NEWS in a NUTSHELL
THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE
CITY of MARYVILLE
PEOPLE are the KEY
Volume 43, Number 5
May 2023

Have You Met Gwyneth?

Gwyneth Carrell, Public Services Receptionist/Office Assistant, joined the City's employee roster in November of 2022. Since then she's been at her post greeting visitors to the Operation Center and making fast friends out of her co-workers. It's safe to say, she's a people person! True to form, Gwyneth didn't hesitate when asked if she would help with the May Nutshell story. When she returned a questionaire that felt more like a conversation than a list of answers to questions, it was on! So if you haven't met Gwyneth yet, you'll surely want to by the time you finish reading this.

Where were you born and raised? Macclesfield, England which is a mill town that used to produce silk in the middle of the Penine Mountain range.

On account of your amazing accent… when did you come to the U.S. and why? What accent? I came as a nanny in 1991.

Where did you work before the City of Maryville? I lived in Connecticut and worked for UConn – I try not to tell anyone during March Madness.

Do you live in Maryville? I live in Friendsville. When we were looking at homes this was the first house we looked at and a cow was leaning over the fence mooing at me and I said "this is it" the realtor said, don't you want to see inside? I replied, "I guess so" and then I saw the serenity prayer was on the wall inside the house and I said, "SOLD!"

Tell us about your family. My Husband, Stephen, was raised in Townsend and went to Heritage High School. I have two "bonus" kids from his first marriage.

Any pets? Yes, two dogs Ella and Samson. And Billie, our Cat (a girl), Billie Halliday, she is our special story, her "Dad" dropped her and her siblings off at the barn where I volunteer. They were three weeks old. We bottle raised them until they were old enough to go to homes. Billie's middle name is Moo because she has cow markings.

What is your favorite thing to do on the weekends? Be outdoors! Camping, riding our motorcycle, fire pits, horse riding and grooming, gardening, and hiking.

What is your biggest fear? Snakes! But I shouldn't have told you that because now, there is sure to be some pretend snake somewhere in the Home Avenue office!!!

If you could live anywhere, where would it be? This sounds cliché, but I am here! We have a wonderful home, a great church, a fantastic work family and I drive down 321 every morning and thank God for the glorious view of those mountains.

What is your idea of a perfect vacation? Jam packed itinerary with lots of history and magical sunsets with a glass of sangria.

What makes you angry? Bumper stickers on cars with curse words on them, you can have your views, but please think about the fact that little kids read that stuff!!!!

What makes you happy? Trees, hearing the wind in them, lying under them, and watching them sway in the breeze, seeing the leaves change, and then seeing the renewal of leaves each spring.

What makes you laugh? My dogs play fighting and doing zoomies, my co workers making fun of my accent, and Heather Giger's laugh.

Do you have a dream car? Yes. A 1993 Volvo station wagon.

Do you have a hobby? Yes, I volunteer at STAR (Shangri La Therapeutic Riding Academy) in Lenoir City. I help with the horses and lessons for our special needs riders. The smell of a horse is the only aromatherapy I need!

Any hidden talents? I don't know that I hide it, but I LOVE to plan events. I've done Speed Friending, New Years at Noon, Pumpkin carving and Gingerbread house competitions to name a few.

What is your favorite thing about working here? My coworkers, NEVER, have I EVER, felt so loved and appreciated. It's definitely an extended family which means so much especially as I am "one of them transplants".

What is your proudest accomplishment? I have beat cancer three times – I'd like it to stop bothering me now!

Do you have a favorite Netflix series? I love Mad Men. It's the era it is set in, the costumes, the sets, all are amazing to me. It gave me a different insight into the psychology of advertising too.

Would you rather ride a bike, ride a horse, or drive a car? Ride a horse, but I also LOVE to be on the back of our Harley with Hubby driving me through this beautiful countryside we call home.

If you could hire someone to help you, would it be with cleaning, cooking, or yard work? Yard work!

Do you have a nickname? When we were in a motorcycle club, they used to call me DOT, not because I am Dorothy, but because I always used to put my helmet on backwards and the Department of Transportation sign is on the back.

