

ETDD Newsletter

ETDD BOARD HOLDS 42nd ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The East Tennessee Development District held its 42nd Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, June 4th at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris. The banquet was attended by ETDD staff and more than 150 local officials and guests.



John Rice Irwin, founder of the Museum of Appalachia, (left) welcomes attendees



Don Mull, Mayor of Alcoa and outgoing Board Chair, (right) presents a plaque to Becky Ruppe, Morgan County Mayor and incoming Board Chair (left)

Each year ETDD recognizes local governments, other agencies and individuals for special contributions to regional development. In 2009, 14 awards were presented for significant projects in the region. Each honoree received a plaque that commemorates their particular achievement. Projects recognized at the Awards Banquet were:

- Anderson County Development of the New River Water Line Project
- Morgan County Development of the Gatewood Ford Area Water Line Project
- City of New Market/NMUB Completion of the EPA & CDBG Water Line Rehabilitation Projects
- Sweetwater Utilities Board Development of a Water Line Interconnection with TASS
- Anderson County/ACUB/NACUB Merger of the Anderson County Utility Board (ACUB) and the North Anderson County Utility District (NACUD)
- Roane County Construction of a New Jail Facility
- Town of Dandridge Development of a New Fire Hall
- City of Clinton Construction of a New Fire Hall at I-75 Industrial Park
- City of Loudon Comprehensive Downtown Revitalization Program
- City of LaFollette Development of a New Walking Trail
- City of Blaine Construction of a New City Hall
- City of Bean Station Development of a New City Hall
- Roane & Morgan Counties Development of Plateau Partnership Park
- Knox County/Blount County/Alcoa/Maryville Development of Pellissippi Place Industrial Park in Alcoa

Also, the following outgoing Executive Committee Members were recognized:

- Raymond Finney**, Representing the Tennessee State Senate, 2007-2009
- Jim Hackworth**, Representing the Tennessee State House of Representatives, 2007-2009
- Eddy Ford**, Representing Knox County, 2001-2009
- J. Harold Willoughby**, Representing Campbell County, 2008-2009

METTC PRESENTS AWARDS

The Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council (METTC) also participated in the program and presented awards to its membership for the past year. Mr. Tim Knight, METTC Board Chairman and tourism director for the Campbell County Chamber of Commerce, thanked the ETDD staff and Board of Directors for their support and presented ETDD with a canvas print of the 2009 Tennessee Official Vacation Guide. He explained that these two organizations used to be joined as many economic development and tourism offices are across the state. Mr. Dave Jones, regional director for the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, was also presented a canvas print for his services to the region. In addition to these awards, Mr. Knight presented the following awards to METTC board members: Linda Lewanski, Chair; Katy Brown, Vice Chair; Stephanie Wells, Treasurer; and Mary Bryant, Secretary.

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Economic Development / Transportation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development grant applications that were submitted during the second quarter involved the funding of infrastructure improvements in the Harrogate Industrial Park and Pellissippi Place in Alcoa.

A Fast Track Infrastructure Development Program (FIDP) grant application in the amount of \$97,140 and a TDOT State Industrial Access (SIA) grant application in the amount of \$573,287 were submitted by the City of Harrogate to provide infrastructure to support the new SGS North America Mineral Services Division facility in the Harrogate Industrial Park. The FIDP grant will partially fund a waterline and natural gas line, while the SIA grant will fully fund an access road to the facility. The SIA grant has already been approved. The company is a coal testing laboratory that just recently moved into a new 8200 square foot building. The company's relocation from Middlesboro, KY will result in approximately 15 new jobs and over \$300,000 in private investment.

The City of Alcoa submitted a HUD EDI grant application for \$142,500 that will partially fund the first phase of communication duct bank and lighting infrastructure in Pellissippi Place. In addition, the Industrial Development Board of Blount County submitted a Small Business Administration Congressional Earmark grant application in the amount of \$670,000 to continue construction of the south entrance road and water and sewer lines in the park.

During the next quarter, ETDD will begin preparation of an EPA Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment grant application. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding to conduct environmental site assessments on brownfield properties throughout the district. A brownfield is defined as a site that could have become contaminated as a result of past use. The assessments are performed in order to make these sites safe for redevelopment. Examples of brownfields are idled or underused industrial and certain commercial facilities, abandoned gas stations, dry cleaners, and scrap yards. If you know of any sites in your community that you would like to include in the program, please call Phil Layman at ETDD, (865) 273-6003.

TRANSPORTATION

North and South RPO Meetings

The North and South RPO Technical Committees will meet on Thursday, July 30. The North will meet at

10:00 a.m. and the South will meet at 1:00 p.m. Both groups will meet at the office of the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (ETHRA) in Knoxville.

