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**City Busy This Fall With Employee Activities**

Mayor Victor Ashe honored veteran city employees at the annual fall appreciation luncheon. Those city employees who had retired since October 1, 2001 and/or achieved 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service with the city during 2002 were the stars of the show.

The combined years of service of those being saluted were 4,091. The celebration was in the ballroom of the Knoxville Civic Coliseum on October 23.

To show their appreciation, directors, along with council members, served as waiters/waitresses for those representing their respective departments.

*Directors and council members, decked out in aprons, served honored employees at the service recognition luncheon (below).*

Mayor Ashe thanked all city employees at the annual picnic on October 7, once again held this year at Mary Costa Plaza behind the auditorium. This event is held in conjunction with the employees' Benefits Fair.

In addition to filling up on Backyard Burgers and other goodies, employees had various opportunities to learn more about health issues with screenings, watch karate demonstrations, participate in yoga samplings, indulge in massages and also speak one-on-one with health insurance representatives. Numerous employees attending won doorprizes, ranging from gift certificates to home appliances.

*(Below left) Veteran employees enjoy the luncheon as guests of honor.*

*(Below right) Along with Backyard Burgers grillin', many city employees got "cookin'" with karaoke at the annual appreciation picnic.*



# Mayor's Message



The year 2002 saw extensive strides in making Knoxville “greener,” one of the main goals of my administration. City council voted for my recommendation to purchase property in South Knoxville for a new park named for Marie Myers, they approved land purchases expanding Scottish Pike Park, and they approved funding to build the amenities at Victor Ashe Park in Northwest Knoxville. Residents in that area, already putting the 90-acre expanse to good recreational use, will enjoy concession stands and restrooms as well as paved and unpaved walking trails, a 17-acre open greenspace and a lake.

West Hills-area residents are enjoying an additional loop to the ever-popular Jean Teague Greenway, as are Sutherland Avenue-area residents with an extension of the Third Creek Greenway all the way to Forest Park Boulevard at the Bi-Lo. Neighbors joined us as we dedicated the Community Unity Park in the heart of Montgomery Village and the first phase of Caswell Park, a softball complex which was formally opened this summer. This will be complemented by the second phase, which plans will include more passive and unstructured-use areas. In addition, construction is now underway for Market Square improvements, complete with trees and green spaces.

Ten years ago, Neyland Drive was home to kudzu and a few snakes. Our Volunteer Landing park area, having attracted a number of developments, is seeing a second major residential complex being completed soon.

Knoxvillians increasingly are enjoying the outdoors as a result. Consequently, there's more demand on every other department to meet the needs of our parks, from Purchasing/Finance to Horticulture/Public Service to Traffic Engineering. Thanks to all of you and through working together, we have truly made Knoxville the *City of Parks*.

## News About People

### New Hires

Zina Marie Bergman, Commercial Development Project Specialist  
Jason Scott Bishop, Tire & Service Worker  
Angela R. Bolton, Attorney  
David Andrew Brace, Economic & Community Development Manager  
Steven R. Caspelich, Equipment Operator II  
James Darryl Clabough, Parking Attendant  
Bobby Lee Corby, Public Assembly Guard  
Billy Edmund Dalton, Civil Engineer Tech I  
George David Daws, Traffic Engineer  
Tony Lynn Faulkner, Transportation Officer  
Jimmy Brown Johnson, Attorney  
Arlena F. McCutchen, Rec Center Leader  
James Edward Miller, Public Assembly Utility Worker  
Edwin Terry Steil, Public Assembly Guard  
David M. Walker, Assistant Recreation Program Specialist  
Susan Jill White, Finance Executive Asst.  
Michael Frederic Wilhelm, Public Assembly Custodian  
Randy Todd Williams, Civil Engineer Tech I

### Public Service Worker I

Brian D. Bailey  
James A. Bailey  
Wayne R. Bailey, Jr.  
Raymond William Britton  
Amanda K. Chappel  
Tresia L. Conner  
Jason T. French  
Mayme Jacqueline Hopper  
David P. Hudgins  
Reginald D. Jones, II  
Joshua B. Lundy  
Christopher A. Meyers  
Terry L. McBee  
Scott D. Miller  
James E. Raley  
Charles D. Rose  
Timothy E. Snoderly

