

# NEWS in a NUTSHELL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MARYVILLE



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## David Morton Renovates an Important Link to His Past

*His parent's home, the same, but different*

David Morton believes that Thomas Wolfe's classic novel, "You Can't Go Home Again," was wrong on many levels and he considers himself living proof of that. In April of 2018 he did go home. He and his wife Teresa, and their daughters Elizabeth and Emily all moved into the home that was built by his Aunt and Uncle in 1952, and that his parents bought in 1956. The home where they raised him and his older brother Bill, where his mother would live until 2008, and where five small headstones in the back yard mark the graves of the beloved dogs that became a part of the Morton family over the years.

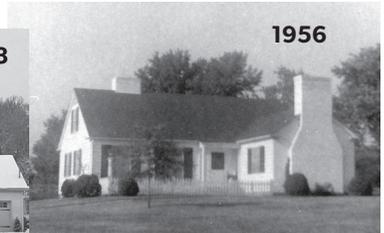
When David's mother moved into Shannondale, an assisted living facility in 2008, he and his brother decided to leave the house vacant for a while. They shut off all the utilities, took one last look around and closed the door on that chapter of their lives. At the time, both of the Morton boys were happy with their respective living arrangements, and neither had any desire to make changes. Maybe they would sell their family home eventually and split the money, maybe not. So the house sat vacant for 10 years. Occasionally during that time, the memories of his happy childhood years spent there would tug on David's heart strings. How could he sell the beautiful little house to a stranger? What if a new owner destroyed it or worse, turned it into a rental? How could they even begin to know and appreciate its history? David and Teresa had

been tossing around the idea of maybe restoring the house when their kids went off to college. They were living in a subdivision at the time and feeling increasingly cramped as time went on. In contrast, the house on Wilkinson Pike sits on three acres offering plenty of room. Finally in early 2017 David and Teresa approached Bill with their desire to buy his portion of their parents' home. His answer; "Sure I'll sell my half to you, but you all are crazy!"

After closing the deal with brother Bill, they went directly over to their new home and took it all in. The last ten years had been hard on the house. The roof had sprung a leak and the water had caused some plaster ceilings to fall to the floor. The chimney was cracked and falling away from the structure. The wiring and the plumbing were shot. It needed insulation and the original single pane windows were drafty at best. The

basement was wet and musty, there was some settling near the front stoop and the landscaping was overgrown. David and Teresa were not discouraged. They had hope and they were committed to do what ever they had to do to bring this tired but unique home back to life.

The very first thing on their long,



long list of repairs was the windows. Because they were all the original sized windows from 1952 when the house was built, most would need to be custom ordered. The two large windows in the front of the house are practically floor to ceiling windows and their replacements would be the most expensive of the 18 new windows needed. Installation day provided an almost instant reduction of unwanted air flow through the house. Utility bills dropped dramatically and the view through the new glass gave David and Teresa even more hope for their future home.

The wiring, plumbing and HVAC were all completely replaced. Enough said.

Some walls were moved to improve the flow of the layout and one in the kitchen was removed to open it up and make it larger. One closet was cut in half to enlarge the small master bathroom to make room for a walk-in shower. During this phase of the project when walls were being moved and removed, a lovely pocket door with 15 glass panes was "discovered". It had been trapped inside its pocket since 1970 when new carpet was installed. The carpet was too thick to allow the door to open and close, so it was left inside the wall patiently waiting for the day when it would be freed. David knew he had to restore the pocket door to its former glory, but in order to do so, it would need to be relocated and when that was done another great discovery presented itself. The original owner, David's Uncle Frank Hall, a WWI Veteran, had written his name on a board on the casing of the pocket door. That board was removed and replaced and is now displayed on a wall.

Next up: floors. In 1952 wall to wall carpet was the decorator's choice for floor coverings, so the solid oak plank

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### Inside the Nut

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Applause Please  
Crushin' IT with Keith  
Citizen Thankful for Your Efforts  
Birthdays and Anniversaries  
Employee Picnic Coming Soon  
Terry McCoy Sinks a Hole-in-one!

