



CITYWORKS

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Will it or won't it snow? Whatever the weather, Public Service is ready. Shown above are Glenn Owen and Jason McCarter with trucks outfitted for snow removal.

Griffith Named Deputy To The Mayor

Mayor Victor Ashe named Craig Griffith Deputy to the Mayor to replace Frank Cagle, who resigned. Griffith is an 11-year veteran with the city and has served as Director of Public Affairs since 1996.

“Craig has done an excellent job in media relations in his former position,” Mayor Ashe said. “I believe that by taking the Deputy to the Mayor position, he will continue his outstanding record of service to the citizens of Knoxville.”

“I appreciate the Mayor’s confidence as shown by this appointment to the position of Deputy to the Mayor,” Griffith said. “The city is moving forward on a number of exciting projects including downtown revitalization, park expansion and community policing. I will continue to be part of a great team that is working to implement these important projects.”

Griffith assumed the additional duties on January 2, 2002. Cagle resigned his position

to become the Communications Director for the Van Hilleary For Governor campaign.



Craig Griffith

Contributors this month: Michelle Black, Carol Mahler, Ruthie Kuhlman and Angela Robbins. *CityWorks* is published for the employees of the City of Knoxville. All suggestions or comments 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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A Message from Mayor Ashe



With the passing of the New Year, we look with resolution to the future, but with a marked increase of wariness than in times past due to the events surrounding September 11 and the anthrax scares. The development of the nationwide Department of Homeland Security has resulted, but it can be most effective when local agencies are involved. I have urged Homeland Security Chief General Wendell Gilbert to consider that cities and counties be seated at the table when decisions are formulated and made on security issues.

Local government is the true first line of defense. State government can provide assistance and help, but lack the resources to do what city police, city firefighters, emergency and hospital personnel do on a daily basis. Unless the views of cities and counties are placed on the table, then plans for security measures will fall short of the mark. The City of Knoxville has almost as many police officers as the entire state highway patrol, 400 for the city and 450 for the entire Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Local perspective should also take precedence when it comes to other issues as well, such as the recent statewide controversy over 14 state park closures, which has resulted in an incredible outpouring of support for state parks.

Both the regular visitors and the surrounding communities want to see our parks well-maintained and removed from being a pawn in the game of state politics. That is why I am proposing to have a summit that would focus on achieving dedicated funding for state parks, the need for new parks at the state and local level and how parks build tourism and create jobs in their community.

Local governments should be involved since most of the use of parks is at the city and county level.

CityWorks is profiling one of each of the council members sworn in on December 15, 2001.

Council Member Profile

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| December | Joe Hultquist, 1st district |
| <u><i>This Month</i></u> | <u><i>Barbara Pelot, 2nd district</i></u> |
| February | Steve Hall, 3rd district |
| March | Rob Frost, 4th district |
| April | Mark Brown, 6th district |

Barbara Pelot has long been involved in city government activities. As a 30+ year resident of West Hills, she has lobbied on behalf of the community in regard to numerous issues. She is past president of the West Hills Community Association.

She has served on the City Charter Revision Commission, the Unified Government Charter Commission and the Wrecker Commission.

In addition to her commitment to numerous community and church-related boards, Pelot has worked with dental

organizations, many along with her husband, Reuben Pelot, DDS. She also works in his general dentist practice.

The Pelots have four children, Lisa, Laurie, Lynda and Reuben IV (Buddy). They are proud grandparents to 14.

"Knoxville has been good to me and my family; and I welcome the opportunity to, in turn, serve on council," said Pelot. "Having been involved in many civic activities, I know that consideration of variables and diversity of all Knoxville residents is the best way to effect good government."



Score One for the Tax Office!!! The crew under Doti Martin's leadership recently was recognized by SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) for excellent customer service. Shown with the certificate are Caroline McGaha (L) and Judy Kirby.

Mahler Elected To Pension Board



Carol Mahler

Risk Management's Carol Mahler and Fire's Scott Calloway were elected to City of Knoxville Pension Board. Their terms began on January 1 and run for three years. Calloway will be profiled in the February issue of *CityWorks*.

Mahler is the first female elected to the board. She has worked for the City of Knoxville for 23 years. She started out as a temporary employee and then worked in Public Service/Administration as a permanent employee before moving to the Personnel Office. She worked in the Personnel Office until 1986 when Personnel was abolished and she

became a Civil Service Department employee. After working a number of years in Civil Service, she moved to the Finance/Treasury Department as Payroll Supervisor for several years. Carol is now a part of the Law Department/Risk Management section as Benefits Coordinator.

