



CityScope

CityScope is published by the Department of Communications for City of Tallahassee employees.
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TOWN Show Shines Artistic Light on Employees

Oscar Wilde is quoted as saying, "A work of art is the unique result of a unique temperament."

Unique is a wonderful way to describe the artworks included in this year's TOWN Show; creative, interesting, one of a kind, beautiful and delicately detailed could also all apply.

"I had never shown my photos to anyone but family and friends before entering the TOWN Show," said **Annette Pearce**, who works in Human Resources and had two pieces featured in this year's show. "Having my work chosen to be in the show was very affirming and motivated me to take my photography more seriously and more critically."



A selection of pieces displayed during the TOWN Show.

A variety of mediums were used in the 61 pieces in this year's TOWN Show, representing the unique vision of 28 active and three retired employees. Pottery, jewelry, stained glass, photography, paintings and more presented a range of subjects, moods and designs from the minds of these talented artists. Pieces incorporated newer techniques and technology as well as more traditional methods.

"Since most of my carvings either sit at the house or go to family and friends, it's nice to have the TOWN Show as an outlet where they are judged and found acceptable enough to put on public display," said **Jim Delong**, who works with the Electric Utility Department. Delong had two works in this year's show.

"I was excited and pleased for my daughter, Whitney, to have both of her drawings selected for the show," said **Wanda Whitehead**, who works in Finance and Administration for Economic and Community Development. "Whitney was even more excited to receive the City Manager's Favorite Award. It was great to see her beaming with joy at the show because of the special recognition."

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SOCS It To Me

WOW!!! Great job

- Perry

This was great! I love the story on the Bus Drivers!

- Natalie

Thank you so much for featuring us in this edition of the City Scope. We have already received many compliments.

- Edie

What an awesome job - It really looks great!

- Tom

Thank you for revamping CityScope. This publication has come a long way and truly celebrates the City and its employees' accomplishments.

- Audrey

Whitney Whitehead, 17, who works part time in Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs, was not only the artist behind the City Manager’s favorite piece, she also was the TOWN Show’s youngest participant ever, according to Kenn Bass, one of the show’s organizers.

The TOWN Show was created at the suggestion of **City Manager Anita Favors Thompson**, who proposed an employee art show as a way for the artists among us to share their skills with fellow co-workers, who may never otherwise know that the person who logs their timesheet or restores their power also makes beautiful jewelry or sketches lifelike portraits.

“I think the TOWN Show is important for a couple of reasons: it provides talented individuals with an outlet to share their art with co-workers and the community in a way that they may not have ever had; it inspires some folks to step out of their comfort zones and share their passion for creating things of beauty outside of their family and close friends, and finally it reinforces local government’s support and commitment to the arts and cultural activities in our community,” said Wanda Whitehead, who had one piece featured in the show this year.

“[The TOWN Show] is important because we get to know our co-workers as multi-dimensional people, instead of just an administrative assistant or accountant,” said **Koren Taylor**, from Environmental Policy and Energy Resources who had one piece in the show. “Having this perspective helps us when interacting with customers.”

This was the fifth year the TOWN Show has displayed the artistic creations of current and former City employees in the City Hall Art Gallery, located in the mezzanine on the second floor of City Hall. Some employees were brand new to the TOWN Show this year, such as Whitney Whitehead. Others, like **Frank Dietrich** from the Planning Department, have been involved since it inception. The show also has some participants who have shown off-and-on over the years.

“A few years ago, I attended a TOWN Show reception and was encouraged by another City employee to submit something for the next show,” said **Jim Kinneer** with ISS, who displayed three photographs in the show this year. “My wife and I have taken many pictures as we traveled around the country. Some of those pictures turned out to be what my wife calls ‘postcard’ quality pictures. I started submitting some of these photographs to the TOWN Show a few years ago.”

While the TOWN Show is always a hit, this year organizers made a few additions to spice things up.

“We had three new elements this year: (1) the online presence, allowing family and friends who cannot come to the gallery to see the art work, (2) the “Name the Artist” contest and (3) a door prize drawing during the Artist Reception,” said **Kenn Bass**, who works in Economic and Community Development and had three pieces in the show.

“The ‘Name the Artist’ contest ran for nine weeks, and we will have a Grand Prize drawing (hopefully drawn by the Manager) soon. Any one entering the contest is eligible for the grand prize drawing. We’ve been very happy with the response to the riddles,” Bass said.

You may have noticed the “Name the Artist” contest, posted by **Mack Rush**, on the City’s electronic bulletin board. Every Tuesday for nine weeks, Rush posted a new Jeopardy-style riddle about a different featured artist in the show. Answers were accepted for two days, and then a winner was announced out of those people who answered the riddle correctly.

“The show committee has been creative in getting the employees-at-large engaged in the show, with contests and recognition from the appointed and elected officials,” said Pearce. “Since we spend so much time at work, having the positive interaction here means a lot.”

