

# County Executive's Newsletter to the County Commission



Roane County Government

## County Government has a lot of Moving Parts

By Ron Woody, County Executive

Volume 8, Issue 2

February 2016

President's Day--Feb 15th



In County Government we spend a lot of time which we should, on our two biggest functions of operation; those being Education and Law Enforcement. Education has \$65 million of \$94.7 million operational budget (68.6%) with Law Enforcement having over \$7 million over 7% of the government budget. Seventy-five (75%) percent of operation is made up of trying to make responsible citizens or dealing with irresponsible citizens.

We may need to pause here and run another statistic adding just the two expenditure budgets together we have a total of \$72 million of which 10% is dealing with citizens who are not responsible. I think this is an alarming number and even goes higher when you add in all the cost of operating the court system.

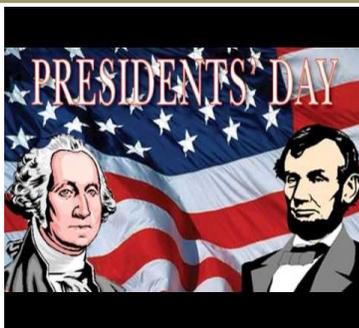
Ten percent may be a typical percentage for the nation. We could draw a number of conclusions from these statistics but one conclusion we know is that we are trying to help both groups/clients/citizens as we try to also protect our society.

There are many seasons and calendars in a year and yes we now start The Budget Season with a budget calendar. The Budget Committee will start meeting the first week in March with an anticipated recommendation to the Commission for a June 13th consideration with an alternative date of consideration of July 11th. You can track the budget activities on the County website. [www.roanecountyth.gov](http://www.roanecountyth.gov) under County Executive 2017 Budget Work.

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The Courthouse  
will be closed  
Monday,  
February 15th in  
observance of  
President's Day



February 14th

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

**County Updates —**



**Roane County Health Department..... by Laura Conner**

The Roane County Health Department has been the fortunate recipient of three years of grant funding from the Tobacco Settlement Funds from the Tennessee Department of Health. We are just beginning programming for our third year of funding. These monies have been utilized to conduct primary prevention activities to reduce/eliminate tobacco use in three target areas including tobacco use during pregnancy, secondhand smoke exposure-especially among young children, and preventing youth from ever starting to use tobacco.

Within each of these concentration areas, we have conducted a variety of interventions aimed at the target populations. Examples of specific programming include:

- Baby and Me Tobacco Free, an incentivized cessation program for pregnant women who smoke.
- To address youth tobacco use, we have partnered with Roane County Schools, Coordinated School Health and a variety of other community groups to educate youth about the dangers of smoking.
- Smokeless tobacco and e cigarettes or vaping and have conducted events around Kick Butts Day and Great American Smoke out.

- To address secondhand smoke exposure especially in small children, we have partnered with local child care agencies and Head Start to promote adoption of the Gold Sneaker program which encourages healthy policy development, provided education to families.
- Conducted a media campaign that included billboards and a variety of other associated small media attention.

We are very pleased to be able to continue our efforts in reducing tobacco use in our community and working to continue our mission to “protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee” and, more specifically, Roane County.

Website: [www.tn.gov/health](http://www.tn.gov/health)



The cleanup at the **Miller Brewer** building is complete. The total cost for the cleanup is broke down below.

City of Harriman /Reimbursement	\$	96,134.00
S&ME /Environmental	\$	51,400.77
Employee Time /Over site	\$	794.16
First Place Finish/Cleanup Contractor	\$	<u>416,420.85</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>564,749.78</b>

There is an important sense in which government is distinctive from administration. One is perpetual, the other is temporary and changeable. A man may be loyal to his government and yet oppose the particular principles and methods of administration.

