

# NEWS in a NUTSHELL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE



Volume 38, Number 9

September 2018

## Always Something New and Different in Animal Control

*Re-uniting pets and owners is always the goal*

### A visit to the City of Maryville

Animal Shelter shed a new light on the services offered by the Animal Control division of the Maryville Police Department. The following is a list of Ten things you may not know about Animal Control.

#### 1. Sgt. Eddie King, Marcus Walker and Kenneth Crowder have 67 years of combined experience

in Animal Control. They keep the shelter clean and neat and work hard to make the animals comfortable during their temporary stay. They're always ready with a pat on the head or a well timed scratch behind the ears. While they all confess to being animal lovers they also have a special place in their hearts for the humans they serve as well.

**2. Picking up a skunk can end in disaster** for an inexperienced officer, but nine times out of ten, Eddie, Marcus and Kenneth avoid that inconvenience. They have been in the situation so many times that they've developed a skill set that results in spray-free skunk retentions.

**3. No-Kill Shelter** - The City of Maryville Animal Shelter became a No-Kill Shelter in 2008. The goal is to reunite lost animals with their owners or find a new homes for them. This change came as a relief to animal lovers Eddie, Marcus, and Kenneth.

**4. The Shelter is open to the public** for animal identification, reclaims or adoptions of available animals from 1 - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

**"We've seen just about everything out there!"**

Dogs can be adopted for a fee of \$55 and cats are \$45. The fee covers the cost of the pet being spayed or neutered and a one-year rabies vaccination. A veterinarian will want to give the pet additional vaccinations on its first visit.

#### 5. Animal Control is on call 24/7 for emergencies.

An example of an emergency would be an actual call at 3 a.m. to come and assist a homeowner in removing a 3' long Boa Constrictor from their home. A dryer vent about 7' up from the ground on an exterior wall became a port of entry for the snake. He was discovered just in time hanging out of the vent in his attempt to find shelter inside the home. A 4 a.m. call to assist in rounding up a horse in the William Blount Drive area is another example. The escaped equine had spent the night leading law enforcement on a wild horse chase for several hours.

Knowing a secret tactic to corralling horses that most folks wouldn't know was Kenneth and Marcus' advantage. Within minutes they had the horse under their spell when they put small rocks into a bucket and shook it. The horse thought the rocks were food and willingly came right to them ending an hours long pursuit... easy peasy!

**6. Rabies are pretty much unheard of** in the area. Over the years, only three cases, two foxes and one bat came to mind during our visit. Eddie King attributes that to the Bait Drop program that the USDA conducts every year. A low flying airplane drops tons of bait that also contains a Rabies Vaccination in the Smokies every fall. Animals consume the bait and unknowingly get their yearly vaccination as well. This program has worked well for several years and cut the number of rabies cases dramatically.



The Animal Control Team. Left to right: Kenneth Crowder, Sgt. Eddie King, and Marcus Walker.

**7. When you call Animal Control to come to your property to pick up a skunk**, or a snake or a possum, proper protocol requires the animal to be euthanized and tested for rabies. Every wildlife animal that gets picked up, must be sent to Knoxville to the UT animal hospital to be tested by the USDA. This rule is the hardest for the guys to accept and none of them like it, but understand how important it is to the safety of the public.

**8. Social Media has changed everything at the shelter.** In a good way! Before Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, it was difficult to get the word out about dogs and cats who were at the shelter, but now it only takes a few hours to share news on social media. Recently when a Siberian Husky landed in the shelter, folks lined up in the parking lot to adopt it after the fifth day. The only way to make it fair was to let the driver of the first car in the lot in to visit the dog first. She took the dog and the rest of the cars parked in a long line down the lane were turned away disappointed. A trucker from Texas who was passing through, saw a dog on Facebook. Thinking the dog would make a good companion he stopped by to meet him. The two hit it off right away and the

**Continued - see Animal Control page 3**

### Inside the Nut

People are the Key... Life Event News  
iTAME September Update  
Business is Booming  
MFD Thank You!  
September is Cancer Awareness Month  
Hydration Station Up and Running  
Pet Pics

# People Are the Key

## Business is Booming

Spotlight on Economic & Community Development with Angie Luckie

Bill Cox Furniture is set to open in mid-September in downtown Maryville in the old National School Products building on the corner of Broadway and Cusick.



The Bill Cox family opened their first furniture store in Knoxville back in 1972. They sell furniture and accessories for every room including living rooms, bedrooms, and dining rooms, media rooms and offices.

## September iTAME Update

What's new and what's next?



The IT Modernization Team released the Time and Attendance System Request for Proposals the week of August 20. Proposals are due at 4 p.m. on September 24 and the Contract Execution is slated for November 30th. IT will notify staff when it's time for vendor demonstrations.

The Cayenta upgrade project was started on the 20th of August as well. The team expects to go live with the new version by the end of February 2019.

The Microsoft System Center and related modules that will make internal IT processes more automated and will provide management reports has also been implemented. The Fiber Network Management Plan is complete as well, and the iTAME team has made recommendations for the next steps in managing this asset.

