

Our County
D. Gary Davis
County Mayor

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Much has been written concerning the value of work, the desire to work, and the disdain of work. Johnny Cash had a unique process of acquiring a car, Johnny Paycheck had a novel way of ending his working relationship and Johnny Carson in a moment of clarity penned the words, “Talent alone won't make you a success. Neither will being in the right place at the right time unless you are ready. The most important question is: 'Are you ready?’

This weekend many across our County will either have the day off, or plan on taking some time to enjoy and participate in a few, or many, Labor Day activities. Labor Day is a truly American holiday that was first developed to honor the men and women who made possible the exponential success of our Nation by participating in the work that made this process possible. Today it seems to be celebrated by many as yet another “long weekend” that signals the end of summer and the beginning of autumn or our fall season. This holiday is commonly attributed to the idea of Peter J. Maguire. He was a labor union leader who in 1882, proposed a celebration honoring the American worker. This singular idea made possible its founding and passage as a legal holiday. Legend also has it that the date was chosen out of convenience by Maguire, as he felt that it was halfway between the 4th of July and Thanksgiving holidays and celebrations. The day’s focus on organized labor may have faded some over the years,

but this legal holiday, for many, still marks the end of summer and the traditional time for children to return to school.

As with many areas across our nation and region our labor market has taken a tumble due to the months-long pandemic. We are also among the first of our regional area to once again return to approaching our previous, extremely low unemployment numbers. This process is one that is attributed to our blessed region that is full of a diverse, dedicated, and devoted employee pool and employers alike. Working together they are truly an unstoppable force that is indeed ready for whatever comes next.

To those who are studying and preparing to enter their field of choice, please know that you are appreciated. To those who are part of this labor market currently, thank you. To those who find themselves in a retired role at present, thank you for your efforts previously and the gifts that you have allowed us all to enjoy because of your participation. And for those who have chosen to make Bradley County your home, may you all have a safe and enjoyable Labor Day Holiday. Thank you for your involvement in building Bradley County and for remaining READY for whatever presents itself next to ensuring us continuing as Tennessee at its BEST!

The COVID 19 numbers continue to look better. May we all remember the 4 guidelines. Wash your hands often or use sanitizer, remember to socially distance, avoid large gatherings. And please, wear a mask when in public around people. We are all in this together!