### Promotions

Quentin Houston Ashford, Public Assembly Skilled Trades Worker  
Jason S. Atkins, Public Service Worker II  
George A. Baldwin, Equipment Operator II  
Tiffany Monique Booker, Center Leader  
Kevin DuBose, Development Adm. Asst.  
Robin Hodges, Engineering Adm. Tech.  
David P. Hudgens, Equipment Operator II  
Jacquelyn Holloway, Benefits Assistant  
William W. Summers, Equipment Operator I  
Terry Dean Williams, Trades Craftworker  
Calvin Wilson, Equipment Operator I

### Public Service Worker II

Jason S. Atkins  
Daniel R. Hickey  
Robert D. Jones  
Sherman L. Manis  
Christopher A. Meyers

### Police Officer I

Kenneth B. Bush  
Dana M. Crocker  
Philip Michael Jinks  
John R. Kiely  
John David Lawson  
Brian D. Leatherwood  
Donald McClendon  
Robert T. Perdue  
Gina D. Pierce  
Charles Melvin Sands, Jr.  
Travis E. Shuler  
Wally E. Spitzer  
William M. Tootle  
Bert Robert Turner, II  
Trisha S. Ward  
Gregory A. Womac

### Police Officer II

Michael Craig Anders  
Jery Wayne Ashburn, II  
Frank J. Carraher, Jr.  
Susan R. Coker  
Michele M. Goldsberry  
Anthony Carmine Guida  
John P. Knopf  
Christopher McCarter  
James L. Miller, Jr.  
James D. Murray  
Melvin Thomas Pierce, III  
Dean Gary Ray  
Joseph H. Shackelford  
Krista Shelton Sheppard  
Paul E. Taylor  
Sharon D. Terrell  
Patricia B. Tipton  
Elizabeth R. Vail  
Anthony R. Willis

### Police Officer III

Dennis R. Bible  
Jeffrey L. Cunningham  
Bryan K. Davis  
Edward D. Kingsbury  
Christopher R. Line  
Phillip J. Major  
Robert G. Rose

### 10 Year Service Recognition

Joseph William Anderson, Public Service  
Anthony W. Buckner, Fire  
Jeffrey Lynn Conard, Fire  
Jeffery Lynn Berry, Fire  
Nelson Everette Dawson, Fire  
Shona Dawn Hamlin, Fire  
Stephen Scott Lee, Fire  
France L. Looney, Public Service  
William Dennis McCain, III, Fire  
John Albert Nicely, Jr., Fire  
John Richard Rodgers, Jr., Fire  
Bryan Curtis Sharpe, Fire  
Mitchell Wayne Smith, Fire  
Thomas Edward Thomas, Sr., Fire  
Sanford Prescott Smith, Recreation  
William Joseph Walsh, Recreation  
Robert J. Weatherstone, Finance

### 15 Year Service Recognition

James Ray Disney, Police  
Joseph Graham MacDonald, Development  
Mark D. Rigsby, Development  
Angela Renea Robbins, Recreation

### 20 Year Service Recognition

Millard A. Scarborough, Public Service  
Michael A. Vandergriff, Engineering

### 25 Year Service Recognition

John C. Ford, Public Service  
Berta D. Frank, Public Service  
Charles A. Goosie, Jr., Public Service  
Richard L. Harrell, Fire  
Michael Jones, Public Service  
Harold S. Kidwell, Fire  
Jay V. Lawson, Fire  
Diana Gerard Lobertini, Development  
Marcella W. McKinney, Public Service  
Michael M. Pacetti, Fire  
Gale A. Perry, Fire  
Larry D. Pickard, Police  
John O. Pickens, Fire  
Kevin B. Scott, Public Service  
Lloyd N. Smith, Fire  
Dewey W. Snyder, Public Service  
Danny E. Stallings, Public Service  
Marilyn S. Watson, Fire  
Paul P. Wilkinson, Jr.

