



County Executive's Newsletter to the Commission

HAPPY EASTER!



Welcome Volkswagen, "Thank You!"

County Executive Ron Woody

On March 13, 2012, Roane County celebrated with Volkswagen Group of America at the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park with a groundbreaking ceremony. To be located adjacent to H.T. Hackney, the facility will initially be a 400,000 square foot automotive distribution center.

As VW looks to the future, enough property was purchased, an expansion plan was developed, and a preliminary design was drawn, to expand the facility an additional 200,000 square feet.

Much work took place by members of the Industrial Development Board, Attorney Sandy McPherson, and Alliance President Leslie Henderson, along with Darrell Williams and the entire staff of the Alliance. For this work we say **"Thank you."**

The Roane County Commission passed four separate resolutions supporting the project, applying for and cash flowing grant funds, extending tax abatements, and setting aside matching funds. To the Roane County Commission we say **"Thank you!"**

The Roane County Planning Commission and Building & Codes approved changes on plats. **"Thank You!"**

The engineering staff of McGill and Associates, Greg Eidam and staff, spent much time and energy in the development. Four separate tracts of property made up the development and we are pleased that these owners agreed to come together as partners for the project. We say **"Thank You!"**

To all the folks I failed to mention, I apologize and would like to say **"Thank You!"** Thanks to all for respecting Volkswagen's wishes to keep this project to ourselves for over a year.

To Volkswagen we say "Thank You" for choosing Roane County Tennessee for your Southeastern Automotive distribution location. We think you will be happy with your choice and we will work hard to meet your needs.

"WELCOME VOLKSWAGEN" TO ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Five-Star Management System

Focus on Emergency 911 (E-911)

Two items that currently are the focus of the Five-Star Management System are Emergency and Risk Management. These items of focus are due to a number of reasons; some of which are:

- Safeguarding the life and property of our citizens is an innate responsibility of government
- TCA §58-2-110 charges the local government to perform emergency management functions
- Management of risk helps us understand and manage or prohibit emergency situations
- Cost to deliver an emergency management program is timely and costly
- Cost **not** to deliver an emergency management program is often deadly and costly.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC):

Fred Schulz has been appointed Chair of the Roane County LEPC. Fred is a logistic supervisor at Energy Solutions. Energy Solutions has loaned Fred, along with Sharon Templeton, to Roane County to help direct and lead the LEPC. We thank Energy Solutions for their generosity. Fred has charged the LEPC to improve documenting what is known as **Tier II** information. (See related article).

www.roaneoes.com.

Business/Industry: Please Read – Tier II:

Any business or industry which may use or store any number of potential hazardous materials, and have a certain quantity, are required to complete a **Tier II filing**. This information is used to help protect our emergency responders, the general public, and your employees in the event of an emergency. Electronic filing is available under the Local Emergency Planning Committee tab at www.roaneoes.com.

Five-Star Management System

What are we doing in Emergency and Risk Management?

1. Utilizing a new improved website – www.roaneoes.com
2. Developing an overall Risk Management plan noted under the www.roaneoes.com website “Risk Management”.
3. Refocusing on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), also a link on the website.

Now we have only mentioned three areas of focus but the website is packed with other initiatives and helpful information.

What to do in Bad Weather:

Sign up now: www.roaneoes.gov – Roane County Emergency Notification System Sign-Up

- You can sign up for notification by cell phone, telephone, text message, and email.
- During bad weather go to the website and at the top left hand side click for **Emergency Public Information** and you will be given emergency information.

