

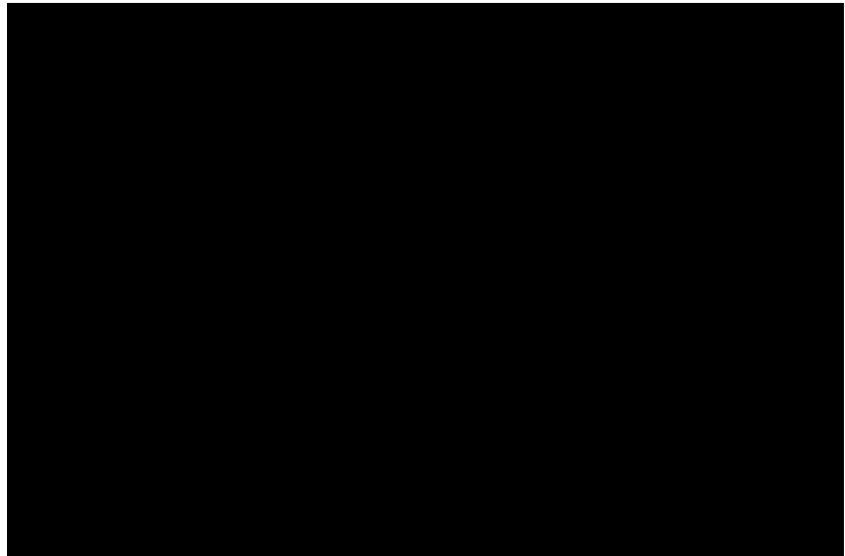


March, 2002
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City Helps Test Terrorist Detection Device

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Wendy Rainey (left) keeps on her task of processing the mail as testing is conducted on the terrorism-detecting device (shown at the far right).

Contributors this month: Michelle Black, Ruthie Kuhlman and Carol Mahler. *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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On March 11 and 12 the city mail room in the City County Building served as one of three test sites in the state in a program for the detection of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats. Oak Ridge National Laboratory and American Tower Corporation conducted the tests in Knoxville as well as Nashville and Chattanooga.

About the size of a hotel room refrigerator, the device in Knoxville is a detector of chemical agents, such as might be found in postal pieces. It is part of a network of systems, designed for real-time, nationwide information distribution.

"The actual construction of our test device is the result of many different individuals' input, including engineers, electricians, chemists and biologists," said Arpad Vass, research scientist with ORNL. Vass, along with fellow ORNL research

scientist Mike Burnett, and Pete Bruce, Technical Sales Representative with Flash Technology (a division of American Tower Corporation) conducted the testing, which was done with wintergreen (methyl salicylate), a simulant which is not harmful. Air monitors on cell towers were tested in Chattanooga and Nashville, with additional water testing in Chattanooga.

"We were pleased to be part of this testing," said Mayor Ashe. "I am impressed with the program and realize how critical it is for all agencies to cooperate to make sure it works properly, with particular focus on keeping down the costs associated with Homeland Security."

Named "SensorNet," the system will provide the capability to dispatch informed first responders within minutes following a threat.

A Message from Mayor Ashe

Planning in the Fall Means Savings at Tax Time



With April 15 here, many of us are wondering how we can pay less income tax next year. One way is to have less taxable income, and an easy way to do that is through flexible spending accounts (FSA). This is the program where you set aside some of your salary for unreimbursed medical or dependent care expenses which then becomes tax free. Even if you only put \$10 each pay day in an FSA for medical or dependent care expenses, you save \$50 or more depending on your tax bracket. FSA's can be used for those medical expenses NOT covered by the city's health insurance, such as deductibles and dental care. Work-time child care expenses can also be put into a dependent care account to save taxes.

What is the down side? You can only join during open enrollment next fall for the year 2003. If you set aside too much money and do not use it, you lose it; and you have to file the reimbursement forms.

What is the upside? **You save money.** Depending on your medical or child care expenses, you could save a lot. I set aside \$1200 this year. With a wife and two children, it is easy to have this much in costs that are not reimbursed by medical insurance. This will save me more than \$350 for this calendar year. I have never failed to spend it all and have saved money each year.

Another plus is having the money in the account when you need it. For example, if you know you need extensive dental work (a considerable portion of which would not be covered by insurance) or plan to correct your eye sight through a laser procedure (also not covered by insurance), determine how much your out-of-pocket expenses will be, work that figure into what you put aside in your flexible spending account, schedule the work after the first of next year, and you will have the money to be reimbursed for

Mayor's Message, continued on page 4

News About People

New Hires

Bennie Anderson, Public Service Worker I	David Gordon Kitts, Training Specialist
Angela R. Bolton, Attorney	Caroline Elaine McGaha, Office Assistant I
Barbara Bledsoe Johnson, Data Entry Operator	Lee Campbell Moffatt, Human Resource Analyst

