

NEWS in a NUTSHELL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE



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January 2022

Terry Welshan, Working Hard to “Lead the Way”

Terry Welshan recently retired from the City of Maryville Traffic Operations Team. He is most likely resting in his hammock right now, enjoying a well-deserved break. For the last 40 years, Terry has been working hard to make a difference for himself and those around him. It all started back in 1978 when Terry began his military career with the Army Rangers at Fort Benning, Georgia.

U.S. Army Ranger school, class 4-80 began Basic Training with 400 men. On graduation day, only 67 men had completed the training to become Special Operations Army Rangers. Terry was one of them. He was 21 years old. While at Fort Benning, Terry received numerous letters of commendation and medals for meritorious service from Commanding Officers. He was often honored for his high degree of technical skill, professional attitude, the high standards he set for himself, and his high test scores backed it all up.

In 1981 Sgt. Welshan was honorably discharged from the army for medical reasons. During his service, he was awarded the Expert Marksmanship Badge, the Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab. The slogan of the Army Rangers is, “Rangers Lead the Way”, Terry kept that slogan in his heart going forward. He never stopped leading at any point in his career.

In November of 1981, Terry joined the Maryville Police Department. The Chief of Police, Don Boring, wanted to create a SWAT Team in preparation for the 1982 World’s Fair coming to Knoxville. He tasked Terry with helping to form the new function. During his 15 years with MPD Terry was a Patrolman, a member of the SWAT Team, a Detective, and on the Fifth Judicial Drug Task Force. The proudest achievement of his career in the Police Department is establishing and leading the 1st Community Oriented Policing Unit in the Parkside Housing Development.

Poverty was common in the Parkside Housing Development in Maryville, kids didn’t have enough supervision, and drugs were a problem. 10% of all drug charges in Maryville, at that time, were connected to Parkside. MPD had a problem that needed to be solved. Terry was asked to establish a new substation at the Maryville Housing Authority’s Office inside Parkside and begin bicycle patrol duty.

As the youth in the neighborhood got to know Terry, they began to ask if they could ride along with him on his patrol. Terry saw this as an opportunity to build relationships with the kids, so he encouraged them to join him and invite their friends along too. Soon the Parkside Junior Safety Patrol was born. Terry established it as an organized club with rules to follow and a contract to sign. Each member was responsible for attending a monthly meeting and each had to own a bike. Good citizenship was required, as well as personal responsibilities for things like homework and civic duties.

Often a child would ask to join the Junior Safety Patrol, but they didn’t own a bike or the required helmet. Terry recognized this as a problem for families struggling to pay utilities and rent, so he began to search for individuals and businesses who would be interested in donating used bikes, helmets, bike parts, or cash to buy needed

supplies. He held public information sessions, attended speaking engagements, and spread the word that the Parkside Junior Safety Patrol needed support. Soon, over 150 used bikes were collected for the growing club. Many were in disrepair. This didn’t discourage Terry. He did what he had always done in the past, he found a way to

educate himself and he got busy. He approached our former mayor, Tom Taylor and worked out a deal that helped fund bicycle repairs for the club; a part-time job at Drakes Auto Parts in the Bicycle Repair department. Their deal was that Terry was compensated for his work with credits that he traded for bicycle parts. While working at Drakes, he not only learned how to fix bikes, he also learned how to build a bike from the ground up. Terry then started a side gig building custom bikes for cash-paying customers. Some of his custom bikes sold for thousands of dollars.

Terry decided that to establish and maintain his credibility with the Junior Safety Patrol kids, he needed to receive extra training in bicycle patrol techniques too. He completed the International Police Mountain Bike Association’s Program as a cyclist and an instructor. He then became a practicing instructor and was recognized as one of the highest-rated police bicycle instructors in the U.S. He was often sought out by individuals and organizations for his expertise in the field.

When Terry learned that many of the Safety Patrol kids struggled with grades, he and Detective John McCulloch applied for a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant. The money they received was used to hire a retired teacher to help the kids with their homework after school every day. In 1994 Terry



Terry Welshan, Retired EPW, in the Traffic Operations Center

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Applause Please



Retiring 1/6/2022
Leland Blackwood
 Administration
 20 Years of Service



New Employee
Evan Melhorn
 EPW
 Grounds Maintenance
 Worker



New Employee
Sharon Smith
 EPW
 Civil Engineer



New Employee
Konner Webb
 EPW
 Grounds Maintenance
 Worker



Promotion
Ben Belitz
 MPD
 Police Sergeant



Promotion
Josh Daniels
 Electric
 Lead Line Technician



Promotion
Scott Spicer
 MPD
 Police Lieutenant



Promotion
Jarod Shudan
 EPW
 Street Construction Worker

Financial Services Restructured

From the desk of Greg McClain, City Manager

As many of you know, Mike Swift, our current Financial Services Director, has announced he will retire in the spring of 2022. We are excited for Mike and his wife Linda as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

As a result of Mike's retirement, I have restructured the Financial Services department to better meet the goals of the organization moving forward.