“Next year we are planning to have the show not only at City Hall, but also at the ArtPort Gallery in the airport.” Bass said. “This will be another first for the

TOWN Show. An effort is underway to promote and include more retired employees in the show next year.”

The public reception for the TOWN Show was part of the Council on Culture & Arts’ (COCA) *First Friday Gallery Hop*. Many of the artists, members of the City leadership, other City staff, community members, families and friends came to view the works and support the show.

“You learn about people in other departments, and at the reception, you get to put names with the faces of co-workers,” Taylor said.

“This year some friends of ours brought their children to the TOWN Show,” said Kinneer. “I hope the TOWN Show will inspire their children to be creative in their own lives.”

TOWN refers to ‘Tallahassee’s Own,’ recognizing the employee artists who provide quality service to citizens each day and retirees whose past work has contributed to the City’s excellent reputation. An employee committee worked closely with COCA to generate entries, and a jury of local artists selected the works for display.

“The TOWN Show Committee members are a creative group with many ideas about how to involve more City employees in the display of their art work,” Bass said. “Our object is to include as many creative City employees as possible in the TOWN Show, even those that don’t think of themselves as artists or have been unwilling to enter other art shows.”

“It is very rewarding to submit my digital art work to be judged by other artists and persons who have a legitimate knowledge and appreciation for art,” Wanda Whitehead said. “I am inspired to do more than I have done before in the realm of digital photography because of my participation in the TOWN Show.”

“Seeing the work of the other artists and talking to them about their art, added a fun dimension to my relationship with them,” said Pearce. “I got to know some of my fellow employees much better through the show.”

“In a time when employees are being asked to find creative ways to continue to provide quality services to our citizens with limited resources, the TOWN Show is a way to highlight employee creativity in other areas

outside of the work environment,” said Kinneer.

These artists demonstrate thinking outside of the box and beyond borders both in their professional and artistic endeavors. Thank you to every one who contributed to and supported the TOWN Show.

For more information, please contact Kenn Bass at ext. 6516.

The City Hall Art Gallery is open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. While the TOWN Show is no longer being featured, the annual Quilt Show is up. We encourage those who aren't usually in City Hall to swing by and take a peek at the beautifully crafted pieces presented this year.



Linda Cooksey shows off her piece “Watercolor”.



Harry Savage poses by his work “Another Pelican Photo”.



Kenn Bass won an award for City Attorney James English’s favorite piece for his work “C”.



Ben Harris’s “Snow Birds” won an award as City Auditor Sam McCall’s favorite piece.



Koren Taylor’s Work shows the opening of a flower captured in digital photography.



Christine Winckelmann poses with one of the two pieces she had in the show.



Whitney (L) and Wanda Whitehead show off some of their artwork.



Guests enjoy the public Artist Reception held for the TOWN Show.

Letter from the Editor



Summer is moving along quickly. Like the annual TOWN Show, featured in this edition, it will soon be a memory and something to look forward to again next year. Luckily, the fall brings a virtual cornucopia of activities, people and events to town. Tallahassee springs to life in the fall. From university football games to the trek back to school for the youngsters, fall is at the same time a season of change and a return to the usual.

As an organization, we'll be gearing up for the new Fiscal Year and preparing for what our collective future holds. Doing more with less is no longer a cheeky saying, but a motto every department is embracing. While tough times may lie ahead, they also lay behind us, right next to all our accomplishments. The City will continue to shine thanks to its employees. Thank you for steadily meeting the needs of our citizenry.

Many of our employees shine in their pursuits outside of work as well. Some are featured in this edition of *CityScope*, like Bill Desautel who uses his electrical knowledge both on the job and in his hobbies. We're always looking for new stories and people to highlight. If you or one of your co-workers would like to share your story, please contact me at Lizzy.Kelley@talgov.com. Remember, *CityScope* is only possible with your contributions, so keep them coming! And a big thanks to all those who shared with us in this edition.

Lizzy Kelley

In the Kitchen with Tallahassee's Bravest

Shepherd's Pie

Submitted by Lt. Billy Fox

- 2 lbs of ground beef
- 1 lb kasbahs sausage
- 1 large onion
- 1 can of mushroom soup
- 2 lb bag frozen veggies
- 5 lb bag of potatoes
- 1 lb shredded sharp cheese

Preparation:

- Skin and boil potatoes for mashing
- Brown the beef and sausage with the onion
- Blanch veggies until tender, drain stir in can of mushroom soup



Image retrieved from *La Petite Chinoise*
(<http://www.lapetitechinoise.com>)

Directions:

In a 4-quart casserole dish:

- Layer beef and sausage together in the bottom of the dish.
- Layer the veggie mix on top of the meat.
- Spread mashed potatoes across the top of the veggies.
- Cover potatoes with generous amount of cheese.
- Place in the oven with lid off and broil till cheese melts to a golden brown.

