

NEWS in a NUTSHELL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE



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July 2022

Sign Shop Modernized

In the 1960's the city of Maryville had a population of just over 10,000 people. Back then, when a new street sign was needed, it was ordered from a supplier. As the city's population grew and the need for more streets and street signs grew along with it, it became more economical to create an in-house Sign Shop to meet the needs of the city.

Gary Odom and Butch Smith were the first city employees to work in the Sign Shop. Next in line to take over the production of road signs was Dennis Effler. He and Henry Bergen manned the Sign Shop until Henry retired in 2018. Soon after, in 2019, Dennis retired as well.



Kevin prepares the art for a new sign

Back in the 1980's vinyl plotters began replacing hand-painted sign makers. The Sign Shop was no different. At the time computers, die-cut vinyl lettering, and heat-activated glue was a more efficient means of producing longer-lasting signs.

Using the vinyl plotter to create a stop sign, the metal backing was cut into an octagon shape

and covered with a layer of red vinyl followed by a layer of white with die-cut letters. After the white layer was added, Dennis and Henry would peel away the sections of white that were not needed. Everything but the letters and the border were removed and tossed, leaving a traditional stop sign with a red background and white lettering. Making signs with this technology was limited to blocks of color and did not permit the use of photography, gradients, or any small or detailed work.

The need for consistency throughout the state and country led to policies that must be followed when making signs for the city of Maryville. The Sign Policy, Design and Programs Section of the Tennessee Traffic Engineering Office, assists in managing sign programs and statewide implementation and compliance to sign policies, rules, and regulations. By 2008, the Federal Highway Administration began enforcing minimum levels of retro-reflectivity for street signs. In the state of Tennessee, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is approved by the Federal Highway Administration as the National Standard for all traffic control devices used on roads open to public travel. Since 2008, the Sign Shop has been required to keep current with any changes the state might make to its sign-making policies and operate within those parameters daily.

In 2018 Ron Nugent left the Concrete Construction division of Engineering and Public Works to fill Henry's position after he retired. In 2019 when Dennis retired, Ron became the Senior Sign Tech. Kevin Whitehead joined Ron in 2020.

Ron began floating the idea of updating the methods of operation in the Sign Shop soon after he came on board. The amount of vinyl that was wasted for each sign, was the driving force in Ron's argument for modernization.

In May, Ron and Kevin created their first signs using an all-new, all-modern system of producing signs for the City of Maryville. Their new HP Latex 365 Printer can do much more than the vinyl plotter the Sign Shop had been using. For one thing, the maximum size of the signs they can print is now 5' wide by almost any length.

Continued - see Sign Shop on page 3



Ron demonstrates how the new roller works

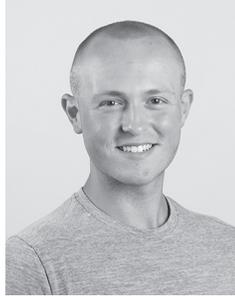


Kevin and Ron stand next to their new printer with the Flatbed Applicator in the foreground. After the signs are printed on reflective material, they are applied to the metal and then laminated using the Flatbed Applicator.

Applause Please



Promotion
Nick Crawford
 W&S
Utility Construction Worker I



Promotion
Seth Murphy
 EPW
Street Construction Worker



New Employee
Dewayne Belcher
 W&S
Wastewater Treatment Plant Technician



Promotion
Wyatt Snow
 Electric
Service Technician



New Employee
Russell Burns
 EPW
Grounds Maintenance Worker



New Employee
Leona Grubbs
 MPD
General Worker



New Employee
Jonas Morton
 EPW
Grounds Maintenance Worker



Retired June 30
Tony Bailey
 Electric
36 Years of Service



Retiring July 29
Steve Davis
 Electric
40 Years of Service



Retiring July 1
Brian Hutsell
 W&S
26 Years of Service



Retiring July 8
Teresa Rucker
 Finance
26 Years of Service



Retiring July 15
Bill Walt
 Electric
35 Years of Service

Facebook Files



Expanded Clinic Hours
to fit your busy schedule

Monday - Friday
 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturdays and Sundays
 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

(closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)



CareToday
 CLINIC

East Tennessee Medical Group
 266 Joule St., Alcoa, TN 37701

Reminder: All City offices will be closed on Monday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Have a safe and happy holiday!

