

# City of Maryville Newsletter



The City Of  
**MARYVILLE**

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## City Officials

- Mayor—Chad Jackson
- City Council Member—Carole Coutts
- City Council Member—Pat Cummings
- City Council Member—Mike Thompson
- City Council Member—Dr. Jerry Wilmes
- City Clerk—Sheila Smail
- City Manager—Matt LeCerf
- Finance Director—Denise Town
- Human Resources Manager—Amy Strough
- Parks & Recreation Director—Rod Auxier
- Public Safety Director—Keith Wood
- Public Works Director—Greg Decker

## December Ice Storm: Overview and Clean-up Efforts

by Matt LeCerf, City Manager

The December 2007 ice storm was a significant storm event which probably 90% of us have never experienced in our lives in terms of its magnitude and overall effect on our daily lives. As it has been described to me, the ice storm of 1994 was nothing like this event. Even today as we drive through town, there are still remnants of its strength. During that week there were a plethora of individuals and families without power and placed in what may be characterized as very difficult situations. With this adversity though, came greatness in the stories that I have heard about citizens helping other citizens within this community. Everything from knocking on neighbors' doors to make sure people were OK, to offering places to stay for those without power, and helping each other begin the cleaning process. Maryvillians, I have only lived here with my family for a 1 ½ years, I knew this community was someplace special, but you have exceeded my own definition of the word special. Also, during the storm it was verified who else are great contributors to this community: the employees of the City of Maryville, Maryville Park & Recreation, and the countless volunteers who helped with cleaning up the streets, operating the com-

munity shelters, and the emergency operations center. To all of you in this great community, Thank You.

The response phase of the ice storm is completed and we are working towards determining the best manner in which to recover from this storm including the clean up efforts. There are a number of property owners that have taken the initiative to take their limbs to the designated spots throughout the city and we greatly appreciate your willingness and quick action to clean your areas. The city is asking that all additional debris removal be placed at the University lot south of Donaldson Westside Park. Our primary issue at this time is the fact that there are still a number of properties with limbs on private property. As the city, a political subdivision, we are prohibited from going onto private property and cleaning the debris. Ultimately this responsibility falls squarely on the property owner. Recognizing that certain individuals cannot complete this cleanup due to physical or mental limitations, there is an initiative to set up a volunteer work day on Saturday January 12, 2008 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or dark. I encourage you all to meet downtown in front of the courthouse to help your

community and fellow citizen in its efforts to help clean tree and limb debris from the personal property. As volunteers', our intention would be to move the debris to the house side of the curb.

When the city begins cleaning the storm debris from the curb, it will be either by our own city staff or through a contract for services. The plan will be to make one pass through a neighborhood shortly following the volunteer day. This is due to the fact that making a number of passes through a neighborhood can and will take much longer in the duration to clean the areas and we want to complete cleanup efforts city-wide as quickly as possible. This is another primary reason for the volunteer efforts requested to get as much to the curb as possible.

On behalf of the Mayor and City Council, I want to thank you for your patience and personal efforts to clean up the debris. Also, we recognize and appreciate those helping both your fellow citizens and the community during this difficult week. You should all be commended for your efforts. If you have any questions or require special needs in the clean up efforts please call City Hall to be placed on a list for assistance.



*"...the month of December which is usually a light ice and snow removal month, hit our street maintenance budget very hard..."*

## Not on our mailing list?

Call Sheila Smail at  
562-8001  
or email her at  
ssmail@maryville.org



*"Our ability to provide this service will be a major factor for many companies considering Maryville for a new business location..."*

## Evaluating the Cost of the Ice Storm

by Greg Decker, Public Works Director

Ice, Ice, Baby—while most Maryvillians may have been thinking about the 1990 pop hit by Vanilla Ice, the City of Maryville Public Works crews were up to their shoulders in fallen tree limbs, ice and snow covered streets, and the dilemma of what to do first: pick up branches or spread ice melt. The ice storm that hit Maryville on December 11<sup>th</sup> certainly hit the City hard, but sometimes as we think about how we are being inconvenienced, we forget about the utility and maintenance workers out there trying everything in their power to get our lives back to normal, as was the case with this early Decem-

ber ice storm.

The City must now step back and evaluate the costs of these storms and the impacts they have made on our operating budgets. For instance, the month of December which is usually a light ice and snow removal month, hit our street maintenance budget very hard during the first two weeks of the month. Including overtime, we had over 540 hours of labor during those two weeks. We spent approximately \$5,300.00 for labor, and over \$8,500.00 on ice melt material. Additional costs included fuel and vehicle repairs which added up to over

\$4,000.00 dollars. Having budgeted only \$25,000.00 for the entire year for street maintenance (which includes snow removal), we have pretty well eaten up a large portion of our budget with still more winter to come.