Serves six

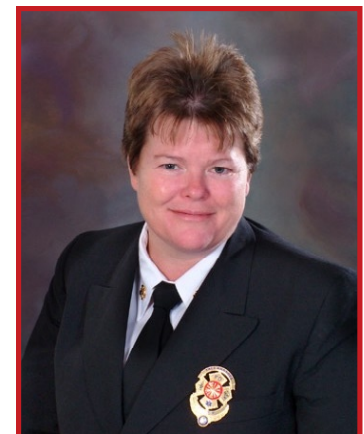
Move Over Boys, There's a New Chief in Town

By Travis Oaks, TFD

What happens when a dream comes true? For **Fire Chief Cindy Dick**, that day came in September of 2005. It was a Friday afternoon when City Manager Anita Favors Thompson made the call that changed Cindy Dick's world forever. She had worked her way up through the ranks and faced the struggles head-on that many women face in a male dominated profession. Few would dream, along with Cindy, that she could make it to the top, but leaving chance behind, she prepared

herself for the opportunity that would present itself when former Fire Chief Tom Quillin left office. Now nearly four years into her job, Chief Dick has excelled in her position as Fire Chief through building relationships with her peers at City Hall as well as developing a Labor/Management Team with the firefighters union to work out issues within the department.

It was August of 1980 when the Tallahassee Fire Department hired its first female firefighter, Melody Slimak. In 2005, some 25 years later, Chief



Fire Chief Cindy Dick

CHIEF continued on PAGE 5

Bill's Bike "Charges" Onward

Last year, as gas prices were spiking, **Bill Desautel** decided to take matters into his own hands and build himself a solution: an all electric motorcycle.

For you and me that may sound like a tall order, but this project was right up Bill's alley. Bill works for the City in Electric Operations at the Purdom Plant. A highly intelligent and handy man, he began this project assuming it would be his prototype, and that down the road, he would tweak any issues with it and create another.

Bill began by building what he calls "a rolling chassis." A chassis is basically the skeleton of the bike, the framework that supports everything. He stripped parts from three 1978 Honda CX500s at the junkyard. It took him six weeks to make the rolling chassis and make it safe. It only took about two days though for him to make it go.

He claims his electric motorcycle is no invention; he simply researched specifications and products online.

"I searched, sorted, figured, calculated. Once I had the approximate calculations, I ordered a motor, wiring, speed control and batteries," Bill said.

The bike can go 20 miles per charge and tops out around 60 mph. His creation, a shiny red number with visible batteries, turned out better than he expected.

"My guesses were closer than I thought

they'd be," he said. "It was going to be my prototype, but it does exactly what I wanted."

He said the bike has the potential to go farther on a charge, but that would require a hefty investment in better batteries. He currently only has approximately \$600 in batteries in the bike and to upgrade would



run into the thousands.

"When I upgrade to better batteries I expect 150-200 miles between charges and the cost of the batteries will be about \$4,300.00," Bill said. "One other benefit of the better batteries is the number of times that they can be re-charged. The lead acid batteries I'm using will be lucky to last for 350 recharges. That's 20 miles X 350 cycles = 7000 miles. The new batteries should

get 180-200 miles X 2000-2500 recharges = (180X2000) 360,000 miles, which is very cost effective."

If his relatively small project costs (currently less than \$2000) seem high to you, consider the cheapest electric motorcycle available on the market today that I could find (the Zero S by Zero Motorcycles) costs around \$9,500, including the federal tax rebate and shipping charges. It will go farther on a charge than Bill's (60 miles per charge compared to 20), but it tops out around 60 mph as well, and it was built to be a high performance supermoto, not just an around town cruiser.

Instead of enhancing the bike, Bill has begun a second project at the request of his wife. He is converting a VW Karmann Ghia convertible to be an all-electric vehicle capable of going about 200 miles per charge.

During brainstorming for this new project, he figured out there would be three roadblocks to reconstructing a combustion engine vehicle to all-electric: (1) power steering, (2) power brakes and (3) air conditioning, which would all take power from the batteries.

BILL'S BIKE continued on PAGE 6

CHIEF continued from PAGE 4

Dick once again made history by becoming Tallahassee's first female Fire Chief. A member of the department for 18 of those 25 years, she quickly understood how hard the climb would be to the top. Chief Dick found herself volunteering for the jobs that no one else would take, such as Lieutenant in Dispatch, Captain in Training and many other projects that Chief Quillin asked of her.

The Florida Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club (BPW) recognized Chief Dick this year for her accomplishments in a male-dominated field

of service with the Glass Ceiling Award.

"Thank you Chief Dick for paving the road to endless opportunities for women and girls in an arena traditionally dominated by men," said Venita Garvin Valdez, BPW Florida President.

Chief Dick was one of five women who made the top five-finalist list for the award. She was one of two women from the Tallahassee area who made that short list.

