stance. I got a response, which made it a really positive experience. If I hadn't gotten a response, that would have been a totally different experience. To have been given a response from my legislator and given his reasons — whether or not I agree with them — really meant a lot to me as a voter."

Ramaprasad said he, too, feels that getting a response from government officials is important.

"That personal touch that lets me know I am actually communicating with my lawmakers means a lot," he said. "Of course, there are some I have never really gotten a response from. But I think if more people knew how to communicate with their lawmakers, they would participate more in government. I did have to do a little digging to get those email addresses."

Brandon said Millennials are starting to feel like they may have more impact on the local level of government.

"If you look back at the last presidential election, you see the way the majority of Millennials voted was not the way the election turned out," Brandon said. "So, I feel like I can make more of a difference locally. You have more of a chance and it's easier to make a difference. Local leaders give you more of a response and are more willing to listen to you than those on the state or national level."

Ramaprasad said some Millennials do feel discouraged with the voting process at large because they may not get the results they want on the national level.

"We do not realize how much power our vote holds in these city

and county elections," he said. "We distrust the efficacy of our vote in the presidential election and wonder why it matters. Then these city and county elections come around and we don't vote. But those are the places where our vote really matters and has an impact."

Brandon said not everyone in the Millennial generation is taught how to vote or how to get their voter's registration, and that communities could benefit by helping educate them on the election process.

Danieley said he would describe the Millennial generation as very philanthropic, but not necessarily in the same way as generations before them.

"We don't just want to write a check for a cause we believe in," he said. "We want to be actively engaged. We are a generation about experiences. As opposed to just writing a check, we want to help build the non-profit and engage with our causes. Knowing that we are more about engaging than fundraising, you can tap into that. Help us to create these fundraisers or start that 5K for a particular cause. That is a real way to identify and connect with people our age."

Brandon said Millennials are big on volunteering their time and skills to causes.

"I'm not rich; I'm a college student," Brandon said. "But I look to help others in whatever way I can. I feel by being there and actively participating in particular cause, I can encourage others to get involved too."

Leyhas said many Millennials are more certain of what causes they want to advocate for than even what careers they want.

"What I want to do as a career changes 20 times in the next three minutes to five days," Leyhas said. "But I know philanthropy is important to me. I grew up in the Girl

Scouts and have been involved in some type of public service throughout my life. Even though I have no clue what I want to do with my life, I know I want to stay involved in the Girl Scouts and the organizations I volunteer for. I know you can't buy a house that way or pay your bills that way, but I also know at the end of my life, I will feel more fulfilled having helped others than worrying about how much my mortgage is a month."

If local governments want to employ Millennials, they may need to actively seek those employees out. Ramaprasad there is a lot more of a focus on career and technical educational, not so much on public service and government. As a result, Millennials are often uneducated about government jobs.

"Students in high school don't really know what is going on or what careers are available," he said. "I think they would be interested in these jobs if they really understand what jobs are available. There isn't a focus on public service education."

Leyhas said engaging with Millennials on social media or personally can show them not only what jobs are available in government but also what those jobs are really like. Brandon agreed that Millennials might be more open to government jobs if they had more exposure to them.

"If you think about how basic education is run in America, you see that at the age of 18 you are given just a general education without any chance to try out a new path. Then you are given the question of what you want to do with the rest of your life," Brandon said. "It is kind of insane because you go through these four-year bachelor degree programs, but people are taking longer because they don't stick with that decision they made at 18. They weren't given a chance

to try different paths. I think if local government could show students what is out there and what they can do with these careers they would be interested."

As far as retaining Millennial employees, Danieley said employers need to be aware the newer generation has issues other generations may not have faced before — like large amounts of student debt.

"The people who are coming out of school right now often have a tremendous amount of student debt," he said. "They may require some sort of debt assistance program, if it is within your realm to do so. There is also a mentality among our generation that is more about growing as a person than climbing the corporate ladder. We want an environment where we are satisfied in our job but also feel supported by those in higher-up positions."

Some members of the Millennial generation say they also feel their career ambitions may be stymied by misconceptions about them. Ramaprasad said he feels members of other generations believe Millennials are entitled, but Millennials don't see themselves that way.

"We believe in opportunities for everyone, that everyone should be equal," he said. "Millennials understand much more than people believe. We just have a new way of thinking about opportunities."

Danieley said a lot of older generations sometimes think Millennials are apathetic or only care about what they may get out of a situation.

"People think we are just in it for ourselves, and because of that, we won't stick around on a job very long," Danieley said. "Long-term financial sustainability is part of our goals, and homeownership as well. There is this stigma that once we get to a position we are gone, but we have long-term career goals. We are very philanthropic but we may show it in a different way. We are more engaged with experiences."

Brandon said she sometimes feels that employers immediately write her off just because of her age and their misconceptions about her.

"I do believe we have certain privileges because of the advancements in society, but we have the same aspirations, goals and hopes as every other generation," Brandon said. "While we may have been given different opportunities, those goals remain the same."

Leyhas said Millennials are also often stereotypes as lazy.

"We do work really hard for what we have," she said. "I also think one of the things about Millennials is we want to see the value in what we are doing. I think we want to know what we did had value and we mattered in our lifetime. I think for a lot of us, our job is a way to earn a paycheck but that isn't going to be what makes us happy. I see that in my parents' generation that they do jobs they don't see value in just for the paycheck. We see a difference in doing something because we find it valuable versus because you have to."

