

County Executive's Newsletter to the County Commission

Roane County Government



A Term Has Ended

By Ron Woody, County Executive

It is hard to believe that four years have passed since we began this adventure. It has been my privilege to serve with our many fine elected and appointed officials. September 1st will see a few new faces helping manage our government as some officials have chosen not to run and new ones may be chosen by the public. We will miss Commissioners "Copper" Bacon, Jerry Goddard, and Fred Tedder, who have chosen to retire. You have been great leaders for our county, serving on various committee including the budget committee, fire board and ethics committee. I thank you for your service and please come back often to visit or call to lend us your wisdom.

Four years have passed quickly and in just a few weeks the elected term will begin again. Let's prepare new and reelected officials to work together to create a county that we are proud to call home. Good luck to all our candidates and thank you for your community service.

Training Opportunities Available for Elected Officials

State Sponsored Training for Elected Officials

University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service
County Officials Orientation Program (COOP)
August 26-28, 2014
Murfreesboro, TN

Local Training For Elected Officials

County Commission Chairman James Brummett has tasked the County Executive's office with preparing and presenting an orientation program on the local specific topics. This will be open to all new and returning elected officials. Topics covered will include commission authority, responsibility and organizational structure including boards and committees, commission relationship with elected/appointed officials, departmental operations, and opportunities and challenges for the upcoming years. If anyone desires a specific topic to be covered, please contact Chairman James Brummett or County Executive Woody for agenda consideration. Outlined at the meeting will be items we consider as "transition ignitors" for our future commission.

Commission Orientation Program
August 19 & 21, 2014
6:30-8:30 p.m. Qualls Commission Room

Volume 5, Issue 8

August 2014

Aug 7th— Election Day

Inside this issue:

Employee Consideration	2
ORRCA	2
Did You Know About...?	3
Where Do Roane Countians Work and Who Works in Roane County?	3
Office of Emergency Services Exercises	3
Upcoming Meetings	4
Commissioners Honored	4

County General Election Swearing-In Ceremony

Sunday,
August 31, 2014
At
2:30 p.m.
Circuit Courtroom

Family and friends are
invited!

Employee Consideration

Congratulations!

Laura Connor, Roane County Health Department director, was recently appointed to the 2014 Board of Examiners by the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence.

Congratulations Laura on this prestigious award!

First day of

School

August 6, 2014



An Investment in Knowledge by Jennifer Bolling (717-4109)

Benjamin Franklin once said that, "an investment in knowledge pays the best interest". We may have differences of opinion on a host of issues, but fundamentally we all recognize the value of education. To Franklin's point, aside from our health there are few investments we can make that pay a higher dividend and it may very well be the most important gift that we can give to our children and grandchildren.

There was a time when a high school education and a strong work ethic were keys to the American Dream. To a large extent enough of one could often offset the absence of the other. Some of us likely have grandparents, or even parents, who may have done well in life without even a high school diploma. Those days are behind us and they aren't coming back. People entering the work force today, either for the first time or perhaps re-entering after a job loss, face stiffer competition than ever before. According to

a recent report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 3.9 million job openings for 11.3 million job seekers. This means that for every job opening there were 2.9 people looking for work. With so many people pursuing a career, it's clearly a buyer's market from the employer's standpoint. Because of this, education is more important than ever.

For a vast majority of fields, education translates to college. At a minimum, most good paying jobs require a Bachelor's Degree, and many prefer applicants with graduate degrees. The more education you have, in theory, the more competitive you can be in the job market. More educations also mean more expense. According to current data from The College Board, those thinking ahead for our children's education should plan on the current average cost of college multiplied by 3. It's estimated that the cost of a

four year degree from an in-state public university for a child born today will be over \$200,000. For private schools, it could easily approach \$500,000 or more. Advisors recommend that a third of the cost of college be saved in advance, a third should come from current income at the time, and a final third hopefully from scholarships and student loans. That is a HUGE chunk of change! Preparing for something of that magnitude can be a monumental task and needs to be addressed now in small manageable doses.

There are several ways that you can save for higher education. One of the best ways to grow your college savings is through a 529. TnStar College Savings 529 Plan is offered and administered by The Tennessee Treasury Department, and is an excellent

~Continued on page 4

Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance (ORRCA)

ORRCA is a support and education organization which allows the local government input on environmental and economic issues related to the U.S. Department of Energy's lands and operational facilities. ORRCA is chaired by Oak Ridge Mayor Tom Beehan, who also chairs the national organization of the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA). Each quarter, ORRCA meets to receive updates from DOE-Environmental Management (DOE-EM), Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), and Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) related to the DOE Oak Ridge facilities.

The June 2014 meeting focused on scheduling of an ORNL emergency exercise for August 20, 2014 and a TDEC Emory River/Watts Bar water shed meeting at either the Roane County Park or the Kingston Community Center related to study of the water shed. Also, there was discussion of a water sampling to be conducted on the southwest side of the Clinch River at the Gallaher/North 58 bridge. Other discussion items were DOE-EM budgets, historic preservation, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), and land transfers.

Did You Know About . . . Dr. Fly?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

Dr. J.C. Fly may have been the most well known Doctor in the history of Roane County in many ways. He became a pioneer when he started a public health program in Roane County in 1920, serving as director of the Roane County Health Department from 1920 to 1955. He was born in Hickman County, Tennessee in 1883 and when he retired in 1955 he removed to Centerville, Tennessee and died in 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee.

When you ask children who went to Roane County schools from

1920 to 1955, one painful memory that is repeated over and over again by former students was the day that Dr. Fly came to visit the school to provide shots against small pox and typhoid. He traveled to all of the schools in Roane County providing immunizations for children. He was noted for his dull and long needles and the scars (both physical and mental) that were left behind. It is said that many children "escaped" from school the day that Dr. Fly visited.