"She is a phenomenal woman who certainly broke the glass ceiling," said BPW Tallahassee President Christy Crump. Chief Dick joins past winners such as Police

Chief Kim Tierney - Lighthouse Point Police Department, Highlands County Sheriff Susan Benton - first woman in the State of Florida to be elected sheriff in a general election, Carolyn Vesper Bivens - former Commissioner of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) and Alex Sink - Florida Chief Financial Officer. Chief Cindy Dick was recognized at the BPW Florida Annual State Conference, held at the Doubletree Grand Key Resort in Key West from June 11-14.

“The Karmann Ghia never had power steering, power brakes or air conditioning,” he points out, making it a great vehicle for this type of project.

Bill and his wife are looking forward to the Karmann Ghia's completion so they can take drives to the beach, and other places that are relatively close by, without ever putting a key into their gas-powered vehicles.

“The day of the gas-powered vehicle as everyone's primary vehicle has got to go,” Bill said. “There will always be a place for gas-powered vehicles, especially for long road trips and hauling.” For everyday driving though, he knows all-electric fits the bill.

“The infrastructure needs to catch up, of course, but I think in 20 years, we could be there,” he said. The market also needs to catch up, as all-electric cars, trucks and SUVs are not readily available and affordable in the mass American market, yet.

In the meantime, while the market catches up to Bill and while he's working on the Karmann Ghia, he is enjoying driving his electric motorcycle around town for errands and just for fun.

“I drive around the neighborhood, to the store. I put on a backpack for storage and never put the key in the gas car,” Bill said. Unfortunately, the approximately 30 miles one-way to and from Purdom makes him crank up the vehicle during the workweek.

The savings are still there though, both



VW Karmann Ghia convertible that Bill plans to convert for his wife

monetary and environmental.

According to Kevin Cameron in his article “MPG economics” in the June 2009 edition of *Cycle World*, “As a crude rule of thumb, a four-stroke gasoline engine burns half a pound of fuel for every horsepower (hp) it makes for each hour of operation. To a first approximation, if my bike needs 15 hp to cruise on the freeway, it will use half that number of pounds of fuel per hour, or 7.5 pounds. At 60 mph that would work out to 48 miles per gallon.”

An all-electric powered motorcycle, which burns no gas, is a cleaner option, but, as Cameron points out, “more than half of U.S. electricity is generated in coal-burning plants. By charging your car [or motorcycle] at home, you are turning it into a coal-burner.” Luckily, Tallahassee is not part of that statistic. The vast majority of the electricity we produce comes from natural gas.

“It's not zero emissions, but it's less than what's coming out of the gas and diesel vehicles on the road,” Bill said. “And if we all were driving electric vehicles, it would

centralize the emissions to power plants. I know what our emission are here [at Purdom], and I would rather have these emissions in place of what comes out of the back of diesel trucks.”

By his estimates, on a regular gas-powered motorcycle, he would need to go between 400-450 miles per gallon to receive an equivalent cost ratio. His estimate is not far off from other makers of electric motorcycles. On Enertibike.com, the website for the all-electric motorcycle now being produced by Brammo, it shows the current economic mpg at 352 (based on \$2.47 per gallon for gas and \$0.0007 per mile for electricity).

According to *Cycle Connections*, an online motorcycle magazine, “the average mid-size motorcycles gets 35-40 miles on a gallon of gasoline,” although that was in 2005. A quick read through of a current *Cycle World* shows rough averages in the mid 40s now. “Bikes are already fuel-efficient, so differences in their MPGs aren't considered as important. Besides, actual MPGs vary wildly depending on how a bike is ridden,” wrote Susan Carpenter in her April 2008 article “The measure of motorcycles' MPG” for the *Los Angeles Times*. “Even more significant, there isn't an industrywide protocol for motorcycle MPG testing.”

BILL'S BIKE continued on **PAGE 11**



A shot of the motorcycle in progress (L) and the completed electric motorcycle.

Grooming the Next Generation of City Leaders

The City is a hotbed of talented professionals, and now there is a program that provides comprehensive training to help new employees prepare for a long and fruitful career within the City organization. It's called the New Public Servant Initiative (NPSI). The program is designed to provide training and development during the initial years of employment, and its purpose is to bring together emerging leaders within the City family.

NPSI uses individual development plans tailored to each person that contain activities aimed at enhancing a person's capacity to take on broader leadership responsibilities. Participants take part in roundtable and networking events, coaching and mentoring, formal training through classroom lectures and computer-based learning, key assignments to expose individuals to challenging projects and different positions and off-the-job activities such as involvement with community organizations and professional networking groups. Here you get to meet half of the current NPSI participants (in alphabetical order). The other half will be featured in the next edition of *CityScope*. Take a second to read their short bios, and when you see them around the office or around town, be sure to say hello.