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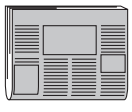
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ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

CROSSVILLE. The city of Crossville is seeking applications and resumes for the position of assistant city clerk. Under the direction of the city clerk, the assistant city clerk is responsible for a broad range of administrative duties for the city clerk and city manager. A complete job description is provided with application request. The ideal candidate will possess a bachelor's degree in business, or related field, plus a minimum of two years of directly related experience. An equivalent combination of education and experience, which provides the person with the knowledge and abilities required to perform the job, may be considered at the discretion of the city. Salary is to be \$32,290 and will also include a benefit package. Inquiries regarding benefit package may be directed to leah.crockett@crossvilletn.gov. Applicant will need proof of identity, eligibility for employment, a valid TN driver's license and able to pass a drug screen and physical. Applications for this position are to be obtained, and returned, to the Tennessee Department of Labor Career Center, located at 60 Ridley Street, Crossville, TN. Completed application must have resume attached for consideration. Applications and resumes will be accepted until the close of business on Aug. 18, 2017. EEO

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

JOHNSON CITY. The city of Johnson City (pop.65,000) seeks an assistant city manager. Johnson City is the hub of the Tri-Cities region and operates under the council-manager form of government. The assistant city manager will report directly to the city manager and will perform highly responsible managerial and administrative work in the coordination, organization, and direction of city programs and services; assist the manager with the development and implementation of policies and procedures; conduct and oversee special projects; serve as liaison to other governmental agencies, university entities, neighborhoods, and community groups. Extensive experience is required involving responsibility for the planning, organization, implementation, and supervision of varied work programs associated with the provision of core local government services. This position will be focused on day-to-day city activities. Master's degree in public administration, business administration, or a related field; and minimum of five to seven years of progressively responsible local government management experience. Preferred qualifications include: experience as a city or county manager and/or deputy or assistant city or county manager. Experience in a full-service community is preferred, and of at least a similar size. Knowledge of local, state, and/or federal laws and applicability to local entities. Demonstrated ability to implement change with measurable accomplishments. Flexibility to handle diverse issues with varying completion schedules. Positive record of achievement and a history of developing constructive working relationships throughout an organization. Community-oriented, with the ability to work closely with citizens, elected officials, other agencies, and the media to further the goals of the city; and experience working in a growing urban area. Required to reside within the city limits of Johnson City within six months of hire date. Applications will be received on-line at www.johnsoncitytn.org until the position is filled. Salary range begins at \$79,277 and tops at \$128,491. Starting salary DOQ. EEO

CITY ENGINEER

DICKSON. The city of Dickson is accepting resumes/applications for the position of city engineer. The city engineer provides technical support and assistance in the development, reviewing and processing of various city engineering plans, permits and specifications; ensures completeness and accuracy of documents prior to issuance; generates computer-aided design drawings for capital projects including data entry, revision and correction of existing drawings, maps and records; performs a variety of technical tasks relative to assigned areas of responsibility. The position requires a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and appropriate licensure through the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance. Two to four years of post-college design experience is preferred, but not required. Salary range is \$56,911 to \$85,518 depending on experience with benefits including health, dental and vision insurance, paid vacation, sick leave and TCRS participation. Applicants may obtain a job description and/or application at Dickson City Hall, 600 East Walnut Street, Dickson, TN 37055, between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm Monday through Friday; by email to administrator@cityofdickson.com; or by calling 615-441-9508 extension 508 during normal business hours. Completed applications, resumes and cover letters should be submitted to Engineer Position, attn. City Administrator, 600 East Walnut Street, Dickson, Tennessee 37055, or by email to administrator@cityofdickson.com with subject "engineer position." EOE/ Drug-free workplace.

CIVIL ENGINEER/INSPECTOR

COOKEVILLE. The Public Works Department is now accepting applications for a civil engineer/inspector. Work in roadway design, inspections and assisting with design and surveys, and responsible for project layout in the field. Provides technical assistance in roadway, drainage and other construction projects. Verifies GIS data, visually inspects roadway and subdivision construction; acts as liaison with contractors; keeps inspection records. Degree in civil engineering and a valid TN driver's license are required. Two to five yrs. exp. and professional engineer license preferred. Must possess Local Government Guideline Manual, Right-of-Way Training Certificate,

TDOT certification for purchase of right-of-way, or obtain all within one year of hire date. Pay range \$51,292 - \$76,918, DOE. Deadline: Aug. 11. Send to: City of Cookeville, HR Department, PO Box 998, Cookeville, TN 38503-0998 or email jobs@cookeville-tn.org. EOE

CITY RECORDER

BELLE MEADE. The city of Belle Meade is seeking qualified candidates for the position of city recorder. Primary job duties include attendance at all monthly board meetings; preparation of all board meeting minutes (Zoning Appeals, Bldg. Code Appeals, Municipal Planning and Commissioner); processing billing and collection of property taxes and storm-water fees; maintaining official city records and answering public records requests; maintaining citizen mailing list and mailing welcome packets to new residents; serving as office receptionist and responding to questions from the public; receipting payments and posting daily receipts; providing assistance to other staff and commissioners. Graduation from an accredited high school and minimum of two years administrative and/or accounting experience preferred. The successful candidate must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, be highly organized and able to meet deadlines and multitask. He/she should be able to work independently as well as effectively operate in a team environment. Proficiency in Microsoft Office software is required. Beginning salary range \$39,600-\$46,600, depending on qualifications and experience. The City of Belle Meade is an EEO, ADA, Title VI employer. Please send application, resume, and cover letter to Beth Reardon, City Manager, 4705 Harding Road, Nashville, 37205 or email to breardon@citybellemeade.org. An application and job description are available on the city website, www.citybellemeade.org, by clicking on the menu option "City Hall," Employment Opportunities."

CITY MANAGER

EAGLEVILLE. The city of Eagleville is seeking an accomplished municipal government professional to be its next city manager. Salary: \$52-70K. The city (pop. 697) operates with a \$3.8M budget and 15 full and part-time employees. The manager is appointed by and reports to a city council comprised of a mayor and six councilmen elected at-large to staggered, four-year terms of office. Candidates should possess a bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, or a field closely related to local government management; or a minimum of five years of professional city management experience in a senior management position. This is a special opportunity for a municipal management professional to guide the future of a small, rural community in a dynamic region of the state. Accordingly it requires a person with a sound working knowledge of city government, public policy development and execution, and basic municipal services. A position profile is available at www.eaglevilletn.com. Send cover letter and resume immediately by electronic mail to the University of Tennessee, Municipal Technical Advisory Service, attention Jeff Broughton, at jeff.broughton@tennessee.edu. The first review date is Aug. 21, 2017.

