



July 2024 City Newsletter

Community Events

Back to School Beach Bash

July 26th@6pm
at Morristown Landing

First Friday & Back to School Bash

August 2nd@6pm
at Fulton-Hill Park

City Council Meetings

August 6th & 20th@5pm
at City Center

Michael Reno Harrell Concert

August 24th@6:30pm
at Rose Center

Community Event at Morristown Landing

You're invited to Morristown Landing on Friday, July 26th from 6pm-10pm for their Back to School Beach Bash event. The event is free to the community and will feature bounce houses, face painting, open swim, food, games and more. You are encouraged to bring school supply donations to help local students and teachers. Come on out for a fun evening to kick off the upcoming school year.

Farewell to Two Public Servants

This summer, the City of Morristown bids farewell to two long-term City employees - Steve Peoples & Kathy Frank.

In 1975, the City engaged the services of Steve Peoples & his private business to help maintain & provide technical support for all municipal radio, voice and data communications. Seeing his value to the City, he was hired as a full-time City employee in 2001 as the electronics technician with the Public Works Department. He was later promoted to Communication Technician Supervisor. In this role, he maintained all lighting systems for police and fire vehicles, the City's traffic signal system, & network communications.

The expertise that Steve brought to the City is unmatched. His lasting legacy is the new Tennessee Advance Communications Network that provides additional radio communication during major events & disasters. Steve retired from the City on June 28th.



Kathy Frank has been an employee with the City 1995. She served a variety of roles including Citizen Information Specialist, interim Purchasing Agent, Finance & Accounting Clerk, & Administrative Coordinator. She put her creative skills in action creating beautiful, festive displays for public spaces in our community as she served as the Team Leader for the annual City Christmas decorations. After 29 years of service to the City & people of Morristown, Kathy will retire on August 1st.

The City has been extremely blessed to have both of these individuals on staff for so many years. We wish them the very best as they enter retirement & thank them for their service to the City & to their community.



Back to School Bash at Fulton-Hill Park

Morristown Parks and Recreation and Downtown Morristown are hosting a "Back to School Bash" alongside the First Friday Concert on August 2nd on The Great Lawn at Fulton-Hill Park from 6-9 pm. Local businesses will be handing out school supplies, while supplies last. A variety of food & beverage vendors will be on site.

Live music begins at 6pm with opening act "School of Rock". At 7pm, Allskate, a local band from Johnson City, will take the stage. They offer a blend of rock, pop, country, & blues from the 70's to now. The First Friday Concert Series is brought to you by Foundever, Healthstar Physicians, The Terry Law Firm, Rapid Dry Restoration, Howmet Aerospace, Heskett Family Chiropractic, Lakeway Auto, & Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union.

THSO Encourages Morristown to Drive Safe



Earlier this summer, Morristown residents saw an increased presence of Tennessee Highway Patrol enforcement. The reasoning behind this increased enforcement was for a good cause - to help reduce the increasing number of traffic fatalities in Hamblen County.

The Tennessee Highway Safety Office (THSO) recently held a press event at City Center to encourage safe driving. THSO and Tennessee Highway Patrol representatives spoke, along with

MPD Chief Roger Overholt, Mayor Gary Chesney, and Sheriff Chad Mullins. The speakers discussed the increased number of traffic fatalities we have seen in our community recently. This year alone, there have been 10 traffic fatalities in Hamblen County, compared to 1 at this time last year. The message of the press event was to slow down, buckle up, don't drive impaired, and put down the phone and other distractions when driving. Drive safely to protect you, your family, and your community.

With Morristown development growing and an increase in population, we are seeing more traffic on our roadways. We encourage you to always be attentive and aware of your surroundings when driving. Be patient and follow traffic signs. Together we can make our roads safer and reduce the number of traffic fatalities.



Message from Mayor Gary Chesney

SAFETY ON OUR STREETS AND ROADS

With the new school year about to begin, a sharper focus will once again be on traffic flow. As you may have noticed, several projects for improvement are underway. A new left turn lane at West A. J. and Merchants Greene will soon be completed. Traffic flow on 25E at Progress Parkway in Witt is expected to reduce inconvenient traffic backups. Perhaps the biggest project ahead will be changes along the Hwy. 160 By-Pass. Martin Luther King Blvd. at 160 saw two wrecks with fatalities and other accidents resulting in injuries.

The soon-to-be-opened Lincoln Elementary School just a short distance away has long heightened City concerns of safety. Left turns off MLK onto 160 was a factor in 100% of the accidents recorded by Morristown Police. Since the City obtained permission to make that intersection right turn only, the number of wrecks there is zero. State DOT is close to final approval of installing J-turns and permanent traffic regulators on MLK. Future guidelines for entering and exiting school traffic will lie with the City.

These are not the only places school traffic gets lined up and attention to enforcement guards and other drivers is a must. As we continue to grow, we can expect the number of cars on our streets to grow as well. Hats off to those recognizing the need for adjustments and taking appropriate action.

Gary Chesney - Mayor

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:
mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php