Would you rather vacation in Hawaii or Alaska? Neither – I would rather vacation somewhere in Europe with my family from England. Its hard to spend time with them these days.

If money was no object, what would you do all day? Lots of things,

Continued: See Gwyneth on page 2

In Memory

Dave Boring, a former City of Maryville employee, died suddenly on April 3, 2023. Dave retired in April of 2020 with 41 years of service in the the Water and Sewer Department. He will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and his work family here at the City.

Tree Takes Down Power Line on Court St.

On Saturday April 1, strong winds snapped a power pole on Court Street at Hummingbird Drive knocking power out for several hours. There were multiple outages including other poles down in the Rockford and Southeast Maryville areas. Approximately 20 of the Electric department line crew personnel responded and worked late into the night. The power was restored in the area shown in the photo below a few minutes after midnight.

Gywneth: Continued from page 1

but most likely my day would be full of grooming horses, kayaking, and doing yoga.

What's your favorite holiday and why? Thanksgiving, because it's the American holiday that I now have because I am an American. I also love it because there is no commercialism involved in it. Just gratefulness.

What's the most daring thing you've ever done? Had gastric sleeve surgery. I needed to change my life and my health, but I was so scared of what people would think and how my new life would be. I am so glad I did it because I feel so healthy now.

What was the last book you read? The Bible

Love or hate rollercoasters? I love them. This old body does not!

Do you love or hate to cook? Meh!

Do you collect anything? Memories, I collect memories, I love them, and I hope I keep them forever.

Are you an introvert or an extrovert? Come on??? LOL!

If you were ruler of your own country what would be the first law you would introduce? That everyone would have to wear a blind fold all the time but would still be able to function as normal. This way you couldn't judge anyone by the way they look.

If you had a warning label, what would yours say? People pleaser with large heart and big mouth!

What celebrity would you like to meet for a cup of coffee? Anthony Hopkins. He is from the old country and lives here now. He is such a diverse actor and I love HIS accent.

What was your first job? I washed dishes in a French restaurant and the snails were delivered in tins, so I had to wash the snail shells (ugh). Everything was heavily seasoned with garlic and the smell still makes me wretch.

Thank you Gwyneth for being such a good sport!

Attention All Employees: Open Enrollment Dates Announced

What: Employee Benefits Enrollment

Who: All Full-Time Employees – even if waiving coverage

When: May 15 – May 22

Where: Online with BenefitWerks!

How: More information, the link to enroll and detailed instructions will be provided by email, to your Administrative Assistant, and on the employee portal.

Don't Forget! You must enroll by the deadline! The new enrollment goes into effect July 1.

Need Assistance or Have Questions? Please call Patty 273-3427 or Leslie 273-3426. We are here to help!

Congrats are in Order

New Employee
Luke Ebersole
EPW
Street Construction Worker

New Employee
Zachary Faucon
EPW
Sanitation Collection Driver

New Employee
Ethan McGroom
EPW
Grounds Maintenance Worker

New Employee
Jared Webb
EPW
Engineering Technician

Promotion
Jamie Hipps
EPW
Sanitation Collection Driver

Newborn
Moses Ebenezer Anderson
Son of Chelsea and Robert Anderson, Electric
Born March 30, 2023
8 lbs. 8.6 oz. and 21.5 inches.

2023 Graduates

It's time to honor our graduates in the June Nutshell. Send your photo along with the following information by May 15th to mdbristol@maryville-tn.gov

- Graduate's name
- Your name, relationship with the graduate, and your department
- High School or College graduating from
- Future plans
- Scholarships or honors earned

Sidewalk Work on Lamar Alexander

Ronnie Irwin, Stephen Jordan, Shawn Ridings and Brad Weeks of EPW (shown below) preparing the sidewalk for cement the week of April 17, 2023. Driving the truck was Seth Murphy.

Tim Green received the following in an email soon after his Streets Crew (pictured above and to the right) finished up their work on the sidewalk in front of Louisville Mercantile. Ms. Youngs is the owner of the business.

