

CITY WORKS



NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE

New Greenways Crew Logs its 1st Year: 'I've Got the Best Job in the City'

It's been about a year since the City's Greenways Service Crew began its work. Mayor Rogero announced the formation of the crew in December 2016 at the future site of an extension to Mary Vestal Greenway that the crew would soon build.

"When we started out, it was an unknown, and we struggled to get people interested in being on the crew," said Dwayne Miley, Foreman. "But now that people see what we do, I have people asking me all the time if there's an opening."



Mayor Rogero walks with the Greenways Crew along the new Charter Doyle Greenway Extension

"We get to do important work and meet great people on the trails. We even know the frequent dogs by name. I've lost 20 pounds, and I think I've got the best job in the City!"

The Greenways Service Crew is responsible for construction of new greenways and soft surface trails. It also maintains the existing system, including resurfacing projects, small construction projects, fallen tree removal, leaf blowing in the fall, greenway prep before fundraiser races, and various horticulture efforts.

The crew also uses bicycles to scout issues in remote portions of trails before bringing in the heavy-duty equipment to make repairs.

"This is a job that's ever-evolving, and we're never looking for work," said Josh Roberts, Construction Manager who manages the Greenways Service Crew and seven other construction crews in the Public Service Department. "There's always something for our guys on the Greenways Crew to do as the trail system continues to grow."



GREENWAYS SERVICE CREW

- Dwayne Miley – Greenways Service Crew Foreman
- Katina Bradley – Public Service Worker II
- Benny Jordan – Equipment Operator I
- Josh LeClair – Construction Worker
- Soon to be Advertised – Equipment Operator

In the last year, the Greenways Service Crew itself has added nearly two miles to the City's greenways and trails system.

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www.knoxvilletn.gov

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

10 YEARS

Nicholas Dwayne Miley
Tracy Wayne McFarland
Brian Craig Evans
Keith John Hogue

15 YEARS

Barry Alan Austin
Robert S. French
Nikki Crutcher
Lauren Hampton Earles

See Greenways Crew Page 4

Mayor's Message



Mayor Madeline Rogero

Welcome to the latest edition of City Works! As we enter the closing months of winter, I want to give a special thanks to all of our Public Service, Police, Fire and KAT employees who have helped keep everyone safe during severe weather this season. We received many compliments on the condition of our roadways and our rapid response to emergencies throughout those cold days. Those are the situations where our constituents really count on us to provide essential services, and I am always proud of the way City of Knoxville employees step up and get the job done.

In this edition, you can read about our new Greenways Service Crew and everything they've accomplished in their first year. You can meet KPD Officer Garrett Fontanez, who has been recognized twice as Officer of the Month – and find out what he really thinks of Steven Seagal! You can also find news and notes about many of our departments, including a new arrival in the Office of Sustainability.

Thank you again for everything you all do for our city.

Follow the Mayor:

-  [Facebook.com/MayorRogero](https://www.facebook.com/MayorRogero)
-  [Twitter.com/MayorRogero](https://twitter.com/MayorRogero)

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

20 YEARS

Philip William Hatcher
Bridget Johnson Pensa

25 YEARS

David Harrison Jenkins

30 YEARS

Russell Lee Richard

35 YEARS

James L. Price

UPCOMING HEALTH EDUCATION CLASSES

2/6/2018 at 1 p.m., Safety Building Training Room, Life Insurance Strategies with David Topor, SOFA

2/15/2018 at 7:30 a.m., Public Works Complex Community Room, Energy Drinks: What You Need to Know with Ashlee Harb, EP-C, CHC

2/20/2018 at 2:30 p.m., Facilities 3209 Morris Ave., How to Set Attainable Goals with Barbara Foster, RD

2/22/2018 at 11 a.m., City County Building Room 549, Life Insurance Strategies with David Topor, SOFA

3/1/2018 at 11 a.m., Safety Building Training Room, How to Set Attainable Goals with Barbara Foster, RD

3/6/2018 at 7:30 a.m., Public Works Complex Community Room, How to Set Attainable Goals with Barbara Foster, RD

Department News & Notes

'40 UNDER 40'

Congratulations to Clarence L. Vaughn III, Executive Director of the Police Advisory and Review Committee, and Crista Cuccaro, a staff attorney in the City Law Department.

