



City of

# MORRISTOWN

Tennessee

June 2020

## Community Events

**June 13th@8am**

Tire Recycling Event  
at Hamblen County Landfill

**June 13th@8am**

First Fire Truck Car Show  
at Fred Miller Park

**June 16th@5pm**

City Council Meeting  
at City Center

**June 20th@11am**

It Takes A Village Party  
on downtown Main Street

**June 26th@8:30pm**

Starlite Cinema  
at Frank Lorino Park

**July 4th@Dusk**

4th of July Fireworks  
at Cherokee Park

**July 8th@10am**

Wet 'n Wild Wednesday  
at Fred Miller Park

## A Career of Service

After 44 years of service to the City of Morristown Fire Department (MFD), Chief Bill Honeycutt is stepping into retirement.

Honeycutt began his working years serving in the U.S. Air Force as a Security Policeman with a specialty in Law Enforcement. After leaving active duty, Honeycutt was hired on as an entry-level firefighter with the MFD.

Honeycutt grew in knowledge and skills and worked his way up through the ranks. In 1980 he was promoted to Driver/Engineer. He advanced to Fire Lieutenant in 1986 and then Fire Marshal in 1988. In January 1997, the Mayor and Council Members voted to appoint him to Fire Chief, where he has stayed for the remainder of his career.

The MFD has seen many changes and accomplishments under Chief Honeycutt's direction. The department has grown from 4 fire stations to its current configuration of 6, with new fire stations constructed. The ISO safety rating has improved, new updated firetrucks have been purchased, and new training opportunities are offered. But Honeycutt won't take the credit for the department's success. Rather, he acknowledges the hard work of the entire team, from fire staff, City administration, and City Council.

During his time with the MFD, Honeycutt started and grew a family. He and his wife Debbie have been blessed with three children, 6 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. When asked what his plans were for retirement, Honeycutt shared that he's open to whatever the future holds. He's learned that the Lord has a plan for his life, and he works it in his own time and ways.

The City of Morristown held public interviews for a new Fire Chief earlier this month. A replacement will be announced at the June 16th City Council meeting.

Chief Bill Honeycutt will be dearly missed by City staff and all those whom he has impacted. The City wishes him many blessings in his retirement and thanks him for his dedicated service.



## Adapting Summer Fun Under COVID-19

In light of COVID-19 and State stay-at-home orders, so many regular spring events had to be cancelled. With restrictions being lifted, Morristown's Parks & Recreation Department is looking to put some fun back into the summer with safe, socially-distanced activities.

The annual Starlite Cinema outdoor movie series is always a highlight of summers in Morristown. This year, the movie series continues, but is being adapted as a "drive-in". Held at Frank Lorino Park, attendees can park and remain safely in their cars. The movie will play on the big screen while everyone tunes into the sound on their FM radios. Concessions will be available for sale.

The first movie, "Frozen II", was held earlier this month. The upcoming showtime schedule includes "Overcomer" on June 26th and "Onward" on July 31st. We hope you can join us at the park for this free, family fun.



Hamblen County will again be hosting the July 4th festival at Cherokee Park. The usual all-day festivities of music and entertainment have had to be postponed, but the fireworks display will continue as usual. For this first time, the fireworks will also be livestreamed so viewers can watch them safely from their homes.

Summer may look a bit different this year, but we are still excited to celebrate and enjoy the warmth and sunshine, just with a little more distance between us.

## Message from the Mayor

### COVID 19 AND YOUR CITY

In what may be the understatement of the year, COVID is a word that means "change." The Pandemic has certainly affected nearly every aspect of daily life. I would like to hand out a word of appreciation to our City Administrator Tony Cox and to all city staff for effectively making the necessary adjustments which allowed minimal interruptions of services to citizens.

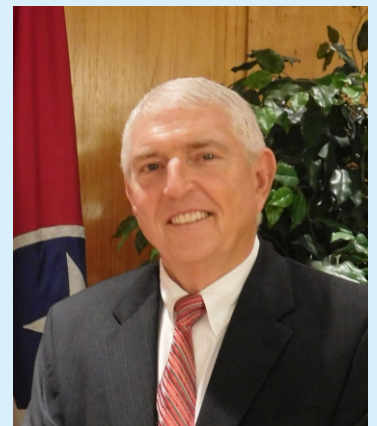
Your ability to keep the wheels of our city turning while the country, state, and our city "figured things out" a bit, is a real testimony to the quality of individuals who make up the Morristown Team.

It was a priority this be done while ensuring the safety of our employees as they carried out their specific tasks. Attention was paid to concerns and worries and decisions were made based on facts of that day instead of fear and rumor.

A special spotlight of appreciation shines on our public safety departments. Law enforcement and fire protection knows no slowdown. Those folks remain on the frontlines and public feedback I have received has been very positive.

We will get to the other side of this crisis. The infection rate for our city and county has remained quite low. I don't think this was an accident.

Your Mayor and Council have a deep appreciation for how this is being handled.



*Mayor Gary Chesney*

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