

# NEWS in a NUTSHELL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE



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May 2019

## Recycling Centers Known to Recycle Careers Too

*City recycling program evolves over time and provides part-time jobs for retirees*

In the late 80's Public Works Director Rick Whaley, Sanitation and Grounds Superintendent Bill Bryant, and Sanitation Supervisor Granville Gregory, started dreaming of the day when the City would offer a recycling program to the citizens they served. Having first-hand knowledge of the amount of garbage generated by the public, they saw the need and decided to do something about it. Their mission was simple. Offer recycling services in order to directly and dramatically extend the life span of the landfill.

In the early 90's their dream became a reality. Three recycling centers spread throughout the city meant that most citizens could participate without a long commute. Back then, long "trailers" separated into several compartmental sections with a small hatch door for each section were used as collection receptacles. Citizens separated their recyclables and deposited plastics in one section, paper in another and aluminum, glass or tin cans into their designated compartments. When the sections were full the trailer was hauled to a recycling plant on the corner of Percheron and Robert C. Jackson Drive.

In 2008, citizens were no longer asked to separate their recyclables and the trailers were no longer partitioned off, so everything went into one long receptacle. In 2013 the long trailers were replaced with smaller dumpsters, and the recycling center on 1601 E. Broadway was closed. Today the two remaining centers collect

approximately 675 tons of recyclable materials per year. The smaller dumpsters are still in use today. When they are full, the contents are emptied into a recycling truck where they are compressed to reduce the number of trips to WestRock Recycling in Knoxville.

Dan Cantwell, EPW Sanitation Superintendent, takes a lot of pride in the recycling program the City offers today. It's a low cost, efficient program that ensures a cleaner planet for the future while also providing jobs for today. He's also proud of the fact that some of the employees he relies on to staff the centers are retirees from the City. Buford Bales, Amy Large, and Phil Keeble are all City of Maryville retirees who help Dan on a regular basis. Their job is to greet all patrons of the centers and confirm they are a resident of the city, and assist with unloading, making sure what they deposit into the containers is clean and on the list of acceptable recyclables. All three of them find the job to be perfect for their individual needs.

Buford Bales retired in 2010 after 35 years working in sanitation. In 2013 he saw that his former boss, Dan, needed some part-time help and thought it would work perfectly for him. Buford was born and raised here in Blount County. He married his wife Shirley 48 years ago. Their daughter, Pamela, and her husband Brian have a daughter named Brooke. Buford works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and then he enjoys a four-day "weekend" every week! He loves the job and especially



Buford Bales

enjoys helping the folks who come by every week. He's made lots of friends through the center and has many life-long friends who are sure to ask about him if he isn't there when they stop by. His short work week leaves him plenty of time to keep up with his yard and load up the 25' camper he and Shirley own and head up to Townsend for a few days when the weather is going to be nice. Buford intends to keep working at the Thompson Brown House recycling center for as long as his health holds up. For him, it isn't about work.

It's more about relationships and connecting with people; friends, old and new.

Amy Large retired in March of 2017 after 13 years of service to the City. On the very first day of her retirement she called Dan and inquired about a part-time position. She knew the drastic changes that retirement brings were going to be a challenge for her, and she decided the structure of a part-time position was just what she would need. Amy works at the recycling center on Best Street most Saturday mornings. She also volunteers, walking dogs at the Blount County Animal Shelter.



Amy Large and Phil Keeble

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### Mark Your Calendar for Springtime Fun

*The month of May is packed with lots of fun things to do!*

**The Farmer's Market** opened April 20 - Located in Downtown Maryville, Tennessee at Founders' Square, the Maryville Farmers' Market is a producer-only market. All Vendors grow it, make it, or bake it from scratch, and offer it fresh from their farm nearby! The Maryville Farmers' Market operates seasonally each Saturday from April to November from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (or vendor sell-out) - rain or shine!

**Paws in the Park** May 4, from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the PetSafe Pistol Creek Dog Park (Rain date: Sunday, May 5, 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) featuring a Dog Talent Show, Dog Parade, Blount County K-9 Demonstration, Grooming and Pet Massages, Pet Supply and Adoption Vendors, Photo Booth, and more! Visit [www.parksrec.com/paws-in-the-park.html](http://www.parksrec.com/paws-in-the-park.html) for details. Owners of friendly dogs and those who just love dogs in general are welcome. Admission is free!

**Knoxville Symphony Orchestra Picnic in the Park** May 18 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Theater in the Park in Jack Green Park (next to the Court House). Enjoy an evening of beautiful music in our scenic greenbelt park amphitheater. Admission is free! Bring blankets, chairs, picnics, and friends.