They've been selected by the Knoxville Business Journal as "40 Under 40" honorees.



Clarence L. Vaughn III

FINANCE

For 29 years in a row, the City of Knoxville's Finance Department has been recognized for its commitment to meeting "the highest principles of governmental budgeting" by a leading professional association.



Crista Cuccaro

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the City's Finance Department a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

To receive the GFOA distinction, the City of Knoxville satisfied nationally recognized guidelines designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a means of communications. Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, plus the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

SUSTAINABILITY

Congratulations to Erin and Nick Gill on the birth of their first child, Caroline Burns Gill!

Baby Gill was born at 1:34 a.m. on Dec. 19. She made her world debut at 6 lbs., 15 oz., measuring 20" long.

New mom Erin says Caroline loves looking out windows and is eager to explore the world.

Erin and Nick, from their end, are overjoyed and excited about embarking on the great adventure of parenthood. They so appreciate all the support and good wishes from the City of Knoxville family!

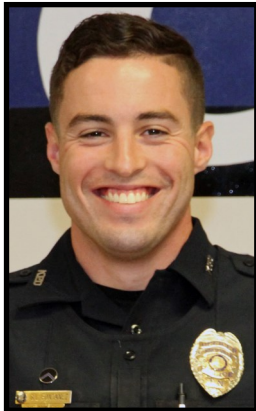


Erin and Nick Gill with baby Caroline

See Department News Page 4

10 Questions with Garrett Fontanez

Police Officer Garrett Fontanez, 27, joined KPD in January 2014 after serving five years in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he helped provide security to commanding generals and to President Obama and foreign dignitaries at Camp David.



Garrett Fontanez
KPD Officer

In 2017, Garrett was a two-time KPD Officer of the Month honoree – once in January for taking the lead in shutting down an opiate ring, and again in August for showing compassion to a 76-year-old woman who'd been victimized by a flimflam thief.

1. Service seems to motivate you. What made you want to be a Marine, and then a police officer?

I made the decision to serve my country during my junior year of high school. I decided early that I wanted to serve in the United States Marine Corps. Simply because it was the toughest branch of service you could enlist in. Ever since I was little, I thrived on two things. The first was to be the best at everything that I do, and the second thing was the natural instinct I felt to help people. Selflessness was engrained into me at a very early age.

2. Congratulations on being honored twice last year as Officer of the Month! Tell us about your work that resulted in the first award, following your undercover work that led to the arrests of the people accused of dealing pills out of a home in Northwest Knoxville.

My beat partners and I responded to a call of an overdose in the Lonsdale community. While on scene, we interviewed the couple that had overdosed, and they gave us questionably credible info of where they obtained the opioids that caused them to overdose. That following week and a half, my partners and I conducted surveillance on the house the couple had told us about that was selling pills out of a side window. Between calls for service, my beat partners and myself literally lied in the bushes of surrounding alley ways to document the illegal activity taking place at the residence. Once our case was strong, and the primary suspects were identified, I put together a TAC plan to take them into custody. About an hour into our operation, the suspects were taken into custody, and approximately \$12,000 worth of illegal narcotics and cash were seized by my

partners and I. Felony and misdemeanor charges were also filed against the two suspects being investigated. Both suspects are still in prison.

3. The second Officer of the Month award was much different. You responded to a complaint by an elderly woman who'd paid to have her grass mowed – and then the man stole her mower, without doing any work. Why did you volunteer to come back on your day off to mow the lady's yard?

On the day I was waived down by the elderly woman who was taken advantage of, I was patrolling the area. When I got out to speak with her, she told me that a few months back, she had paid a stranger to mow her grass. The stranger showed up and left with her lawn mower and money without cutting the grass. She asked if I knew of a company or of someone who could cut her grass for her. Without hesitation, I offered to come over on my off day and cut it for her free of charge. I decided to do this simply because it's the right thing to do. I was raised to respect my elders, and that natural instinct to help someone in need took over. Especially after discovering she had been taken advantage of. That day, I cancelled all of my plans, and spent the day making her yard look as good as I possibly could. My beat partner officer Josh Compton and I returned two more times after that and cut her grass, and plan on doing it again next season if it requires it.

