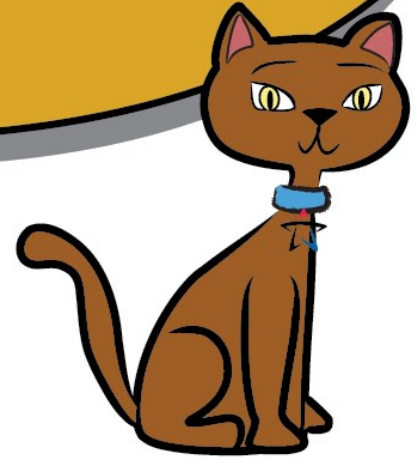


CityScope



CityScope is published by the Department of Communications for City of Tallahassee employees.
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StarMetro's Hollywood Moment from the Heart

By Heather Harris

Three months after ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition awarded the Kadzis family of Tallahassee with a custom-built 3,000+ square foot home, StarMetro coach operators Timothy Brown and Nate McMillan vividly recall their participation in that excitement-packed week.

During the construction week, which took place February 22 - 27, Brown and McMillan operated the StarMetro shuttles that took volunteers from the designated parking lot to a drop-off point near the Kadzis home, located on Queen Anna Drive. The free-of-charge shuttles operated during the off-peak hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"People were just as excited about using the city buses as they were about volunteering," Brown said. "Most of them were so surprised that the buses had such comfy seats and offered free Wi-Fi."



Nate McMillan (left) and Timothy Brown (right) helped make a dream a reality for one Tallahassee family

Throughout the week, Brown and McMillan received many praises from volunteers using the free service.

"Just about every rider thanked me personally," McMillan said. "Some of them even took pictures with me."

Brown and McMillan estimate that over 1,200 volunteers rode the shuttles throughout the week, with most of the volunteers riding StarMetro's service on the last day when the newly renovated home made its debut.

"On the last day of the unveiling, I drove about 600 people," McMillan said. "The bus was fully loaded each trip; people had to stand."

Overall, Brown and McMillan look back at their experience with pride.

"It was a great opportunity for StarMetro to stand out once again and represent the City of Tallahassee," McMillan said.

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SOCS It To Me

CityScope Reviews Positive

Excellent job. Love the pics and the articles.

-- Lee

This CityScope edition was great - also, loved the pictures.

-- Edie

Looks great.

-- Travis

Letter from the Editor



Happiness is in the air. I can feel it. This type of weather just makes me want to be outside and active. I don't think I'm the only one either because I keep seeing more people out and about in Tallahassee. There seem to be more dogs at the park, visitors to the Downtown Marketplace and families spending quality time together. I know I've been a busy bee lately. Whether it's fishing, softball or a simple walk, activity is the name of the game.

In this edition of CityScope, you'll read about some activities related to the City and our employees' commitment to community. For our next edition, **I want to know what some of your hobbies, talents and interests are.** 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.

Appreciated, *Lizzy Kelley*

Working Our SOCS Off: Wade Wehunt Pool Reopens

The **City of Tallahassee Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs Department (PRNA)** is pleased to announce that Wade Wehunt Pool at Myers Park reopened Thursday, April 23. The facility closed its doors in October 2007 for renovations.

"I believe the community is going to be very happy with all the upgrades," said **Leslie Adams**, Aquatics Supervisor with PRNA. "The bathhouse is now climate controlled. The pool deck has been renovated, and there are suit dryers in the bathrooms, among other improvements."

The renovation project utilized many sustainable/green strategies. Most areas of the bathhouse are day lighted, hot water for the showers is provided by on-demand natural gas heaters and low flow toilets and waterless urinals were installed in the restrooms. Other green upgrades include the addition of the photovoltaic (PV) panel system atop the new shade canopy and the solar thermal panel application. The PV panel system will be tied into the electric service to further reduce the facility's electric load. The solar thermal panel system will be installed in the green space on the north side of the facility. It will be used to supplement the natural gas pool heater and defray the cost of gas. These two projects are currently still in process and will be completed over the next few months.

Until May 29, regular hours will be 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. The daily entrance fee is \$3.25 for adults, \$1 for children and \$2.25 for seniors. There are also 15-visit, 30-visit and annual passes available at discounted prices.

Some of the programs to expect throughout the year at Wade Wehunt are lap and fitness swimming, recreation swimming, swim teams, summer camps, baptisms and birthday parties. Water aerobics will be offered at 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, and 11:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. Water aerobics last for approximately one hour. All classes are move at your own pace and welcome to all age groups.

An official "Welcome Back to Wade Wehunt Pool" celebration event will be scheduled soon. For more information about Wade Wehunt Pool or the City's various aquatics offerings, please call 891-3985, visit Talgov.com or feel free to stop by the pool!

TOWN Show Preview

The TOWN Show is back for its fifth year! Over 40 current employees and retirees have taken part in the TOWN Show over the years. From wood sculpture to digital photography, 90 works of original visual art, created by talented members of the City family, have been shared with City officials, co-workers and the community.

This year's exhibition will be held in the City Hall Art Gallery from May 8 to July 20. TOWN Show works will also be featured for the first time online at Talgov.com this year. The reception for this year's TOWN Show will be held in the gallery on Friday, June 5.

**TOWN
SHOW**
"Tallahassee's Own"

For more information, please contact **Frank Dietrich** in Planning at 891-6414 or townshow@talgov.com.

Greet Graffiti with a Grimace

Tallahassee is known for its natural beauty. We have a lush canopy of trees, rolling hills and a vibrant local community. Over the past few years, however, our city has seen a growing amount of graffiti popping up on dumpsters, electrical boxes and abandoned businesses, among other places. Some people consider graffiti an art form, but to most, it's just an eyesore.