### 30 Year Service Recognition

David M. Brummett, Fire  
Jerry W. Day, Police  
Roy D. Giles, Development  
James A. Hutchens, Public Service  
Randal J. Lockmiller, Police  
Victor L. Voiles, Police  
Terry G. Henry, Police  
Charles R. Gass, Police  
Robert H. Weaver, Fire  
Ralph L. Berry, Jr., Fire  
Stephen E. Clabough, Fire  
Tommy C. Coffman, Fire  
James E. Frye, Engineering  
David E. Linkous, Fire  
Terry L. Loveday, Fire  
Harry R. Morie, III, Fire  
Charles T. Stuart, Fire  
Rex A. Wilson, Fire

### 35 Year Service Recognition

Annette H. Lovelace, Risk Management  
Thomas M. Pressley, Police  
Kenneth F. Scarbrough, Fire

### 40 Year Service Recognition

Bob J. Barker, Public Service  
Charles A. Hansard, Fire

### Retirees

Fred F. Battle, Public Service Worker I  
Paul R. Qualls, Master Firefighter  
Johnny L. Cruze, Animal Control Officer  
Charles L. Whitson, Police Specialist II  
Hollis McPhetridge, Engineering  
Administrative Assistant II  
Calvin E. Baldwin, Senior Firefighter  
Larry F. Vineyard, Police Officer IV  
Dennis L. Bowman, Sergeant  
Sandra A. Johnson, Office Assistant II  
Beverly J. McLemore, Parks & Recreation  
Gary M. Shafer, Police Sergeant  
Bettey J. Wilcox, Senior Aide  
Program Coordinator  
Neva J. King-Edens, Recreation  
Center Leader

## Chief Keith Named To Homeland Security Committee

Knoxville Police Chief Phil Keith was appointed to the fourteen member Emergency Services, Law Enforcement, and Public Health and Hospitals Senior Advisory Committee to the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council.

Under Chief Phil Keith's leadership, the Knoxville Police Department became nationally accredited and was selected to serve as a national demonstration site for community policing. "I am honored to be named and I look forward to helping our President on this issue," Keith said.

The Emergency Services, Law Enforcement, and Public Health and Hospitals Senior Advisory Committee was established by an Executive Order (# 13260 on March 19, 2002).

The goal of the advisory committee is to provide the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council with advice on increasing America's security from experts representing the nation's emergency response community.

*It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed. In this life we get nothing save by effort.*

— Theodore Roosevelt

All suggestions or comments for *CityWorks* are welcomed and should be sent to Marie Alcorn, Department of Public Affairs, City County Building, 215-2264, Fax 215-4299, e-mail: malcorn.

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# Blackstock Recognized For Exemplary Officiating Of High School Football

Finance Department's Benny Blackstock was selected as one of the A.F. Bridges Award winners of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association. He was recognized as District 2's Official of the Year for his work in football. According to the congratulatory letter from TSSAA Assistant Executive Director Bernard Childress, the award is given for displaying the high ideals of integrity and ethics and for the examples of citizenship and sportsmanship. Nominations were made locally, and the final selection was made by a statewide committee.

Blackstock has been a registered TSSAA official for more than thirty years. He is the Vice President of the Blount County Football Officials Association. "I have been for-

fortunate to have officiated approximately 30 to 40 high school playoff games throughout the state and have officiated one state championship game," said Blackstock. He shares his enthusiasm in football officiating with Purchasing's J.F. Workman and Engineering's Larry Keck. Formerly Blackstock was involved in local softball programs, but now his other main interests are "fishing and yardwork."

Blackstock has been with the city since July, 1995, and has always been in the tax department. He is spending the majority of his time now working with the delinquent tax attorney on the tax sales of delinquent properties as well as being the division's "outside collector."



*Benny Blackstock shows his award from the TSSAA to fellow tax office employee Carolyn Littlejohn.*

## New Attorney Is Man Of Many Talents



*Jimmy Johnson*

Jimmy Johnson came to the city law office because of his experience in workers' compensation, but fellow workers soon discovered how diverse his experiences and interests are.