Did you know? (by Robert Bailey, County Historian)

Did you know that Oliver Springs was once home to a 200 room hotel? Joseph C. Richards, a successful businessman from Portland, Maine, built the first Oliver Springs Hotel. The enterprise was so successful that in 1894 the Richards Heirs, along with some Cleveland, Ohio businessmen, formed a stock company, razed the old hotel and erected a palatial resort hotel. This hotel had nearly 200 rooms which were always filled during the season. It was four stories high with a 60 foot tower on top. There was a billiard room, electric elevators, wine cellars, dance pavilion, bowling alleys, tennis courts, and croquet grounds. They even hired an Italian orchestra to play for dances. The mineral springs located nearby were believed by many to possess miraculous medicinal properties, and the mineral springs resorts flourished for decades with people coming to drink and bathe in their curative waters. In a brochure published in 1900, Dr. A.K. Shelton, the resident physician stated that diseases such as ulcers, cirrhosis, diseases of the blood, migraines, and many other diseases could be cured or relieved by the use of the mineral waters. Unfortunately, the hotel burned in 1905 ending the resort era of the town.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is Saturday, May 5th.
See attached flyer for more information.

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2013 Budget: by Kaley Walker

As we embark on our 2013 budget there are a few additional expenses this year that we know of already. These additional expenses are as follows:

Mandated Raises for Elected Officials (1.6%)	\$23,021
Estimated Raises for General Fund Employees (1.6%)	\$97,865 FT
	\$ 8,192 PT (\$106,054 total)
Recommended Work Comp Increase:	\$ 7,840
Mandated Retirement Increase:	\$ 6,587
Estimated Medical Insurance:	<u>\$102,890</u>
Estimated additional Expense to General Fund:	\$246,395

As one can see the cost of government continues to rise year after year and these costs are without additional services. The County General Fund is funded mainly by property tax revenue (57%) and our best estimates are that we will experience no growth in this revenue source. The other sources of revenue that support the general fund are fines and fees from our respective fee offices (Register of Deeds, County Clerk, Trustee, and Circuit and Session Court Clerk) (16.4%). State revenues make up 12.5% of the general fund which are mainly TVA in-lieu-of-taxes and health department grants. We are monitoring all of these revenue sources closely.



The Courthouse will be closed on Friday, April 6, 2012 In observance Of Good Friday.

Courthouse/Courtroom Security Committee:

The committee requested that the Sheriff (over security) and County Executive (over Courthouse care and custody) meet to discuss items addressed by the committee at its March 19, 2012 meeting. Items to be addressed in the near future by the Committee and Commission will be:

- Photo ID's for non-employee regular customers
- Key Access
- Entrance Access
- Animal Control



Keith Howell and his 1974 Super Beetle Volkswagen were a big hit at the Volkswagen Groundbreaking on March 13, 2012 at Roane Regional Business and Technology Park. Keith made the newspaper and the TV.

County Benefits – 401(k) Plan
Supplemental Retirement – Sign-up Status

Linda Stooksbury has been working diligently signing up employees for the new 401(k) supplemental retirement program. We would like to report that of the 227 eligible employees, 156 have signed up.

If you have not signed up please see Linda, we still have money to give away.

We have been informed that Roane County Government is the first county to sign up for this new program. Great West is the Administrator and Roane County's representative is Buddy McKinney, a Rockwood resident. The Great West Company is the provider for the State of Tennessee's 401(k).

Total funds set aside for county employees to match are \$64,560 for the year ending June 30, 2012.

Attention Commissioners!

(by Commissioner Ellis)

On April 9, 2012, at 5:30 p.m., before the April Commission meeting, we will be taking Commission group and individual photos in Judge Eblen's Court Room (Circuit/Criminal Courtroom).

Everyone please dress up!

Budget Committee Action on the 2013 Budget:

The Budget Committee met on March 7, 2012 to begin work on the 2013 Budget. The Committee reviewed our operations statements which project our June 30, 2012 balances. It appears all funds are projected to end within acceptable budget estimates. The Committee voted to set the property tax estimate at the same value as 2012. This will be one of the first years the property value is not anticipated to have any growth in budget estimate.

The Committee recommended three debt service funds:

151 General Debt Service (County general debt along with school debt that has previously been issued for the benefit of the Harriman City Schools and Oak Ridge City Schools). **\$3,262,265**

152 Rural Education Debt Service (Only school debt but excludes any debt that was not issued for the benefit of Harriman and Oak Ridge City Schools). **\$1,802,788**

156 Education Debt Service (Only school debt but excludes any debt that was not issued for the benefit of Oak Ridge Schools). **\$352,873**

The Budget Committee met on March 22, 2012 and updated recommendations on the 151 General Debt Service Fund. The updated recommendation was based on the anticipated sale of property to the Volkswagen Group of America. The Budget Committee implemented another step of long-term financial management.