## Lt. Charles Martinez, MFD... Thank You

On Friday 7-13-18 and Saturday 7-14-18 my husband attended the Smokey Mountain Classic Softball game. My husband is 70 1/2 years old and has Parkinson's Disease.

Larry met the nicest Firemen, Lt. Charlie who was so nice, he helped him to and from the car. The compassion, caring, and help he gave my husband was very much appreciated. There is no way Larry would have been able to get to and from the parking area alone, (he uses a walker). Please accept this check as a donation to your fire house.

It is hard working people like each of you that makes our community a better place to live.

May God bless each of you. Thank you again,

Larry and Linda Woods



Lt. Charles Martinez

## September is Cancer Awareness Month

Annual Comedy for a Cause Event Scheduled



Sharie Gaby... almost five years cancer free!

The 5th Annual Comedy for a Cause event featuring Leanne Morgan will be held on Thursday, September 13! At 7 p.m. Leanne Morgan will take the stage. "Leanne Morgan exudes southern charm. She is a naturally funny story teller who gives an honest look at suburban life and the challenges of keeping her husband happy while juggling kids, dogs and cheerleading camp at the same time she's racing to get her hair highlighted, have a colonoscopy and join weight watchers for the 7th time! Leanne will take you on a hilarious journey through motherhood and beyond as she finds comedy amidst the chaos." (taken from leannemorgan.com).

Sharie Gaby (*Human Resources*) along with several other women, all battling ovarian cancer, along with their doctors organized the first Comedy for a Cause event five years ago. Since then the event has been so successful that UT Medical Center Cancer Institute took over the organization of the event last year. If you'd like to buy a ticket to attend go to [www.utmedicalcenter.org/givingevent](http://www.utmedicalcenter.org/givingevent) or you can call (865) 305-6611. All proceeds will benefit the University of Tennessee Medical Center Cancer Institute's Gynecologic Cancers Education and Research Fund.

## Accolades and Applause



New Employee  
**Tyler Buckingham**  
MPD  
Police Officer



New Employee  
**Jordan Isbell**  
MPD  
Police Officer



New Employee  
**Kyle Riemer**  
MPD  
Police Officer



New Employee  
**Brian Scoggins**  
E&PW  
Traffic Signal Tech



New Born  
**Lorelai Harris**  
Born 7/7 - 8# 5oz. - 18.25"  
Daughter of Sarah (MFD)  
and Daniel Harris

# People Are the Key

## Animal Control - continued from page 1

dog headed off to his new home with his new friend that very day.

**9. The following is a list of different animals** that Animal Control has encountered over the years: alligators, groundhogs (one that was a pet), pot belly pigs, camels, llamas, ostriches, lizards, monkeys, peacocks, chickens, turkeys, a spider the size of a softball, coyotes, fox, emus (5 babies in the Hardee's drive thru), copperheads, boa constrictors, pythons (one 16' long), caiman (similar to a small alligator, several of them kept in a pool in a prominent Maryville neighborhood), snapping turtles, black snakes, opossum, skunks, beavers, and bears. Speaking of bears; when a bear wanders into the city, Animal Control tracks the animal and keeps an eye on it until Tennessee Wildlife can get there to tranquilize it and relocate it.

**10. Because the Impound lot is right next door** to the shelter, it makes sense that the Animal Control guys would be authorized to release the cars to the registered owner when the arresting officer gives them the go ahead. It's a side gig for the Animal Control team!

Maryville Animal Control is responsible for the welfare of animals within the cities of Maryville, Rockford, and Alcoa, and officers are available to provide field services seven days a week. When a stray dog or cat enters the shelter they are held for five days waiting for their owner to come forward. If their owner has not come to the shelter to claim



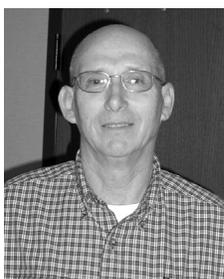
them during the first five days they are made available to the public for adoption. After an additional 20 days with no adoption, the stray enters a foster care home through the Humane Society and will eventually find a forever home from there. The Blount County Humane Society is a Non-profit Animal Protection Organization. They stand for the preservation of animal life, not the ending of it. A no-kill shelter is an animal shelter that does not kill healthy or treatable animals even when the shelter is full, reserving euthanasia for terminally ill animals or those considered dangerous to public safety. The benchmark to achieving no-kill is when at least 90 percent of the homeless animals taken into a shelter are adopted or placed in foster care. Nationwide the number of shelter animals being killed each day is slightly over 4,100 - down from 5,500 per day in 2017, or 1.5 million annually according to the bestfriends.org website. In 1984 an estimated 17 million dogs and cats were killed in America's shelters every year simply because they didn't have homes. Eddie, Marcus and Kenneth are all grateful that they are no longer required to euthanize healthy animals as a means of population control.