Effective December 18, Sherri Phillips, finance, was promoted to Financial Services Director. Mike will continue working to transition the department alongside Sherri until his retirement.

Information Technology will move out of its reporting relationship to Financial Services and become the Information Technology Division. Information Technology Director Terry McCoy will continue to lead this group.

Sherri and Terry will report to the City Manager and will assume Managing Director responsibilities.



Sherri Phillips,
 Financial Services
 Director



Terry McCoy
 Information Technology
 Director

Facebook Kudos to EPW Christmas Elves

Holly Jensen
 10h · 🌐

👉 Shoutout to the beautifully decorated Maryville Municipal Building! Great job! 🎄



👍❤️ 98

1 Comment

👍 Like

💬 Comment

GranGen Baxter Kidd
 Beautiful! Thank You for sharing! ❤️

Like · Reply · 5h

👍 2

People are the Key

Terry - continued from page 1

was honored with the HUD Public Housing Division's Rainbow Award. He was nominated by the Director of the Maryville Housing Authority who wrote the following about Terry: "Officer Terry Welshan may be described as an army of one. His example of dedication and personal sacrifice has resulted in benefits to the residents and the management of the Maryville Housing Authority, far more than those provided by any other single person or function."

Terry and the Junior Safety Patrol did more than provide a safe and fun place to hang out for the kids of Parkside. It bolstered their self-esteem and taught them that with hard work and some ingenuity they too could accomplish big things. Terry led by his good example. He demonstrated the importance of working together. He taught the young members of the patrol, as well as their parents, the value of civic duty, and respect for authority. The kids learned to have pride in their neighborhood. They worked together to shovel sidewalks after a snowstorm and cleaned up litter in their neighborhood, and sometimes even gave Terry information he needed to curb the drug activity in Parkside.

Terry and Detective McCulloch also started the Teens Need Training program at Parkside. This program paid teens for odd jobs they performed. It wasn't a lot of money, but the participants learned skills they would need later when they were adults in the working world. Having some money in their pockets was a powerful feeling. Many of the kids chose to spend their money on simple pleasures, like getting a haircut, so the kids at school wouldn't make fun of them anymore, or taking their momma to a real restaurant for dinner.

In 1996 Terry decided to hang up his badge and become the City's first Traffic Signal technician. Back then, there were 16 clock-timed traffic signals in the city. Today, there are nearly 100 signals, all connected, throughout Maryville and Alcoa. In his time in the Traffic Operations Center, Terry has overseen the construction of every single traffic signal in the system.

Terry wasn't satisfied with just being a Certified Traffic Signal Technician. He continued his quest for education and sought numerous certifications. He also became an International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) Teacher. In the last 20 years, Terry has taught thousands of students from all over the U.S., all preparing to be Certified Traffic Signal Technicians.

Terry and his wife Tammy have three children and five grandkids with another one on the way. Terry plans to take up fishing again, play with his grandkids, and continue to teach the IMSA Classes three days a month now that he's retired. It's a pretty good bet that he'll continue to "lead the way" no matter what he's up to, that's just how he is, once an Army Ranger - always an Army Ranger.



EPW's Help with Decorating Much Appreciated

Right: Jarod Shudan, Darrel Pharris, and Riley Huff at the end of the 3rd day of helping decorate the trees, the Gary Hensley Room, the Chambers, and the lobby. Captain Graves, the scrooge, gave us a ticket for unlawful parking in the lobby!



Above: Jarod Shudan, Corey Tindell, and Riley Huff hang the wreath.

Left: Matthew Stewart adds lights to the tree in the lobby.

This year we were gifted some surplus Christmas decorations from Altar'd State. EPW employees were kind enough to stick it out and lend a hand wherever needed when it came time to putting it all together and getting the municipal building ready for the Christmas Tree Lighting Event on December 6, 2021. Many thanks to Edmond Green and Darrel Pharris for all the help they provided, especially during a busy time of the year for their crews. It was a big job and it wouldn't have been possible without the heavy lifters in EPW. Thank you guys! Y'all are appreciated!