TDOT staff will be on hand to review the Purpose and Need Statements for the requests for study, which are included in each RPO's Transportation Planning Reports. They will also make a presentation that aims to better inform RPO members about the RPO role in transportation planning. Hopefully it will address some of the questions you may have.

Complete meeting information will be distributed at least one week prior to the meeting. Please contact Jennifer Lehto at (865) 273-6003 or jlehto@etdd.org if you need more information or if you have any questions.

Roadscapes Applications Online

TDOT is once again offering the Roadscapes grant program. The deadline for submitting an application is September 18th, 2009. Roadscapes will fund smaller landscaping projects along state routes and major intersections, as well as activities such as invasive plant removal, streambank restoration, and viewshed enhancement. The minimum award will be \$10,000 and the maximum award will be \$120,000. The grant requires a 20% local match. This is a reimbursement grant program.

Unfortunately, award announcements for the 2008 grant cycle have not yet been made. If you applied last year and are awaiting word on your status, you can periodically check the TDOT website's news release section at www.tdot.state.tn.us.

As the Roadscapes application is due in two months, please let us know as soon as possible if you would like assistance with the preparation of an application. Please contact Jennifer Lehto at (865) 273-6003 or jlehto@etdd.org if you need more information or if you have any questions.

Other Grant Opportunities on the Horizon

Please be aware that this fall and winter TDOT will again offer the enhancement grant program and the Safe Routes to School grant program. The enhancement application will most likely be due in November, and the Safe Routes to School application will most likely be due in February or March 2010. The Safe Routes to School program also requires that all applicants must attend a workshop to be eligible for funding. The workshop has not yet been scheduled, but it is normally held in December.

Grant Programs / Solid Waste

CDBG

Early Reminder!!! Communities should begin to think about upcoming CDBG projects for 2010. Closeout of existing projects will need to be completed by the end of January, 2010. The expected grant application deadline is the end of February, 2010. Announcement of the 2009 CDBG grant awards is expected to occur in late fall 2009.

FEMA

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with Fire Hall Construction Grants. The grant was a 100% grant although the provision of local funds would greatly enhance the chances of being funded.

Community	Amount
Harriman	\$761,000
Caryville	\$561,625
Lenoir City	\$7,000,000
Cocke County	\$1,219,850
Clinton	\$531,280
Campbell County	\$1,319,469
Grand Total	\$11,383,224

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with fire equipment and fire truck grants applications:

Name	Total	Items
Lafollette	\$35,960	Fire Equipment
Caryville	\$27,892	Fire Equipment
Norris	\$96,834	Fire Truck
Norris	\$7,803	Fire Equipment
Christianburg (Monroe Co.)	\$225,000	Fire Truck
Christianburg (Monroe Co.)	\$78,110	Fire Equipment
Del Rio (Cocke Co.)	\$79,970	Fire Equipment
Jacksboro	\$37,900	Fire Equipment
Harriman	\$56,000	Fire Equipment
Sweetwater	\$152,156	Fire Equipment
Lake City	\$42,824	Fire Equipment
Lake City	\$91,945	Fire Truck
Clinton	\$38,950	Fire Equipment
Citico (Monroe Co.)	\$240,000	Fire Truck
Citico (Monroe Co.)	\$81,680	Fire Equipment
Monroe Co.	\$239,850	Fire Truck
Pinecrest (Campbell Co.)	\$78,000	Fire Equipment
Pinecrest (Campbell Co.)	\$111,780	Fire Truck
Blair (Roane Co.)	\$65,490	Fire Equipment
Blair (Roane Co.)	\$199,000	Fire Truck
Campbell County	\$247,000	Fire Truck
Campbell County	\$39,316	Fire Equipment
Cocke County	\$100,000	Fire Truck
Harrogate	\$180,000	Fire Equipment
Harrogate	\$77,520	Fire Truck
Grand Total	\$2,630,980	

ARC

ETDD staff submitted full applications on behalf of the Arthur-Shawnee Utility District in Claiborne County for waterline system improvements, City of Newport for stormwater drainage and Newport Utilities for waterline extensions. The deadline for the submission of 2010 ARC pre-applications is expected to be late October or early November.

Recreation

The State of Tennessee has announced that Recreation Trail Grants Pre-Applications are due August 21. The maximum grant amount is \$80,000 and the minimum amount is \$8,000. There is a 20% match requirement.

Police Grants

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with Bullet Proof Vest Grants.