Graffiti can send a message to the public that an area is neglected, crime-ridden or in decline. It leaves an unsavory feeling about the area. This is not what we want for Tallahassee.

In an effort to help curb graffiti, the City recently began a Graffiti Abatement initiative. The success of the program, and the continued beauty of our community, depends on citizen and employee involvement. If you see graffiti around town, call the Graffiti Hotline at 891-4500 or report it online at Talgov.com.

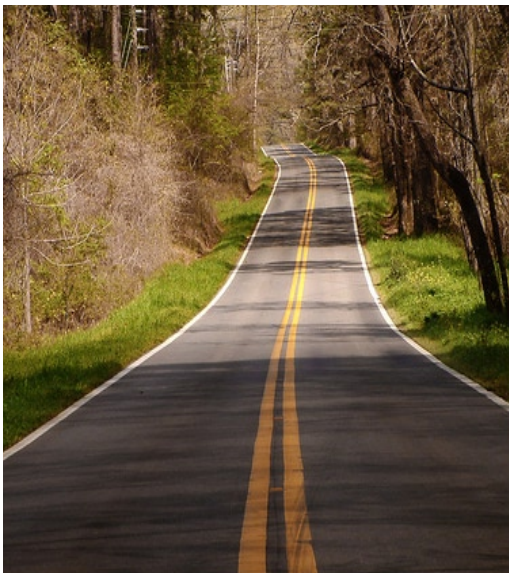
The City's goal is to paint over any graffiti reported on its property within three business days and will contact private property owners about graffiti reported on their property. In the first two weeks of the program, citizens reported graffiti in over 100 locations, with all city-owned sites being addressed and work underway on private properties.

This commitment to maintaining the quality of our community is the spirit we all need to adopt. Graffiti exists in every neighborhood in every corner of our town. Let's all do our part to maintain the quality of life we appreciate in Tallahassee.

Remember, it's your quality of life. Report graffiti and help send the message that it's not tolerated in our community.



In Memoriam - Rhett Miller



Miccosukee Road canopy. Photo retrieved from:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amoeba111007298>

Rhett Miller, longtime director of the City's Public Works Department, passed away on March 3. A City employee for over 30 years, Miller was recognized professionally by peers, City officials and citizens for his engineering expertise, progressive management and a laundry list of outstanding accomplishments. As former City Manager Dan Kleman said, "Rhett, more than anyone, was the bridge between the organization of the past and the city of today." Most of all, however, Rhett was known for his unique blend of Southern humor, superb story-telling and gentle-natured kindness to everyone who had the distinct pleasure of working with him.

On a gorgeous spring Friday morning (March 6), services for Rhett Miller were held at Oakland Cemetery, where a veritable 'who's who' of City officials and employees, past and present, shared tears, stories and, most assuredly, laughter. Miller was laid to rest next to his beloved wife, Marjorie. Meanwhile, just outside the cemetery, City Public Works employees continued their work on behalf of our citizens, repairing the curb along North Bronough Street.

Rhett would have been proud.

Growth Management's Giving

There's a Spanish proverb that says, "The belly rules the mind." Growth Management's Charity Fundraising Committee has found that it also helps control the wallet. They are hosting eight separate fundraisers this year, many centered on food.

Growth Management's charitable giving began in 1996 as simply a Christmas donation collection within the department to help families in need. Now, 13 years later, the department has events year round to raise money and a committee of dedicated employees that organize and oversee the entire process.

This year's committee includes **Tony Barber, Mike Fagan, Edie Harrison, Carrie Hughes, Mary Ann Johns, Heather Nielsen** and **Denise O'Neal**. They have already successfully completed three of their eight fundraisers for the year: a Chili Cook-off in January, Valentine's Day Bake Sale in February and Spring Breakfast and silent auction in March.

For the bake-sale, and for the majority of the other fundraisers, the committee members donated all the food and supplies. Harrison and Hughes even spent their lunch hour for a few days building

baskets of goodies to sell. "These are seven generous people," Harrison said. "We try to give people a good value for the money. Our director, Mr. Bob Herman is very supportive of our efforts, and the staff turn-out and support at the events is wonderful."

Last year's committee began the year with \$452.46. By the end of the year, they had raised \$3,500.88. With the money raised, they were able to adopt eight children from the Sharing Tree, providing each child a set of clothes, underwear, socks, pajamas, a jacket, shoes and toys; donate nearly \$1,000 worth of toys to Toys for Tots; and adopt a four-member family, providing them clothing, cleaning supplies, toiletries, food, a CD player, a digital camera and gift cards. They even had \$455.29 left to carry over to this year.

Last year's committee was comprised of Tony Barber, Mike Fagan, Edie Harrison, Carrie Hughes, Tammy Jimenez, Mary Ann Johns, Heather Nielsen, Denise O'Neal and Paul Thomas.

If you missed the first three events of the year, there's five more opportunities to help Growth Management make the holiday season extra special for so many in our community. Below is a schedule of events. For more information on the committee and how you can help, please contact the Growth Management Department at 891-7001 and ask for any of this year's committee members.

Upcoming Events

- **May 15** - Bake Sale
- **July 2** - July 4th Extravaganza
- **August 28** - Tailgate Luncheon
- **October 30** - Halloween Bake Sale
- **November 20** - Thanksgiving Luncheon

Images from GM's Valentine's Day Bake Sale



Congratulations to the City of Tallahassee - Gold Certified Green City

By **Monique Brijbasi**

The City of Tallahassee achieved a significant milestone on February 11, 2009 – the day the City formally received an award for being a Gold Certified Green City from the Florida Green Building Coalition. Tallahassee is the first City in Florida to receive the honor and first to accomplish the move from Silver Certification to Gold Certification in under a year.