If you are a dog or cat owner you should know Animal Control. It's the first call you should make if your pet goes missing... there's a good chance your lost pet will be hanging out at the shelter with Eddie, Marcus and Kenneth just waiting for you to swing by and pick them up. If you're not a pet owner, you might just find a new best friend there.

## Accolades and Applause



Retiring September 20  
**Michael Boring**  
Water & Sewer  
42 Years of Service



Retiring September 21  
**Bill Bryant**  
E&PW  
40 Years of Service



Retiring August 24  
**Gary Caughron**  
MPD  
23 Years of Service



Retiring September 21  
**Mike Sing**  
MFD  
33 Years of Service



Transfer  
**Casey Ryding**  
Electric  
Electric Line Worker/  
Trainee



Promotion  
**Todd Burchett**  
Water & Sewer  
F.O.G. Inspector



Promotion  
**Mike Caylor**  
MFD  
Deputy Fire Chief



Promotion  
**Leslie Crawford**  
HR  
Human Resources  
Manager



Promotion  
**Sharie Gaby**  
HR  
Human Resources  
Generalist



Promotion  
**Jamie Hipps**  
E&PW  
Street Construction  
Worker

# People are the Key

## September Birthdays

- 1 Chris Hamrick, Water & Sewer
- 3 Tommy Cooper, Electric
- 4 John Hudgens, Water & Sewer
- 6 Teresa Rucker, Finance
- 8 Jennifer Cunningham, MPD  
Austin Green, MPD  
James Long, MPD  
Shaun O'Neal, MPD
- 9 Dale Jayne, E&PW
- 10 Daniel Atkins, Water & Sewer
- 12 Cody Burchfield, Water & Sewer
- 13 Bill Walt, Electric
- 14 Shane Myers, E&PW  
Jan Wingate, Finance
- 16 Shaina Kirkland, MPD
- 17 Johnny Garner, E&PW  
Teresa Martin, Finance  
David McCarter, Electric
- 19 Rachael Allmon, Dev. Services  
Danny Kimsey, Water & Sewer
- 20 Todd Burchett, Water & Sewer
- 21 Justin Brown, MPD  
Rusty Thompson, Dev. Services  
Chris Tuck, MPD
- 22 Michelle Portier, Dev. Services
- 23 Steven Talbott, MFD
- 24 Clay Cope, E&PW  
Sam Newport, Electric
- 25 Jason Pesterfield, MPD
- 26 Adam Parton, Water & Sewer  
Andrew Puckett, MFD
- 27 Kevin Roulette, Electric  
Amy Woody, Electric
- 28 Jr. Hess, MPD
- 29 Clayton Hall, MPD  
Mark Huffstetler, Finance  
Mark Wheeler, Electric
- 30 Sherri Phillips, Finance



## September Anniversaries

- Michael Boring, Water & Sewer 42 years
- John Wilson, Electric 37 years
- Michael Davis, Water & Sewer 33 years
- Alan Holmes, MFD 32 years
- Hank Woods, Electric 32 years
- Missi Fields, Finance 30 years
- Rob Woods, MFD 22 years
- Rachael Allmon, Dev. Services 22 years
- John Foley, MPD 20 years
- Pam Moretz, MFD 20 years
- Jason Roberson, Electric 19 years
- Tim Green, E&PW 17 years
- Tim Lane, E&PW 17 years
- Doyle Prince, Water & Sewer 16 years
- Cristy West, Finance 16 years
- Tony Crisp, MPD 16 years
- David England, Water & Sewer 16 years
- Ronnie Irwin, E&PW 15 years
- Scott Spicer, MPD 15 years
- Michael Hall, Water & Sewer 12 years
- Charles Mims, Finance 11 years
- William Pedigo, E&PW 11 years
- John Hudgens, Water & Sewer 10 years
- John Roberson, E&PW 4 years
- Jana Brown, Water & Sewer 2 years



## Mobile Hydration Station Project Complete

*First successful event in the books*

On August 18, the Water and Sewer Department's Mobile Water on Tap trailer made it's debut in Louisville Point Park at the Louisville Kid's Fishing Tournament. If you would like to use the Hydration Station at your event call the Water and Sewer Department at 273-3304.

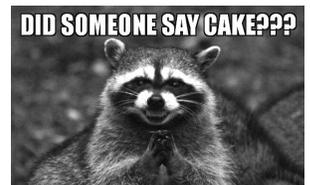


Above, John Wilson (Electric), John Hudgens (Water and Sewer), and Ed Lindsey (Electric) enjoy a cool cup of City of Maryville water.



## Retirement Party for Bill Bryant

On September 13th you are invited to the Operation Center Auditorium for a retirement party honoring Bill Bryant. Drop in between 2 and 4 p.m. to wish Bill well as he begins this new chapter in his life following 40 years of service to the City.



## Employee Pet/Partner Pics

Send your photos to [mdbristol@maryville-tn.gov](mailto:mdbristol@maryville-tn.gov)!!



K-9 Officer Steven Dotson and K-9 Joe



Benjamin Walker and Banjo