City staff are always looking for ways to save tax-payers dollars, but with more winter on the way, mother nature may make it challenging for us. Since no one can predict what else mother nature has in store for us this winter, we will continue to be as thrifty as possible while still keeping the roads and community safe and livable.

## Airport Improvements

by Kevin Rankin, Airport Manager

The Northwest Missouri Regional Airport will be undergoing several improvements during the first part of 2008. The first of these improvements will be to the main runway, which will be extended 600 feet long by 75 feet wide. Along with the runway extension, will be new runway lights. All of the runway lights will be upgraded to visual slope indicator lights that will aid in making safer landings, especially during inclement weather. The apron is also scheduled to be expanded to access the new terminal building that was completed in the spring of 2007. A taxiway will be added to connect the apron and runway, and there will be added aircraft parking closer to the terminal. Significant dirt

work will be required to make space for future hangers and taxiways. Loch Sand and Construction has been contracted to complete all of the airport improvements. The total contract is approximately \$1.7 million of which the City will only have to match 5% of these costs due to the funding provided by both the federal and state grant money systems.

Along with the improvements, the City also plans to install a new jet fuel system that will be able to handle larger aircraft. Many of the new small jets that are being used in today's small business travel require jet fuel. Over the years, we have had a few requests for jet fuel from companies that are looking to bring their business to Mary-

ville. Our ability to provide this service will be a major factor for many companies considering Maryville for a new business location, as it allows for ease in all aspects of business travel. Hopefully our ability to accommodate these small jets with our new jet fuel business will help in our quest to bring new business and industry to Maryville.

Currently there are 21 aircraft based at the Northwest Missouri Regional Airport. Our hope is that the improvements and the addition of the new jet fuel business will cause this number to increase, while at the same time help the City become more attractive to new businesses.

## Register to Vote

by Sheila Smail, City Clerk

As a citizen of the United States we are given the right to vote. We have a voice in what happens in our democratic country. Imagine for a moment what our world would be like if we were not allowed to express our views of how our nation is run. I feel as citizens of this country we not only have the right to vote, but also an obligation.

Many of us have been registered to vote as far back as our high school years. But did you know that each time you move, from house to house or state to state, you need to contact local authorities to be eligible to vote. If you move from one address to another in the same county

you simply need to make your change of address known, which may change the precinct at which you cast your ballot.

If you are not registered to vote, I urge you to visit the Nodaway County Clerk's office, in the Courthouse, at 305 North Main Street to do so. The process is painless. You will be asked to complete a general information form and to produce personal identification, such as a valid Missouri Driver's license.

The last day of registration prior to an upcoming election, is the fourth Wednesday before the election date. For example, if you want to be sure you are able to vote on the April 8,

2008 ballot, you must be registered by 4:30 p.m., March 12, 2008. This is when the citizens of Maryville will be conducting a vote to elect two individuals to city council.

Once registered, you will appear at your designated polling place on Election Day with personal identification, such as a valid Missouri driver's license or a yellow registration card, provided by the County Clerk's office. You will be given a ballot on which to cast your vote.

Regardless of how you vote, I hope you will make an effort to go to the polls and make your vote count. Your opinion does matter.



*"...each time you move, from house to house or state to state, you need to contact local authorities to be eligible to vote."*

## Check for Identification

by Amy Strough, Human Resources Manager

These days criminals use a variety of cons to trick you into trusting them. A criminal may use a false identity as a City employee in order to gain your trust and access to your home. You should always be suspicious of people who show up to your doorstep unannounced and it is never a good idea to allow unsolicited visitors of any kind into your home. City workers will never ask to gain access inside your home and will never

show up unannounced. If someone comes to your home or property claiming to be a City employee and you are unsure of their identity, ask to see their City employee identification card.

City employees were recently provided with updated employee identification cards. The new cards are made of plastic and have the look and feel of a credit card. Each ID has an expiration date, contains a

photo of the employee and lists the employee's name, title, and department in which they work. The back side of the card lists the contact information for City Hall. If you are still suspicious after inspecting the ID, you can call City Hall or the Police Department to verify.

Should you encounter an unannounced visitor of any kind, you should notify the company they are claiming to be with, as well as the Police Department.

## Keep Warm Under the Covers at Mzingo Lake Golf Course

by Rick Schultz, Golf Professional

Hello golfers! If you like to play golf and get outside this has been the toughest December in the past 13 years we've been open. Fortunately though, the forecast looks good for the rest of January and February so let's hope for warmer weather and a few rounds of golf.

During the winter months we usually clean, paint and set schedules for tournaments and

leagues. So far, our four major tournaments and four leagues have set the following dates for 2008:

- Senior League begins April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Memorial Day S.B.A. May 26<sup>th</sup>
- Ladies League begins June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Men's League begins June 4<sup>th</sup>
- Junior Golf begins June 11<sup>th</sup>
- Mzingo Open June 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>
- NW Mo 2-Man Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Labor Day Shamble Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>

We also have something new this year. Six of our riding carts have complete covers over them to help keep you warm during the winter months. These carts can be rented for an additional \$3.00 and are rented out on a first come first serve basis. Don't let a little cold keep you from playing. Rent a cart with a cover and you'll stay warm.