Abraham Lincoln

**Highway Update.....By Brian Matthews**

With winter weather approaching we are constantly preparing for what could be coming our way. We have already put out close to 10,000 gallons of brine and we are in constant contact with the National Weather Service in Morristown. As always, follow our Facebook page for the latest updates about the weather and road conditions. We will also give updates on roads in the counties surrounding us by checking in with other Road Superintendents in the area.

We have completed the paving of Buttermilk Road using State Street Aid funds. In the last couple of months we have collected over 1500 gallons of used oil that we are recycling and finding other uses for, and have recycled numerous oil filters.

If you would like to know more about these programs please give us a call at 882-9782.

**Working Together Toward a Better Roane County**

**Governor's Staff Listening**

On January 8, 2016 County Executive Ron Woody and Roane Alliance President, Wade Cresswell attended a meeting hosted by Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Meeting attendees include:

- Jim Henry, Deputy Governor, Randy Boyd, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, Kevin Triplett, Commissioner of Tourist Development, Burns Phillips, Commissioner of Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Shari Meghreblian, Deputy Commissioner of Department of Environmental and Conservation, Paul Degges, Deputy Commissioner of Department of Transportation, Ken Yager, State Senator, Kent Calfee, State Representative, John Ragan, State Representative, along with several other distinguished guests from ORNL, Y-12, UPF, DOE, and Contracting Community.

Topics of discussion where:

- Communication on expanding High Speed Internet.
- Evaluating inventory analysis of our Industrial Park, independent third party.
- K-25—ETTP—10 year term preventive maintenance cost.
- Positioning our community for future jobs.

**Broadband Internet Survey**

**How Can We Voice our Opinion.**

- Tennessee's economic future is directly tied to our broadband Internet access.
- Leaders in all nine TNECD (Tennessee Economic & Community Development) regions voiced concerns about the lack of rural broadband access to the department in 2015.
- Broadband Internet access is a requirement for business, education and healthcare systems worldwide.
- Entrepreneurs need Broadband Internet for their startup businesses.

Take the Assessment! [tn.gov/broadband](http://tn.gov/broadband)

- Promote the assessment in your community through:
  - Social Media
  - Emails
  - Ads
  - Conversations with your community
- A distribution toolkit has been made available to help get the word out about the assessment. Go to our website below and enter the password.

— <http://tnecd.populr.me/broadband-survey>

— Password: "tnecd"

**About ThreeStar Program**

The Governor's ThreeStar Program, administered by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD), is designed to help communities build a healthy and educated workforce supported by a strong and stable local government that provides security and safety and promotes economic development.

The ThreeStar program is designed to focus on these areas identified as critical to ensuring the success of Tennessee communities:

- Job's & Economic Development
- Fiscal Strength & Efficient Government
- Public Safety
- Education & Workforce Development
- Health & welfare

Participation in the ThreeStar program is based on an annual evaluation and activity plan. Local community leaders and Joint Economic and Community Development Boards are encouraged to implement activities that will impact the community's competitiveness in a global economy.

Participating counties (and cities in these counties) will be eligible for a four percent discount (for eligible projects) on both the business development and community development ability-to-pay calculations (CDBG and FastTrack) each year the county fulfills the requirements of the ThreeStar program. Additionally, only cities located in a county that is an active participant in the ThreeStar program will be eligible to participate in the Tennessee Downtowns program. Roane County has been participating in the ThreeStar program for over 20 years.

[www.TN.gov/ECD/ThreeStar](http://www.TN.gov/ECD/ThreeStar)

**Did You Know About.... Professor B.J. and Florence Campbell and John B. and Billie Olinger?**

By: Robert Bailey, County Historian

As February is Black History month, it is important to recognize four Roane County black educators who made great contributions to education in Roane County. They are Prof. B.J. Campbell and his wife, Florence E. (Smith) Campbell, and John Brown Olinger and his wife, Billie (Vannoy) Olinger.