Deepika Andavarapu, Planner, Tallahassee Leon County Planning Department

Deepika Andavarapu has been in the United States for eight years, three years of which have been spent here in the City of Tallahassee. She is an AICP certified planner and has a master's in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati. She is currently pursuing her second master's in Public Administration from Florida State University. She likes being part of the City of Tallahassee family and enjoys being part of the Planning Department. She especially likes the camaraderie and team spirit of the Planning Department. She spends a lot of time reading books, watching movies and driving back and forth from Mobile, Ala., where her husband, Nagendra, is currently pursuing his Pediatric residency. Nagendra and Deepika have been married for a little over four years and still surprise each other.



Brian Berry, Civil Engineer III, Underground Utilities

Brian Berry graduated from the FSU-FAMU College Of Engineering in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He currently works in Underground Utilities as a civil engineer and is primarily involved with the design of water and sewer systems around the City. He also manages design projects that have been delegated to local consulting firms. Brian's most recent design project was the Gaines Street Revitalization water and sewer improvements project. His long-term plans are to stay with the City of Tallahassee and continue developing his skills to further his leadership role. He is always looking to meet different people within our organization and form lasting long-term relationships. Overall, Brian is a very outgoing person who puts 100 percent into everything he does. When not working, Brian enjoys riding his dirt bike and street bike and being a dad to his seven-year-old son.



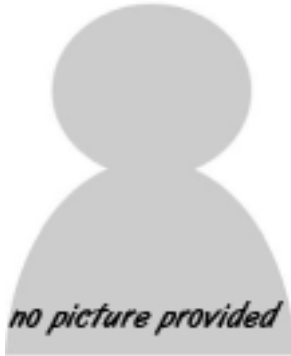
Cindy Cook, Senior Executive Secretary, City Manager's Office

Cindy Cook has been with the City of Tallahassee for over eight years. Before entering her current position of senior executive secretary in the City Manager's Office, she served as the executive secretary to the director of the Public Works Department and prior to that as the administrative aide to the City Engineer of the Public Works Department. The majority of her work experience prior to joining the City workforce was with the State of Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and in the legal field, working for several private law firms as well as Legal Services of North Florida in Quincy and Florida Legal Services here in Tallahassee. Her varied experience and knowledge are a good fit with this organization's opportunities for growth and learning.



Michelle Davis, Administrative Specialist II, Office of the City Auditor

Michelle Davis has been employed by the City for over four years. She joined the Office of the City Auditor in February 2008 as the Administrative Specialist II. Michelle was previously employed in the Office of the City Treasurer-Clerk, Records Management Division as a secretary and Poole Engineering & Surveying as the office manager. She received her associate degree from Tallahassee Community College and her bachelor's in Business Management from Nova Southeastern University. Michelle believes her administrative role is an important part of the City's success and looks forward to a long, challenging career with the City of Tallahassee.



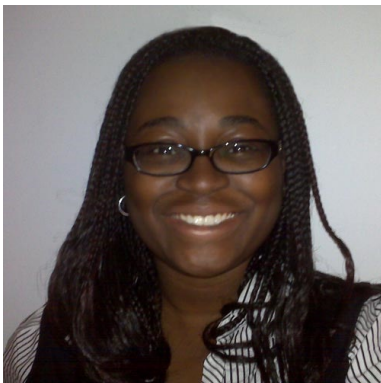
Carol Dixon, Secretary, City Attorney's Office

Carol Dixon has been a part of the City of Tallahassee team since July 1999. Her employment began as the executive secretary for Solid Waste Services. Carol currently works in the City Attorney's Office providing administrative support and customer service. Carol strives for excellence and is committed to the City of Tallahassee and its core organizational values: exceptional customer service, leadership and personal responsibility, promote and support employee excellence and practice teamwork.



Kellee Edwards, Code Magistrate Coordinator, Economic & Community Development Code Enforcement Division

Kellee Edwards has been employed with City of Tallahassee for seven years. As a program coordinator, Kellee is responsible for the daily operations of the Code Magistrate Program, which includes maintaining case records, correspondence files and assisting management. Kellee prepares, reviews case evidence and presents cases to the Code Magistrate and testifies in the hearings as needed. Additionally, Kellee is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Political Science with a minor in Public Administration and Human Resources at Florida A&M University. She plans to graduate at the end of the fall 2009 semester. In the future, Kellee plans to pursue a master's in Human Resources and Employee Relations and to continue to work in the public sector in hopes of becoming a city manager or a human resources manager.



Temitayo Fayemi, Public Information Specialist / Web Developer, Department of Communications

Temitayo Fayemi is one of the web developers behind the City's award-winning website, Talgov.com. A member of the City family for over three years, she maintains the web presence for several departments, designs graphical pieces for Department of Communications efforts and is tasked with maintaining the integrity of the City of Tallahassee logo. Prior to joining the City, she received her Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems from Florida State University and her Master of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of Central Florida.



Zachary Galloway, Senior Planner, Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department

Zachary Galloway has two and a half years of service with the City. His career goals include promotion to a level of decision-making within his department, possibly through promotion to a supervisory position by 2010. Zachary maintains a high degree of professionalism in all work products while remembering that "good enough for government" is not, and should not ever be, an acceptable characterization for City employees. His expectations are to return to graduate school to study urban design or landscape architecture.