4. Why is it important for KPD officers to develop friendships with residents and business owners in the beats they're assigned to protect and serve?

KPD officers new and old must make developing relationships with the communities, and businesses within those communities, a top priority throughout our daily work load. The only word that comes to mind and is very important to me is "Trust." Building bridges of active communication and engagement with members of the community and local business owners is a win-win situation for everyone. It allows us to more effectively police our communities, and allows the people who live there to have peace of mind throughout their daily routines.

5. Your Camp David assignment when you were in the Marine Corps sounds pretty interesting. Did you ever meet the Obamas, or any world leaders attending the G8 Summit?

While serving in the United States Marine Corps, I was fortunate enough to be selected to be a member on a Presidential security

UPCOMING HEALTH EDUCATION CLASSES

3/8/2018 at 11 a.m., Lakeshore - 1st Floor Conference Room, Quick and Healthy Meals for Busy Families with Mary Rouleau, RD RN

3/13/2018 at 1 p.m., City County Building Room 549, How to Set Attainable Goals with Barbara Foster, RD

3/20/2018 at 11 a.m., Safety Building Training Room, Energy Drinks: What You Need to Know with Ashlee Harb, EP-C, CHC

3/29/2018 at 2 p.m., Public Works Complex Community Room, Quick and Healthy Meals for Busy Families with Mary Rouleau, RD RN

To sign up for classes please visit www.knoxviltn.gov/employees and click on "Class Signup" or call The Center at 215-6150.

FITNESS CLASSES - PUBLIC WORKS SERVICE CENTER

TUESDAYS

1:00 PM Line Dancing w / Kathy, \$10 month/\$3 class

Classes at Morris Ave. are held in Zone 1 Room or Community Room. Classes are subject to change, please call 215-2111 to verify schedule.

Greenways Crew, from Page 1

Both Roberts and Miley named the Charter Doyle Greenway extension as their favorite project so far. The extension connects Charter Doyle Park to Mooreland Heights Elementary. The project was used as a training session for the crew, with a professional trail builder to teach them more complicated techniques, such as erosion prevention.



Mayor Rogero sits with the Greenways Service crew on a bench fashioned from a fallen cedar tree. (Front, left to right: Benny Jordan, Mayor Rogero, Dwayne Miley; back, left to right: Katina Bradley and Josh Roberts)

A ribbon-cutting was held for the extension in the fall. The crew gave Mayor Rogero and some of her senior staff a tour of the new amenity. They posed for a photo with the Mayor on a bench they had fashioned from a fallen tree and introduced her to the gravesite of Revolutionary War soldier John Doyle. The greenway extension improved accessibility to the gravesite, which was previously unknown to many residents in the area.



In addition to new construction, the crew has also completed 60 repair or improvement projects since it began its work. Repair projects

range from reinforcing an area under a greenway that tends to wash out, to patching an area affected by tree roots, to overhauling deteriorating bridges. The crew's to-do list is long and varied.

THE FLEET

- 2 pickup trucks
- 1 dump truck
- 1 all-wheel-drive mule
- 1 mini-skid steer
- 1 wood chipper
- 2 bicycles

"The Greenways Service Crew has just done an awesome job," said Tim Hester, Parks and Greenways Coordinator in the Parks and Recreation Department. "Their presence has given us a lot more flexibility and ensured opportunities for our trail system to grow."

In fact, the Greenways Service Crew has proved to be so essential that two more positions have been added, doubling the labor of the crew. A new Construction Worker, Josh LeClair, started in January, and an Equipment Operator position will be filled just in time for the busy spring season.

In the meantime, Benny Jordan and Katina Bradley have gone above and beyond to make the team a success, even with limited staffing.

"Jordan has operated every piece of equipment required to make progress on greenway construction," Miley said.