CODES INSPECTOR II

GALLATIN. The Gallatin Building Codes Department is currently accepting applications for codes inspector II. The purpose of this position is to perform intermediate technical work in the inspection of residential, commercial, industrial, and public facilities for compliance with mechanical codes, and other ordinances. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position. The starting rate is \$21.11 per hour + excellent benefits. The successful applicant will have knowledge of building construction materials, methods, and stages of construction when possible violations and defects may be most easily observed and corrected, as well as the ability to read and interpret plans, specifications and blueprints accurately and to compare them with construction in process. Minimum Qualifications: Applicants must have a high school diploma/equivalent. Must have 5 years recent construction related experience. As well as possess a valid driver's license. Must have four or more I.C.C. certifications as identified by and beneficial to the city. For a more detailed description and to apply, please visit our website at www.gallatintn.gov. Under the How Do I tab, click on Employment Opportunities. Once the Employment page pulls up, click the apply button and follow the instructions. Open until filled. EOE.

CODES INSPECTOR III

GALLATIN. The Gallatin Building Codes Department is currently accepting applications for codes inspector III. This position performs intermediate technical work in the inspection of residential, commercial, industrial, and public facilities for compliance with mechanical codes, and other ordinances. May be assigned specific inspection areas, and other duties per position. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position. The hourly rate is \$24.44 + excellent benefits. The successful applicant will have general knowledge of State and City building codes, laws and ordinances as well as have the ability to: work accurately with attention to detail. Contact building owners, contractors and the public and establish satisfactory working relationships. Understand and effectively carry out verbal and written instructions. Applicants must have a high school diploma/equivalent. Must have 5 years recent construction related experience. As well as possess a valid driver's license. Must have six or more I.C.C. certifications as identified by and beneficial to the city. Must meet TN requirements for plumbing, mechanical, and/or building and/or plan review certification. For a more detailed description and to apply, please visit our website at www.gallatintn.gov. Under the How Do I tab, click on

Employment Opportunities. Once the Employment page pulls up, click the apply button and follow the instructions. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. EOE.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING CONSULTANT

JACKSON. The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is accepting applications for a finance and accounting consultant in its Jackson office. The finance and accounting consultant provides professional advice and technical assistance in the area of municipal financial management to cities, regardless of size, on a broad range of issues and problems. In addition to providing direct client assistance, this position researches, develops, and maintains timely technical reports and publications on critical financial issues. This position develops and teaches multiple municipal training courses within the context of a well-defined training curriculum, and assists others in the agency in the performance of individual and team projects. Requires a bachelor's degree in business administration, accounting or finance, a related field, or equivalent with at least eight years of finance related work experience. Prefer a master's degree in business administration, accounting, finance or related field with at least five years of finance related work experience. Requires at time of employment or within 18 months of employment, one of the following: Certified Government Finance Manager by the Association of Government Accountants, or Certified Public Finance Officer by the Government Finance Officers Association, or Certified Certified Public Accountant by a state board of accountancy and in active status with a minimum of five years of primarily governmental experience. Requires experience in a finance related position in state or local government. Prefer CPA certification, and Tennessee government specific experience. Salary is based on a combination of professional experience and qualifications. Applicants must apply electronically to <http://humanresources.tennessee.edu/recruitment> and at the time of applying should submit a cover letter, resume with the contact details of three references. Open until filled. EEO

HUMAN RESOURCES TECHNICIAN

COLLIERVILLE. This is specialized and complex office work assisting employees and the professional staff in the human resources department. Salary range: \$27,848 - \$33,282 (DOQ) with excellent benefits package. Requires an associate degree in business administration, public administration, human resources or a related field; supplemented by two years previous experience in employee program administration, which may include benefit administration or related areas, or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Bachelor's degree in business administration, public administration or human resources preferred. Must have excellent computer skills using word-processing and spreadsheet software. Two years' experience in working with personnel/benefits with special emphasis on insurance (i.e. claims, filing, benefit's coordination/administration) and experience with workers' compensation and/or safety issues highly desired. Valid driver's license required at time of hire. Selection process may include examinations, interviews, assessment centers, practical skills, etc. Drug testing may be required. Submit an application to the following address: Human Resources, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017. Applications are available at www.collierville.com under Employment Opportunities, or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office. Applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. The Human Resources Office is open Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you have a disability and require special accommodations during the selection process, please notify the human resources office at (901) 457-2290. EOE / drug free work place.

PLANNER II

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin is seeking qualified applicants for the position of planner II in the planning division. This position performs intermediate professional work in the handling of a variety of assignments in the planning office; does related work as required. Work is performed under general supervision. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position. The starting rate is \$24.44 + excellent benefits. Essential duties include assists with the development of current, long-range and/or other planning activities. Reviews and analyzes plans submitted for zoning changes, subdivisions, variances, site plans, building permits, Certificates of Appropriateness, and conditional use permits. Inspects sites for compliance with approved plans. Performs statistical analysis using socio demographic data, or survey data. The successful applicant will have knowledge of the practices of city planning as well as have the ability to analyze and systematically compile technical information for preparing technical reports. Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in Planning or closely related field with four years work experience in progressively responsible professional planning field. For a more detailed description and to apply, please visit our website at www.gallatintn.gov. Under the How Do I tab, click on Employment Opportunities. Once the Employment page pulls up, click the apply button and follow the instructions. Deadline: Sept. 1. EOE.

PRINCIPAL PLANNER

MARYVILLE. The city of Maryville is seeking an experienced principal planner to be responsible for managing the city's planning program. Reports to the director of development services. Requirements include a master's degree in urban planning, project management and supervisory experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Hiring range: \$66,726 - \$87,551 DOE plus an excellent benefits package. Applications are available at the City of Maryville Municipal Center, Human Resources, 400 W. Broadway or on our website, www.maryvillegov.com. Nepotism policy prohibits hiring relatives of city employees. Deadline: Aug. 18. EOE.