The Florida Green Building Coalition designation recognizes green cities for achievement in outstanding environmental stewardship. To become certified, a municipality must apply and meet a comprehensive list of criteria. The designation focuses on improving environmental performance through a number of criteria: energy, water, land, air and waste, and evaluates environmental practices set to policy, incentives and ordinances that foster green practices, and education activities to improve the environment.

The City has many innovative programs and initiatives that elevated it to its Gold Certification. Some of the programs and initiatives that stood out include Demand Side Management, cutting the City's peak load to 59 MW by 2010; Citywide programs to reduce water consumption, energy consumption and waste; a

performance audit contract with Honeywell; Environmentally Preferable Purchasing practices such as all City business cards being printed on 30 percent post-consumer paper; and the creation of the Environmental Policy and Energy Resources Department, which manages the City's sustainability policies and programs.

All this could not have been accomplished without the work of City staff. The

Greening the Government project team began its work in November 2006. The group has spent the last two years researching, learning, and implementing programs and policies that ensure Tallahassee is utilizing best management practices to protect the community's natural resources and improve environmental performance. Thank you to the following departments for their dedicated work:

- Planning
- Facilities Management
- Energy Services
- UBCS – Utility Marketing
- Solid Waste Services
- Procurement Services
- Neighborhood Affairs
- Environmental Policy and Energy Resources

This group will continue to use a collaborative approach to raise awareness among employees, engage citizens, and develop public-private partnerships.

Congratulations City of Tallahassee for excellent environmental stewardship!



City employees who played a vital role in this accomplishment were recognized at the award celebration in Doug Burnett Park.



The FGBC presented the award to the City again at a City Commission meeting.

Sustainability – Simple choices lead to huge benefits

By **Monique Brijbasi**

Green at home. Green at work. Green living. What is green? Sustainability is green, and sustainability has a different meaning to everyone. A large part of sustainability is really just a set of simple choices, which can lead to huge environmental savings. The overuse of the word 'green' has sparked a misconception of the accurate meaning behind the idea of good environmental stewardship. Society has shifted from making conscientious decisions that benefit the environment to behavior that has resulted in 'green-washing' (the attempt to cover up or excuse wrongdoing through false statements about environmental benefit or the biased presentation of data).

The word green has lost some of its meaning, but the idea behind it remains firm. There are plenty of large and small changes that every individual can make to help protect the environment and to preserve Tallahassee's natural resources.

For instance, let's think about the items we use at home and at work. Our 'stuff' goes through a linear system of

extraction, production, distribution, consumption, and then disposal. For every item you accumulate, do you consider the life cycle of it before your purchase? Is this a sustainable item? If not, is there an alternative that is better



for the environment? How long will it last? What is the return on investment? This "life cycle analysis" is an objective process to evaluate the environmental burdens associated with a product, process, or activity by identifying energy and materials used and wastes released to the environment, and to evaluate and implement options with environmental benefits.

As you think about the life cycle of things you use and discard, consider the

estimated decomposition rates of some commonly used items:

- Styrofoam Package:** Over 1 million years
- Plastic Jug:** 1 million years
- Aluminum Can:** 200-500 years
- Disposable Diaper:** 550 years
- Tin Can:** 90 years
- Leather Shoe:** 45 years
- Wool Sock:** 1 year
- Paper Bag:** 1 month
- Banana Peel:** 3-4 weeks

Please take a few moments to evaluate your daily routine and the stuff you accumulate and consider what can be changed to a sustainable behavior. Remember, simple sustainable choices will lead to huge environmental savings.

In the Kitchen with Tallahassee's Bravest Anzalone's Italian Spaghetti

Submitted by **Lt. Troy Anzalone**

Ingredients

- 1 can of tomato paste mixed with 2 cans of water
- 1 can of Hunt's crushed tomatoes
- 1 can of tomato sauce
- 1 can of tomato puree
- 1 tbs of oregano
- 1 tbs of basil
- 1/2 cup of sugar
- 3/4 cup of cut onion
- 1 clove of fresh garlic
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1 tsp of pepper
- 1 bay leaf

Directions

Step 1

Sauté diced garlic with olive oil. Once brown, add 3/4 cup of cut onion. Sauté until soft.

Step 2

Add your cans of paste at 1 can of paste to 2 cans of water. Stir while heating.

Step 3

Add crushed tomato, sauce and puree. Stir while heating.



Step 4

Reduce heat to simmer/low. Stir in oregano, basil, sugar, salt, pepper and bay leaf.

Step 5

Stir and cook on low for at least 2 hours (the longer the better).

Awards and Honors

TFD participates in life support exercise

The Tallahassee Fire Department Basic Life Support Team put its skills to the test at Fire Rescue East in Daytona, Florida. Basic life support teams from across the country gathered to compete and showcase their skills for saving lives. Firefighters **Kurt Hindle, Seth Blessing, Mike Sorrell** and **Thomas Wright** comprised the Tallahassee team, which took first place in the competition.

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TFD Recognizes New Deputy Chiefs

In February, two new Deputy Chiefs, **Division Chief John Gatlin** and **Battalion Chief Wes Roberts**, began their new assignments. Deputy Chief Gatlin assumed the Planning and Logistics Section, and Deputy Chief Roberts assumed the Operations Section.

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Mayor Pro Tempore Andrew D. Gillum featured in 'The Crisis' Magazine

In September 2008, **City Commissioner Andrew D. Gillum** was extended an invitation to be featured in a special December edition of *The Crisis*, one of the nation's oldest and most historic publications founded in 1910 by renowned scholar-activist W. E. B. Du Bois, honoring African American achievement.

Commissioner Gillum is one of ten men and women from around the nation who are recognized as changing the world and making a difference in their communities. *The Crisis* highlights mavericks in the article "Striver's Row: People and Institutions to Watch".

"I am deeply honored and humbled by this recognition," Mayor Pro Tem Gillum said. "My platform has and will continue to be a catalyst for change in service to my community."