Community	Amount
Sweetwater	\$2,262.50
Newport	\$2,219.00
Jellico	\$2,580.00
Loudon	\$8,203.00
Jacksboro	\$1,272.00
Grainger Co.	\$8,268.00
Oliver Springs	\$1,272.00
Dandridge	\$8,904.00
Norris	\$1,908.00
Clinton	\$6,360.00
Lenoir City	\$10,176.00
Harriman	\$636.00
Anderson Co.	\$45,432.00
Total	\$104,407.50

ETDD staff assisted the following communities in submitting COPS grants: Jacksboro, Caryville, Dandridge, Harriman, Kingston, Sweetwater, Morgan County and Sunbright.

ETDD staff also assisted the following communities with BYRNE grant applications:

Community	Description	Amount
Morgan Co.	Juvenile Mentoring Program	\$103,351.00
Harriman	Forensic Investigator	\$63,354.00
Harriman	Radios for Police Officers	\$21,915.00
Gatlinburg	Radios for Police Officers	\$13,825.00
Campbell Co.	Youth Probation Officer	\$34,270.00
Total		\$236,715.00

Housing / Historic Preservation

HOUSING

Economic Stimulus Funds Aid Housing Needs in East Tennessee

Awards were announced in mid-May for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, designed to aid communities and counties to “clean-up and fix-up” houses and neighborhoods that have been hit with massive foreclosures or abandonment of their housing stock. There were two separate grant programs: one for a fixed allocation for counties or constituent communities within the counties. The second funding initiative was for the “Continuum of Care” organizations, who work within designated areas, to help end homelessness. These organizations collaborated to develop projects to rehabilitate or create new housing where abandoned or blighted housing previously stood.

While the county allocations were pre-determined, each county was required to develop an acceptable project using those funds, projects that were located in areas of highest need, as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Projects that were developed by counties within ETDD ranged from the Graham-Kivette House Children’s Center in Tazewell, to a juvenile holding center in Union County, to housing rehab in Campbell County, to cleared sites for new Habitat for Housing homes in Cocke County. Altogether the county allocations for ETDD counties amounted to \$3,819,788.00.

The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Continuum of Care agencies collaborated to garner grants worth \$2,876,761.00, approximately 25% of the \$12 million set-aside for Continuum of Care organizations. These grant funds will provide new and/or rehabilitated homes to low income families in Claiborne, Hamblen, Loudon, Blount, and Campbell Counties.

Added together the NSPI programs to provide housing for the low and very low income families of the East Tennessee Development District counties will bring approximately \$6.7 million for housing, and jobs for those who will build and/or rehab those homes.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NSPI Funds to Assist in the Restoration of Graham-Kivette House

The NSPI Funds were designated for the stabilization of neighborhoods in communities and counties with a high need for intervention due to high numbers of foreclosed, abandoned, or blighted houses. One such house, built almost 200 years ago, is the National Register listed Graham-Kivette House, located in Tazewell, Claiborne County, Tennessee.

The NSPI fund county allocation for Claiborne County is \$208,000. In addition to these funds, and other grants currently being applied for, a former resident of Claiborne County, concerned for the preservation of the house, has donated \$10,000 toward a new roof. Built shortly after the establishment of Tazewell in 1802, the house built of cut limestone, was built circa 1810. Next year, while framed in scaffolding, the house will celebrate its 200th anniversary. Currently the future holds only good things, as the old house will be restored/renovated and adaptively reused as an emergency shelter for at-risk children.

As research gets underway to ascertain what changes may have been made to the exterior or interior of the house, Erlinda McMeel, director of Economic and Community Development for Claiborne County, is looking for photos of the structure during various periods of its life. If you have photos, even if they have people in them, of the inside or outside of the house, please contact McMeel at 423-626-2592, or by writing to her at the Claiborne County Courthouse, Tazewell, Tennessee 37879.



Right rear view, showing frame additions added prior to 1885
Graham-Kivette House

Areawide Development Corporation / 2010 Census

Changes to the SBA Loan Programs

Lenders play a critical role in the health of the American economy, and are especially vital to small businesses. The U.S. Small Business Administration has implemented changes to the current SBA 504 program as well as a special, temporary loan program that can be used to help struggling American small businesses while reducing risk during these tough economic conditions.

First – **Debt Refinancing:** Legislation allows 504 program projects to include a limited amount of debt refinancing if there is a business expansion and the debt refinanced does not exceed 50 percent of the projected cost of the expansion. “Expansion” includes any project that involves the acquisition, construction or improvement of land, building or equipment for use by the small business.