The Courthouse Courts
and
Business Offices
will be closed
August 7, 2014
For the State Primary &
County General Elections



Where Do Roane Countians Work and Who Works in Roane County?

Roane County recently received a study provided by the Tennessee Department of Transportation related to Roane County's Major Thoroughfare Plan. The study is in draft form, at this writing, in order to allow time to review, question and help us understand, from a planning perspective, the day to day observations of the county's traffic patterns. The state is also assessing the road inventories and functionality of the transportation system. The purpose of the study is to have a 10-20 year planning of infrastructure replacement, maintenance and potential new requirements.

Commuter traffic patterns from the study:

Of over 22,000 Roane County workers, just over 11,000 (50.3%) stay within the county to work with 10,811 traveling outside the county.

4,357 Roane Countians travel to Anderson County, 4,024 travel to Knox County, 1,226 travel to Loudon County with no other destination receiving more than 400 of our workers.

There are also over 4,500 workers from other counties that travel into Roane County to work. The three (3) main counties that commute to Roane County are: 1,209 from Morgan County, 1,112 from Knox County and 845 from Anderson County.

Office of Emergency Services Exercises in the Works

The Office of Emergency Services conducts disaster preparedness exercises throughout the year in conjunction with other emergency services.

In August, the Roane County OES will participate in an emergency preparedness exercise with ORNL. The exercise will simulate the emergency response to a release on the Y-12 reservation. Oak Ridge Fire Department, Anderson County EMS, Roane County EMS, Oak Ridge City Police Department, Anderson County Sheriff's Department and Roane County Sheriff's Department will all participate in the drill. The Roane County OES will provide monitoring of radio traffic and provide auxiliary support as needed within the simulation.

In October, Roane County OES will participate in an exercise with Roane Medical Center. This exercise will be a tornado drill.

If you have any items of interest for the newsletter, please submit to Melanie at mtownsend@roanegov.org by the 20th of the month.

~Ron

Roane County Government

200 East Race Street
P.O. Box 643
Kingston, TN 37763

Phone: 865-376-5578
Fax: 865-717-4215

Check out more information on our website:

www.roanecountytn.gov

Follow us on Facebook:

Roane County Government

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
August 7th	Courthouse Closed		
August 11th	Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
August 12th	Fire Board	QCR	6:00 pm
August 14th	ERB	Conference Room	6:00 pm
August 14th	Budget Cmte/Public Hearing	QCR	6:30 pm
August 19th	Commission Orientation	QCR	6:30 pm
August 20th	Planning Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
August 21st	Commission Orientation	QCR	6:30 pm
August 26th	Public Utility Board	Waste Water Plant	5:30 pm

Knowledge (continued from page 2)

way to save money for qualified college tuition and expenses such as textbooks and living expenses. Everyone is eligible for this program and anyone can contribute for any child, you only need to have his/her social security number and date of birth. The minimum is only \$25.00 for each investment option selected and can be changed at any time. Even if you don't have young children, this is a great way to help a grandchild, niece or nephew, or anyone else close to you. If that child ultimately decides not to go to college, you have the option of naming another beneficiary. This plan offers many different investment options which include an age based track where allocation risks are tapered considering the age of the child. The younger the child the more aggressive the investments are. There are also 15 self-selected choices including balanced fund options, fixed income options, and FDIC insured options. All earnings from the account are tax free and any contributions you make up to \$13,000 annually, or \$65,000 (spread out over five years) will qualify for the annual gift tax exclusion. The administration cost for the plan is small as well, only 35 basis points or 35 cents for every hundred dollars and you can make a contribution by check, electronic fund transfer, or you can set up an automatic draft from your bank account.

If you have a child of your own, or if there is a child in your life that you care about, the time to save is now! As more and more of today's graduates find themselves buried under student debt, the need for planning ahead is clearer than ever. Instead of a sweater or toy on the next birthday or at Christmas, perhaps you might consider a gift that will be treasured for the rest of someone's life. For more information please contact Jennifer Bolling



**George W.
"Copper" Bacon**

Commissioner
District 1

August 1998-
August 2014

16 years

Commissioner Bacon has served on Agricultural Extension Committee, Animal Control Advisory Committee, Beer Board, Budget Committee, Committee on Committees, Emergency Services Committee, In-Lieu of Tax Committee, Long Range Planning Committee and Safety Committee. Thank you Copper for your service.



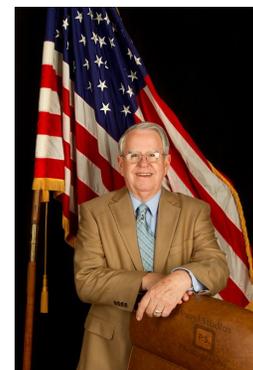
**Jerry
Goddard**

Commissioner
District 2

August 1994-
August 2014

20 years

Commissioner Goddard has served on Back Tax Committee, Budget Committee, Ethics Committee, Finance Committee, Fire Board, Industrial Liaison Committee, Legislative Committee, Property Committee, Tourism Committee and Wastewater Committee. Thank you Jerry for your service.



**Fred
Tedder**

Commissioner
District 3

August 1998-
August 2014

16 years

Commissioner Tedder has served on Building Inspector, Codes and Review Committee, Cable TV Committee, Subcommittee of the Committee on Committees, Fire Board, In-Lieu of Tax Committee, Property Committee, Road Committee, Safety Committee and Sheriff's Liaison Committee. Thank you Fred for your service.