# People are the Key



New Employee  
**Tyler Breazeale**  
 EPW  
 Grounds Maintenance Worker



New Employee  
**Patty Cox**  
 HR  
 Benefits & Employee Programs  
 Coordinator



New Employee  
**Ernest Herin**  
 EPW  
 Grounds Maintenance Worker



New Employee  
**Brentley Riddle**  
 EPW  
 Grounds Maintenance Worker



New Employee  
**Cody Whitehead**  
 W&S  
 Utility Construction Worker I



Promotion  
**Cody Herron**  
 W&S  
 Utility Construction Worker I



Promotion  
**Aaron Inman**  
 EPW  
 Sanitation Collection Driver



Promotion  
**Cristy West**  
 Finance  
 Senior Customer Service  
 Representative



Retiring  
**Sharie Gaby**  
 HR  
 Sharie's last day is Sept. 6



Newborn  
**Sawyer Fipps**  
 Son of Daniel (MFD)  
 and Ashley Fipps  
 8/5/19



## Business is Booming

*Spotlight on Economic & Community  
 Development with Angie Luckie*

Broadway Social (BWS), opening soon, is a unique gathering place in historic downtown Maryville. They offer a mix of craft beers, wine, coffee and unique small plates. Broadway Social is the newest addition to downtown Maryville. Their grand opening is set for Labor Day weekend. More than just a bar, it aims also be a place where friends, new and old, can make memories over a tasty bite to eat in a wonderful atmosphere. BWS is located at 102 East Harper on the back side of Bill Cox Furniture.



## Thankful Citizens

Thank you for the city services. Workers were out early picking up tree limbs that we cut down. I know tomorrow they will pick up the trash, then the streets will be swept. Thank you for keeping our community, clean, safe and pretty! It is greatly appreciated.

Wayne Circle Resident

## Crushin' Internet Fraud Attempts

IT tips to help us avoid being a victim



Crooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. Here are some practical tips to help you stay a step ahead.

**Spot imposters.** Scammers often pretend to be someone you trust, like a government official, a family member, a charity, or a company you do business with. Don't send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request.

**Do online searches.** Type a company or product name into your favorite search engine with words like "review," "complaint" or "scam." Or search for a phrase that describes your situation, like "IRS call."

**Don't believe your caller ID.** Technology makes it easy for scammers to fake caller ID information, so the name and number you see aren't always real. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up.

**Don't pay upfront for a promise.** Someone might ask you to pay in advance for things like debt relief, credit and loan offers, mortgage assistance, or a job. They might even say you've won a prize, but first you have to pay taxes or fees. Just don't do this.

**Talk to someone.** Before you give up your money or personal information, talk to someone you trust. Con artists want you to make decisions in a hurry. Slow down, check out the story, do an online search, consult an expert — or just tell a friend.

**Don't deposit a check and wire money back.** By law, banks must make funds from deposited checks available within days, but uncovering a fake check can take weeks. If a check you deposit turns out to be a fake, you're responsible for repaying the bank.

**Sign up for free scam alerts** from the FTC at [ftc.gov/scams](https://ftc.gov/scams). Get the latest tips and advice about scams sent right to your inbox.

## ICMA Honors Roger Campbell for 45 Years of Service



The International City-County Management Association (ICMA) is set to honor Roger Campbell, Assistant City Manager, for his 45 years of service. The organization will honor those members of their organization who have been in service for 45 and 50 years at their annual conference in Nashville this fall. The ICMA Annual Conference is where local government management professionals discover essential tools and strategies for managing local

governments in today's complex environment. United by a shared mission, attendees from around the world come together to make their communities a better place to live, work, and play.

Founded in 1914, ICMA advances professional local government through leadership, management, innovation, and ethics. Their vision is to be the leading professional association dedicated to creating and supporting thriving communities throughout the world. (<https://icma.org>)

## David Morton - Continued from page 1

flooring installed over the subfloor was immediately covered with carpet before it would ever see the light of day. The Mortons knew the wood floors were there, they just didn't know what shape they would be in. Luckily, the carpet did a great job of protecting the wood, and all that was needed was a good sanding and refinishing.

When David was 16 years old he went upstairs to go to bed one night during a thunder storm. He opened his bedroom door and found his room in flames. Lightning had struck the window air conditioner and the jolt caused a fire. The Maryville Fire Department arrived to put out the fire. One of the firemen was Firefighter Larry Cupp. (His son Randy now works with David in Finance). The fire charred part of the oak floor and rather than repair it, David's parents covered the entire floor with carpet. David and Teresa's renovations included the removal of the burned boards and replacement with new oak flooring.

Back in 1952 a driveway on the East side of the house led to a garage under the house. There was a slight slope downward into the garage which caused the basement to flood following a heavy rain. David has memories of trudging through knee high water in the basement when he was young, so rectifying that issue was a priority during the renovations. The massive chimney on the front side of the house was also in need of attention. The top 10' of the chimney needed to be torn off and replaced. Here they ran into a small road block, the brick used in 1952 to build the chimney was an odd size and no longer made. If they couldn't find the same size brick, the entire chimney would need to come down and be rebuilt completely. The contractor had some contacts that he could check with, so the Mortons waited with fingers crossed. Finally word came that a suitable brick was located in Alabama at a salvage yard, and the day was saved.