**The Highland Games and Half Marathon** May 18 - 19 beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday and 7:30 a.m. on Sunday (half marathon start time). The 38th annual Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival and Games will offer a weekend of authentic Scottish Highland festivities the entire clan can enjoy. On the Maryville College campus, the home of "The Scots." 502 E. Lamar Alexander Pky. Ticket prices start at \$15. Experience Celtic entertainment, genealogical inquiry, sheep dog presentations, kid's activities, authentic Celtic food and merchandise, and more. Visit [www.smokymountaingames.org](http://www.smokymountaingames.org) for a full schedule.

### Operation Center Gets a New Sign

If you haven't driven down Home Ave. lately you haven't seen the new sign pointing the way to the Op Center. How do we know this? The new sign is much bigger than the original, so much so that you can't miss it. That was the plan. In the past, folks wandered into the Op Center hoping to take their driver's exam on a daily basis and delivery trucks often drove right past their destination! The Sign Shop guys came up with a stately solution that boldly marks the entrance to our facility. This should save a lot of time and frustration for everyone involved. Well done guys!



Ron Nugent (left) and Dennis Effler (right) show off their sign making skills.



Jamie Hipps sandblasting the new sign.



### 2019 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 Greg, and learn about our Benefits Open Enrollment for 2019-2020.

**Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, May 6, 7, & 8**

**Operation Center Auditorium**  
at 7:30 a.m.

**Gary Hensley Room**  
at 2 p.m.

### Recycling *continued from page 1*

She travels and she enjoys taking care of her yard at her leisure. Gone are the days of trying to pack too much into a short two-day weekend. Amy and her husband Phil, also a former COM employee, have two children and one grandchild, Eliot. They travel to Oregon as often as they can to visit their son and his wife. The recycling center job gives her the flexibility she needs and provides lots of opportunities to meet new friends and catch up with old ones.

Phil Keeble worked for the City for 36.5 years. When he retired in 2010 he was a Maryville Police Department Lieutenant in the Traffic Division. He enjoys photography, going to air shows, hiking, and travel. For three years following his retirement he had plenty to keep him busy, yet something was missing. He longed for the responsibility of a job but had no desire for full-time employment. He decided that if he was to be happily retired, he would need a part-time job. The recycling center provided the perfect solution for him as well. There is no stress, or anxiety of any kind at the recycling center, and working two days a week leaves plenty of hours to do with as he sees fit. It's a great fit for Phil. He's met many interesting people at the recycling center on Best St., including a military pilot and a WWII Fullbird Colonel. He enjoys visiting with the folks who come in. He thinks of his job as a public relations position because through his many interactions with the public he shows them that the City of Maryville is here to serve her citizens.

Buford, Amy, and Phil, all provide a valuable service at the recycling centers, and the recycling centers provide a valuable service to the retirees in return. It's a win-win, and the citizens of Maryville, both present and future, are the benefactors. Surely, Rick, Bill, and Granville didn't realize that they could affect individual lives through the recycling program they petitioned for, but here we are almost 30 years later and their genius plan is doing just that. It may be subtle right now, but you can bet that our children and grandchildren will also benefit from their work in a much bigger way. Our landfill has 62 more years in its expected lifespan. What if through recycling we can extend that to 100 years? And what if the centers were still providing a way for people to forge new friendships and stay in touch with old friends 100 years from now too?

# Applause Please....

## City 5K Winners

**Men's Winner** – Brady Boone - 25:21 **2nd** – Jason Chai, EPW  
**3rd** – Chance Hawkins, MFD

**Women's Winner** – Jennifer Williams - 28:06 **2nd** – Sonja Large (Mike Large's wife) **3rd** – Kim Walker, Finance

**Vacation Day Winners** - Scott Poland, Dev. Services, Kim Walker, Finance, Steve Davis, Electric, and Ernie Mertins, IT.



Jennifer Williams, (girlfriend of Jordan Clark, Dev. Services) wins the women's division.



Brady Boone, (son of Brian Boone, EPW) wins the men's division.

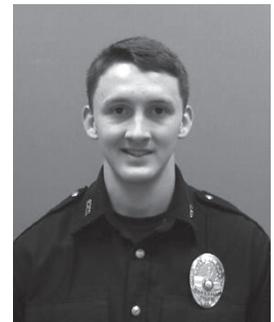
## Walters State Academy Graduation



Pictured at left: Lt. Chad Simpson and Officer Madison Womack. Officer Womack recently graduated from Walters State Academy. She received the defensive tactics award for the graduating class.



New Employee  
**Gabe Emert**  
Water & Sewer  
Water Plant Technician



New Employee  
**Seth Hughes**  
MPD  
Police Officer

## Maryville Employees Most Generous

Emily Mantooth with the United Way of Blount County presents the City with a "Top 25 most generous workplaces" recognition.

The United Way has recognized the top givers during the 2018 campaign. City of Maryville employees were among the top 25, ranking number 12 in the county. Employees have supported the United Way and its partner agencies for many years.

