

CITY

March 2006

Volume 11 Issue 3

WELCOME

NEW EMPLOYEES

Laura Bowers, City Manager
 Anthony Boyers, ECC
 Susan Corbin, HPD
 Brittany Dean, ECC
 Elizabeth Knutsen, Tourism
 Chris Lantz, HFD
 Sam Long, Public Works
 Calvin Pierce, Transit
 Reginald Pollard, Public Works
 David Sager, ECC
 Melissa Wade, Finance



FORE!!!

Golfers, would you like the option to have the cost of membership to Heritage Oaks Golf Course deducted automatically from your paycheck?

Please contact Laura Bowers in the City Manager's Office if this is an option you would like to see!!! Call 432-7701, or email, laurab@ci.harrisonburg.va.us.

NEWS BY, FOR AND ABOUT
 CITY OF HARRISONBURG
 EMPLOYEES

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

With the arrival of March we greet another spring in our beautiful City and Valley.

As the flowers begin to bloom and the sun stays with us longer, it's time to think about how we interact with our surroundings. Many of us spend the majority of our lives in the City of Harrisonburg. Because we work here, we interact daily with the people we serve and the community we are a part of. Sometimes repetition does not breed familiarity so much as it does apathy.

I encourage you to look for new ways to get involved in the life of the City. What can you do to be more engaged? Maybe it is as simple as taking a walk every afternoon and watching the subtle changes of light with a friend or loved one. Maybe there is a civic group you would like to get more involved in. Maybe your enthusiasm reaches beyond our City boundaries and you would like to spend more time in the great outdoors.

While the number of tourists visiting the Commonwealth of Virginia is falling, the number of people stopping to visit us in Harrisonburg is on the rise. Take some time to explore those parts of our region that you may have been putting off. There are hundreds of things to do in our own backyard. It makes sense for us to remember the unique attributes that bring people to visit us and keep us here. Find something in our vicinity that you have never noticed, or remember something that you may have forgotten.

It is easy to overlook opportunity for adventure and growth in our daily lives. This spring, let us all make the effort to move beyond our comfort zone and find something that fills our lives with joy.

Roger D. Baker
 City Manager



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Is there something you would like to see in City Connection?

Please contact any Newsletter Team Member or Miriam Dickler in the City Manager's Office, 432-7701 or miriamd@ci.harrisonburg.va.us.

CONNECTION

The Tour of Shenandoah Returns
 Tuesday April 25th
 in Downtown Harrisonburg



Mobile Mammography Van
 Harrisonburg City Health Fair

- 3:30 Race staff/RV arrives and venue sets up at finish line
- 4:30 Race announcers and medical staff arrives
- 5:15 **Begin Street closures**
- 5:30 **Complete street closures, course marshals disperse to posts**
- 6 p.m. **RACE STARTS**
- 7 p.m. **Race Finish**
- 7:10 **Awards**
- 7:30 **Break down**



The race will follow the same route as last year, which means that both Main and Liberty Streets will be closed. The streets will be open in time for the evening's City Council Meeting....

Go enjoy the race!!


A breast x-ray, known as a mammogram, is the best way to find cancer in its earliest stages-- up to two years before it can be felt. If breast cancer is detected early, 90% of women can be treated successfully!
 All women age 40 or older should have a mammogram every year.

Mark your calendars, the RMH screening mammography mobile unit will be at the Harrisonburg City Health Fair.

Wednesday April 26, 2006

8:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. For more information, or to schedule your appointment, call RMH Women's Health Focus at 540-433-4641 or 800-277-1021.

<u>Fire Responses in January</u> 	
Responses in January	335
YTD Responses	335
Total Fire Loss	\$ 21,010.00
Value of Property Saved	\$ 10,141,100.00

JOBS WELL DONE!!

At 8 a.m. on Sunday February 12, during a snowplowing situation, the street superintendent, Kenny Knight, came upon a 3-4 year old boy walking in the middle of South High Street! He immediately stopped the truck and got the child to the sidewalk. An independent snow removal company was working close by and came over to assist while Kenny called Michele Tracy at Public Works dispatch to contact the authorities. Within thirty minutes the child's safe return back to his home was possible—all due to the fast, caring and appropriate actions taken by all.