For 13 months the Mortons worked on the house. In April of 2018 they moved in and couldn't be happier or prouder of the results. For anyone crazy enough or brave enough to take on a project of this magnitude, David has some advice, "Take your time and do it right," he would tell you. His wish was only to bring the house back to life, but in the end, he found it to be incredibly rewarding. His brother Bill no longer thinks he's crazy, and David is certain that his parents would be overjoyed to see the house now.

It's no secret that David Morton is a lover of all things history. Antique cars, furniture, and even antique humans are on his list of things to be appreciated and honored. He attributes this to the fact that he was born when his mother was 40 and his father was 43. He grew up thinking that everyone was lucky enough to sit at the feet of old folks and listen to their amazing stories of the past. His Grandmother Morton, born in 1888, lived to be 105 years old. Her mother died young, and her father died when she was 16. She and her 17 year old brother continued to live on the farm their parents left behind and together they worked to keep it going while raising their three younger brothers. When David asked her years later which war was the first one she remembers he expected her to say WWI, but her answer, the Spanish American War, surprised him. Being steeped in the stories of his family's past his whole life, it makes perfect sense that he would one day return to his childhood home and restore it to its former glory. He plans to live there for the rest of his days hoping all the while that one day history will repeat itself when one of his daughters buys her sister's part and embarks on a journey of her own.



The pocket door restored



The bathroom floor only needed a good cleaning.

# People are the Key

## September Birthdays

- 1 Chris Hamrick, W&S
- 3 Tommy Cooper, Electric
- 4 John Hudgens, W&S
- 6 Teresa Rucker, Finance
- 7 Landon Best, W&S
- 8 James Long, MPD  
Jennifer Cunningham, MPD  
Shaun O'Neal, MPD  
Austin Green, MPD
- 9 Dale Jayne, EPW  
Reid Walker, MPD
- 10 Daniel Atkins, W&S
- 12 Cody Burchfield, EPW  
Tyler Breazeale, EPW
- 13 Bill Walt, Electric
- 14 Bradlee Myers, EPW
- 15 Jordan Isbell, MPD
- 17 David McCarter, Electric  
Teresa Martin, Finance  
Johnny Garner, EPW
- 18 Kyle Newman, EPW
- 19 Rachael Allmon, Dev. Services  
Brad Weeks, EPW  
Danny Kimsey, W&S
- 20 Todd Burchett, W&S
- 21 Rusty Thompson, Dev. Services  
Chris Tuck, MPD  
Justin Brown, MPD
- 23 Steven Talbott, MFD
- 24 Sam Newport, Electric  
Clay Cope, EPW
- 25 Jason Pesterfield, MPD
- 26 Andrew Puckett, MFD  
Adam Parton, W&S
- 27 Amy Woody, Electric  
Kevin Roulette, Electric
- 28 Jr. Hess, MPD
- 29 Mark Wheeler, Electric  
Mark Huffstetler, Finance  
Clayton Hall, MPD
- 30 Sherri Phillips, Finance



## September Anniversaries

- John Wilson, Electric 38 years
- Michael Davis, W&S 34 years
- Hank Woods, Electric 33 years
- Alan Holms, MFD 33 years
- Missi Fields, Finance 31 years
- Rachael Allmon, Dev. Services 23 years
- Rob Woods, MFD 23 years
- John Foley, MPD 21 years
- Jason Roberson, Electric 20 years
- Timothy Lane, EPW 18 years
- Tim Green, EPW 18 years
- Cristy West, Finance 17 years
- Tony Crisp, MPD 17 years
- Doyle Prince, W&S 17 years
- David England, W&S 17 years
- Ronnie Irwin, EPW 16 years
- Scott Spicer, MPD 16 years
- Michael Hall, W&S 13 years
- William Pedigo, EPW 12 years
- Charles Mims, Finance 12 years
- John Hudgens, W&S 11 years
- John Roberson, EPW 5 years
- Jana Brown, W&S 3 years
- Kay Berry, MPD 2 years
- Brad Weeks, EPW 1 year
- Josh Richards, MFD 1 year

## Annual Employee Appreciation Picnic



*Getcha some of this!*

On September 18, from 11:30 - 1:00 employees are invited to gather at the Operations Center on Home Avenue to enjoy some Buddy's BBQ and Ice Cream from Chadwick's Churn. The employee picnic is held each year as a way to thank the employees for another year of dedicated service. Be sure to bring your appetite!

## Terry McCoy Makes a Hole-in-one!

Terry McCoy, IT, made a hole-in-one at Green Meadow Country Club on August 3 at the Championship tournament.

Terry used a 9-iron to ace the 139 yard eighth hole. His witness was Scott Goan. *How cool is THAT? Congrats Terry!*

