

# City of Maryville Newsletter



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## We Need Your Help

by Keith Wood , Public Safety Director

It seems like in the summertime our "crimes of opportunity" tend to increase. We attribute this to several factors. 1.) I think that in the relaxed atmosphere of the summertime, people may tend to let their guard down a bit or become more complacent and relaxed in their behavior to help prevent becoming a "victim" and, 2.) there tends to be more "idle" hands out and about on the streets, especially during late hours.

We need your help in preventing some or many of these incidents. One of the issues that we have a significant problem with is that of car break-ins. The opportunity that offenders take with these is that they find or locate what is easy and accessible. Most of these are avoidable and involve cars left unlocked. The solution is sim-

ple, lock your car, PLEASE, lock your cars. Often after catching offenders involved in these incidents, they tell us that they simply go down the street checking for unlocked cars and after finding them, go through them to see what desirable items can be found. The other thing that you can do to help us (and help yourself) is to remove items of value from sight. If someone looks in your vehicle and sees that desirable or valuable item, the vehicle is much more likely to be broken into. Remove those items or put them in an area not visible.

The other thing that we need is your eyes and ears. We may be out patrolling our streets trying to monitor activity for folks "up to no good", but we are a very limited number of eyes and ears. The more "observers" we

have, the more successful we will be in preventing offenses and catching the offenders if and when they occur. We are only as effective as our partnership with you, the community we serve and protect. Our greatest resource is YOU! And you are your neighbor's greatest ally in protecting them from crime. 365/24/7, if you see or hear anything suspicious or out of the ordinary that catches your attention, PLEASE - REPORT IT. Trust your senses, if it doesn't look just right, it may not be. We would rather respond to a call and investigate a "non-incident" than to respond after something has occurred where something was observed, but no call was made.

Have a great, safe, and enjoyable summer.

## Employees of the Quarter

by Amy Strough, Human Resources Manager



(L-R) PSO. Adam James, Mayor Chad Jackson, Sgt. Jeremy Ferris

At the beginning of the year, the City implemented the Employee of the Year program to recognize outstanding employees. Each quarter, department heads nominate 1 person from their department. The Employee Board reads over all of the nominations and selects a winner for the quarter. At the end of the year all four quarterly winners are nominees for the Employee of the Year.

The nominees for this past quarter were Payton Whitworth, Golf Course; Kirk Nicholson, Finance; Jay Cacek, Street; Ada Mae Wilmes, MCC; and Adam James/Jeremy Ferris, Public

Safety.

The Employee Board selected the dual nomination of Adam James and Jeremy Ferris. Even though only one winner is to be selected each quarter, the actions of these two officers were so intertwined that they had to be co-nominated. Adam and Jeremy were co-nominees for their joint participation in the capture and investigation of 2 suspects involved in a burglary case. While on routine patrol, Jeremy noticed 2 individuals on the south side of a local hardware store and heard the alarm going off inside. When Adam responded as back-up, the two

were able to determine through investigations that one of the suspects was an employee of the store and was stealing merchandise commonly used in the manufacture of methamphetamines. The information collected in this burglary arrest was beneficial to federal officers investigating a large criminal ring of activity in the MO/IA area and resulted in the discovery of a meth lab in Hopkins.

If you see these officers on the street, please be sure to thank them for their diligent efforts to keep our community safe. Congratulations also to all of the nominees for a job well done!

Visit our website at [www.maryville.org](http://www.maryville.org) to view Current Job Openings with the City

If you are interested in becoming a guest columnist in upcoming newsletters, please contact either Sheila Small or Amy Strough at 562-8001.



**City Council Members (l-r):** Carole Coutts, Pat Cummings, Ron Moss, Chad Jackson, & Shawn Wake

## City Officials

Mayor—Chad Jackson

City Council Member—Carole Coutts

City Council Member—Pat Cummings

City Council Member—Ron Moss

City Council Member—Shawn Wake

City Manager—Matt LeCerf

City Clerk—Sheila Small

Finance Director—Denise Town

Human Resources Manager—Amy Strough

Parks & Recreation Director—Rod Auxier

Public Safety Director—Keith Wood

Public Works Director—Greg Decker

Not on our  
mailing list?

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

## City Considering an Increase in Solid Waste Tipping Fees

by Matt LeCerf, City Manager

In the October 2008 Newsletter, I provided an overview related to the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget. In this overview I touched on all four (4) funds (general fund, water/sewer fund, solid waste fund, Mazingo fund). The last three funds mentioned are enterprise funds with the purpose of operating exclusively off of the user fees collected by their respective enterprises. The Solid Waste Department fund presented the most difficult challenge to the City during the budget work sessions and the budget adoption. Included in this department fund are the operations related to both the Landfill and Transfer Station. Ultimately, when the City of Maryville Budget was approved, the Solid Waste Department (SWD) showed a negative balance related to its operations and maintenance, and a small dollar amount in debt services. This budget adoption also has no capital improvements planned for the department. In an effort to reduce this negative balance prior to the adoption of the budget, the City modified some of the services previously provided by the SWD by eliminating the City Wide Cleanup event and reducing the number of days during the weekends in which the operations were open to the general public. At the budget's adoption, the Solid Waste Fund was planned to borrow approximately \$95,000 from the general fund to balance operations in the SWD.