A "job well done" is extended to Lt. Steve Morris, FF Dearing, FF Andrew Bauserman, and FF Mason, for their efforts on January 20, 2006. On that date they were able to successfully resuscitate a choking victim and deliver the patient to Rockingham Memorial Hospital with a pulse. The patient was admitted to the Critical Care Unit at RMH.

In Public Transit, Thomas Jalbert, Sonya Myers, Tom Barnes, Ann Yowell and Weldon Strother all earned extra vacation days for using no sick time over the past 12 months!!!

The following have earned extra vacation time for using no sick time consecutively for one year: Firefighter Brian Helmick, Lieutenant Phil Hottel, Lieutenant Zeb Lilly, Lieutenant Jeff Morris, Firefighter Bill Smiley, ECC Technology Coordinator Sam Sencindiver, and Firefighter Morgan McComas.

Assistant Fire Chief Bill Crapo has earned 5 years of service as of 2/12/06.

Nancy Zirk in Public Works has earned extra vacation days for using no sick days in the past year.

Mike Risley at the Resource Recovery Facility has completed another 8 hours of training.

KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!!!

HPD News

The Awards Committee of the Harrisonburg Police Department issued the following awards:

BRONZE VALOR AWARDS

Sgt. Roger Knott and Officer Jason Wyant for their actions to save property while fighting a fire at 620 Norwood Street on 10-8-05.

Officer Arthur Atwood, III for a shooting incident that occurred on 12-12-05.

HONORABLE MENTION VALOR AWARDS

Sgt. Roger Knott, Cpl. J. C. Aderholz, Officer Wesley Campbell, Officer Jason Wyant, and Officer Brian Tusing for a shooting incident that occurred on 12-12-05.

COMMENDATIONS

Officer Shawn Morris for the arrest of a suspect on 10-19-05, who was breaking into parking meters in the downtown area, closing several other cases as well.

Officer Nolan Paul Rodeffer who broke up a fight between two juvenile gang members and one adult male victim they were beating because he was wearing a colored bandana. The juvenile attackers were detained and charged under the gang statute.

Lt. Tom Hoover, Sgt. Rod Pollard, Cpl. Ron Howard, Cpl. Carl Cline, Inv. John Langhans, Officer Greg Deeds, and Officer Chris Shaver for the shooting incident that occurred on 12-12-05.

Congratulations!!



Congratulations to New Grandfather
Richard Lash, Public Works!

His son and daughter-in-law just had
a baby.

Baby-Christian

Born 2/1/06

Weight- 8lbs and 14 ozs.

Length-21"

Parents-Ricky and Brandy

Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 4)- It's been good and it's going to get better. Take some downtime to focus on what you want to do, not what you have to do.

Taurus (April 5-May 21)- You have a big decision to make. Your heart and your head will have to compromise. Don't let the opportunity go.

Gemini (May 22-June 21)- Spring will put a new bounce in the Gemini step. It's a great time to try something new.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)- People close to you are wondering what's gotten into you. It's a time of change and you're well on your way to other things.

Leo (July 23-August 22)- Things aren't always what they seem, but sometimes they are. Don't read too much into the actions of others.

Virgo (August 23-September 23)- Move boldly toward your newer goals, you have a great chance at new and wonderful beginnings.

Libra (September 24-October 23)- Take a deep breath whenever you get stressed out this month. Think before you speak... and before you act!

Scorpio (October 24-November 22)- Stop wondering if you will be right and take the chance. The pay-off is well worth the risk.

Sagittarius (November 23-December 21)- There's another chance for you to make a name for yourself, just be sure it's a name you want.

Capricorn (December 22- January 20)- Things are getting better and better. You may get some surprises, but chances are they'll be good ones.

Aquarius (January 21-February 19)- Don't hesitate because it seems too good to be true. Sometimes, that's how the best things are.

Pisces (February 20-March 30)- Look before you leap this month. You're inclined to roll the dice on a very unlikely chance.