PROJECT ENGINEER

CROSSVILLE. The city of Crossville is seeking applications and resumes for the position of professional engineer (P.E.). Starting salary is \$62,980, plus benefits package. This position is under the general guidance of the director of engineering and is responsible for performing technical engineering work associated with the design and/or coordination of engineering and construction projects to ensure compliance with industry standards and applicable codes. A job description is provided with application request at leah.crockett@crossvilletn.gov. Qualifications include: bachelor's degree from accredited college or university in an engineering discipline plus eight years' of post degree engineering experience, including two years as a licensed professional engineer. Knowledge of the theory, principles, standard methods and practices of civil engineering and contract administration. Knowledge of subdivision planning and municipal government engineering. Applicant will need proof of identity, eligibility for employment, a valid TN driver's license and able to pass a drug screen and physical. Applications for this position are to be obtained, and returned, to the Tennessee Department of Labor Career Center, located at 60 Ridley Street, Crossville, TN. Completed application must have resume attached for consideration. Deadline: Aug. 25, 2017. EEO

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT

TULLAHOMA. The city of Tullahoma is accepting resumes for the public works superintendent. This position plans and directs the daily functions of the street, sanitation and city shop divisions. Responsibilities include supervising and scheduling personnel on drainage projects, street repair, garbage collection, recycling, fleet maintenance and sign maintenance. The successful candidate must be able to plan and implement various department projects including estimation of required material, equipment and manpower including costs for construction, paving and maintenance. Position consults with engineers, contractors, design professionals and other agencies regarding public works matters. A college degree is preferred or a comparable combination of experience and training. Candidates should have five years of progressively responsible experience in construction, planning, public administration or building inspection. Supervision experience is required and stormwater experience is preferred. Salary range is \$58,579 - \$64,052, DOQ. Candidates should submit a resume to City of Tullahoma, Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 807, Tullahoma, TN 37388, or email a resume to cbrice@tullahomtn.gov. A job description is available at the above email or by contacting Human Resources at 931-455-2648. EOE

STREET DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

ASHLAND CITY. The town of Ashland City is currently accepting applications for street department maintenance assistant. Job description is located on city website at www.ashlandcitytn.gov. Applications can be obtained on city website or at city hall at 101 Court Street, Ashland City, TN 37015. Applications can be returned to city hall, faxed to (615)792-3501, or emailed to recorder@ashlandcitytn.gov. EOE/ drug-free workplace.

TOWN MANAGER

ENGLEWOOD. The town of Englewood is accepting applications for a town manager. Manager must reside within the town limits 90 days after taking office, have an accounting background, computer skills, and be able to perform the job duties listed in the town charter. Please submit resumes in person, or mail to: Englewood Town Hall, P.O. Box 150, Englewood, TN 37329. (423) 887-7224.

TRAFFIC ENGINEER

SEVIERVILLE. The city of Sevierville is hiring a full-time, traffic engineer. Salary range is \$54,009 to \$75,977 plus excellent benefits. Reporting to the public works director, the traffic engineer will administer the city traffic engineering program, interact with public to resolve issues/complaints, and be responsible for all activities of traffic engineering, signal maintenance, signal construction, sign and pavement marking and parking facilities. Position informs the public and other city departments of traffic engineering matters; develops, justifies and administers the traffic control division operating and capital improvement project budgets; performs investigations for and serves as expert witness for the city in relevant traffic engineering legal matters; manages complex transportation and traffic engineering projects, such as a proposed traffic responsive/adaptive control signal system funded by the CMAQ program; independently evaluates, selects and applies standard techniques in preparing traffic engineering reports, such as signal warrant studies or other road safety type reports; and reviews site development plans and driveway connections. Bachelor's degree in civil engineering, traffic and/or transportation engineering, or equivalent from a college or university accredited by the ABET. Must have a valid TN Driver's License; possession of an active Professional Engineer License issued by the TN State Board of Architects and Engineering Examiners is preferred, but may consider candidates that are on the career path for such licensure. Two to four years of related experience preferred, but an advanced degree taken into consideration for experience. Supervisory experience preferred. Applications can be completed on-line at www.seviervilletn.org. Resumes may be sent by fax to 865-453-5518 or e-mailed to kward@seviervilletn.org.

WATER DISTRIBUTION/WASTEWATER COLLECTION ASSIST.

ASHLAND CITY. The town of Ashland City is currently accepting applications for Water Distribution/Wastewater Collection Assistant. Please read the job description located on our website at www.ashlandcitytn.gov. Applications can be obtained on city website or at city hall at 101 Court Street, Ashland City, TN 37015. Applications can be returned to city hall, faxed to (615)792-3501, or emailed to recorder@ashlandcitytn.gov. EOE/ drug-free workplace.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT CHIEF OPERATOR

SPRINGFIELD. The city of Springfield is accepting applications for the chief

TENNESSEE FESTIVALS



Aug. 31 - Sept 3: Cookeville

Muddy Roots Music Festival
Four full days of independent roots music from around the world. Muddy Roots draws people to Overton County for hillbilly, bluegrass, and punk music. All passes include free camping and free hot showers. Food vendors and beer bars on site. For more information go to <http://www.muddyrootsrecords.com> or call 615-971-2754

Sept 2 - 10: Martin

Tennessee Soybean Festival
The award winning festival is a 24 year tradition celebrating the soybean and soybean farmers of Tennessee and the heartland. Beginning the first week of September, the festival draws a large crowd of 40,000 attendees from both in and out of the state. For more information and a scheduled of events, go to www.tnsoybeanfestival.org

Sept. 9: Centerville

Grinders Switch Music Festival.
Located on the Historic Centerville Square, the festival includes arts and craft vendors, food vendors, shopping at the various merchants on the square, and live music all day long. Great kids activities. Free admission. 10 am to 9 pm. For more information, go to www.hickmancounty.chamber.org/

Sept. 9: Somerville

Fayette County Cotton Festival
The 18th Annual Cotton Festival on the Historic Somerville Square features a day filled with music, arts and crafts vendors and great food. Also featuring the Cotton Festival Car & Truck Show. For more information go to <http://cottonfestivaltn.com/> or call 901-465-8690.