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TPD holds award ceremony

TPD hosted an award ceremony at the Marzuq Shrine Center to honor civilians and police officers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their efforts to keep the community safe.

Citizens and TPD officers were given awards for traffic citations, bravery, meritorious service and assisting police officers in need for local citizens. This was also the first ceremony where the Police Purple Heart was given.

AWARDS RECIPIENTS:

- DOT Top Citation Writers: **Andy Meresse, Jeff Caplan, Sgt. Rudy Hinson, Chris Papy, Don Poppe**
- Sonitrol Responding Officer Awards: **Tina Haddon, Melanie Pretti, Michael Crews, Michael Terranova, Kathryn Rowan, Richard Jenkins, Kirk Watson, David Bell, Andy Meresse**
- Police Service Awards (Civilians): **Walter Jordan, Penny Burroughs, Joseph Byers, Phillip Owens Sr., Keith Foster, Christopher T. Vogel, Kaitlyn Kennedy**
- Meritorious Service (Officers): **Roger Salmonsén (two awards), Derek Hawthorne, Bill Butler, Chris Papy, Michael Malafronte, Joanna Baldwin, Doug Clark, Mike Randolph**
- Police Purple Heart: **Mike Walker**

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Electric Utility Receives National Recognition

The City of Tallahassee Electric Utility is one of 60 of the nation's more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) recognition from the American Public Power Association (APPA) for providing customers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Paul Allen, vice president, engineering at Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service and chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel, presented the designees on March 23, during the

association's annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Austin, Texas.

The RP3 recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

Additionally, the City of Tallahassee Electric Utility was also given an APPA Safety Award for its continued commitment to safety and low incident rate during the past year (2008), being recognized as the second place winner among Public Power Electric Utilities working between 500,000 and 750,000 hours.

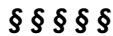
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Electric Named Tree Line USA Utility by Arbor Day Foundation

The City of Tallahassee Electric Utility has been named a Tree Line USA Utility for the seventh year in a row. The Tree Line USA program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and recognizes utilities that meet three requirements: a program of quality tree care, annual worker training in quality tree care practices and a tree planting and public education program. The electric Utility was recognized during the NADF's 16th annual Trees and Utilities Conference in Dallas, Texas, April 6-8.

Awards *CONTINUED* on **PAGE 8**

Reaffirming its proactive programs preserving and enhancing the community's famous canopy of trees, the City of Tallahassee has also once again been named as a Tree City USA by the NADF. The honor recognizes the City meeting four standards established by the foundation, including having a comprehensive forestry program and a tree care ordinance. This is the seventeenth time Tallahassee has received the prestigious award.



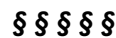
Electric Utility Receives Award for Safety Achievement

The Electric Utility has received a Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) Safety Award for its continued commitment to safety and low incident rate during the past year.

The Electric Utility was awarded first place in category D, which is comprised of utilities with 400,000 to 799,999 man-hours worked, for the least amount

of accidents on the job. This recognition reflects the Electric Utility's commitment to protecting workers' safety, while also ensuring reliable electric service to customers. In an industry where there is a high possibility of serious injuries and fatalities, safety training is the best line of defense in preventing accidents and saving lives.

Awards were presented on February 28 at the FMEA Annual Safety and Florida Lineman Competition Awards meeting in Orlando.



Public Works Department garners awards

The Public Works Department recently won a first-place award for the Doug Burnette Park Enhancement project. The \$250,000 project was selected as winner in the Beautification Category from the Big Bend Branch of the American Public Works Association (APWA) at a regional awards banquet.

Providing an aesthetic and user-friendly facelift to a historic central Tallahassee park space, the project was completed entirely in-house and featured extensive collaborative efforts led by Public Works involving several City departments. Among the amenities added to the site were sidewalks, benches, water fountains including one pet-friendly fountain, accessibility for disabled patrons and additional landscaping to complement the existing canopy of live oak trees. Doug Burnette Park is located between Gaines and Madison streets just south of the Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center, and will be maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs Department.

Public Works also received two Honorable Mention certificates in the Beautification Category. The department was honored for the Governors Square Boulevard Widening project and for the Orange Avenue Extension project.

Well Done

TPD gets glowing reviews

"I would like to say how impressed I am with **Officer Lisa Pontoriero**. She went out of her way to speak to me about my personal safety while traveling on Apalachee Parkway. She conducted herself in a personable yet very professional manner; Police officers like her are an asset to the community, and we are grateful for her continued pursuit of excellence."

"I just wanted to write and say what a great experience I had with **Officer Roger Salmonson**. He came to my house over a complaint and basically just reassured me that there is law and protection no matter the size of the case. I had an overall great experience and he is a true gentlemen."

"I would like to make you aware of an

officer that I believe went above and beyond his duty's. **Officer Zealy Jones** was heading home from his shift and while in his neighborhood noticed that all of the windows in my Ford Mustang GT were shattered and my tire had been slashed. Even though he was off duty, he took the time to file the police report. Since no one was at the property where my vehicle was located, he went home and picked up his personal plastic sheeting and zip ties to secure my vehicle and prevent water from damaging the car further if it were to rain. If it were not for Officer Jones, my vehicle could have sustained further damage and theft. I would like to thank Officer Jones for being one of the finest officers I have dealt with I wish him the best."

"I would like to recommend **Officer Donald Bracci** for his outstanding professionalism, curtosy, and willingness

to assist. The department should be proud of having an officier amongs its ranks that reflects positively on its goals of providing not only law enforcement but also assistance to the citizens."

"I was involved in a minor collision on Tennessee Street between Ocala and High Street a few weeks back. **Officer Gary Roy** answered the call and I must say that he was very professional and showed courtesy during the incident. He made quite an impression."