Mahler is also a City Employee's Credit Union Board member fulfilling the remaining term vacated upon Melissa Mitchell's death in April, 2001. Prior to filling this position, she served on several Credit Union committees since the mid eighties. She also serves on the John Deere Grievance Committee which meets on an as needed basis to discuss State of Tennessee insurance participants' grievances.

She is looking forward to her responsibilities as the newly elected Pension Board Member. "I enjoy working to help our employees," she said. "This position will allow me to branch out into yet another area of city government with the city's pension system."

Mahler has been married to her husband Joe for nine years. They have three sons, Jo Jo, 8 years old, Jacob, 7 years and Jarrett, 3 years old.



Parks and Recreation's Stefanie Waddell helps a child load up his gifts at the Secret Santa party at the North Knoxville Recreation Center. With support from many city employees, Santa (aka Fire's Danny Anderson) was able to deliver more than 110 presents to 22 children.

Vess & Smith Named Officers of the Month

Officer Felix Vess, a seven-year employee and Officer Todd Smith, who has been with the department for five years, were recognized for apprehending a suspect. While off duty one day in November, they observed Victor "Little Vic" Hines in the yard of a residence on Woodland Avenue. Due to their knowledge of their beat area, they knew Hines was wanted for several outstanding warrants.

After taking Hines into custody, the officers obtained a search warrant for his Woodland Avenue residence. They seized 4.2 grams of crack cocaine, 8 grams of marijuana, 3 crack pipes and \$999.00 in cash. After this discovery, Hines was charged with possession of crack cocaine for resale within 1000 feet of a school (Beaumont School) in addition to being booked on 12 outstanding City warrants.

Chief Keith said that Hines has been the cause of multiple complaints from nearby neighbors. The Knoxville Police Department's Drug Hotline had also received numerous complaints of possible drug activity by the suspect.

McCarter Earns Certification



Horticulture's Jeff McCarter (above left shown with Supervisor Allen Graham) successfully completed the Certified Arborist examination administered through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and the local Chapter of the ISA.

The purpose of the ISA Certification Program is to improve the level of knowledge of standard of practice within the tree care profession. It is designed to assist the public in identifying those professionals in arboriculture who have demonstrated a thorough knowledge of tree care practices. Certification is valid for three years.

"Jeff has taken the initiative to learn as much as he can as he has advanced," said Public Service Director Bob Whetsel. "We are proud of his achievement."

N*ew*s A*b*o*u*t P*eo*pl*e

New Hires

Matt Black, Public Service Worker I
Larry J. Hill, Public Service Worker I
Benny C. Jordan, Public Service Worker I
David Paul Rekstis, Public Assembly
Skilled Tradesman
Kermit W. Troutman, Public
Service Worker I

Promotions

Danny E. Stallings, Equipment Operator II

Retirements

Thomas H. Conard, Equipment Operator I
William C. King, Senior Firefighter

Recognition of 10 Years Service

Phillip Jordan, Public Service
Mark Ernest Lacey, Fire

Recognition of 15 Years Service, Police

Albert Guster Evans
Nathanial Junior Allen
Vincent Michael Ayub
Monty Ward Boone
Ronald Allen Bradley
Gordon Ronald Catlett, Jr.
Jeffrey Wade Dunn
Albert Guster Evans
David Samuel Gaston
Richard M. Giammarino
Donald Allen Jones
Cheri Kay Matlock
David Mitchell McCoig
James Rodney Patton
Sandra Lee Reynolds
Terry Lynn Reynolds
Samuel Rivera, Jr.
Jeffrey Lynn Sellers
Robert Allan Solomon
Roger Scott Solomon
Roger Alan White
Russell Whitfield

Recognition of 20 Years Service

Max L. Newman, Public Service

Douglas A. Nelson, Public Service

Recognition of 20 Years Service, Police

Glenda F. Fields
Gary L. Gervais
Virgil R. Hubbard
Joseph T. Mase
James A. Marcum
Bill S. McMahan
Gary D. Price
Gus M. Paidousis
Steve W. Sanders
Russell M. Saylor
Dick I. Taylor

Robert G. Wooldridge

Recognition of 25 Years Service

Roy Walden, Public Service
Bobby R. Sisk, Fleet Services

Recognition of 30 Years Service

Brian D. LaFollette, Police

Recognition of 35 Years Service

Edward J. McElleney, Police

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