A Note to Employees from Mayor White

Dear City of Maryville Employees,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all you do to make our community safe, beautiful, thoughtfully maintained, and constantly moving forward. The level of dedication and professionalism that each of you bring to the table is unparalleled and very much appreciated. It's been an honor to serve in a city where the employees take so much pride in their work. Through the years I've received numerous phone calls and emails from citizens who speak so highly of our employees. I am proud to be associated with each and every one of you. You certainly have made our job on City Council much easier, and for that, I thank you. Keep up the great work!



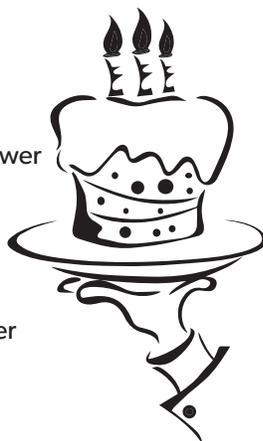
On behalf of the entire council, I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year! May 2022 be full of grand adventures and opportunities for you and your families.

Andy White

People are the Key

January Birthdays

- 1 Gabe Emert, W&S
- 9 Gary Walker, Dev. Services
Patrick McGinley, MFD
- 10 Trever Nix, MPD
Shane Collins, MPD
William Potter, Water & Sewer
- 12 Phil Stewart, Water & Sewer
- 14 John Bivens, MPD
- 16 Jessica Mason, Finance
- 17 Eddie Davis, MPD
Tim Phillips, EPW
Chris Buchanan, MPD
Luke Thompson, MFD
- 19 Jesse McWhorter, Water & Sewer
Patty Cox, HR
Shawn Riddick, W&S
- 23 Robert Large, Dev. Services
Ian Callaway, Electric
- 24 Jessica Cooper, Water & Sewer
- 25 Ryan Rogers, MPD
- 26 James Middleton, EPW
Sandra Ullman, Finance
- 27 Travis Brown, MPD
- 28 Kenneth Crowder, MPD
- 31 Jeremiah Morton, EPW



January Anniversaries

- Scotty Martin, W&S 34 years
- David Morton, Finance 33 years
- Julie Anderson, Electric 32 years
- Greg Cooke, MPD 31 years
- Patrick Effler, Electric 29 years
- Danny Frye, Electric 29 years
- Danny Wilson, W&S 29 years
- Brent Robbins, W&S 27 years
- David McCarter, Electric 27 years
- Tim Phillips, EPW 25 years
- Brad Hurst, EPW 25 years
- Brian Hutsell, W&S 25 years
- Jason Pesterfield, MPD 24 years
- Sherri Phillips, Finance, 23 years
- Jennifer Cunningham, MPD 22 years
- Angie Luckie, EPW 22 years
- Christine Tillman, IT 19 years
- John Bivens, MPD 17 years
- Dale Jayne, EPW, 14 years
- Michael Myers, W&S 13 years
- Thomas Crow, MFD 9 years
- Matthew Lafon, EPW 6 years
- Maria Nelson, Dev. Services 5 years
- Andrew Payne, MPD 5 years
- Jason Ayers, MPD 5 years
- Jonathon Riggsbee, Admin 4 years
- Caleb Smith, MFD 2 years
- Ryan Hickman, MPD 2 years
- Logan Turbyfill, EPW 2 years
- Autumn O'Briant, MFD 2 years
- Brandon Parish, W&S 1 year
- Laura Seery, Finance 1 year

Sanitation Santa

The elves at Sanitation Santa served 92 families this year for Christmas. Shown here are just a few of the volunteers. To the right: Mary Winchester and Sharon Smith. Bottom left: Ron Nugent and his daughter Rachel, and bottom right: Shawn Ridings, Tim Green and Kyler Love, all EPW employees.



Greenway Walkers Appreciate Seth!

I walk with two other ladies on the greenway in Maryville. We are all retired and enjoy our greenway walks.

We appreciate everything your team does to keep the greenway clean and safe. Seth (Murphy, EPW) is always so helpful and patient with us (LOL) as we pepper him with questions about the ducks. He is also very knowledgeable about the greenway, the pond and surrounding areas. We feel he goes above and beyond with us and he works so hard keeping everything picked up

We just wanted to take the time to let you and the City of Maryville how helpful Seth is to us.

Janet, Melody and Connie

