



**Debbie Pace, Madison/Rivergate Area Chamber of Commerce executive director; Bill Beck, vice president; and Nathan Massey, president, pick up the deed to the land donated by AT&T from Christy Delk, register of deeds.** SUBMITTED PHOTO

## AT&T land donation gives home to Amqui Train Station depot

Submitted by **Vicki Moser** | Director of Marketing and Promotions  
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**MADISON** — Discover Madison, Inc. (DMI), and the Madison-Rivergate Area Chamber of Commerce have announced that AT&T, Inc. has donated a piece of land adjacent to the chamber to be the permanent home of the historic Amqui Train Station depot.

"We can now say that this wonderful piece of history that has literally traveled from Madison to Hendersonville and back finally has a plot of land it can call home, thanks to AT&T," said Nathan Massey, president of DMI.

AT&T, Inc. donated a little more than an acre. It will become the permanent home to the depot.

AT&T made the contribution to the community "to bring a key piece of our local history to life for everyone to experience," said Marty Dickens, president, AT&T-Tennessee.

Built in 1910, the Amqui Station once served as a switching depot for the L&N Railroad. Because of technological advances, the station was taken out of service and left vacant. In 1978, country superstar Johnny Cash stepped forward to claim ownership in answer to an offer to anyone who would move the structure, and he

had it transported from Madison to Hendersonville to be placed on the complex near the House of Cash.

Cash restored the building, first to house his railroad memorabilia, then later to act as an antique store for the collection of treasures his wife, June Carter Cash, had amassed during her international travels.

When Cash died in 2003, Halo Properties bought the Cash property and offered the Amqui Station back to Madison if the funds could be raised to bring it home. DMI, a non-profit organization delegated with the task of revitalizing the Madison area, was successful in its efforts to fund the journey, and W.P. Camp and Sons, a structural moving company based in Inglewood that had made the first move for Cash, used a third generation of Camps to bring the train depot home to Madison.

The Amqui Station restoration project has received strong support from state Reps. Gary Moore and Mike Turner, as well as Sen. Joe Haynes.

"And now AT&T, Inc., has helped to ensure that Madison's rich history will have a home for future generations to enjoy," said Carson W. "Bill" Beck, vice president of DMI.