### City Offices will be closed on the following days



Monday, January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Monday, February 18 in observance of President's Day

### VOLUNTEER WORK DAY 8am-5pm JANUARY 12

Volunteers wishing to help their fellow citizens clean tree & limb debris from their personal property should meet downtown in front of the County Courthouse at 8:00am on the 12th.



## Winter Stress at the Golf Course

by Ron Darnell, Golf Maintenance Superintendent



*“Winter injury can be best prevented by sound cultural practices carried out in the fall...”*

I am not referring to the stress inflicted on the greenskeeper and staff, although a little of that does happen, but the stress and damage to the turfgrass occurring during the winter months. The most common type of injuries can be attributed to low temperature diseases, winter desiccation, crown hydration, and traffic. The grass suffocating under a prolonged sheet of ice can happen but is a very rare occurrence. When spring finally arrives and winter injury (dead grass) becomes evident, it is difficult to diagnose the specific cause of the damage as it is usually a combination of several severe conditions.

Low temperature diseases are often called snow molds. The most common are *Fusarium* patch (pink snow mold) which develops during cool wet periods in the absence of snow and *Typhula* blight (gray snow mold)

which occurs under a prolonged snow cover.

Winter desiccation is the death of leaves on the plant due to drying out during winter dormancy. It is usually attributed to high winds, low humidity, a lack of snow cover and frozen soil.

Crown hydration is caused by wet conditions followed by a drastic temperature drop. The cells of the plant absorb moisture and then freeze causing the cell walls to burst resulting in death to the turf.

Traffic is the accumulated and collective wear on the turf due to foot traffic and golf cart travel. Since the turf is dormant no recuperation from the wear can start until the turf begins active growth in the spring. This is the main reason we restrict golf carts to the paths from December to April.

Winter injury can be best prevented by sound cultural practices carried out in the fall that enhance reserve carbohydrate levels in the plant and maximizes the general health of the turf. This is accomplished through adequate but not excessive fertilizer applications and proper control of plant and soil water relations.

### Winter Project Update:

Our capital improvement project this year is to construct a retaining wall in the pond on hole #11 very similar to the wall in #8 pond. The pond was drained, excavation was completed, and a portion of the footing was formed and poured. Then the ice and snow began which halted the project. We plan to restart the work as soon as the weather allows. I am sure everyone will be pleased with the completed project this spring.

## Phone Numbers

City Hall	562-8001
Airport	582-2233
Animal Shelter	562-3333
Code Enforcement	562-8027
Court Clerk	562-3526
Finance/Water Bill	562-8005
Transfer Station	562-8018
Mozingo Golf Maint.	562-2638
Mozingo Golf Course	562-3864
Mozingo Lake Maint.	562-2089
Public Library	582-5281
Community Center	562-2923
Park & Rec Maint.	562-2636
Swimming Pool	562-2663
Public Safety	562-3209
Public Works	562-8012
Street Dept.	562-8012
Water Maint. Dept.	562-8019

## 2007: A Busy Year for Public Safety

by Keith Wood, Public Safety Director

For the Public Safety Department, 2007 has ended in much the same fashion that it started—BUSY.

Last January started the year with the unfortunate fire at Carson Apartment. This event created a number of challenges for us to deal with as a department for some time afterwards.

The rest of the year was not without other notable events, but at least it was closer to “the norm”...until, the end of November.

November 16 presented us with our community’s (at least in Maryville) first homicide since 1995. As life began to return to some degree of normalcy (whatever that is in this business?), we had yet another homicide, 17 days later on December 3. As though just to

test our fortitude, Mother Nature then wanted to insert herself with our “little ice event” that started on December 11 and had continuous demands for the next 5-7 days.

Any agency that provides the services that we provide, is constantly asking itself, as we do, “Are we ready?”. When we ask that of ourselves, it is a rather rhetorical question, because we don’t really even know what the event(s) will be that we are asking it of, we just know that we must be ever-ready for whatever comes our way in the best service to our community.

As we have self-critiqued our various events, we feel that we would have at least a “passing grade” although with each event we learn things we can/should do better. We have De-

partmental expectations of ourselves and those are established largely on what we feel you, the community expects of us.

We also know that no matter what we do, big or small, it is not done simply by ourselves, that it takes community support and community involvement, whether it is providing us with specific needs during larger events, as is often done by various individuals, business’s and organizations, or simply by your contribution in the way of tax support every time you purchase something as small as a loaf of bread. Whatever it is, please know that we never take you, our community for granted and we appreciate your support. We hope and trust that we are the Public Safety Department that you would have us be.