Alex Graffeo, Electrical Engineer, Electric Utility

Alex Graffeo's main responsibilities include electric utility coordination and relocation on Florida Department of Transportation, county and city road projects. Jobs Alex has been or is currently project manager for include I-10 at Capital Circle NW, I-10 at Thomasville Road, I-10 at Monroe Street, Capital Circle SE, Capital Circle SW, Mahan Drive and Capital Cascades Park. Alex's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Florida State University, and in June 2010, he is projected to receive his Master in Business Administration degree from Daniel Webster College. His previous experience includes five years as a machine operator/die shop helper and six years of supervisory experience in the restaurant industry. Alex is also a certified flight instructor in airplanes and is licensed by the FAA as an instrument rated commercial pilot and aircraft dispatcher. Alex has been married to his wife, Dianne, for 13 years and has a nine-month-old son, Steven. When not chasing his son, Alex enjoys playing catcher in the Tallahassee Adult Baseball League.



Andrea K. Griffin, Human Resources Consultant, Human Resources

Andrea Griffin has been employed with the City's HR Department for two and a half years. She has a total of 13.5 years of human resources/personnel experience, including 11 years with the State of Florida. She has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Public Administration, both from Florida A&M University. Andrea is an only child, a mommy's girl. She is married to Kaz Griffin, a 20-year City of Tallahassee employee who is a lineman with the Electric Utility. They have a 10-month-old daughter, Ashanti, who is their pride and joy.



Ryan Hurst, Project Manager, DMA ISS

Ryan Hurst was born in Tallahassee and graduated from Amos P. Godby High School. Ryan received his Bachelor of Science degree in 2005 from Florida State University with a concentration in Management Information Systems. He joined the City of Tallahassee as a Business Systems Analyst in 2005 as part of the Information Systems Services Department where he was responsible for managing the implementation of computer applications in the Financial Management Systems and Human Resources areas. In 2008, Ryan was assigned to the position of acting HR Technical Project Manager, where he successfully supervised and deployed two Enterprise wide application upgrades to the PeopleSoft Human Resource Management System. In 2009, after proving his abilities, Ryan was promoted to the position of Management of Information Systems & Applications Coordinator. His goals and objectives are to continue to serve the City throughout his professional career, progressing into a senior management or executive management position. He enjoys playing the guitar and, in partnership with his wife, Tiffany, is very active in his community and church.



Turquoise James, Purchasing Agent/Contract Specialist, DMA Purchasing Services

Born in Macon, Georgia, Turquoise James completed her Bachelor of Arts in English at Florida A&M University and went on to complete her Masters of Public Administration from Florida State University. She has been employed with the City of Tallahassee as a Purchasing Agent for three years. Her professional extra-curricular activities are participating in National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, National Forum for Black Public Administrators, New Public Servant Initiative and COT Greening the Government Team.



Jay Johansen, Utility Marketing Analyst, Your Own Utilities

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Jay's fascination with green and renewable technology began at a very young age. His interest in fuel cells, desalination, and solar energy projects fed his desire to help promote their use in a marketing capacity. Jay secured a scholarship to The Florida State University's College of Business to study the field of marketing, and received his degree in 2006. Upon graduation, Jay served the City of Tallahassee as an Energy Auditor and gained a fundamental understanding of the principles of residential energy consumption. One year later, he was promoted to his current position with the Utility Marketing department where he specializes in creative digital and print media design as well as forming strategic marketing campaigns.



Mary Ann Johns, Environmental Inspector, Growth Management Land Use and Environmental Services Division

Mary Ann Johns is a military brat who has lived all over the United States and in parts of Europe and attended 26 schools in 12 years. In her younger years, she was a rodeo queen who rode in several rodeos and even had the chance to go to nationals in Las Vegas. Mary Ann attended Florida State University and received a degree in Environmental Studies in April 2007. She was hired by the City of Tallahassee in August 2007 and has been quite happy in the Growth Management Department ever since. She enjoys being out in the field, learning new things and meeting new people.



Tron Jones, Purchasing Agent – DMA Purchasing Services

Tron Jones earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida A&M University in Political Science in 2002 with honors. Tron currently works in DMA's Purchasing Division and on April 26, 2009, celebrated his three-year anniversary as a permanent employee with the City of Tallahassee. Currently, he is pursuing a master's degree in Applied Social Sciences with a focus in Political Science. Upon completion, he plans to pursue a doctorate degree and continue to work for the City of Tallahassee. He also hopes to achieve his long-term goal of being a college professor. Tron enjoys traveling, reading, cooking and spending time with his family.