Sept. 15-17: Cowan

Fall Heritage Festival
A celebration of life in the foothills of the Cumberland Plateau, the festival will include food, music, entertainment, juried arts & crafts, living history, classic and antique cruise-in, beauty pageant, cornbread contest and activities for children of all ages. For more information go to www.fallheritagefestival.info or www.facebook.com/FallHeritageFestival.

Sept. 15-17: Bristol

Rhythm & Roots Reunion
A three-day music experience in Historic Downtown Bristol. It all happens in the heart of the birthplace of country music—home to the legendary 1927 Bristol Sessions recordings. For more information go to: <http://www.birthplaceofcountrymusic.org/festival/>

operator position at the Springfield Water Treatment Plant. The chief operator is responsible for supervising the operations of the water treatment plant and is supervised by the director of the Springfield Water and Wastewater Department. Instructions to the chief operator are general and the chief operator must routinely use independent judgement when performing tasks. The chief operator supervises a staff of six operators and one mechanic. The chief operator must be able to conduct laboratory testing equipment as well as being knowledgeable about operating pumps, motors, feeders, etc. The water plant utilizes a SCADA system that monitors the operations of the system's water tanks and pump stations. The chief operator will work both indoors and outdoors and will sit, stand, walk, and lift heavy objects (more than 25 pounds) and will include working in inclement weather. Must be knowledgeable of applicable State and Federal drinking water regulations. Any applicant must have graduated from a standard high school and, preferably, should have a collegiate bachelor of science degree in chemistry or biology or in a field that is related to water treatment. The applicant should have at least three years of experience in the operation of a mixed-media water filtration plant or a combination of education and experience equivalent to the required knowledge and abilities. Any applicant for this position must have a current Grade IV certificate issued by the State of Tennessee and must have (or be able to obtain) a valid State of Tennessee driver license. For full job classification specifications, call the Springfield Human Resources Department at 615-382-2200. The starting salary range is \$62,504-\$71,676 annually DOQ, with excellent benefits. Resumes should be submitted by mail to: City of Springfield Department of Human Resources, 405 N. Main Street, Springfield, TN 37172. Alternatively, resumes can be submitted by fax to 615-382-1612 or on-line at www.springfield-tn.org. Deadline: Sept. 1. EOE/ Drug-Free Workplace.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

ASHLAND CITY. The Town of Ashland City is currently accepting applications for Water Treatment Plant Operations Assistant. Please read the job description located on our website at www.ashlandcitytn.gov. An application can be obtained by our website or at City Hall located at 101 Court Street, Ashland City, TN 37015. Applications can be returned to City Hall, faxed to (615)792-3501, or emailed to recorder@ashlandcitytn.gov. EOE/ drug-free workplace.

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PAST PRESIDENTS**John Holden** (2016) Mayor, Dyersburg**Curtis Hayes** (2015) Mayor, Livingston**Dale Kelley** (2013) Mayor, Huntingdon**Tom Rowland** (2014) Mayor, Cleveland**Ken Wilber** (2012) Mayor, Portland**Kay Senter** (2011) Morristown Vice Mayor**Sam Tharpe** (2010) Commissioner, Paris**Tommy Pedigo** (2009) Council, Morristown**Bob Kirk** (2004) Alderman, Dyersburg**AFFILIATE DIRECTORS****Karen Johnson**, Councilwoman, Nashville (NLC)**C. Seth Sumner**, Athens (TCMA)**TML AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**
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Supreme Court preview for local governments in 2018

SUPREME, from Page 1

discredit the suspects' claims of an innocent mental state.

Police officers arrested a group of late-night partygoers for trespassing. The party-goers gave police conflicting reasons for why they were at the house (birthday party v. bachelor party). Some said "Peaches" invited them to the house; others said they were invited by another guest.

Police officers called Peaches who told them she gave the partygoers permission to use the house. But she admitted that she had no permission to use the house herself; she was in the process of renting it. The landlord confirmed by phone that Peaches hadn't signed a lease.

The partygoers sued the police officers for violating their Fourth Amendment right to be free

from false arrest.

D.C. Circuit granted the

partygoers summary judgment reasoning police officers lacked probable cause to make the arrest for trespassing because: "All of the information that the police had gathered by the time of the arrest made clear that Plaintiffs had every reason to think that they had entered the house with the express consent of someone they believed to be the lawful occupant."

The issue in *Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission** is whether Colorado's public accommodations law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, violates a cake artist's First Amendment free speech and free exercise rights.

The owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, Jack C. Phillips, declined to design and make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple because of his religious beliefs. The couple filed a complaint against Masterpiece claiming it violated Colorado's public accommodations law. Masterpiece argued that being required to comply with the law violates

Phillips' free speech and free exercise rights.

The Colorado Court of Appeals rejected both of Masterpiece's claims. Masterpiece argued that wedding cakes inherently communicate a celebratory message about marriage and that, by forcing it to make cakes for same-sex weddings, it is being unconstitutionally compelled to express a celebratory message about same-sex marriage that it does not support. For speech to be protected by the First Amendment it must convey a particularized message.

According to the Colorado Court of Appeals: "Masterpiece does not convey a message supporting same-sex marriages merely by abiding by the law and serving its customers equally."

Regarding Masterpiece's free exercise of religion claim, the Colorado Court of Appeals applied rational basis analysis to Colorado's law and "easily conclude[d] that it is rationally related to Colorado's interest in eliminating discrimina-

tion in places of public accommodation."