Promotions

Carolyn L. Cate, Special Events Administrative Assistant	Bryan Merritt, Public Service Equipment Operator I
Tommy Dellinger, Public Service Worker II	Rick L. Morrison, Public Service Equipment Operator I
Jason L. McCarter, Public Service Worker II	

Promotions to Senior Firefighter

Joshua R. Baker	Terry A. Hill	Jeff S. Morie
Kevin D. Baldwin	Charles D. Hucklebee	Garth J. Ogle
Matthew W. Beavers	Jody Ray Hudson	Bobby E. Palmer, Jr.
Bart S. Bradley	Harrison L. James	Darrell J. Robertson
Julian K. Branch	Travis B. Kirby	Draythron R. Robinson
Michael Richard Cummings	Ronald L. Manis	Michael R. Terrill
Doug B. Gwaltney	Elijah L. Mitchell	Anthony T. Young
Donald W. Hanshaw		

Promotions to Master Firefighter

Terry Patrick Beeler	David Martin Gray	Christopher P. McReynolds
Jeffrey Lynn Berry	Michael Edward Hayes	Scott Dean Owens
David Lee Bost	Lloyd S. Huskey, Jr.	Donald M. Partin, Jr.
Michael Edwin Brown	David Harrison Jenkins	Robert Warren Payne, Jr.
Richard Kenneth Buhl	Michael Vincent Kennedy	Robert Michael Pickett
Christopher Scott Calloway	Travis Brandon Kincaid	Robert Curtis Roche
Daniel Joseph Corcoran	Mark Ernest Lacey	John Richard Rodgers, Jr.
John Edward Dodson	Jack Robert Lay	Bryan Curtis Sharpe
Kevin Ray Faddis	Jeffrey Scott Lee	Stephen Bradley Sherrod
Marvel R. Fine, Jr.	Joseph William Lee	Christopher Alan Smith
Gerald Leslie Gibbs	Jeffrey Sherril Levy	Calvin Wesley Splawn
Charles Richard Gibson, Jr.	Scott Eugene Maness	John William Steele
Robert Michael Gillespie	Tracy Dawn May	Brian Edward Townsend
Vernon Alonzo Glenn	Wiley R. McCroskey	Marcus Love Yarbrough

Ten-Year Service Recognition

Thomas P. Ham, Public Service	
David Todd Harrell, Engineering	
	Police
Ricky L. Abbott	Jeffrey L. Stiles
Paul E. Lane	James P. Vichich
Eugene B. Reed, Jr.	William L. Everett
Kenneth T. Robertson	Gregory C. McKnight
	Bruce W. Conkey

20-Year Recognition

Donnie L. Thomas, Public Service
Jewell J. Taylor, Engineering

25-Year recognition

Gerry E. Kirk, Finance
Eddy O. Roberts, Engineering

35-Year Recognition, Fire

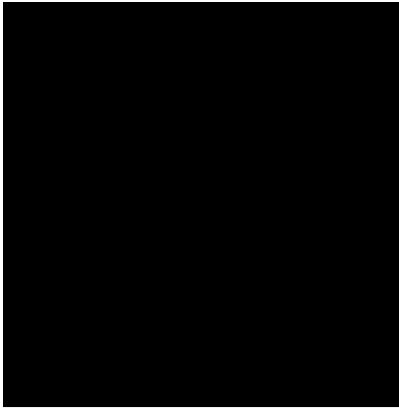
Bobby E. Hanshaw
Clyde E. Mayes
John A. Nicely
Bryan K. Cox

Retirements

Mark D. Busch, Public Service Worker I
Carlene C. Johnson, Police Officer IV
Ishmael J. Thomas, Police Officer IV
Charles C. Clevenger, Police Captain
Ronald N. Towe, Master Firefighter

"Reason and the ability to use it are two separate skills." Franz Grillparzer

Council Member Profile



Councilman Rob Frost at a recent workshop seated between veteran council members Nick Pavlis and Ed Shouse.

December

Joe Hultquist, 1st district

January

Barbara Pelot, 2nd district

February

Steve Hall, 3rd district

This Month

Rob Frost, 4th district

April

Mark Brown, 6th district

Rob Frost, age 33, is an attorney with the firm of Ambrose, Wilson, Grimm and Durand. He attended The University of Tennessee for his undergraduate schooling and graduated from The Tulane University School of Law.

Frost, his wife Erin and their toddler "Sonny" live at 1022 Luttrell Street in the Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood in a 106-year-old home that they are renovating (next door to Public Service Director Bob Whetsel,

wife Melynda and teenage son Jack). Frost also helps manage two small businesses that are renovating historic homes. Frost additionally serves on the boards of his neighborhood organization and Knox Heritage as well as serving on the City's Historic Zoning Commission.

"I'm proud to be able to serve on council in this important time in our city's history as we make the transition for its future," said Frost.