Tim,

Thank you so much for the excellent repair work to the sidewalk in front of our building located at 746 W Lamar Alexander Pkwy. Your crew are the nicest group of men. I enjoyed talking with them and with you. The City is blessed to have such fine folks on their staff.

Liz Youngs

Citizen Calls in Compliments

Heather Giger, EPW, received a call April 12 from a happy citizen. Sarah Folmar called and wanted to compliment the bulk truck driver that was picking up on Meadowmist Lane. Sarah was amazed at how well the driver operated the knuckle boom. She said, "he was fabulous and very skilled." She went on to say that she felt like a kid watching him work and that she was in awe. Johnny Garner was the bulk truck driver that impressed the citizen who called in.

Another Citizen Thanks W&S

I'm commenting to give high praises to the water & sewer crew that came to my house on Tuesday, April 4th. They did a fantastic job repairing my sewer connection with the city connection. I've had problems for the last 15 years with my sewer line and now it is a relief to resolve the long standing problem. They provided efficient and professional work on the project. Well done everyone and I feel my tax dollars were well spent! You are a credit to your department! Thanks for all your hard work!
Roger Badger, S. 4th Street

But Wait, There's More

May Birthdays

4	Christine Tillman, IT
5	Baron Swafford, Electric
6	Darin Carver, MPD
11	Keith Church, IT Doug Strickland, EPW
13	Logan Turbyfill, Electric
15	Mike Large, Electric
16	Chris Meyers, MPD Austin Ray, EPW
19	Randy Teffeteller, Electric
21	Charles Mims, Finance
22	Holden Fuller, EPW
23	Jane Groff, Admin
25	Don Kitts, W&S
27	Thorn Cooper, Electric
28	Keith Brewer, Engineering Missi Fields, Finance Mark Hasty, MFD Stephanie Perkins, MPD Kim Parker, Finance
29	Jared Belcher, EPW Brad Hurst, EPW
30	Steven Dotson, MPD Sharon Moore, MPD

May Anniversaries

Baron Swafford, Electric	35 years
Joe Tipton, Water and Sewer	35 years
Jewell White, MPD	30 years
Randy Thompson, MFD	27 years
Josh Daniels, Electric	25 years
Ryan Rogers, MPD	25 years
Rod Fernandez, MPD	23 years
Michael Braden, MPD	22 years
Derrick McMurray, MPD	15 years
Steven Wickert, MPD	10 years
Nathaniel Robinson, MPD	9 years
Travis Hill, MPD	8 years
Tyler Buckingham, MPD	4 years
Kyle Riemer, MPD	4 years
Lucas McCall, W&S	3 years
Wyatt Snow, EPW	3 years
Nicole Samu, Admin.	2 years
Cory Tindell, EPW	2 years
William Ferguson, MPD	1 year
Jayson Alexander, EPW	1 year

2023 Employee Meetings

All employees are encouraged to attend one of the meetings listed below. This is a great opportunity to hear news concerning the City, ask questions of our City Manager, Greg McClain, and learn about our Benefits Open Enrollment for 2023-24.

Monday, May 1, 2023
7:30 a.m. – Op. Center Auditorium
9:30 a.m. – Gary Hensley Room

Tuesday, May 2, 2023
7:30 a.m. – Op. Center Auditorium
2 p.m. – Gary Hensley Room

Wednesday, May 3, 2023
7:30 a.m. – Op. Center Auditorium
2 p.m. – Gary Hensley Room

Benefits Fair

On Wednesday, May 11 employees are invited to stop by the Gary Hensley Room between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for the 2023 Benefits Fair. Below is a list of some of the vendors and information tables employees can visit during the fair. There will be door prizes and give-aways throughout the day.

- Chiropractic Services
- A Massage Chair
- Dry Needling Demo
- B-12 Shots
- Physical Therapy Info
- Carotid Artery Screening
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Weight Management and Nutrition Specialists
- Planet Fitness Gym and National Fitness Gym
- Delta Dental
- The Standard
- Lifework Employee Assistance Program
- Little River Trading Company