In October, 2008 the City received a letter from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources stating that the City of Maryville Sanitary Landfill was officially closed. Associated with this closure is the beginning of a thirty (30) year post closure period which involves requirements related to groundwater monitoring, methane gas monitoring, and other

state regulations and requirements. These requirements associated with the landfill closure are a fixed cost on an annual basis ranging between \$70,000 and \$80,000/year. Should the City operate a transfer station or not, these costs associated with the Landfill are non-negotiable and are required to keep in compliance with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Penalties related to the failure to comply with the state regulation are far more severe, especially when violations occur and are not immediately addressed with corrective action.

On the Transfer Station side of operations, we incur a larger amount of uncontrollable costs including, but not limited to: solid waste transporting fees, MDNR solid waste tipping fees, debt services, and personnel. In a best case scenario, the revenues generated from the tipping fees will not only pay for operations at the Transfer Station, but also help to pay for the associated requirements imposed by the state for compliance at our Landfill. Currently, our fee structure is measured by tonnage on a monthly basis as follows:

- <149.99 Tons = \$50.00/ton
- 150-224.99 Tons = \$47.50/ton
- >225 Tons = \$45.00/ton

At the end of March, we completed our sixth month of Fiscal Year 2008-2009. At that time the City had a negative balance of approximately \$44,500 in the Solid Waste Department. Unfortunately, this amount is not equal to ½ of our fixed cost incurred thus far at the Landfill for inspection and testing requirements, but instead is more than half. As a result, the City has been discussing the manner in which we could bridge

this gap and get to a point where the revenues coming in through the Transfer Station can result in the decrease in the out of pocket expenses of the general fund and/or the solid waste fund associated with the Landfill inspection requirements.

At this time, the City Staff has reviewed opportunities related to reducing the gap and have determined that the most effective manner would be to increase the tipping fees across the tiered system by \$2.50 on each level. The new fees would be as follows:

- <149.99 Tons = \$52.50/ton
- 150-224.99 Tons = \$50.00/ton
- >225 Tons = \$47.50/ton

Assuming that the tonnage the City currently receives at the Transfer Station does not change as a result of this fee increase, the City will increase the revenues and move closer to a balanced budget in the Solid Waste Department. This unfortunately was the most realistic and safest opportunity to insure that the Transfer Station would stay open for the time being. As a result of this, there may be a number of ripple effects to the end customer as related to our increase in fees at the Transfer Station. The most notable is your respective solid waste hauler may be forced to increase the rates upon the resident and/or commercial business due to our increased fees. We make every attempt possible to keep this and all city operations as lean as possible and this is an unfortunate, but natural progression of being in the solid waste business. When costs to the City increase there is only so long that we can hold off before we have to cover the costs that the City experiences for our opera-

## City Considering an Increase in Solid Waste Tipping Fees Cont'd

by Matt LeCerf, City Manager

tions.

The City sees the significant value the Transfer Station has towards the general public and the solid waste haulers as they provide a convenient, cost effective and high level of service to the community and local businesses as it relates to the disposal of solid waste. Most

importantly, the station provides employment opportunities which extend just beyond City employees and the employment of the solid waste companies here in town.

The City Council has been provided with this item as a discussion topic (April 27, 2009) and we would expect a recommen-

dation to the Council within the next thirty (30) days, with final consideration on these fees taken on or around the first meeting in July. If you have any questions related to the operations, the planned increase in fees, or any other matter related to the Solid Waste Department as a whole, please contact me at your convenience.

## Tree Board Celebrates Arbor Day

by Greg Decker, Public Works Director

On April 24, 2009 the Maryville Tree Board celebrated Arbor Day by holding a tree planting celebration on the campus of NWMSU. This celebration was attended by the Tree Board members with the Maryville Mayor, Chad Jackson, reading a proclamation marking the day as Arbor Day. Every year the City of Maryville Tree Board celebrates Arbor Day throughout the City by planting trees. The Maryville Tree Board meets regularly throughout the year to assist in the best applications for planting and care of trees throughout the City. Additionally, the Tree Board has as-

sisted the City in acquiring thousands of dollars in grants to help with the removal of dead and damaged trees. These grants also allow the City to purchase trees for planting in various areas of the City such as city parks and right-of-ways throughout the City. The Tree Board is also responsible for maintaining our Tree City USA designation. This designation by the Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, is to recognize environmental improvement and encourage higher levels of tree

care throughout America. This designation is designed not only to recognize achievement, but also to communicate new ideas and help the leaders of all Tree City USA's plan for improving community tree care.