Second – **Floor Plan Financing to Auto, RV, and Other Dealerships:** Under the DFP pilot program, the SBA will provide loan guarantees for lines of credit through its 7(a) program. DFP loans will be made through SBA lenders only for titled inventory: including autos, RVs, manufactured homes, boats and motorcycles. Floor plan financing can offer some dealerships the opportunity to get through these tough economic times by allowing them to keep their inventory and cash flow intact, as well as save the jobs these small businesses provide.

Third – **ARC Loans:** are deferred-payment loans of up to \$35,000, available to established, viable, for-profit small businesses that need short-term help to make their principal and interest payments on existing and qualifying business debt. ARC loans are 100 percent guaranteed by the SBA and have no SBA fees associated with them. ARC loans will be made by commercial lenders, not the SBA directly.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ADC Annual Membership Meeting
and Golf Tournament

Tuesday, September 22, 2009
Meeting @ 10:30 am
Lunch @ 12:00 pm
Golf @ 1:00 pm

At Egwani Farms Golf Course in Rockford, TN

Reservation forms and agendas will be mailed the last part of August.
However, you can pre-register now by email to llongmire@etdd.org.

The U.S. Census Bureau Wants YOU!

The 2010 Census may be less than a year away, but that's not much time when you consider the enormity of reaching everyone in the United States and encouraging them to be counted. That's why partnering with organizations like yours, along with a broad spectrum of other organizations from the national to the local level, is extremely important.

To attain a complete and accurate count of the population, we need your help in contacting and informing your colleagues, members and community. Many people are unfamiliar with the census or the fact one will occur in 2010. And many more are unaware of the benefits a complete count offers.

Census data guides critical decisions that affect this nation, from congressional representation to the allocation of federal spending. Every year, the federal government can allocate more than \$300 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. A Web site specifically for partners called "Partner with Us," will be available in the coming months. You may also visit **the main 2010 Census Web site** at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census>.

The U.S. Census Bureau wants to keep you informed about the 2010 Census, with news and information that relates specifically to you as a partner. We will also provide you with tools and tips you can use to encourage 2010 Census participation within your organization and in your community.

For more information on how to become a partner, contact the Census Bureau's Partnership Specialist covering your area. Listed below are the contacts:

- ◆ Ben Raymond at (423) 946-7669 or bfraymond@comcast.net
Serving Blount, Cocke, Jefferson, Monroe and Sevier Counties
- ◆ Vincent Joy at (423) 946-8051 or vincent.e.joy@census.gov
Serving Grainger, Hamblen, Loudon, and Morgan Counties
- ◆ Sylvia Calzadilla at (865) 405-8491 or silviacensus@yahoo.com
Serving Anderson, Claiborne, Knox, Roane and Union Counties

(At this time, Campbell and Scott Counties have not been assigned a specialist.)

People and Places

Kathy Lawson joins ETDD staff



In October of 2008, Kathy Lawson joined the ETDD staff as Administrative Assistant and works primarily for the Areawide Development Corporation in providing loans to area businesses. Prior to joining our staff, she worked for Walker's Supply Company.

Kay Senter	TML Vice President and Morristown Vice Mayor
Cindy Ogle	TML District 2 Director and Gatlinburg City Manager
Dot LaMarche	TML At-Large Director and Farragut Vice Mayor
Tom Beehan	TML Past Presidents and Mayor of Oak Ridge
Bill Haslam	TML Metropolitan Mayor and Mayor of Knoxville

Morristown – Newest Main Street Program in Tennessee

In 2008 the [Crossroads Development Partnership \(CDP\)](#) was created to address preservation and revitalization efforts within the central business district. As a result of the efforts of this organization, the City was recently certified as Tennessee's 23rd Main Street program by the Department of Economic and Community Development. Main Street USA is a proven national program created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to promote the revitalization of traditional business districts through four key emphasis areas: economic restructuring, promotion, organization and design. Past studies have shown that every dollar a community uses to support its local Main Street program leverages an average of \$40.35 in new investment, making the Main Street program one of the most successful economic development strategies in America.

James Sisson Remembered

James Sisson, former mayor of Oliver Springs, passed away in his home on June 15th. Mr. Sisson served several terms as mayor and when he wasn't serving as mayor he also served as Alderman and a member of the planning commission. His career in governments began in the 1970s and lasted into the 1990s.

Farragut's Lou LaMarche Wins Award

During the TML Annual Conference held in Chattanooga, Lou LaMarche, husband of Farragut Vice Mayor Dot LaMarche, received the TML "Stand by your Spouse" award. The award is given each year to the spouse of an elected official in recognition of the many sacrifices they give in the name of public service. This marks the first year that this award has been given to a husband.

TML Recognizes Knoxville

The City of Knoxville was recently recognized during the TML Conference with an Excellence in Green Leadership Award. The City was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as one of 12 Solar America Cities and has received more than \$500,000 so far in funding and technical assistance from the DOE, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and TVA to develop a sustainable solar energy infrastructure.

