



City of

MORRISTOWN

Tennessee

May 2016

Community Events

May 12th@5:30pm

Strawberries, Jazz & Cocktails
at Rose Center

May 14th@Noon

Old School Party
at Fred Miller Park

May 17th@5pm

City Council Meeting
at City Center

May 21st

Strawberry Festival
at 510 W. Economy Rd.

May 30th

Memorial Day
City Offices Closed

Repairs to Overhead Sidewalk Complete

On November 3rd, the overhead sidewalk over W Main Street at N Henry Street was damaged when it was hit by a backhoe that was being transported. The backhoe struck the overhead sidewalk and shifted part of the sidewalk off its bearing plate, broke part of the concrete, and bent a portion of the rebar that was in the concrete. Morristown Police Department arrived on the scene and the Public Works Department was notified of the accident. Public Works contacted an engineer and closed off the sidewalk until it was evaluated by a structural engineer.

The structural engineer recommended a repair-in-place design. The repair consisted of moving the overhead sidewalk back to its original location on the bearing plates, cleaning broken concrete areas, straightening the bent rebar, and installing a high performance concrete and polyurethane sealant. Herrco, Inc of Talbott was selected to do the repair work. Repairs began in late March and were completed by April 20th, well before schedule.

Thank you to all the crews who responded and worked to complete these repairs. The sidewalk is now safe for pedestrian use and can be enjoyed by visitors to the downtown area.



Honoring City Retirees



Park Ranger Carl Brewer retired from City staff on April 22nd after serving Parks & Recreation for 11 years. His presence and dedication will be missed. He played an essential role in both park security and maintenance operations. Parks and Recreation has benefitted from his dedication as he served facilities, programs, employees, and all citizens. He has been a very worthy park ambassador over the years. Carl is looking forward to retirement, expanding his Christian ministry, and enjoying lots more time with his wife Tammy and friends. A proclamation in thanks for his years of service

was presented at the May 3rd Council meeting.

Also retiring later this month is Sherry Knight. Sherry began her career with the City as an Insurance Clerk for the Personnel Department. In 1985 she became Administrative Secretary to the Planning & Engineering Department, where she has since served. After 37 years of service, Sherry will be taking time to enjoy fishing, camping, taking trips and enjoying her hobbies of cross stitching, sewing, gardening and cooking.

The City thanks these employees for their years of dedicated service to their community.

Bulk Waste Information Handouts

Over the coming weeks, the Public Works sanitation crews will be hanging informational pamphlets on resident's garbage cans. These contain information regarding the bulk waste regulations. Please take a few moments to look over the information and familiarize yourself with the guidelines. Following the guidelines will create a cleaner city and make bulk waste collection run smoothly.

Morristown Celebrates Arbor Day



Morristown was once again proud to receive the designation of Tree City USA by The Arbor Day Foundation. This designation indicates that Morristown is a community committed to sound urban forestry management. This includes the Morristown Tree Board working to uphold the tree ordinance and hosting an Arbor Day celebration each year. This year, two Arbor Day celebrations were held throughout the month of April.

A county-wide poster contest was held. Elementary school students across Hamblen County entered for a chance to win and be awarded at this year's celebration. The winners of this year's contest were 1st – Jeardie Morales, 2nd – Savannah Haag, and 3rd – Matthew Cartwright.

The first of the celebrations was held at Whitesburg to honor the poster contest winner. A tree was planted in her honor. Later in the month a larger celebration was held at Witt. A special ceremony involved singing by the school choir, presentation of awards to the contest winners, and the presentation of the Arbor Day Foundation awards to both the Morristown Tree Board and Morristown Utilities. A cherry tree was planted on campus to commemorate the day.

A special thank you to the Tree Board and all those involved who made Arbor Day special and who volunteer their time to maintain the beautiful trees we enjoy in our community.

Women in Municipal Government

Morristown participates in the National League of Cities (NLC) which is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. The NLC serves as a resource for more than 19,000 cities. Within the NLC is the group Women in Municipal Government (WIMG) which offers a resource to women who serve in government. It gives them the opportunity to network and share ideas and practices. WIMG works to advance women's health and education policies and prevent domestic violence. Vice Mayor Kay Senter has served as a member of WIMG since 1993. After several years on the committee, she became 1st Vice President and then was elected as President from 2005-06. She now serves on the Advisory Board.

WIMG hosts 3 nationwide conferences each year. This summer's conference is being held in Knoxville as an opportunity for women in government to network, learn best practices, and engage with officials from across the country. Topics being discussed are the double standards women face in elections and the opioid epidemic that is affecting our communities. For more information about the conference and the NLC, visit www.nlc.org.



Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:

http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php

Message from the Mayor

THE MONTH OF MAY... might just be my favorite month on the City calendar. We are well into spring, produce for our brand new Farmers' Market is working its way toward breaking ground, Parks & Rec. outdoor programs for the kids have cranked into full swing, Project Graduation is upon us, and the new fiscal year City Budget is about to be presented – outlining the spending plan for the next 12 months.

It will be an ambitious plan as some capital projects are at the forefront. The city is also on the verge of several highly-anticipated announcements of what we believe will mark noticeable progress for our community.

As I write this, (May 5), it is the anniversary of last May's city elections in which the public brought three new faces to the Mayor & Council body. As Mayor, I would like to thank the six councilmembers for an excellent year of collaborative planning and action. There is a nice list of change and development introduced this year, and more is coming. Also a thanks to City Administrator Tony Cox and his staff of department chiefs for their work.

Proud to be your Mayor.



Mayor Gary Chesney