



**March 2024  
City Newsletter**

## **Community Events**

### **Breakfast & Bingo**

March 25th@9:30am  
at Talley Ward Rec Center

### **Easter Eggsellent Adventure**

March 26th@5pm  
at Fulton-Hill Park

### **City Council Meetings**

April 2nd&16th@5pm  
at City Center

### **First Friday Concert**

April 5th@6pm  
at Downtown Green

### **Spring Recycling Collection**

April 6th@8am  
at Hamblen County Landfill

## **Citizen's Police Academy**

MPD is currently taking applications to participate in the annual Citizen's Police Academy. Get a behind-the-scenes look at various police operations, participate in a ride-along, visit the shooting range, and more. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from June 4th-25th. Must be 21 to participate.

Applications can be found on the City's website. Deadline to apply is April 19th.

## **City Administrator Cox Retires**

On March 8th, Morristown City Administrator Tony Cox concluded 40 years of public service as he entered into retirement.

Cox spent his career in public service with the Upper East Tennessee Human Development Agency, the cities of Maryville; Savannah, GA; Oak Ridge; Lexington, VA; Newnan, GA; and served as City Administrator for the cities of Fairburn, GA and Radford, VA prior to his appointment in Morristown in 2010.



Cox entered into the position of City Administrator during a time of financial crisis for Morristown government. Cox was willing to take on the challenge and worked hard behind the scenes to help the city wade through its finances and put Morristown on a strong path for economic stability and growth.

Not willing to back down from a challenge, Cox tackled major projects to improve quality of life in Morristown. Accomplishments achieved during his tenure include major capital improvements, policy updates, road and transportation improvements, and administration enhancements. He directed concentrated efforts to enrich Morristown's historic downtown and worked with all city departments to improve efficiency, upgrade equipment, and enhance staff training. Perhaps the most lasting legacy Cox leaves behind is the multiple construction projects completed in recent years. These include the construction of a new fire station, public works complex, Fulton-Hill Park, a farmers market pavilion and community space, and the construction of the 100,000 square foot recreation center, Morristown Landing.

Throughout Cox's years with the City of Morristown, his leadership has resulted in the city receiving a variety of awards and recognitions from local, statewide, and national bodies. In 2021, Cox was awarded City Manager of the Year. Despite the accolades, Cox remained humble in his leadership and was always quick to give credit to his team of city employees.

Morristown Mayor Gary Chesney says, "Tony Cox's retirement represents the end of a 14 year run of excellent leadership for the City of Morristown. We have seen growth in jobs, economic development, diverse recreational choices, and significant improvements in governmental management. Tony will be missed but his example is a good model for future growth."

Those who have been in Morristown the past 14 years can clearly see the difference Cox has made in the community. Through his leadership and guidance, the community has transformed and is well poised for continued positive growth and economic prosperity. His fellow staff members and community thank him for his dedication and hard work and wish him the very best in his retirement.

# Easter Fun Hops to Fulton-Hill Park



The annual Easter Eggsellent Adventure is moving to a new location this year at Fulton-Hill Park on the Great Lawn. From 5pm-7:30pm on Tuesday, March 26th, children can enjoy photos with the Easter bunny and egg hunting.

Area businesses and organizations will be setting up booths in the Easter Village to offer goodies for the children who attend. There will be three egg hunts for children ages 5-10. Each age group will have a designated egg hunt time. Children ages 5-6 begin at 6:00 pm, ages 7-8 at 6:30 pm and ages 9-10 at 7:00 pm. Children ages 2-4 will not have an egg hunt but will receive their eggs through the Easter Village. All children are encouraged to bring a basket to collect their eggs and goodies.

## New Administrator Ellard Takes the Lead

On March 9th, Andrew Ellard officially began his role as Morristown's new City Administrator. Ellard has been serving as an Assistant City Administrator in Morristown since January 2022. Prior to that, he served in various administrative roles in the cities of Hattisburg, MS and Eagleville, TN. He has been working alongside City staff for the last 2 years and is well-trained and equipped to take over the role of City Administrator. Last month, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Ellard to the position.

Ellard looks forward to continue serving the people of Morristown and working together to make our community a better place to live, work and play.



## Message from Mayor Gary Chesney

### ANNIVERSARY TIME

MARCH 21 marks the one year anniversary of the opening of Morristown Landing Recreation & Events Center. And what a year it has been!

Public participation through memberships and attendance at special events has been nothing short of phenomenal.

5,604 members in the first 12 months far exceeds projected totals anticipated prior to opening.

Sport Facilities Management Manager Steve Eaton and his team have executed their services at a high level and I consistently receive feedback confirming this.

Morristown Landing's ability to host a wide variety of events from travel sports teams tournaments to corporate meetings, banquets, social events (the West High prom will be here), and, of course, Parks and Rec. and general public usage, have all combined to make The Landing a "game changer" for our citizens.

We are Morristown!

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:  
[mymorristown.com/residents/city\\_newsletter.php](http://mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php)