People are the Key

Sign Shop- continued from page 1



A newly printed speed limit sign shown next to the printer to illustrate its size.

The printer, which is similar to an ink jet printer, uses latex ink to print only what is needed, meaning that there is no removing unneeded vinyl and much less waste. After printing, each sign is covered with a laminate which makes it resistant to weather, UV Rays, and graffiti. The cost of materials to produce signs is much less too.

The HP Latex 365 Printer can produce indoor and outdoor prints on a variety of traditional signage surfaces—even textiles.

Key features include:

- Up to 64" media handling
- Enhanced production speed, high-quality prints
- Versatile media compatibility
- Dry, odor-free prints, ready to finish

The Sign Shop's new equipment is now capable of printing:

- Banners & Trade show Displays
- Window, Wall & Floor Graphics
- Textured and Smooth Walls Graphics
- Temporary Displays & Poster Prints
- Vehicle Decals
- And of course, Exterior Signage

As Ron and Kevin learn more about what they can now offer, their ability to save the city money by producing specialty signs in-house, rather than purchasing them, will no doubt grow. They are



excited about the future, and they look forward to blazing a new trail for the city and the Sign Shop.

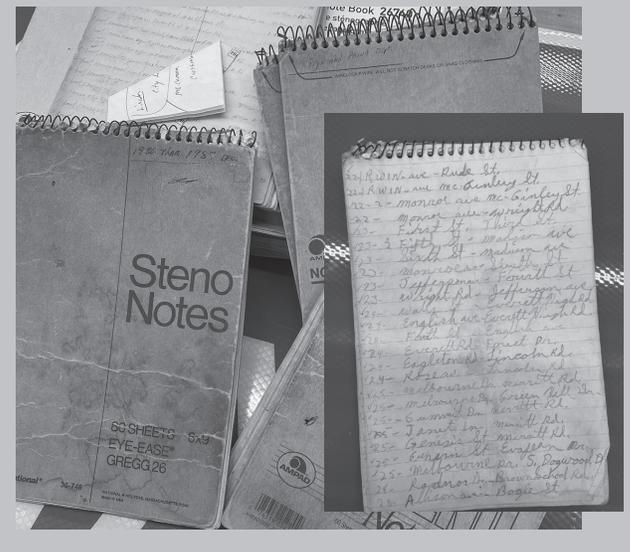
This taxidermy-mounted goat, pictured at right, is the official greeter at the Sign Shop. He appeared outside the Shop door one wintery morning. He was taken in, warmed up, and given a permanent home. Whoever left him behind has yet to be identified. If you know, call the tip hotline at 3351.

Sign Shop Memories

When David Morton, Finance, first started as an intern (around 1983) he was asked to do a sign inventory of every traffic sign in Maryville. He was asked to drive around in an old Plymouth Volare and fill out a card on each sign. He was to record condition, what kind of material (reflective or non), location, etc. for each sign he found. While working on the project he encountered a stop sign somewhere in the Everett High area that was yellow and black, and the word STOP was embossed. He told Gary Odom, the Sign Shop manager at the time, about it and Gary went out and replaced it with a traditional red and white stop sign. Gary gave the old sign to David, and he being a lover of all things old, has held on to it for years.



Steno pads dating back to 1986 remain in the Sign Shop. Inside the pads are hand written notes that document all the work completed by Sign Shop employees for several years.