TML Officers from the ETDD Region

At the TML Annual Conference, the following local officials were elected to serve on the Board of Directors for 2009-2010:

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Celebrates 50th Anniversary

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is not the only park celebrating a milestone this year. On July 4th the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park marked its 50th anniversary. To celebrate the occasion, the park and the surrounding communities held a full day of festivities beginning with a tour of the Pinnacle Overlook and ending with a fireworks display at dark.

State Tops in Clean Energy Job Creation

Tennessee was recognized for leading the nation in clean energy job creation. A report released by Pew Charitable Trusts stated jobs in Tennessee's emerging clean energy economy grew more than seven times faster than the state's overall jobs between 1998 and 2007.

People and Places Continued

TDOT'S Fred Corum Retires

After a 53-year career with the State, Fred Corum retired on June 30th. In 1956, Mr. Corum got his first job with the state highway department. The 71-year-old Corum is retiring after serving two decades as the director of the Tennessee Department of Transportation Region One which covers 24 East Tennessee counties.

METTC Elects New Board and Opens Membership

The Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council (METTC) has elected the following new Board members for the upcoming year:

Chair	Tim Knight, Campbell County Tourism Council
Vice Chair	Katy Brown, Oak Ridge Convention and Visitors Bureau
Secretary	Mary Bryant, Loudon County Visitor Bureau
Treasurer	Stephanie Wells, Anderson County Tourism Council

METTC has opened its membership to all organizations interested in supporting tourism in the 16-county area. For more information on benefits and how you can be listed in the new consumers' publication (motorcycle brochure, estimated circulation 50,000), please call Molly Gilbert at (865) 209-1820 or email vacationeasttennessee@yahoo.com. The annual fee is \$250.

Also, for the first time METTC is offering advertising spots on its website: www.easttnvacations.com. Space is limited. For more information, contact Molly Gilbert.

Morgan County Receives TDDA Award

Morgan County has received the Rebuild Tennessee Award from the Tennessee Development District Association (TDDA) in recognition of the development of the Gateway Ford Waterline Extension Project. The awards were made on April 29, 2009 at the TDDA Annual Meeting in Nashville.

The TDDA is an association of Tennessee's nine development districts, which are regional planning and economic development organizations. The policy boards within each District are made up of the state's 95 Counties and 340 municipalities. Development districts assist with regional issues including planning and economic development coordination, transportation, solid waste, loans and grants for water and sewer systems, housing, tourism, SBA loans, air quality and services to the elderly.

"These awards represent the best in infrastructure: those structures and services that government provides for use by the general public. It generally implies large-scale projects and improvements that are vital to the functioning of society and the economy. Also, infrastructure is so expensive that it generally requires government action, and in many cases several governments working together to collect revenues and raise sufficient capital," said Terry Bobrowski, Executive Director of the East Tennessee Development District.

Senator Burchett and Representative Ferguson Receive Legislator of the Year Awards

Senator Tim Burchett of Knoxville and Representative Dennis Ferguson of Harriman have received the "Legislator of the Year" Awards from TDDA. The awards were also made on April 29, 2009 at the TDDA Annual Conference and Business Meeting in Nashville.

"The awards are given on the basis of nominations from each of the nine development districts to those legislators who have shown leadership and put forth considerable effort on behalf of their cities and counties," said Terry Bobrowski, Executive Director of the East Tennessee Development District.

"We appreciate the support Senator Burchett and Representative Ferguson have given our local governments by supporting the efforts of development districts in the legislature," said Kevin Davis, TDDA President and Hardin County Mayor."

Calendar of Events

July

- 3 Independence Day Observed, ETDD Offices Closed
- 14 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 24-29 NACO Annual Conference, Nashville
- 30 North & South RPO Technical Committee Meeting, ETHRA Offices

August

- 5-6 Lincoln Davis Federal Seminar, Manchester, Tennessee
- 11 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings (*probably cancel*)

September

- 7 Labor Day Observed, ETDD Offices Closed
- 8 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 14-15 2009 Governor's Economic & Community Development Conference, Nashville
- 16-18 2009 Governor's Conference on Tourism, Murfreesboro
- 22 ADC Annual Business Meeting & Golf Tournament, Egwani Farms, Rockford

October

- 7-9 TCSA Fall Conference, Chattanooga
- 12 Columbus Day Observed, ETDD Offices Closed
- 13 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices

This Newsletter is available online! If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, be removed from mailing list or make changes to your information, please email aburgin@ETDD.org with your changes.

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