Prof. B.J. Campbell was born in Cleveland, Tennessee and died Jan 24, 1926. When young he moved with his parents to Knoxville and later he taught in the city schools of Knoxville. He married Florence E. Smith in 1893

and moved to Harriman and became principal of the Harriman Colored School for about fifteen years. In 1914, Prof. Campbell and his wife moved to Rockwood and he became the principal of the Rockwood Colored High School and she became a teacher there. The Rockwood Colored High School later became Campbell High School (which was named after him), and was the only high school for all black students in Roane County. His wife, Florence E. Smith (1872-1922) was the first black teacher in Harriman having come to Harriman

in 1891. She was born in Canada and was convinced to come to Harriman from Maryland to teach by her father, John A. Smith, who came to Harriman in 1890 because he was a strong prohibitionist.

John Brown Olinger was born Sept. 4, 1898 in Hazard Kentucky and died April 28, 1974 in Rockwood. He was married to Billie Vannoy, a native of Rockwood. They had one child, John B. Olinger, Jr., who died at the age of 10 years. He came to Rockwood in the fall of 1924 to be the

principal of The Rockwood Colored High School, later Campbell High School. During his tenure Campbell High School grew from a two-year school to a four year fully accredited high school in 1938. He remained as principal until the closing of Campbell High School due to integration. His wife, Billie, also taught there. Besides education, both were involved in many civic organizations in Rockwood. A movie was made about Prof. Olinger's life in 1968, funded by the Federal government.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
Feb 4th	Environmental Review Board	Conf. Rm.	6:00 pm
Feb 8th	County Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
Feb 9th	Public Utility Board	WWP	5:30 pm
Feb 9th	Fire Board	QCR	6:00 pm
Feb 11th	Emergency Services Committee	OES	6:00 pm
Feb 15th	COURTHOUSE CLOSED	Pres. Day	
Feb 17th	Board of Zoning Appeals	QCR	6:00 pm
Feb 17th	Planning Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
Feb 23rd	Commission Work Session	Alliance	6:30 pm
Mar 1st	COURTHOUSE CLOSED/ PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION		



The fourth annual CASA Winter Blast will be in the Princess Theatre in Harriman. Entertainment will be the Tennessee Children's Dance Ensemble, which has been named the Good Will Ambassadors for Tennessee, as well as Chillbillies, a rhythm, boogie and blues band. Catered food will be available. Proceeds benefit CASA of the 9th Judicial District, which recruits, trains, and supports Court-Appointed Special Advocates volunteers serving juvenile courts in Roane, Loudon, and Morgan counties. Call Lindsey Brown at 717-4186 for more details.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR— CLOSINGS/OTHER EVENTS**

Feb 15th— Courthouse Closed /President's Day  
March 1st—Courthouse Closed/Presidential Preference Primary Election

Please submit articles/items of interest to Arlene at [arlene.daugherty@roanecountytn.gov](mailto:arlene.daugherty@roanecountytn.gov) by the 20th of the month. ~Ron

## Terry Stevens, Appointed General Sessions Judge



Judge Jeff Wicks on the left and Terry Stevens, center, with his wife Lindsey and daughter Brooklyn, taking the oath of office for General Sessions Judge Monday night in a special called Roane County Commission meeting.

**Congratulations Terry Stevens on being appointed as General Sessions Court Judge. Terry Stevens replaces Jeff Wicks, who resigned after Gov. Bill Haslam appointed Jeff Wicks criminal court judge of the 9th Judicial District.**

**Terry Stevens's appointment runs through August 2016.**

**Terry Stevens is a 2003 graduate from Roane County High School. He is 31 years old. He left his law practice with Attorney Sandy McPherson in 2013 to join District Attorney Russell Johnson's office as an assistant district attorney general.**

The General Sessions Court Judge position will be on the ballot for the August 4, 2016 election. The winner will take office on September 1, 2016 and will serve the remaining six years of the eight year term.

Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

"Changing Government through Research, Study and Analysis"