The crew's sophomore members seem to be benefiting from their new work. Miley said that one of the crew members had a recent medical checkup, and the doctor's response was, "Whatever you've changed, keep it up!"

Miley himself has purchased his own mountain bike and spends his spare time traversing the trails.

"I absolutely love it," Miley said. "I just want to thank everybody who put the Greenways Crew together."

- Kathleen Gibi

COMPLETED SINCE 2017

New:

- Mary Vestal Greenway extension
- Botanical Garden Trail extension
- Baker Creek Forest Trail
- Charter Doyle Greenway extension
- Sam Duff Greenway extension
- Zaezion Dobson Trail

Repaved:

- Turkey Creek Greenway
- Third Creek Greenway

FITNESS CLASSES - CITY COUNTY BUILDING

MONDAYS

- 12:00 PM Body Strengthening w/Kent - FREE
- 1:00 PM Line Dancing Aerobics w/Kathy \$10 month/\$3 class
- 3:00 PM Open Group Class DVD - FREE
- 4:40 PM POUND® Class w/Ginger

TUESDAYS

- 12:30 PM Vinyasa Flow Yoga w/Leslie - \$8
- 1:30 PM Group Class Biggest Loser DVD - Free
- 3:00 PM Group Class 21 Day Fix DVD - FREE
- 4:00 PM Vinyasa Flow Yoga w/Leslie - \$8

WEDNESDAYS

- 11:30 AM Open Group Class DVD w/ Carol - FREE
- 12:30 PM One-on-One Thai Yoga w/Leslie \$25 per 40 min.
- 1:30 PM Group Class Biggest Loser DVD - Free
- 3:00 PM Group Class 21 Day Fix DVD - FREE
- 4:40 PM POUND® Class w/Ginger

THURSDAYS

- 11:30 AM Open Group Class DVD w/Carol - FREE
- 12:30 PM One-on-One Thai Yoga w/Leslie \$25 per 40 min. Session
- 1:30 PM One-on-One Thai Yoga w/Leslie \$25 per 40 min. Session
- 3:00 PM Open Group Class DVD - FREE

Winter Safety Tips from Risk Management

There are some winter dangers – including hypothermia and power lines downed by ice and snow. And how should you protect yourself if you're working or exercising outdoors?

The basics

- Dress in layers. Wool blends or silk make a good base layer and hold heat better than cotton.
- Keep in mind that stop-and-go activities, such as mixing walking with running, can make you more vulnerable to the cold.
- If it is dark when you exercise outside, wear reflective clothing.

Hypothermia

- Hypothermia often occurs at very cold temperatures, but can occur at cool temperatures (above 40°F), if a person is wet (from rain, sweat or cold water) and becomes chilled.
- This makes hypothermia especially dangerous, because a person may not know that it's happening and will not be able to do anything about it.
- Do not ignore shivering. It is an important first sign that the body is losing heat. Persistent shivering is a signal to return indoors.

Know the signs

- Adults: shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, and drowsiness.
- Children: bright red cold skin, very low energy, uncontrollable shivering, and confusion.
- If a person's temperature is below 95° – get medical attention immediately.

First aid for hypothermia

- Get the victim into a warm room or shelter.
- Warm the center of the body first – chest, neck and head.
- Warm beverages can help increase body temperature, but do not give alcoholic beverages.
- Do not give fluids to an unconscious person.

Electrical safety

Power outage or downed lines

- If the electrical power is out for less than 4 hours, then the food in your refrigerator and freezer will be safe to consume.
- Keep family members and pets away from downed electrical lines.
- If you believe someone has made contact with an electrical power source: Look first. Do not touch.
- Turn off the source of electricity if possible. If not, move the source away from you and the affected person using a non-conducting object made of cardboard, plastic or wood.
- If a power line falls on a car, you should stay inside the vehicle and call 911.
- Warn people not to touch the car.
- The only circumstance in which you should consider leaving a car that is in contact with a downed power line is if the vehicle catches on fire.
- If the car is on fire, open the door, jump free of the car so that your body clears the vehicle before touching the ground; do not return to or touch the car. Once you clear the car, shuffle at least 50 feet away, with both feet on the ground. Do not use water to extinguish a grease fire – instead, douse the fire with baking soda.