People are the Key

July Birthdays

| | |
|----|---|
| 2 | Nicholas Crawford, W&S |
| 3 | Charles Fipps, MFD Darryl Adams, Electric |
| 4 | Michael Braden, MPD |
| 5 | Chance Anderson, EPW Chase Sands, EPW |
| 7 | Greg McClain, Admin Kevin Stoltenberg, Dev. Services Chad Wilson, EPW |
| 8 | Mike Caylor, MFD Marcus Walker, MPD Jordan Marshall, EPW |
| 12 | Rod Fernandez, MPD Travis Hill, MPD |
| 13 | D.J. Porter, MPD |
| 15 | Keith Anderson, W&S Eric Maynard, MPD |
| 16 | Derik Hilbert, EPW |
| 18 | Dusty Finger, Electric |
| 20 | Randy Thompson, MFD Logan Rogers, MFD |
| 21 | Cody Whitehead, W&S |
| 22 | Tyler Kirkland, W&S |
| 24 | Jeff Kirchburg, W&S |
| 25 | Austin Headrick, MFD |
| 26 | Terry McCoy, IT Dewayne Shoffner, Electric |
| 28 | Jerry Barnes, Finance Donnie Williams, Electric |
| 31 | Chance Hawkins, MFD |



July Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| David Graves, MPD | 38 years |
| Bill Walt, Electric | 35 years |
| Stay Chissay, EPW | 34 years |
| Ralph Goodson, Finance | 33 years |
| Keith Wilson, W&S | 33 years |
| Doug Short, Electric | 32 years |
| Ricky Cummings, EPW | 29 years |
| Johnny Garner, EPW | 29 years |
| Charlie Martinez, MFD | 27 years |
| Jim Yearout, Electric | 27 years |
| Chad Simpson, MPD | 26 years |
| Teresa Rucker, Finance | 26 years |
| Amy Woody, Electric | 26 years |
| Richard Johnson, Electric, | 24 years |
| Tony Hatcher, W&S | 19 years |
| Ray Boswell, Admin | 17 years |
| Jonathan Ellenburg, Electric | 15 years |
| Mark Hasty, MFD | 14 years |
| Chris Pereda, MFD | 10 years |
| Clayton Hall, MPD | 7 years |
| Jacob Curtis, MPD | 6 years |
| Matt Tipton, MPD | 6 years |
| Adam Cook, MPD | 6 years |
| Bryson Dykes, MFD | 4 years |
| Trever Nix, MPD | 4 years |
| Chance Anderson, EPW | 3 years |
| Jackson Morton, EPW | 2 years |
| Riley Huff, EPW | 1 year |
| Jesse Stott, W&S | 1 year |

Public Safety Plaza Dedication Ceremony



On June 17, Chief Tony Crisp hosted a dedication ceremony for the city's new Public Safety Plaza. The plaza was built to honor Maryville Police and Firefighters and as a memorial to four Maryville Police Officers killed in the line of duty. Speakers included Chief, Greg McClain - City Manager, Andy White - Mayor, and the primary donor of the project - Bob Hansen.

Codes Department Audit Complete

The State of Tennessee has authorized the City of Maryville to enforce construction codes. As part of this responsibility, state law has certain parameters that the City must fall within. Some of those are:

- The edition of the codes adopted by the City are within seven years of the latest published edition.
- Any modifications made to the codes are not less restrictive than those of the State's.
- Codes enforcement personnel must continually go through a strenuous process of training and certification examinations.
- The department's enforcement processes must be effective, thorough, accountable, reported, and legal.

To ensure that enforcement efforts are adequate, the State audits the codes department every three years.

The official notification that the City receives at the end of the audit is that the City's code enforcement efforts are either "adequate" or "inadequate". Concerning the latest residential audit, the auditor was so impressed by our Codes Department that he sent these additional comments, *"Thank you for your time yesterday. That completes your on-site audit. Everything looks good with your paperwork and I did not find any deficiencies. I want to congratulate you and your department for the outstanding work you guys are doing"*.