More than 40 City employees have discovered the benefits of Yoga classes: more flexibility, increased strength, stress reduction. This noontime class is a part of the City's Health Management Program that provides employees opportunities to become healthier, less stressed, and better "on the job" performers.

If you don't know a Tree Pose from the Shiva posture, it's time to get with the program — the yoga program, that is. People are looking for a form of exercise that is gentler. Others are looking for a new style of

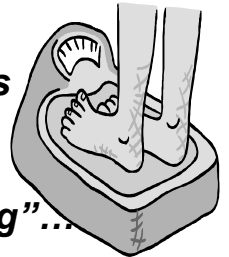
workout. They don't know precisely what yoga offers, but they know that relaxation and meditation are part of it.

The first series of classes began in January at the City County Building. Classes are now being held at the City County Building on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and are available through Knox County on Fridays. The class popularity has branched out to Loraine Street on Wednesdays.

Each session is a six-week class taught by Shanti. She is a local Yoga Instructor that has had a lifetime of experience with yoga. Shanti is a native of Managua, Nicaragua and a resident of the United States since 1978. She came to Knoxville in 1988 and began teaching yoga about eight years ago.

For more information on how you can become more relaxed and experience yoga, contact Jan Davis, Risk Management, 215-2111.

Employees At City Are "Disappearing"...



The first class of Weight Watchers "At Work" Program began on January 3, 2002 and was a big success. This class was made available to employees (City and County) as part of the City's health management program. Through a good program and a great instructor (April Burt) the 25 enthusiastic participants lost more than 250 pounds during the class. One class member remarked, "this is a program I can live with and the people in the class are a lot of fun." A second series of classes began in the City County Building on March 21st and a class started at the Safety Building on March 6, so look for more disappearances.

Interested in learning more about a future Weight Watchers class? Please contact Jan Davis in Risk Management at 215-2111 (for the City County Building class) or Gracie Jones at 215-7300 (for the Safety Building).

Ashley Ham Recognized For Math Achievement

Ashley Nicole Ham, daughter of KPD's Debra Ham and Codes Enforcement's Thomas Ham, has been named a United States National Award Winner in mathematics. The United States Achievement Academy recognizes less than

10% of all American students with this honor. Ashley, who attends William Blount Middle School in Maryville, was nominated by math teacher Don Price and was chosen because of her academic performance and superlatives in other areas.

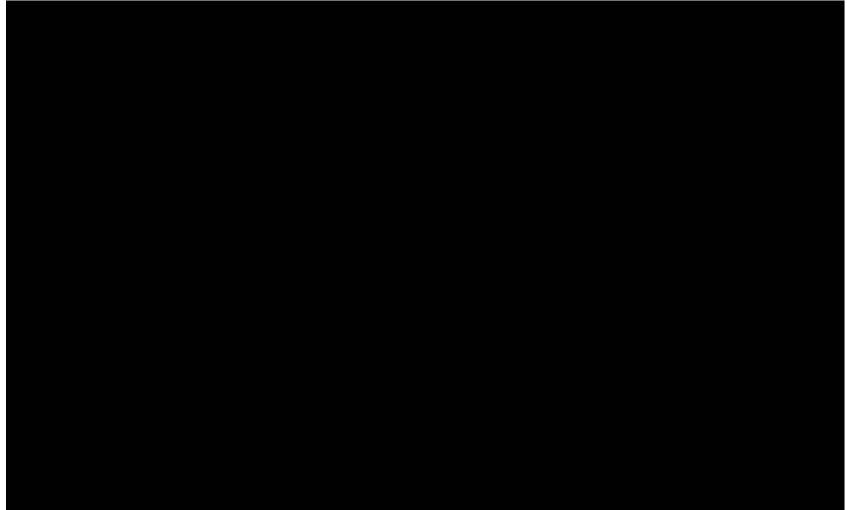
Random act of . . . BRAVERY!!! Department of Development Intern David Brace helped evacuate residents from recent flooding in Pigeon Forge and was photographed

"in the act" by the Knoxville News-Sentinel. Brace, who is a graduate student at UT, serves as a Knox County Volunteer Emergency Squad member.

"We are so proud of him and wanted other city employees to know what a fine person we have working with us," said Director Leslie Henderson.

Black History Month Observed

Carol Scott, Executive Director of the Police Advisory and Review Committee, visited Norwood Elementary School during February, Black History Month. She led the fifth grade students through a curriculum prepared by Beck Cultural Exchange Center about Martin Luther King, Jr. Norwood School is Mayor Ashe's "adopted school."



Mayor's Message, continued from Page 2

your expenses. It's like an interest-free loan with a whole year to repay.

I promote this program because I hate to

see employees pay taxes they don't have to. The city cannot always provide the level of a salary increase we would like each year,

but here is a way to have more money in your pocket if you would only take advantage of it.

**City of Knoxville
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 1631
Knoxville, TN 37901**

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