"I majored in broadcasting, but chose law after I graduated," said Johnson. Johnson received both his bachelor's and J.D. from UT, Knoxville. He worked with a Chattanooga firm (which required that he be licensed to practice law in Tennessee and Georgia) and then joined Steve Williams here in Knoxville. His wife, Kristie, is also an attorney but is putting her profession aside and focusing on the arrival of their first child (Isabella) due in April. They just completed remodeling a house in Ft. Sanders.

Johnson sees the major difference between private practice and working for the city in two ways: great people with which to work and more reasonable hours. He's putting those extra hours to good use in that he plays basketball with a team of attorneys and is an advisor for his fraternity, Alpha Tau Omega.

Other talents which he is extremely proud to claim are caricature drawing, eating (he once ate a 72-ounce steak and all the fixings at a specialty restaurant in Amarillo, Texas, for which he consequently did not have to pay) and singing (just ask anyone who was fortunate enough to hear him singing at the Employees' Appreciation Picnic at the karaoke station).

## Veteran Harrell Joined By Bates On Pension Board

The recent Pension Board election resulted in one member being reelected to his position and a new member to the Board.

Buddy Harrell ran unopposed and was reelected to the General Government Seat A position.

James Kent Bates won over incumbent Ed Mitchell for the Police Department Employee's Representative Seat A. The terms for both Harrell and Bates run January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005.

Police Officer IV Kent Bates is assigned to the investigations unit, property crimes, for the East Sector. He started working for the Police Department in the Records Bu-

reau in 1974 and graduated from the Police Academy in 1979. His wife Sherrie works in the Development Department.

Bates is honored to be able to serve his fellow police officers on the Pension Board. "My focus is one of balance, to get the most 'bang for the buck' in regard to investment, but to keep the funding balanced in order to protect the interests of the pension plan participants."

Other members of the board are Mayor Ashe, Chair; Carol Mahler, Risk Management, Fire's Scott Calloway; Vice Mayor Jack Sharp, Finance Director Randy Vineyard, and Education Representative Paul Bean.



*Kent Bates*



*Pam Mills with Parks and Recreation was this year's winner of Risk Management's television giveaway. Those employees who completed a survey during the open enrollment period were eligible. Shown with Pam is Amanda Smith, who drew the winning ticket. Smith is responsible for keying in all the information compiled from the completed surveys.*

## **Public Service Department Has Busy Fall**

The Public Service Department has seasonal obligations that increase their already busy workload this time of year, including leaf pickup, inclement weather preparation and Christmas in the City. Additionally this fall they hosted the Tennessee Chapter of the American Public Works gathering. As part of the activities during the three-day event, the department staged their annual Equipment Rodeo.

Leaves stayed on the tree much longer this year, resulting in a shorter, but much more concentrated, leaf collection season. Fleet services were supplied with eight new vac-alls this year, which certainly came to the aid of city employees such as Public Service Worker Andrew Evans, pictured right.



Public Service supports those employees in their attainment of the General Education Development (GED), and at the fall quarterly safety assembly, GED graduates and participants were honored. In addition a plaque was presented to Jim Wayland, who has served as instructor for many years. *(left picture)*



The Horticulture Division has been missing one of their own on the job but not in spirit. Nelda Najem has been dealing with cancer this fall. Before treatment eliminated her hair, she took matters into her own hands and shaved her head. In a gesture of support, some of her fellow horticulture employees did the same. *(right picture)*



## **2003 HOLIDAYS**

**New Year's Day.....Wednesday, January 1**  
**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.....Monday, January 20**  
**Good Friday.....Friday, April 18**  
**Memorial Day.....Monday, May 26**  
**Independence Day.....Friday, July 4**  
**Labor Day.....Monday, September 1**  
**Thanksgiving Day.....Thursday, November 27**  
**Observance of Veteran's Day.....Friday, November 28**  
**Christmas Day.....Thursday, December 25**

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