The new recommendation on Debt Service was based on a January 2012 news article and a position paper dated March 2012 posted on our county website: www.roanegov.org.

Recommended Rates for 2013:

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
• 151 General Debt Service	14	10
• 152 Rural Debt Service	14	14
• 156 Education Debt Service	2	2
• 171 Capital Projects	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>
	33	33

April Meetings and Events:

- April 2, 2012 - Sheriff's Liaison Committee – 6:00 p.m.
- April 5, 2012 – Environmental Review Board – 6:00 p.m.
- April 6, 2012 – Courthouse closed for Good Friday
- April 9, 2012 – Roane County Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- April 10, 2012 – Beer Board – 5:30 p.m.
Fire Board – 6:00 p.m.
- April 12, 2012 - Industrial Inventory Summit – 6:30 p.m.
Roane State Community College, Room O-101
- April 18, 2012 – Board of Zoning Appeals – 6:00 p.m.
Planning Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- April 26, 2012 - County Board of Public Utilities – 6:00 p.m.

Check the website www.roanegov.org
“Upcoming Meetings”
for more information on Meetings and Events

Commission Action March 12, 2012

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolution #03-12-01 was adopted honoring Glenn Wilson King

Resolution #03-12-24 was adopted authorizing the County Executive to execute Amendment No. 13 to Agreement PILT-Roane-003 acceptance of payment-in-lieu-of-taxes for tax year 2011 from the U. S. Department of Energy

Resolution #03-12-25 was adopted urging the State of Tennessee Department of Transportation to designate Old U.S. Highway 27 as a national historical road

Past issues of this Newsletter
can be found on our website:

www.roanegov.org

either under “County Executive” or under “Publications”

If you have an item of interest related to our county, please submit to Sheila or me. Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.

Ron Woodv

ANYTHING SCARY LURKING AROUND IN YOUR HOUSE?

ROANE COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY At the Recycling Center in Midtown • 215 White Pine Road

→ → **MAY 5, 2012: 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.** ← ←



This is a one day event and it is a FREE and SAFE way to rid your homes of household hazardous waste.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE INCLUDES:

FROM THE WORKBENCH:

FROM THE GARAGE:

FROM THE HOUSE:

FROM THE YARD:

Degreaser	Antifreeze	Art/Craft supplies	Fertilizer
Paint thinner	Gasoline	Moth balls	No-pest strips
Stain remover	Brake fluid	Floor cleaners	Rodent killer
Fluorescent bulbs	Engine degreaser	Rechargeable Batteries	Herbicides
Sealant	Carburetor cleaner	Drain cleaners	Pool chemicals
Wood stripper	Kerosene	Photo chemicals	Muriatic acids
Solvent		Chemistry sets	Pesticides
Rust/Wood preservative		Metal/Furniture polish	Insect spray

Help keep Roane County clean and safe by properly disposing of your household hazardous waste. You are probably thinking you don't have any hazardous materials in your house. Surprisingly, many household items are flammable, corrosive, reactive or toxic and should not be thrown into the garbage. This is a great opportunity for you to make a difference by safely disposing of these materials. You are protecting the environment and others from being harmed.

Only households are allowed to participate.

No business, agribusiness, school, or church waste will be accepted.

Please do not bring any medical/infectious waste, explosives, radio-active materials (including smoke detectors), or any empty containers.

Please do not bring paint. Paint is accepted at the Post Oak Convenience Center located at 123 Post Oak Valley Road on Tuesdays.

Alkaline batteries no longer contain mercury and therefore should be thrown away in the trash.

**Please call the Roane County Recycling Center
865/590-7779 for more information
Ralph Stewart, Solid Waste Director**