

# Positively UC

*A moment to focus on the good our team is doing every day*



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## UPPER CUMBERLAND MAYORS MEET WITH LEGISLATORS

County mayors gathered in Nashville for the Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA) meeting. There, our delegation met with legislators and stakeholders to talk about pending legislation affecting Tennessee cities and counties.

UCDD Executive Director Mark Farley and Vice Chair/Smith County Mayor Jeff Mason presented Representative Kelly Keisling with the 2024 Legislator of the Year award.



*Thank you to all who attended and met with us! It is always good to spend time with members of the General Assembly who represent the Upper Cumberland.*

## TVA, UCHRA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PARTNER ON WEATHER RADIOS FOR CLIENTS



This week coincides with Severe Weather Awareness Week, during which UCHRA county offices began distributing weather radios to clients throughout the Upper Cumberland.

Thanks to a collaboration between TVA and UCHRA Public Transportation, hundreds of weather radios will be provided to clients in the region, enhancing their preparedness for severe weather events.



Holly Montooth, UCHRA Public Transportation Director, along with LaNelle Godsey, UCHRA Deputy Director/Community Services Director, have expressed gratitude to TVA, Al Ashburn, and the UCHRA Commodities team for their assistance in distributing the radios to the county offices.

*Visit [www.tn.gov/tema.html](http://www.tn.gov/tema.html) to learn more about Severe Weather Awareness Week and get tips on how to be prepared.*



## MEETINGS RESCHEDULED

Due to the inclement weather earlier this week, the UCDD and UCHRA board meetings originally scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 19 have been rescheduled for Monday, Feb. 24 beginning at 10 a.m. in the UCDD conference room.

*Remember, you can also view recordings of past meetings any time by visiting UCDD and UCHRA's shared YouTube Channel @ucconnect6973.*



## UCHRA COUNTY OFFICES CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY

UCHRA staff got into the Valentine's Day spirit this year, showing up in shades of pink and red to spread a little extra joy. It was a fun way to celebrate the season of love while connecting with the community.

The Warren County office joined in on the festivities with a Valentine's party at Beersheba Towers, where laughter and good times filled the room. Along with enjoying the celebration, we took time to talk about transportation options available to residents. The Go Bus even made a special stop so everyone could check it out and see how it works firsthand.

Staff also shared details about the Connect Bus, which provides transportation to Murfreesboro and Nashville. To top it all off, Dericka Gunter, Service Coordinator for the Towers, and Carrie Baker, Warren County Coordinator, played games with the residents, making for a fun and informative afternoon.



### WHO WE ARE

#### OUR MISSION

*To help the Upper Cumberland region cultivate self-sufficiency and build true wealth through innovation, collaboration, and leadership.*

#### OUR VISION

*A region abundant in resources, fostering a productive and vibrant life for the people of the Upper Cumberland.*

get  plugged in.

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# SECOND-ANNUAL UCDD CHILI CONTEST ON THURSDAY

We're just a few days away from the second annual UCDD Chili Contest!

Here are a few important reminders for participants: please refrain from disclosing any details about your chili to the judges, including the cooking method.

The judges will be in a separate room, and a designated person will deliver a small sample of each chili to them. There will be paper available in the kitchen for entrants to provide notes for the judges, such as whether their dish requires any accompaniments.

In addition to the esteemed title of top chili chef, there will be awards and prizes for the winning entries. The contest is set to begin at 12:30 p.m. on February 27 in the UCDD kitchen.

For any questions or further information, please contact Marcie Ackerman by phone at (931) 476-4175 or via email at [mackerman@ucdd.org](mailto:mackerman@ucdd.org).



# YAGER MEETS WITH EAST TENNESSEE AND UPPER CUMBERLAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS



*This information was originally published by The Mountain Press and can be found here at [www.themountainpress.com](http://www.themountainpress.com).*

On Tuesday, Feb. 18, state Sen. Ken Yager (R-Kingston) visited with East Tennessee and Upper Cumberland Development District Representatives to discuss key legislation affecting their areas. In the photo from left to right: Mark Farley, UCDD Executive Director, Senator Ken Yager, and Richard Yakubic, Executive Director of the East Tennessee Development District meet in state Sen. Yager's Nashville office on Feb. 18.