DOG LICENSE REMINDER

Did you know that 39% of U.S. households own a dog and on the average, most of these households own 2 dogs? Given the current population of Harrisonburg, we estimate that there are 10,000 dogs in Harrisonburg!



All cities & counties in Virginia require annual dog licensing. Dog licensing promotes responsible ownership by assuring that the dog is current on its rabies vaccination and that it is being seen by a licensed veterinarian on a regular basis for a health check-up. It also provides animal control with the owner, animal and veterinary information that can be retrieved if the animal is found. The length of time a stray dog is required to be held in a VA pound or shelter also increases by 5 days if the animal can be identified as an owned pet.

A license is required for all dogs 16 weeks of age and over. A current rabies vaccination certificate must be presented and multiple year tags are available. They may be purchased at the City Treasurer's Office and the Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA.

The license tag is required to be on the dog's collar any time it is off its owner's property. Fines for failure to comply can reach \$500 per animal, with a minimum fine of \$100 if the animal has not been spayed or neutered. 2006 tags were due Jan 31. Please check and make sure your dog's tags are current!

Mark Your Calendar

Third Annual Electronics Recycling Day

Date: Saturday, April 29, 2006
Location: JMU Convocation Center Parking Lot
Times: 8 am - 12 pm

Open to ALL – including Students, Residents, and Businesses of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County

ITEMS COLLECTED: Computers, (CPU's and Monitors), VCRs, TVs, DVDs, Cell Phones, Video Game Consoles, Printers, Hair Dryers, Batteries, ETC!

COST: \$10.00 per TV; \$10.00 per commercial size copy machine; \$5.00 per CPU, monitor or combination of the two, all other items \$1.00 each.

The disposal costs help the City/County to offset the price of collecting, organizing, transporting and recycling the electronic materials. The City/County is providing this service to citizens for its environmental and social objectives and is not attempting to make a profit from this endeavor. As the needs of its citizens change, the City/County attempts to provide more opportunities and believes that this event will make a great addition to its current and ever growing recycling program.

WHY? Hazardous materials including lead, mercury, cadmium, and chromium are all present in electronic devices and lead to pollution when not disposed of properly. Computer monitors and television screens using cathode ray tubes are of significant concern as they contain an average four pounds of lead. The leading source of mercury in municipal waste systems has also been found to be from electronics.

For more information regarding electronic recycling, please visit the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Computer and Electronics Recycling page at: <http://www.deq.state.va.us/recycling/homepage.html>

This event is sponsored by: The City of Harrisonburg (www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us)
Rockingham County (www.rockinghamcountyva.gov)
JMU ISAT Department (www.isat.jmu.edu) and
JMU Student Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA) (www.jmu.edu/awma)

Note: For recycling large quantities of electronic items, please call 540/434-5928 or 540/564-3008 for more information.



What's in your wallet?

Do you know what's in your credit report?

With credit scams and identity theft affecting millions of consumers nationwide, it's more important than ever to know what is in your credit file and to act quickly if you notice inaccurate or false information. The Fair Credit Reporting Act, upon request, can provide you with a free copy of your credit report.

How do you find out what is in your credit report? It's as easy as one, two, three:

- 1) You can go online to www.annualcreditreport.com;
- 2) You can call 1-877-322-8228
- 3) Or you can mail a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (found at www.ftc.gov/credit) to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

You'll also have the opportunity to order additional reports for a fee from the credit reporting service, but unless you have or suspect a credit reporting problem, it will make sense for most people to stick with the free reports. The free reports will provide ample information about your credit and will give you the necessary information to know that your credit files are accurate.

What a Difference your Donation Can Make....

Noah Bradley Harper



Noah is the son of Jeff and Crystal Harper and the grandson of our police chief, Col. Don Harper. He was born on July 31, 2005 and spent four months in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) of the University of Utah hospital. He weighed only 1 lb. 14 oz. and was 13 in. long. After many scares and surgeries, he is growing and happy but still struggles with the effects of his very early arrival.



The March of Dimes is dedicated to the cause of infant mortality and prematurity. In past years, city employees have raised money for the March of Dimes through WalkAmerica. This year, the team is changing its name to "Noah's Team" to honor Noah for his brave struggle.