Lara Kuleshova, Energy Conservation Specialist, Energy Services

Lara Kuleshova has a bachelor's degree in Energy Engineering. Prior to her family's permanent move to the United States, Lara worked as an administrative supervisor for the City of Magnitogorsk, Russia. She has worked for the City of Tallahassee since July 2000 as an energy services representative and an energy conservation specialist. In these positions, Lara provided services to City of Tallahassee customers on energy conservation, energy programs, gas marketing and City of Tallahassee green building initiatives. Lara is a certified home energy rater, green building certifying agent and trained sales and marketing specialist. Last September, Lara was transferred from Energy Services to the Underground Utilities to work as Gas Sales Representative.

City Bits

As part of the budget process, the City is reorganizing the Human Resources Department and making it a Division of the Department of Management & Administration. As part of this reorganization, the vacant HR director position has been reclassified to a Manager-Human Resources position, eliminating the HR Director position. **Travis Parsons** has been selected as the new Manager - Human Resources. Travis has been with the City since May 2009 and has been responsible for labor relations, class and pay and benefits. He has extensive municipal human resources and collective bargaining experience from his prior positions in Michigan and California. In his new assignment, Travis will be managing the day-to-day operations of the Human Resources Division. Please feel free to contact him with any HR issues that you may have.

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All citizens in Leon County should be aware that rabies is present in the local wild animal population, and domestic animals are at risk if not vaccinated. All domestic

animals should be vaccinated against rabies, and all wildlife contact should be avoided, particularly raccoons, bats, foxes, skunks, otters, bobcats and coyotes. The public is asked to maintain a heightened awareness that rabies is active in Leon County. Rabies is a disease of the nervous system and is fatal to warm blooded animals and humans. The only treatment for human exposure to rabies is rabies-specific immune globulin and rabies immunization. Appropriate treatment started soon after the exposure will protect an exposed person from the disease. Rabies is preventable when treatment is provided in a timely manner. Persons who have been bitten or scratched by wild or domestic animals should seek medical attention and report the injury to the **Leon County Public Health Department** at 606-8125. Remember, no animal is too young to have rabies. For general questions about animals, call **Leon County Animal Services** at 606-5400.

BILL'S BIKE continued from PAGE 6

While MPG might vary wildly among gas-powered motorcycles based on a myriad of factors, it is safe to say that none get the roughly 350-450 miles per gallon needed to make them as cost efficient as electric-powered bikes.

Emissions and cost ratios may not be glamorous, but Bill's proactive approach to a common problem and forward-thinking nature is definitely something to respect. While we all tool around in our gas-powered cars, trucks, SUVs, motorcycles and scooters, we, too, should be thinking about the different ways we can reduce our gas usage. Whether it's walking to the corner store, riding a bicycle more, or, as the City's Fleet Department is doing, using biodeisel and alternative fuels, we can all contribute to a cleaner atmosphere.

And while driving around town, remember to keep an eye out for Bill and his electric motorcycle. You may not hear him coming, thanks to the near silent ride of the electric motorcycle, but be assured, he'll be there and he may blast his air horn at you just to make sure you know it.

Awards and Honors

WCOT took home four prizes from the 2009 Telly Awards. *Experience Tallahassee*, *For Pets Sake "Rabies"* and *For Pets Sake "Scoop the Poop"* took home Bronze Awards, and *"Twas the Night Before Winterfest"* took home a Gold Classic Award for copywriting.

The **Planning Department's** work on the Comprehensive Plan Policies for Wakulla Springs Protection was recently recognized by the Florida Planning and Zoning Association. The Department was honored with the Environmental Award for Planning Excellence.

Well Dones

I just called in a police report and **Officer Robinson (#797)** came to file it. He talked with us for an extended amount of time and was extremely considerate. Really nice guy. Thanks.

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Neighborhood Code Officer **Les Vause** received applause from a local man who was very appreciative of the wonderful job she has done in his community and for her acts of kindness to his mother.

§§§§§

Thanks to the **Tallahassee Police Department**, especially **Officer Lee**, who took the time and effort to try to "track me down" when my gardener (who arrived on the wrong day) found my basement sliding-glass door standing open and lights on.

My locked car was in the driveway, and I didn't answer repeated knocks at the door. Officer Lee responded to my gardener's telephone call, checking out my house, and calling my son who lives in another county. My anxious son suggested I might be at the Senior Center, at church or with a friend. All were contacted and showed their concern by leaving telephone messages. I was safe, playing bridge with friends, never knowing that my door had inadvertently been left open.

As a senior citizen and a longtime Tallahasseean, it makes me feel proud and safe to live here where people are concerned about you!

Margaret Cash
cash@nettally.com

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This week I was on a US Airways flight arriving into Tallahassee Regional Airport when a woman on the plane was having extreme chest pains. The flight crew had quietly radioed ahead to make sure the paramedic and the staff from the airport were waiting. The crew asked everyone to stay seated, which is usually ignored. The 60 passengers stayed seated and there

wasn't a peep or complaint during the 20 minutes the emergency was handled, waiting until the woman was taken off the aircraft to exit.