The top 3 givers were DENSO, Clayton and Arconic.



Just Married December 2018  
**Heather & Eric**  
Bailey  
EPW



Promotion  
**Christine Tillman**  
Information Technology  
Systems Support Supervisor

## Citizens Thank MPD and Streets Division

### MPD officer called out for kindness

Officer (Kenneth) Crowder responded to a call yesterday evening (3/31/19), a dog had been hit by a truck on 411. Several people had stopped (not the driver) to try to help this poor dog & when Officer Crowder arrived he was so patient with this injured animal. And more than patient with us humans, explaining what he had to do and why. Just want to thank him for being kind. Not enough of that these days. ~Donna Justice (Update: the dog was re-united with it's owner and is home recovering!)

### Quick response to pothole fix request impressive

Laurie Head, EPW, reported that Elizabeth Wilson called to say thank you for fixing the pothole so quickly on Robert C. Jackson Drive at the First Tennessee Bank driveway entrance. She was very impressed that it was fixed so quickly and wanted to call and let us know that she appreciates it very much.



New Born  
**Gracelyn Brooke**  
Daughter of Dakota and  
Katie Pledge, Finance  
Born 4/17/2019 7lbs. 15oz.

# People are the Key

## May Birthdays

- 4 Christine Tillman, IT
- 5 Baron Swafford, Electric
- 6 Darin Carver, MPD
- 7 Tony Bailey, Electric  
Dan Cantwell, EPW
- 11 Keith Church, IT  
Doug Strickland, EPW
- 13 Logan Turbyfill, EPW
- 14 Jason Roberson, Electric  
Dennis Effler, EPW
- 15 Mike Large, Electric
- 19 Ernie Mertins, IT  
Randy Teffeteller, Electric
- 21 Charles Mims, Finance
- 23 Jane Groff, Admin.
- 25 Don Kitts, Water & Sewer
- 27 Thorn Cooper, Water & Sewer
- 28 Mark Hasty, MFD  
Missi Fields, Finance  
Keith Brewer, EPW  
Stephanie Perkins, MPD  
Steve Davis, MFD
- 29 Brad Hurst, EPW
- 30 Steven Dotson, MPD  
Sharon Moore, MPD
- 31 Tony Clark, MFD



## Farewell Friend, Safe Travels

Laurie Galvin, a 12 year employee in the Finance Dept. lost her courageous battle with cancer on April 23, 2019. Laurie leaves behind her husband Mike and her many friends here at the City to mourn her loss. Pictured at right, Laurie thoroughly enjoying her special ride in the bucket provided by the Electric Dept. on her last day at work before retiring.



## With Deepest Sympathies

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the death of Jaxon Chase Green, infant son of Felicia and Austin Green, (MPD) on March 31, 2019. Jaxon was born prematurely on March 30, 2019 at 8:50 a.m. He weighed 1 lb. 9.4 oz., and was 12.2 inches long. Our love, prayers and deepest sympathies go out to the Green family.



## May Anniversaries

- |                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Joe Tipton, Water & Sewer | 31 years |
| Baron Swafford, Electric  | 31 years |
| Steve Davis, MFD          | 27 years |
| Jewell White, MPD         | 26 years |
| Randy Thompson, MFD       | 23 years |
| Josh Daniels, Electric    | 21 years |
| Ryan Rogers, MPD          | 21 years |
| Rod Fernandez, MPD        | 19 years |
| Michael Braden, MPD       | 18 years |
| James Parrott, EPW        | 14 years |
| Ernie Mertins, IT         | 11 years |
| Derrick McMurray, MPD     | 11 years |
| Steven Wickert, MPD       | 6 years  |
| Nathaniel Robinson, MPD   | 5 years  |
| Travis Hill, MPD          | 4 years  |
| Kayla Berry, MPD          | 1 year   |

## Business is Booming

*Spotlight on Economic & Community Development with Angie Luckie*

This month's featured business is Jaboni's Pizza, a Long Island style pizzeria which opened it's doors on March 13, 2019. The chef, Gavino, has 40 plus years in the pizzeria business. Jaboni's Pizza is located at 549 N. Foothills Plaza Dr. (next to Pet Supplies Plus). They are open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. They offer a wide variety of Italian dishes, soups, salads, desserts and pizza, as well as beer and wine. They also serve pizza by the slice and to go orders.



Cody Burchfield and Shawn Riddick take a break from their support work for some fun at the Special Olympics Track and Field event held on April 10th at Heritage High School.

## Call for 2019 Graduates

The June Nutshell will feature our graduates. Please send your photos and future plans information to [mdbristol@maryville-tn.gov](mailto:mdbristol@maryville-tn.gov), or drop it in the inter-office mail by May 20th.