Conclusion

The billion dollar question for local governments is whether the Supreme Court will take a case where it is asked to overturn *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota* (1992). In *Quill*, the Supreme Court held that states cannot require retailers with no in-state physical presence to collect sales tax. In *Direct Marketing Association v. Brohl* (2015), Justice Kennedy stated that the "legal system should find an appropriate case for this Court to reexamine *Quill*."

South Dakota passed a law requiring remote vendors to collect sales tax, which is currently being litigated in state court. If the South Dakota Supreme Court strikes down this law by the end of August it is possible the Supreme Court could decide this question by June 2018.

Editor's note: The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) files Supreme Court amicus curiae briefs on behalf of the Big Seven national organizations representing state and local governments.*Indicates a case where the SLLC has filed or will file an amicus brief.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



Jobless claims are up again after a three-month low, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. While unemployment rates remained below a level consistent with the tightening labor market, initial claims for state unemployment benefits increased 10,000 to a seasonally adjusted 244,000 for the week ended July 22. Claims have been volatile in recent weeks as automakers shut assembly plants for annual retooling. Some manufacturers like General Motors (GM) are extending their summer shutdowns to manage excess inventory from declining sales.

Parents spent less on college tuition for their children during the 2016-17 school year and students are borrowing more money as a result, according to Sallie

Mae's 10th annual "How America Pays for College" report. Student borrowing has increased 6 percent over the past year. Students paid for 19 percent of the total cost of college tuition in the 2016-17 school year, up from 13 percent in the previous year. The increase in student borrowing may be attributed to the fact the parents are contributing less to paying college tuition. The average amount of out-of-pocket spending by parents fell 6 percent for the same period. The average family's spending on tuition decreased to 23 percent from 29 percent the previous year. That translates to about \$5,527 out of the average \$23,757 yearly tab, which is the lowest dollar amount spent by parents since 2009, as well as the smallest percentage of the total tuition spent since the study started.

The rise in electronic cigarette use among American adults

is linked to an increase in the number of people who have quit smoking, according to research by California scientists recently published in a British medical journal. The study used five U.S. population surveys dating from 2001 to 2015. E-cigarette users were identified from the most recent survey in 2014-15, and smoking quit rates were obtained from those who had reported smoking cigarettes 12 months before the survey. Rates were then compared to four earlier surveys. The results showed that 65 percent of e-cig users were more likely to make an attempt to quit as opposed to only 40 percent of non-users. Additionally, e-cig users were more likely to succeed in quitting smoking tobacco for at least three months. E-cigarettes contain nicotine, but not tobacco, and many health experts believe they are a lower-risk alternative to smoking.

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Dates/Locations/Times:**August 8 Knoxville**

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT

August 9 Kingsport

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT

August 15 Jackson

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT

August 16 Nashville

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT

4 CPE/CMFO (Other) (LM)

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

No loan is too large or too small



The town of Dover recently closed on general obligation refunding bond, a refunding capital outlay note issue, and a \$550,000 note issue for paving. The town has used the TMBF program since 2012. Pictured are Town Administrator Kim Wallace, TMBF representative Linda Mooningham. Seated are Mayor Lesa Fitzhugh and Town Clerk/CMFO Carla Anderson.



The city of Three Way recently closed a \$2 million fixed rate loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to finance various projects, including a new city hall, street and road improvements, and equipment. Pictured are Mayor Larry Sanders and City Recorder Susan Rogers.



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Tennessee municipalities set sights on solar eclipse

BY KATE COIL

TML Communications Specialists

Cities and towns across Tennessee are gearing up to view a once-in-a-life-time event.

On Aug. 21, Tennessee will experience its first total solar eclipse in more than 500 years, with another total eclipse not predicted to occur in the same area for nearly 550 years afterward.

Billy Teets, an outreach astronomer with Vanderbilt University's Dyer Observatory in Brentwood, said a solar eclipse requires both the moon and the sun to be in exactly the right position when compared to the earth.

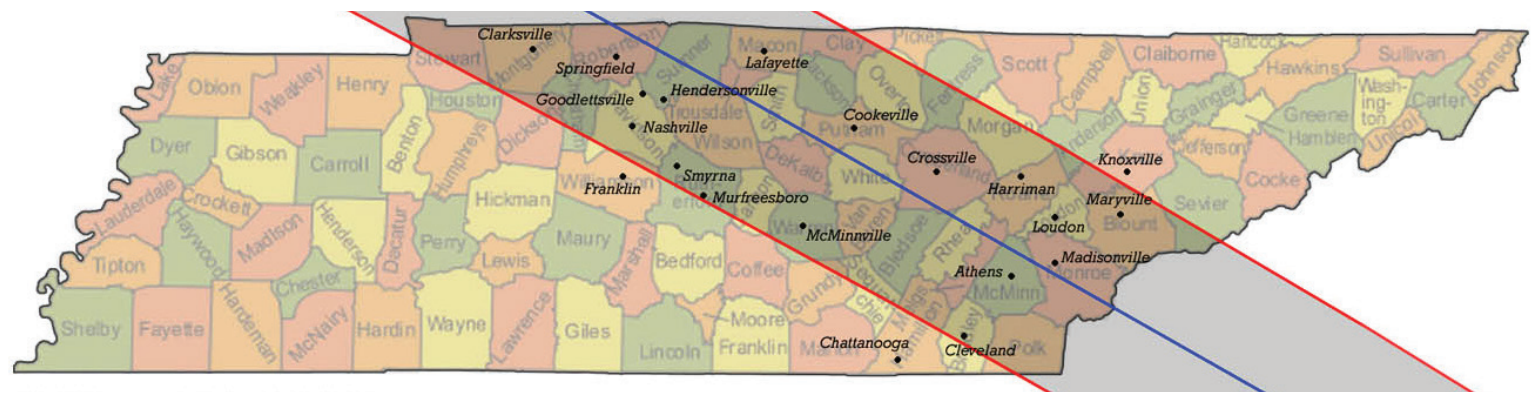
"You have to be in the inner shadow of the moon to see a total solar eclipse because it is not very wide by the time it reaches the earth," he said. "It is rare to be in that direct path. We have a solar eclipse whenever the moon passes directly in front of the sun. Because the moon's orbit is tilted when compared to the earth's orbit around the sun, it has to be a new moon to set up a solar eclipse. Typically, the moon is going to be too high or too low in the sky in respect to the sun to pass in front of it. Basically, we miss the shadow of the moon most of the time."