"**TPD** has been very responsive and helpful with each incident that has occurred at Seminole Grand Apartments since I have become property manager here three weeks ago. Thank you for your support and vigilence."

Well Done

“Investigators **Sonya Bush and Annie Johnson** have been absolutely wonderful in working with my case. I can’t thank them enough for everything that they have done and for all the hard work that they have put in.”

“My family is currently going through a nightmare [due to a crime against their daughter]. Hundreds of questions went through our minds. Actions that we would never contemplate raced through our heads. Many of these thoughts, questions, and emotions were not to be calmed if it were not for **Investigator Sonya Bush**. She has literally been our family’s savior. Her passion, compassion, intelligence, and perseverance in this matter has helped us through this hell. She is the ray of light, we needed and our family will always be indebted to her.”

“I would like to commend **Office Mike Malafronte** for his handling of an automobile accident involving my son on Monday, March 2nd. My son had never been involved in an accident and he was quite upset. Officer Malafronte was patient and kind. He spoke with our son and then also patiently spoke with me and my husband when we arrived on the scene. He even assisted with the damaged vehicle. Many, many thanks to Office Malafronte.”

“I just wanted to take the opportunity to commend **Investigator Robert Grasso** of TPD for his ongoing service and dedication to the city of Tallahassee in general. My wife and I were recently victims of a burglary and her purse was stolen. Investigator Grasso took the time out of his day to walk the area of the burglary with me and make it his personal objective to help my family recover from the crime. Thank you for employing “good cops” and thank you for keeping our city safe. Keep up the good work.”

“I had an attempted burglary at my home last night and the police officers responded promptly and were extremely thorough. The main officers assigned to my case were **Scherri Bryant** and **Michael Petroczyk**, but every single officer was friendly and helpful. Thank you all.”

“My husband is Carl Davis, who was killed in the motorcycle accident on the 14th of

January. [**Sgt. Rhonda Scott and Victim Advocate Fawnisha Brown**] were the ones that came to my house to tell me. I know it was God who sent [them] as [they] both were wonderful. I wanted to thank you so much for your sweet disposition in a trying time. To have two caring people to tell me he was gone was a comfort. I know you all have training but I also know a gentle, caring heart that goes beyond “duty”. For that I am thankful. So very thankful. I can still remember the concern in your eyes and your gentle touch. Both of you.”

Because of my own stupidity my car was burglarized. There was not much dollar value, but the loss of my wallet is going to be a real pain to replace. I realized there was no hope of recovery, but I wanted to report it so I could have a police report to make replacing my ID easier. I called TPD through the regular phone line (not 911). **Public Safety Communications Operator Linda Plante** was courteous, helpful and tried to apply a positive spin to the situation so I was not feeling so stupid in leaving my car unlocked. **Officer Mauricio Endara** responded to the scene. He was courteous, professional and got right to the point. My situation was not a life emergency or a major theft, but I did appreciate the way TPD responded. It is too easy to complain, and sometimes we fail to appreciate the simple idea of someone doing his or her job. Thank you.

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Utility’s Shining Stars

Joanne McInerney, Code Ambassador (nominated by her supervisor Jim Longhurst), **Kelley Edwards**, Code Magistrate Coordinator (nominated by Lashering Word), and **Debbie Cook**, Customer Service Aide (nominated by Dawn W. Spearman).

§ § § § §

Traffic is Tops

In 2005 I had serious eye disease such that I had to walk, rather than drive, from home in San Luis Ridge to FSU. But I could not see the traffic light to cross W. Tenn. St. safely.

I contacted the city traffic safety, and **Wayne Bryan** responded. He and a colleague actually walked with me the mile from home to W. Tenn. St. and saw that an audible signal should be installed. It was, immediately. I was impressed.

The eye has since been successfully treated, and my vision is now only affected with some natural red-green color blindness. I drive daily across town to visit my wife, who is an Alzheimer's resident at Clare Bridge. At the Miccosukee & Blair Stone Road intersection, however, because of the way the traffic signal was mounted, I could not see its shape, which is as important for me as the color of the red and green lights in it.

I contacted traffic safety again, by an email to no one in particular. Wayne Bryan telephoned me the next day and recognized that I was the same person he helped in 2005. I briefed him on the success of my eye treatment and then discussed the current problem. He ordered a larger back plate to be installed immediately, and now I can see its shape perfectly. I was impressed again, not only for his immediate response but his recall of my earlier eye problem.

The moral of this story is that we have truly able and dedicated people working in the city, working especially hard and effectively now against economic hardships of many kinds.

Sincerely,
John W. Winchester

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Food Drive Success

Thank you to everyone who donated to the City Hall Food Drive [earlier in the spring]. Over 240 lbs. of food were collected. Truly, it is a blessing to give in these

WELL DONE continued on PAGE 10

economic times and to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

Warm Regards,
Equity and Workforce Development

§ § § § §

Solid Waste Cleans Up

My daughters and I live in Jacksonville, FL, but were in Tallahassee the week of March 23rd, assisting my elderly mother with cleaning out her garage. On top of that, her large deep freezer died and was full of smelly food.

I was given **Gary's** name by another waste management area, and contacted him on Tuesday, as we had quite a few bags of rotten food. Gary sent a crew out that afternoon to remove the food, which we had bagged. I just can't thank him enough. He and his crew were so nice and helpful.

On top of that, my parents had accumulated 29+ years of things in their garage. As Tuesday was bulk pick-up day for my mother's area, Gary said the numerous items we put curbside should be picked up. If it wasn't, Gary asked that I call him back on Wednesday, and he would contact the city to let them know they had missed the pick-up. I called Gary on Wednesday, and the day came and went without the bulk pick-up. It was probably a good thing, as we kept adding to the trash pile.