Remember: Everyone is a risk manager!

FITNESS CLASSES - CITY COUNTY BUILDING

FRIDAYS

- 11:00 AM One-on-One Thai Yoga w/ Leslie \$25 per 40 min.
- 12:00 PM Vinyasa Flow Yoga w/Tiny - FREE
- 1:00 PM Group Class Biggest Loser DVD - Free
- 3:00 PM Open Group Class DVD - FREE

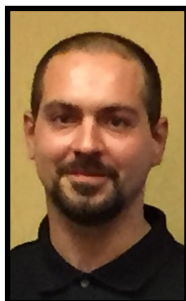
All classes are at City County Building in Room L217. Classes are subject to change, please call 215-2111

Department News, from Page 2

FLEET SERVICES

Two employees in the Fleet Services Department were recognized with state awards at the Tennessee Chapter of American Public Works Association (TCAPWA) annual state conference.

Sam Daily, a Master Equipment Technician for the City, was selected for the Award of Merit, which recognizes public works employees at the operations level who "perform their responsibilities in an exceptionally efficient and courteous manner."



Sam Daily

Nicholas Bradshaw, Deputy Director of Fleet Services and a City employee since 2009, was named the 2017 Roger Clark Award recipient by the TCAPWA. The award recognizes public works professionals' dedication to the TCAPWA.



Nick Bradshaw

10 Questions, from Page 3

team for a portion of my career. During this time, I spent a year and a half in Washington, D.C., protecting the commanding generals of the United States Marine Corps. And their families. After serving my time there, I was relocated to presidential retreat Camp David to provide personal protection for President Obama and the First Family. While there, we got very acquainted with the President and his family. I was also present for the 38th G8 Summit meeting, which was held at Camp David. During that time, I was assigned to provide personal protection for several different foreign world leaders.

6. Your mother, Becky Kriesa, has worked 18 years in KPD's administrative office.

Growing up, was she a professional role model to you as you began considering police work as a career?

During my childhood, my mom, Becky, was a huge role model of mine. I have to give her the credit for the way she raised me. She taught me selflessness and integrity. She also designed and calibrated the moral compass that lies within me that has led me to be the man that I am today. I couldn't have done it without her. I love you, Mom!

7. What do you enjoy doing when you're not in uniform?

While not in uniform, my favorite thing to do off duty by far here lately has been spending time with my beautiful girlfriend working on projects, and transforming the guest bedroom into a nursery for the soon-to-be newest member of our family! My other hobbies include going to the gym, hiking, and going to the gun range. I'm also an avid collector of many, many tattoos. To me there is no better therapy on the planet!

8. You mentioned hiking. Do you have a favorite trail – either here in Knoxville or in the Great Smokies?

When it comes to hiking, it doesn't get much better than climbing up House Mountain if you feel like staying local to Knoxville! If you're looking for a challenging day in the Great Smoky Mountains, I would highly recommend taking a hike up to the Chimney Tops or Clingmans Dome!

9. If you get a free weekend night in Knoxville – where's your favorite place to hang out?

When it comes to evenings off work, especially on a Saturday night, my favorite thing to do by far is have a very relaxing night at home with my girlfriend and our two dogs. You can't really beat spending time with loved ones and sharing amazing food while binge watching random shows on Netflix. When we do go out, Market Square is the place to be!

10. Hollywood makes lots of movies and TV shows about police work. What's the most realistic movie you've seen? What's the worst one ever?

Officer Fontanez with his mother Becky Kriesa, Mayor Madeline Rogero and Police Chief David Rausch

The best movie I've seen when it comes to relating to police work has to be "End of Watch." The reason this is my favorite cop movie is it displays the special bond that police officers form with each other as partners. The worst movie has to be any cop movie with Steven Seagal. Why? Because it's Steven Seagal.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT INFO

If you have a story idea or an employee you would like to see interviewed for

10 Questions please contact:

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