



The Weekly Update

Tennessee General Assembly

House of Representatives

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FREE MEDICATIONS TO FLOOD VICTIMS

Many flood victims have lost written prescriptions and bottles of medicine due to the flood. The Tennessee Primary Care Association has informed me that the Dispensary of Hope is offering to help provide free medications for flood victims. While not every drug is available, many are available for a 30 to 90 day bridge to help patients get through this difficult time. If you need this service, call 1-888-428-HOPE. You will be asked your name, date of birth, pharmacy name and doctor's name. If you are insured, the Dispensary of Hope will pay your co-pay. If you are not insured they will cover the entire cost. Your prescription will be filled at a participating pharmacy.

METRO CODES SITE

For those who are re-building after the flood, Metro Codes has posted a valuable informational site at www.nashville.gov/codes/docs/flood/FloodRepairInformation.pdf

DISASTER LOSS CLAIM ON TAX RETURN

The Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis Law Firm has provided information regarding claiming your flood loss on your tax return. The firm notes that "...if you have suffered damage or loss to property which is not fully compensated by insurance, you may be entitled to a federal casualty-loss tax deduction. Property owners in federally declared disaster areas would be well-advised to consider utilizing a provision permitting 2010 federally declared disaster losses to be claimed for the 2009 tax year in order to take advantage of significantly more liberal rules that may not be available for the 2010 tax year. Taxpayers who have already filed their 2009 tax return can still claim a disaster loss by filing an amended return for 2009". To read the complete bulletin, please copy the link below to your browser. <http://smartlink.qlapahead.com/SmartLinkDisplay.aspx?id=97FBDA76-9C5C-DF11-AD00-00142221A355>

FOOD AND CASH ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE LOW INCOME FLOOD VICTIMS

The Tennessee Dept. of Human Services website has information dealing with immediate needs of low-income families who are flood victims. To learn more, please visit <http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/flood/flood.html> .

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS (DRCs)

Davidson County
100 Oaks Mall (near the Hollywood 27 Theatre)
719 Thompson Lane
Nashville, TN 37204

Tennessee State University Ford Complex Communications Building
2620 West Heiman Street
Nashville, TN 37208

Hartman Park Community Center
2801 Tucker Road
Nashville, TN 37218

According to Congressman Jim Cooper's office, all DRCs are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time seven days a week until further notice. Disaster officials ask that before visiting the centers, people first register online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or (TTY) **800-462-7585** for those with speech and hearing disabilities. Help in all languages is available.

Budget Update

The Senate has proposed a budget that includes over \$140 million in spending cuts to teachers (the Career Ladder Program), to farmers (Agriculture Enhancement Program), and to many other programs now in place. As both houses of the General Assembly work through the budget for the next fiscal year we must remain cognizant of the need to keep our vital programs, to have the ability to keep good teachers for Tennessee's children, to protect our farmers and every citizen of Tennessee - - all while passing a balanced budget that is fiducially responsible. Obviously we have our work cut out for us during the next few weeks.

BELLEVUE PICNIC REMINDER

The Bellevue Chamber has decided to carry on with the Bellevue Picnic scheduled for tomorrow, May 15. However, it will be held at the Bellevue Mall rather than the Red Caboose Park. Senator Douglas Henry has noted that FEMA & TEMA representatives will be at the Bellevue Picnic at 10:00 a.m. I hope to see you there!

In closing, the flood is two weeks behind us but the grief, the damage and the need for restoration left in its wake are here for some time. Please know that you remain in my thoughts and prayers, and that we will get through this. I continue to hear stories of volunteerism every day that make me proud to live here and represent you. During the last two weeks, I have visited and worked in every area of District 50 that was severely flooded. If I have missed you and you need something that I can help with, please do not hesitate to call my office at 741-4317.



Weekly Update Is For Informational Purposes Only