I was going to call Gary on Thursday morning, but before I could call, he sent a truck out at 7:30 a.m. This gentleman was so very helpful, picked everything up with the bucket that he could, then picked up the rest by hand.

We actually needed Gary's help one more time. My daughters and I had emptied the large deep freezer that held the rotten food and were finally able to get it out of the garage, and there was another deep freezer that hadn't worked for years, so we got it out of the garage. Gary walked us through filling out the necessary

paperwork on-line and submitting, confirmed our submission, and then had someone come and pick them both up. WOW! I thought we would have to wait two more weeks, and my mother would have to get someone else to remove the freezers - just more stress for her.

Through this whole stressful experience, Gary was helpful beyond his job requirements and most polite. He understood our problems and took care of them.

Thank you.
Kate

§ § § § §

Public Works Employees There When You Need Them

I needed to let you know about the outstanding job three PW employees did around lunch today. **Freddie Dowgell, Tracy Johnson and Scottie Brockman** were working near the intersection of Georgia and Bronough (sidewalk construction I think). I was traveling south on the road when a three-car accident happened in front of me at the intersection. You would be proud of the example these three men set. They stopped what they were doing and immediately checked on those involved with the accident. They helped slow traffic until emergency services arrived. They were friendly, attentive and most assuredly went above and beyond. While I thanked them in person, please pass this along to them as well because, in my opinion, they could not have been better representatives of the City of Tallahassee and Public Works.

Appreciated,
Lizzy

§ § § § §

Water Resources Engineering's Customer Service Stands Out

A tip of the hat to **Brian Berry, Bruce Kessler, Tiffany Swanson and Mary Ann Walsh**, with Water Resources

Engineering, who received high praise from one of their customers.

Thank you for your hospitality. It's not often I find city utility/public works department [that are] so friendly and helpful to a contractor. It is my experience that you guys are the experts and wealth of knowledge in utility installation that go beyond the spec books. I hope you don't mind if I call upon your expertise when I am working in Tallahassee to be sure we live up to your standards.

Thank You!
Tom Unger

Anniversaries

In March, 180 employees who had attained 20 years of service were honored. While they have already celebrated, let's give them another big hand for their many years of dedicated service. The **Service Appreciation honorees** for the years 2007-2008 are listed below by department.

Aviation

Larry Williams

City Commission

Debbie Lightsey

Communications

Bill Behenna

Customer Services

Delores Downing

Economic and Community Development

Benjamin Harris

Wanda Milton-Whitehead

Electric Utility

Larry Allen

Gary Brinkworth

Pamela Butler

Paul DeFrank

James DeLong

Tina Drose

Ricky Gennie

Oliver Griffin, Jr.

Kenneth Johnson

Kenneth Mock

Harry Savage

Jeffrey Speight

Kevin Wailes

Energy Services

Kenneth Hochstetler

Tony McIntosh

Bob Seaton

Executive Services

Hodges Collins

Rick Fernandez

Eve Williams

Fire

Cindy Dick

John Dilks

David Dowdy

William Fox

Michael Frazier

David Scott Henderson

Randall McCoy

George Mohr

Robert Obernier

Roger Rankin

Thomas Reece, Jr.

Chris Thurman

John Tuttle

Kermit Washington

Fleet Management

Sid Brim

Jennifer Dix

Kevin McAllister

Growth Management

Dwight Arnold

Tony Barber

Glenn Berman

Douglas Moore

June O'Meara

Maria Rodriguez

Bobby Shields

Kelii Smith-Franklin

Human Resources

Sallie Bennett

Dietrich Simmons

Information Systems Services

Donald Battle

William Cavanaugh

Mark Daughtry

Michael Pape

Management and Administration

Nevelda Austin

George Bentley

Cathy Renee Davis

Latrenda Denise Johnson

Joseph Love

Vernessa McMillon

Mayank Shah

Valerie Stanley

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs

Daniel Arrant

Michael Ethridge

Dan Farrar

Jeanette Francis

John Govans

Clinton Gurley

Julia Kuhnle

Alex Lewis

Horace Manning

Conrad Norton, Jr.

Howard Stephens

Lindsey Stokes

Roderick Williams

William Zimmer

Planning

Frank Dietrich

Police

David Aldridge

Frank Arias

Gregory Armstrong

John Beeman

Michael Blackburn

Daniel Buie

Tracy Case

Brian Davis

Roberto DiGonzalez

Elizabeth Dillon

David Folsom

Edward Forsberg

Michelle Gaines

Annette Garrett

Michael Goldwich

Eric Halvorsen

Barbara Hampton

Jon Hoover

Lewis Johnson, Jr.

Cathy Kennedy

Woodrow Kerce, II

Glen King

Reginald Lawyer

Samuel Martin

Steven Outlaw

Janet Pagels

Charles Perry

Linda Plante

John Pretti

Dewey Riou

Glenn Sapp

David Sims

Glenn Skaarhaug

Audrey Smith

Cheryl Stewart

Christopher Summers

Kenneth Sumpter

Sherry Thompson

Marvin Tubbs

Michael Walker

Lawana Washington

Taltha White

Michael Womble

Robert Woodard

ANNIV continued on PAGE 12

Anniversaries

Service Appreciation Honorees, continued

ANNIV continued from PAGE 11

Public Works

Harry Brockman
Brent Elofson
Charlotte Justice
James Kirkland
William Lee
Howard McNeil
Khosrow Rajabi
Alvin Reese
Earnest Robinson
Joy Strickland
Kenneth Timmons
Kenneth Wade
Kenneth Watts
Myron Watts