While a solar eclipse occurs somewhere around the globe once every five months, most of these are only partial eclipses where the moon doesn't manage to completely cover the sun.

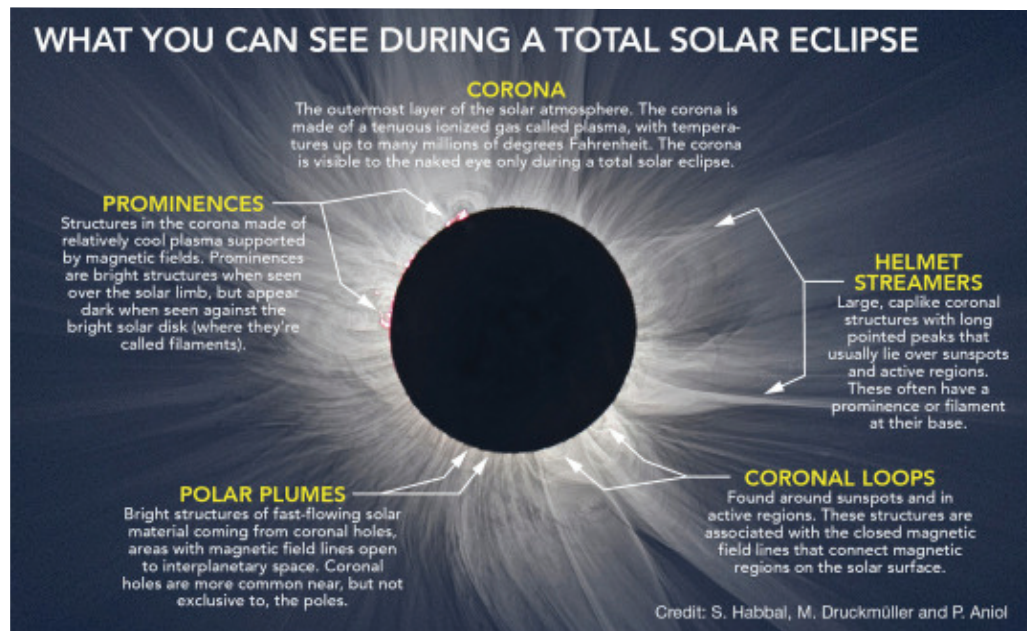
Total solar eclipses also aren't exactly rare across the earth – one occurs roughly every 18 months or twice every three years. What is rare is to be in the exact path of that totality, a path that is usually less than 100 miles long and can take hundreds of years to cycle back around to the same location.

Once a total solar eclipse has occurred in an area, scientists estimate it takes another 400 years on average for another total eclipse in that same spot. As a result, most people don't see a total solar eclipse unless they are willing to travel the world looking for one.

"This will be the first time since 1979



The path of the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse through the state of Tennessee.



any total solar eclipse has been visible in the mainland U.S.," Teets said. "There were total solar eclipses visible in parts of the mainland U.S. in the 1800s, but the last time a total eclipse passed through the area where Nashville would be founded was in 1478 – 539 years ago. The next time that Nashville will see another total eclipse will be 2546, roughly 549 years from now."

Teets said the path of the eclipse is only about 75 miles wide, meaning that only those within that range will see the total eclipse.

Those outside that range may experience a partial solar eclipse.

In addition to being awe-inspiring viewing, Teets said eclipses can also give astronomers and other scientists valuable information about the world we live in.

"The 1918 eclipse was used to help confirm the predictions of Einstein's theory of general relativity," he said. "Eclipses have been used for determining distances, like the distance between the earth and the moon."

To view an eclipse, Teets said specialized

glasses are needed up to a point.

"During totality, when the sun is completely blocked out and no part of its surface is visible you have to see the eclipse with the naked eye," he said. "When any part of the sun's surface is visible you have to be wearing the special glasses or you will suffer eye damage. Once the moon completely moves in front of the sun you have to remove the glasses. The corona – the part of the sun you can't see without a total solar eclipse – is only about as bright as the full moon and is safe to look at. When the sun pops back out, you put the glasses back on."

For those looking to purchase their own glasses, Teets recommends checking with local observatories, science centers or NASA to purchase glasses or find reputable glasses to purchase them from. He said eclipses that are safe for eclipse viewing will have the ISO certification number 12312-2 on them.

Teets said the eclipse is also best viewed through the eye and not a camera.

"Folks who have been in the path of a total solar eclipse before say there is nothing like experiencing that totality," Teets said. "There is no sunrise that can compare to it. There is simply nothing like the beauty of it and the way it looks. We try to stress that, especially if this is the first total eclipse you see, don't try to take pictures of it. You have a very short period of time to view totality, so just take it in with your own eyes and try to experience it so you remember this for the rest of your life."

ECLIPSE VIEWING CELEBRATIONS BY CITY

ADAMS

Xenyth Solar Eclipse Music and Arts Festival will be held from Aug. 17-21 in Adams. Come to Red River Park for five days of eclipse celebration featuring live music, arts, special events, and the solar eclipse. Learn more about daily events at www.xenythfestival.com.

ASHLAND CITY

The town of Ashland City will present Dark in the Park at Riverbluff Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first 300 visitors will receive solar shades or glasses and a moon pie. Food trucks and vendors will be on hand.

ATHENS

The city of Athens will host a Total Eclipse in the Park event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Athens Regional Park. The Event will include food trucks, vendors, live entertainment, and is sponsored by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Athens Parks and Recreation Department, and The Daily Post. For more information, contact the Athens Parks and Recreation Department at 423-744-2704 or email recreation@cityofathensn.com.

