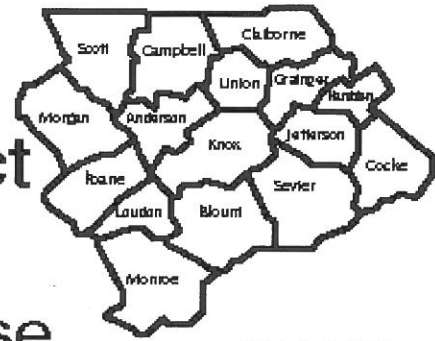

East Tennessee Development District



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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT HOLDS ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The East Tennessee Development District (ETDD) held their Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday evening, June 13, 2013, at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris, Tennessee. Each year the East Tennessee Development District recognizes local governments and other agencies for the completion of projects that have special local or regional significance.

During the award ceremony, ETDD recognized Campbell County for the development of a new business incubator facility. After the great recession, it has become apparent that rural communities must support and promote local entrepreneurship in order to create sustainable jobs for the local economy. Campbell County established itself as a leader in this field with the development of the Campbell County Small Business Incubator in 2012. Assisted with a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission in the amount of \$214,000 and by the services of Tech 20/20, Campbell County has invested substantial local funding into the construction and management of the local incubator - and it is really beginning to pay off. First year results are outstanding - an active local client base of 36 companies utilizing the incubator's services, two in-house clients occupying space at the incubator, and 190 jobs have been either created or retained.

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