Solid Waste

James Baker
William Bozeman
Julia Dupree
Gregory Hunter
Sterling Peters

StarMetro

James Colbert
John George
Richard Hudson
Eddie Lee
Connell Leonard

Treasurer-Clerk's Office

Melissa Hinton

Underground Utilities

Henry Blocker
Sylvester Brown
Everett Arnold Cheshire
Andrew Davis
Claude Davis
Curtis Davis
Craig Dough
Clarence Goeke
Dwayne Alonzo Graham, Sr.
Riley Harvey
Antonio Hayes
Darryll Jones
Troy Kinsey

Dawson Leggett, Jr.,
James McCullers
Elvis McMillian
Julia Murry
Jim Oskowis
John Randall Ouzts
Henry Pride, Jr.
Patricia Tynes Reeves
Warren Shepherd, Sr.
John Snelling
Janice Sperry
Douglas Strickland
Medhat "Mike" Tadros
Glen Vickers

Utility Business and Customer Services

June Bright
Michael Cronan
Debra Fleetwood
Carol Johnson
Westley Powell
Catherine Slappey
Neil Wild

Anniversaries

5 Years

April Akers – Water
Cleveland Allen – Police
Joseph Anderson – Fire
John Ash – DMA
Stephanie Bacus – StarMetro
Randy Barr – Police
Marceen Marie Beane – Police
Peter Bolton – Aviation
Timothy Bruce – Police
Aubrey Carroll – Water
David Dawane Carter – Public Works
Angel Charlton – Treasurer-Clerk
Jeffrey Clark – Gas
Gail Copeland – Public Works
James Couch – Police
Christopher Davis – Electric
Tracy Davis – Parks & Recreation
Cory Dupree – Water
Laura Antonia Gereg – Police
Kevin Glassner – Fire
Willie Harrell – StarMetro

Melinda Helsel – Police
Sir'Teria Henderson – Code Enforcement
Vernon Henderson – Police
Angela Hendrieth – Equity and Workforce Development
Alvin Herring – Public Works
Rhonda Hubbard – ISS
Steven Johnson – Utility Accounts
Darin Kimberl – Animal Control
Steve Krzeminski – Water
Jordan Lynn Larremore – Police
Eugene Maxwell – Solid Waste
Toni McDonald – Parks & Recreation
Roderick McKnight – Solid Waste
Shenika Jefferson McNear – NCS
Christopher Meeks – Fire
Silas Morgan – Public Works
Jeffery Peacock – Electric
Duwayne Peart – Solid Waste
Michael Peters – Utility Accounts

Jason Pittinger – Fire
Janet Svoboda Shepard – Fire
Tynetta Smith – Parks & Recreation
Hazem Tamimi – EPER
Dazzree Thomas – Equity and Workforce Development
Jessica Thompson – Police
Gregory Tucker – Police
Ralph Wilder – StarMetro
Zetra Wyche – StarMetro

10 Years

Kevin Allen – Public Works
Hassam Ameen – Gas
John Barrett – Electric
Darrell Begault – Police
Harold Berentsen – Police
Lawrence Borneman – Parks & Recreation
David Bostic – Public Works
Frank Brannon – Police

Anniversaries

10 Years continued

Garel Branton – Electric
Beth Breier – Auditing
Kericke Cox – Electric
Julian Dodson – Growth Management
Randolph Gainer – Electric
Daryl Garmon – StarMetro
Kimberley Anne Gilmore – Treasurer-Clerk
Calvin Harden – Public Works
Scott Heath – Police
Sterling Hollingsworth – Police
Paul Hudson – Solid Waste
Helen Ash Ible – Aviation
Glover Knight – Public Works
Diedra Lane – Sewer
Jeff Mahoney – Police
Greggory Marini – Fire
Adam Miller – Police
Andrew Miller – Water
Wendell Moore – Solid Waste
Ernest Lee Proctor – Water
James Quillin – Electric
Edwin Rodriguez – DMA
Craig Carl Roloff – Water
David Tidwell – Electric
Johnny Walker – Police
Willie Walker – Solid Waste

15 Years

James Allen – Fire
Dora Ammons – StarMetro
Sharon Arnold – Utility Accounts
Keith Ash – Gas
Karl Bauer – Electric
Laura Brown – Aviation
Susan Butler – Sewer
Michael Cooper – Parks & Recreation
Jason Cromartie – Water
Ruth Ann Divine – City Commission
Colleen Dorsey – Public Works
Wesley Flemming – Aviation
Samuel Gereg – Police
Jimmy Delane Hamrick – Water
Jamin Keillor – Parks & Recreation
William Lease – HR
Timothy Lefstead – Facilities Management
Gregory Lewis – Electric
Mark Lewis – Police
Kenny Lockwood – Growth Management
John Mcphaul – DMA
James Metcalf – Electric
David Odom – Police
Ashante Petties – Fire
Marcia Rodriguez – Police
Michael Seagraves – ISS
Rita Stevens – DMA
Lester Thomas – Public Works

Robert Tredik – Growth Management
Patrick Twyman – DMA
Terry Walker – Public Works
Hosea Washington – StarMetro
Willie Washington – StarMetro

20 Years

Alvin Anderson – Police
David Bell – Police
Thomas Bly – Public Works
John Buss – Stormwater Management
Vincent Capece – Homeland Security
Glen Carmichael – Water
Tony Coring – Public Works
Clifford Davis – Fire
Michael Dunn – Electric
Ralph Ferrell – Fire
Kevin Gainous – Electric
Edward Gardner – Parks & Recreations
Gordon Hansen – Growth Management
Ricky Highsmith – Police
James Hunter – Public Works
Elahe Isfahani – Electric
Craig Isom – Police
Clydie Marie Jeter – Customer Account Services
Marion Johnson – Police
Roy Kelly – Fire
Roscoe Alan Langston – Electric
Kirk Lavine – Gas
Debbie Lightsey – City Commission
Robert Mccown – Fire
Pamela Mccullers – Energy Services
Kimberly Meeks – Energy Services
Martin Mulrennan – Police
John Newland – Police
David Nichols – Water
Shari Ratcliff-Moody – Police
Nathan Reynolds – Solid Waste
Jimmy Rose – Public Works
Hugo Sabari – Electric
Rhonda Scott – Police
Gary Sessions – ISS
Gary Steinberg – Police
Robert Lee Stephens – Water
Sheri Tatum – Police
Richard Taylor – Police
William Timmons – Fire
Richard Tryon – Fire
Myra Washington – Treasurer-Clerk
Dwight Watson – Parks & Recreation
Howard Williams – Fire
Samuel Winton – Police
Peter Zulinke – Parks & Recreation