CLARKSVILLE

Dr. Rhea Seddon, retired NASA astronaut, will also be on hand at Austin Peay State University at 7 p.m. on Aug. 20 to talk about the eclipse, NASA and STEM careers. Solar Eclipse Viewing Parties will be held at Clarksville City Parks from noon to 3 p.m. on Aug. 21. Clarksville will be hosting viewing parties at Liberty Park, McGregor Park, and Heritage Park featuring food vendors and speakers at all locations.

COOKEVILLE

The Cookeville Solar Eclipse Experience will be held from Aug. 19-21, culminating with an eclipse viewing on Aug. 21. The party will be held at Tennessee Tech University's Tucker Stadium with tailgating, vendor booths, and NASA-certified experts. Following the viewing party, the Cookeville Community Band will hold a special celestial concert in Dogwood Park.

DUCKTOWN

The city of Ducktown will host an Eclipse Viewing at the Hoist House at the Ducktown Basin Museum. The event will be held from noon until 3 p.m. For more information, contact Ken Rush at (423)-496-5778.

ETOWAH

The Etowah Eclipse Extravaganza will be held all day at the Etowah L&N Depot Museum. An official NASA viewing location, the family-friendly celebration will have activity stations, an outer space photo booth, Moonwalk



dancing, special treats and free glasses for the first 500 attendees. Call (423)-263-2228 for more information.

FARRAGUT

The town of Farragut's Eclipse Party starts at 1 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21, at McFee Park. The first 300 participants will receive free eclipse glasses. Other activities will include children's crafts, food trucks, face painting and cookie decorating. For more info, contact Special Event and Program Coordinator Lauren Cox at lcx@townof-farragut.org or call (856)-281-3372.

GALLATIN

Gallatin Eclipse Encounter at Triple Creek Park from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The spectacular event will include music for all ages, exceptional food, eclectic programs, a children's play area, and vendors. Register through Eventbrite or toll-free 888-301-7886.

GOODLETTSVILLE

Get Eclipsed in Goodlettsville at Moss-Wright Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The city will also be hosting the Get Eclipsed in Goodlettsville Kick-Off party on Aug. 20 from 5-7 p.m. at Bowen House Grounds and Moss-Wright Park featuring music and food trucks.

GRANVILLE

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party at T.B. Sutton General Store from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The event is free though viewing glasses and other souvenir items will be available for purchase. There will be a charge for tours and the food. A special "Out of this World" lunch will be served at Sutton General Store at 11 a.m., call 931-653-4151 for reservations. A Granville Eclipse Viewing Special Package with viewing kit, lunch, and tours is available by calling 931-653-4151.

GREENBRIER

The city of Greenbrier will host an Eclipse Viewing Party from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Louise Martin Memorial Park. The city will provide viewing glasses for the first 450 attendees. Jump houses for children and concessions for all participants will also be available.

MCMINNVILLE

The city of McMinnville will host Blackout 2017: A Great American Eclipse Party on the court house square. The free event will feature classic rock, astronomy-themed arts and crafts, NASA's coverage of the event, and free classes for viewing.

MT. JULIET

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party at Charlie Daniels Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Activities will include music, food trucks, vendors, field day events, and park activity. Eclipse viewing kits, t-shirts and more will be on sale with proceeds to benefit Friends of Mt. Juliet Parks and Greenways. Visit www.mtjuliet-tn.gov for more information.

NASHVILLE

First Tennessee Park will host an eclipse viewing party in conjunction with the Nashville Sounds, Metro Nashville Government, Metro Sports Authority and Adventure Science Center. The park gates will open at 10:30 a.m. with an astronomy demonstration at 11 a.m. and a Sounds baseball game at 4:05 p.m. Attendees will receive solar glasses for viewing of the eclipse. Seating for the viewing party will be on a first-come, first-served basis (excluding club level and group areas). Tickets to the viewing party and the Sounds game are on sale now at the Nashville Sounds ticket office and website.

NIOTA

The Niota City Hall and Historic Railroad Depot will hold a viewing party featuring entertainment, food trucks, viewing glasses for the first 200 guests and guest speaker Michael Genest – a 37-year veteran of the U.S. Space Program. Contact Niota City Hall at (423) 568-2584 for more info.

PORTLAND

Portland Eclipse Experience at city of Portland from Aug. 19-21. Celebrate the eclipse weekend in Portland with events including a Classic Car Cruise-In, Music on Main, Farm to Table Dinner and culminating with eclipse viewing parties held on Aug. 21 at Richland Park, Meadowbrook Park, Sumner Crest Winery and Days Gone By Museum. Visit portlandcofc.com for more information on the schedule of events and reservations.

SMYRNA

The town of Smyrna's Outdoor Adventure Center will host an Eclipse Viewing Party from noon to 2 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by the town and the Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department. Glasses will be provided to the first 50 participants and activities will include games, Kona Ice and music.

SPRING CITY

The town of Spring City will host an eclipse festival in Veteran's Park with children's activities, foods, crafts, and other vendors. Contact city hall at (423)-365-6441 or at www.townofspringcitytn.com for more information.

SWEETWATER

Eclipse Festival at downtown Sweetwater from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendors, moonwalking lessons, souvenirs, Moon Pies, vendors, and space-themed entertainment will be on hand as part of the eclipse viewing party.

TELLICO PLAINS

The Charles Hall Museum and Cherokee Skyway Visitor Center will host a three-day Standing in the Shadow of the Moon festival from Aug. 19-21. The festival will culminate on Aug. 21 with a viewing party from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with food and live music as well as an astronomy presentation.

WHITE HOUSE

Discover the Totality at White House Soccer Complex from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Event will include live feeds from NASA, food trucks, music and more. For more information contact the White House Area Chamber of Commerce at 615-672-3937 or at www.whitehouse-chamber.org.