Currently the City is a contender for the Tree City USA Growth Award, which is provided by the Arbor Day Foundation, with the City of Maryville being designated as a Tree City USA. Members of the Maryville Tree Board are Denise Dau, Carolyn Schroeder, Joanne Fairchild, Earl Baker, Lezlee Johnson.

## Have a Comment or a Suggestion?

Visit the **Feedback** section of our website at [www.maryville.org](http://www.maryville.org) and voice your opinion.



Tree Board Members & Mayor at Arbor Day Celebration



Maryville Middle School volunteers paint picnic tables at Judah Park

## Maryville Middle School Students Volunteer to Clean Up Parks

by Abbie Renshaw, Executive Assistant

More than 100 Maryville Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Graders participated in a volunteer clean-up day around town as part of their Social Studies class through a program offered by the University of Missouri Extension Office. The MMS class partnered with the City of Maryville & Maryville Parks & Recreation to clean up several Maryville Parks and the Mozingo House. Bryan Grow, Maryville 8<sup>th</sup> Grade American History Teacher, contacted the City about doing a volunteer

project that would not only help the community, but would also teach the students the importance of volunteering and how they can make a difference in their community.

On Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class was divided up into groups and each group helped clean up one of the following parks: Judah Park, Beal Park, and Sisson-Eek Park.

A group of students were also working at the Mozingo House.

The students raked leaves, picked up trash, trimmed bushes, picked up limbs, painted, and helped to improve the looks of Maryville Parks and the Mozingo House.

The volunteer efforts of the students and teachers at Maryville Middle School look wonderful and were truly appreciated. Hopefully this worthwhile experience will continue to inspire students to volunteer in the years to come.



Maryville Middle School volunteers stain the bridge at Judah Park



*“The City began participating in this program last fall and has so far found it to be an efficient and useful tool for verifying employment eligibility”.*



**City offices will be closed on July 3 for Independence Day**

## Hours of Operation

### City Hall

M–F 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

### Maryville Community Center

MWTh 4:30 a.m.–12:00 a.m.

Tue. 4:30 a.m.–1:00 a.m.

Fri. 4:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Sat. 7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Sun. 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

### Library

M–F 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Sat. 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

### Landfill

M–F 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

## City Makes Some Changes in Employment Practices

by Amy Strough, Human Resources Manager

Last fall the City adopted a new Employee Handbook. Since the handbook hadn't been revised in nearly 5 years, many of the policies were updated and several more were added. Some of the changes that affected our hiring process include our residency requirement, the employment of relatives, and our use of E-Verify.

In the past, the City had a residency requirement which required all city employees to reside within Nodaway County and all department heads to reside within Maryville. This policy was amended to allow employees to live outside of Nodaway County. In addition, department heads and other key personnel are now allowed to reside within the Polk Township boundaries. Now the only city employee required to live in

Maryville is the City Manager.

The second major change affecting our hiring was in regards to our Employment of Relatives policy. Relatives of the Mayor, Councilpersons, the City Manager, a department head, key personnel, or the Human Resources Manager may not be employed by the City in a full-time or regular part-time position. Relatives of employees may not be employed in the same department or in a position involving supervision of or by this relative. A relative is someone whose relationship with you through blood or marriage is within the second degree, such as an uncle or grandparent.

Last year the state passed House Bill 1549. Among the many requirements in this bill was the requirement that local

governments must begin participating in E-Verify. E-Verify is a federal employment eligibility verification program sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration. Within the first 3 days of employment, all newly hired employees are required to complete an I-9 and submit supporting documentation which confirms their eligibility to legally work in the United States. The information from the I-9 is submitted online to the secure E-Verify website where it is compared with the records of the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration to determine employment eligibility. The City began participating in this program last fall and has so far found it to be an efficient and useful tool for verifying employment eligibility.

## Mozingo's Youth Camp Has a Lot to Offer

by David Middleton, Lake Maintenance Superintendent

Many people, even in Maryville, are not aware of one of the best facilities at Mozingo Lake—the youth camp. This alcohol and smoke free camp is for youth related activities including church, scouting, and school based groups.

Plans for this area began in 1999 after a committee of citizens was formed to decide what direction the camp should take. After visiting other youth camp areas in the area and much planning, a seven year plan was put in place and building began.

Today the camp has four sleeping cabins each with twelve beds, one sixteen bed cabin, a

bathhouse, tent area and a one hundred ten person occupancy multi-purpose building with a commercial kitchen area and restroom facilities. In addition to a great view of the lake, a picnic shelter and fire rings round out what the camp has to offer.

Fees include:

- Tent camping \$1.00 per person
- 12 person cabin \$30.00 per night
- 16 person cabin \$40.00 per night
- Multi-purpose bldg. \$50.00

first day-\$20.00 per day after Groups from the four-state area have used the facilities. Feedback is always positive and many have returned annually.

The work on the camp would not have been accomplished without the exceptional involvement of time and resources from many organizations and businesses as well as donations from private citizens. Their generosity has and will continue to touch many generations.

For information or reservations call City Hall at 660-562-8001.