25 Years

Mary Anderson – Police

Merritt Cleve Atchley – Public Works
Joan Austin – DMA
Bryan Barfield – Water
David Britt – Cemeteries
Eddy Carswell – Public Works
Jeffery Connell – Water
Randolph Douglas – Electric
Janice Elyea – Utility Services
Jeffrey Grantham – Utility Accounts
Johnny Gregory – StarMetro
Richard Griner – Public Works
Victoria Hall – StarMetro
Jeffery Harris – Water
Carol Hendrix – Police
Charles Hubbard – Real Estate
Leroy James – Fire
Robert Tracy Lee – Sewer
Kathy McBride – Fire
Curtis Norton – Police
Victor Pickles – Electric
Randall Rafnel – Fire
Kenneth Smith – StarMetro
Michael Vroegop – Fire
Frank Walker – Public Works
Stephen Walker – Water
Roney Wyche – Police

30 Years

Samuel Akins – Solid Waste
Jo Ellis Chambers – DMA
Freddie Dowdell – Public Works
Frederick Dressel – Water
Rufus Alan Graddy – Fire
Stephanie Hammelman – Utility Accounts
Ambrose Holley – Water
Daniel Johnson – Water
James Langston – Electric
Ozair Mohammad – Electric
Alvin Pye – Public Works
Triveni Singh – Electric
Samuel Lee Tucker – Solid Waste
Margaret Ward – Sewer
Kenneth John Will – Sewer
Shirley Wilson – Customer Account Services

More Than 30 Years

Roger Allen – Electric
Stephen Ashmore – Electric
Ken Austin – Aviation
Eli Bryant – NCS
Freddie Clayton – Water
Dorothy Gaskin – Customer Account Services
Jean Gregory – Planning

Anniversaries

More Than 30 Years continued

- Brenda Hall – DMA
- Dorothy Henderson – Treasurer-Clerk
- Helen Johnston – Parks & Recreation
- Bobby Matthews – Utility Accounts
- Donald Moore – Water
- Joe Gerry Perry – Gas
- Thomas Printy – Sewer
- Kenneth Strong – Electric
- Joe Thomas – Parks & Recreation
- S.W.Walker – Solid Waste
- Joseph Ward – Public Works



Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Tallahassee Firefighter Style

By **Travis Oaks**

You could feel the passion in his voice as Conrad Rickett asked for our help. “If you will help us, we will make a dream come true,” he said.

I stood that day with nearly 30 people from across this community in that small, cramped dining area. I found myself overwhelmed by the situation this family faced. I am not sure that any of us in that room understood what it would take to fulfill that dream, but the resounding answer was “Yes, we will make this happen.”

Within a few weeks of the build, some of our key personnel went to work. These dedicated firefighters gathered names for volunteers, as well as worked out schedules of when these folks could work. A few weeks later, we were standing

on the lawn in front of the old house watching while it was demolished. Over the next five days, I was able to witness a miracle that would change all of our hearts forever.

Organized chaos is the best description that I have found regarding the work that took place during this build. Tallahassee Firefighters joined hundreds of other volunteers in the effort to build this home for a family so deserving. Over 40 Tallahassee Firefighters responded to the need of this family with some working daily shifts. Some of these firefighters were skilled labor, while some completed other jobs such as carrying boards or cleaning up after a job was complete.

A few days ago, I decided to take a ride to the Kadzis family home, and wow, what a site it is. The only hint

that anything out of the ordinary took place there was a small sign that read, “No tours please.” It was a peaceful and quiet scene that wouldn’t make the national airing of the Extreme Makeover: Home Edition show. It was a family and a home, which are just the things that dreams are made of.

All of us who had the honor of being a small part of this event came in with our heads held high. Proud of who we are as an organization and as firefighters. However, at the end of the day our heads sank a little with humility as we all walked away with a sense of community and grateful hearts. Thank you Kadzis family for letting us open our hearts and allowing us to see what we can accomplish when a miracle is needed.



Firefighters volunteer their expertise during the EMHE build.



Some TFD employees took part in the Braveheart March as well as the build itself.

Images From Around the City



Nate McMillian (left) and Timothy Brown (right) drove buses for the free shuttle service during the EMHE build. They helped move over 1200 people and received many thanks from riders.



Richard Sisco of Public Works gave up part of his time off to sweep the street several times for the Extreme Makeover: Home Edition buildshow.



A sign for those at the volunteer tent at the EMHE build site.



City Manager Anita Favors Thompson and Mayor John Marks help cut the ribbon for the new Kerry Forest Parkway Extension.



Mike Scheiner with Public Works at the grand opening of the new Kerry Forest Parkway Extension.



Over 100 citizens attended the first open house event for the Gaines Street project.



Roxanne Manning with Planning answers questions about the project.



Andrea Griffin with Neighborhood Services and Delores Downing with the City Manager's office worked the sign-in/information table at the event.



Brian Berry with Water Resources Engineering lays out plans for Gaines Street.



Gabe Menendez with Public Works talks to citizens during an open house event for the Gaines Street project.



Rick McCraw with CRA goes over plans for the project.



Brian Fisher with Electric Power Engineering mans his station during the open house.