A big tip of the hat to **Lt. Terry Payne** and Engineer **Roger Bynum**, Tallahassee Fire Department; **EMS, Regional Airport staff, ground and flight crew of US Airways No.2241 from Charlotte, N.C.**, and the passengers. It makes me proud that Tallahassee still retains its politeness, caring and charm.

Margaret Allen
allen_d@earthlink.net

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Dear Mayor Marks,

The residents of Chauncy Lane 'stand in awe.' Thank you for the rapid response to our plea for help. We know that every citizen gets your full attention when such [a] plea is made, but it affects one differently when it's your street and your neighborhood that watches government work on your specific need. We sincerely thank you.

Hats off to **Ramon Alexander, Assistant City Manager Townsend, Police Chief Jones** (who personally visited our neighbors and our home to speak with us), Officer **Chris Haley** (who is actively investigating our complaint as I write this to you) and the courteous staff who answer the phone and forward information. "Trust-Loyalty-Commitment,"-- a proper slogan, Indeed!

Fred and Madie Gainous

§§§§§

David Thomas, Code Enforcement, received a letter of thanks from a former Tallahassee resident who still owns property here. "Thank you for your diligence and assistance. I greatly appreciate what you do to keep our city beautiful. There are many cities which could learn from Tallahassee. I miss living there and hope one day to return."

Eileen McCoy

§§§§§

Do you remember the old kids' riddle about why fire trucks are red? That answer is not it.

Tallahassee's fire trucks are red to match the color of Superman's cape; Superman: "faster than a speeding bullet."

Last night about 9 p.m. one of my tenants lit up a cigarette alongside his oxygen dispenser and set the unit afire. Another tenant in a nearby unit saw the smoke billowing from a window and called the fire department. Units from station number one (downtown near Steel Plaza) and station number six (near the FHP building on Apalachee Parkway) responded. The fire was near the intersection of Mahan Drive and Weems Road.

By the time I got there the fire was out, the injured tenant had been treated and given over to the EMS people who transported him to TMH and the firemen (and firewoman) were rolling up the hoses.

In talking to the tenant that called in the alarm she was excitedly telling me all about her participation and the most exciting thing to her was the speed with which the Department had gotten there.

"Four minutes," she exclaimed. "Four minutes!" holding up that many fingers.

There's much more to praise, but I won't go into it here or now.

One last thing though, look at your watch and note 45 seconds. That's the amount of time that elapses between the sound of the gong at a station announcing a call and the equipment actually rolling out the door!

Faster than a speeding bullet.

Bob Fulford
bobfulford@nettally.com

Images From Across The City



City commissioners, representatives from the state and City staff break ground at the Advanced Wastewater Treatment facility



Crew look over the site where work has begun on the Advanced Wastewater Treatment facility.



The City's Fleet Department retrofitted this Ford Ranger from gas-powered to all electric



Sandra Manning with Utility Marketing Services and Bill Behenna and Wade Bishop with Communications set up for the press conference on the all-electric vehicle.



Commissioner Debbie Lightsey speaks at the unveiling of Fleet's all-electric pick-up truck.



Terry Lowe, director of Fleet, give details about the all-electric truck.



Tom Bronakoski of WCOT records video of the Gaines Street Project Groundbreaking ceremony.



Protestors look on as Roxanne Manning, Project Manager of the Gaines Street Project speaks at the Gaines Street Project Groundbreaking Ceremony.



Mayor John Marks signs the pipe while a Lafayette Arts Camp student looks on.

Images From Across The City



Bruce Cooksey, Edward Smith, Chris Hewett and Nathan Lee look on at the activities during the Gaines Street Project Groundbreaking ceremony.



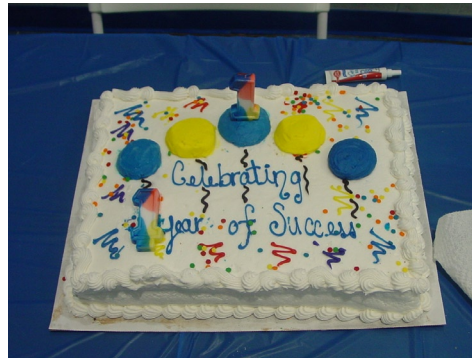
Cassandra Leland supervises the students at the Lafayette Arts Camp at the Gaines Street Project Groundbreaking.



The group gathers around to sign the pipe before it is placed into the ground on Gaines Street.



A look at the pipe, complete with hand prints, signatures and messages from event participants and attendees.



Underground Utilities celebrates its one year anniversary with a thank you lunch for its employees.



Employees at the Underground Utilities one year celebration line up to get lunch.



Margaret DeSherlia submitted a necklace, earring and bracelet combo for this year's TOWN Show.



Tom Lewis submitted a touching stained glass piece for this year's TOWN Show.



Mark J. Fletcher submitted a striking watercolor tiger painting for this year's TOWN Show.