You can help. One way is by joining "Noah's Team" for WalkAmerica on April 22nd. Another way is by donating whatever you can to a team walker. Either way, Deanna Sherman, team captain, would be delighted to hear from you. She can be found in the Commissioner of the Revenue's office or by calling 432-7704. Noah thanks you!



City of Harrisonburg

Featured Department(s)

Finance & Information Technology

The Finance Department is comprised of the Finance division and the Purchasing division.

Finance Division. The Finance division is responsible for the accurate and timely reporting of all financial information for internal and external customers. This includes preparing the City's audited annual financial statements (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report), assisting with the preparation of the City's annual budget and preparing projections for the City's Capital Improvement Program. The Finance division processes all City invoice payments weekly, which entails printing approximately 11,000 checks annually. Finance also processes payroll bi-weekly for approximately 670 employees.

To view the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the last three fiscal years, just visit the Finance Department web page on the City's website: www.harrisonburg.va.us, and click on "Finance Documents." Here you will also find other documents that may be of interest.

Purchasing Division. The Purchasing division is responsible for overseeing and auditing all City purchases and payments for goods and services. Additional responsibilities include preparing purchase orders, maintaining vendor information, serving as risk manager/administrator of the City's comprehensive and liability insurance programs, coordinating telecommunications services and preparing or assisting with the preparation of Requests For Proposals and Invitations to Bid.

The City of Harrisonburg Department of Information Technology (DIT) manages all information resources of the City. Under the direction of department director Paul Malabad DIT works with other departments to improve the government's efficiency through technology, and to make communication with the government straightforward and clear.

On a day-to-day basis DIT is responsible for:

Infrastructure Design and Support - provides design and support of the centralized network that connects all City buildings via underground fiber and wireless connectivity.

Help Desk Services - provides over-the-telephone assistance to City staff on desktop software applications and other centralized software applications (such as Microsoft Word, spreadsheet, database, presentation), electronic mail, and specialized applications. Supports major system applications (i.e., financial, human resources/payroll, on-line payments), desktop hardware and peripherals, central servers, and file server systems.

Web Site and Intranet Support - maintains the City web presence and internal departmental pages. Provides strategies on new technologies with Internet implications, such as online payments.

Training - provides training for desktop software tools and project management.

Enterprise Project Management Services - provides project management for new or enhanced technologies.

Enterprise Licensing Coordination - provides record-keeping and requisition of enterprise licenses for Microsoft, Adobe and other products to ensure compliance with federal copyright laws.

Disaster Recovery Plan - establishes an ongoing effort to ensure that systems and information are backed up in case of disaster events.

Each month City Connection features a different City department. For more information on what departments do, visit the City website at www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us. Featured departments are also highlighted on a bulletin board on the first floor of the Municipal Building during the designated month.

Next Month: Human Resources

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE AND LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS

Answers to Last Month's Puzzle

S	I	S			P	H	I	
U	N	P		T	V	S	E	T
E	D	O		R	A	I	N	S
	I	O	W	A	N			
	C	R	E	D	I	T	S	
			B	U	R	R	O	
A	Z	T	E	C		I	L	L
G	E	N	R	E		O	F	O
E	A	T				S	A	T

Angola
Belarus
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Chad
Chile
China
Congo
Cuba
Cyprus
Egypt
France
Gabon
Ghana
Greece
Haiti
India
Italy
Malta
Monoco





T O S C H I N A B C H X R
U G H A N A A A H E O I E
R F R A N C E A N B N U G
K W T E T G I N E G A I I
E R M O R T B L E L O U N
Y E N E I P A E A D G L U
Y G E U A R I P L A E R A
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E I C P M Y A U A L A A S
P H Y A L N V T O M M N E
A C L A A A A P U O A O G
L T T D L L N D A H C B Y
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O S C C C O N G O F H G T

Nepal
Niger
Palau
Panama
Peru
Poland
Samoa
Sudan
Sweden
Tonga
Turkey
Tuvalu
Uganda
Yemen

Newsletter Team Members

Ruth Craig, Sarah Fairweather,
Karen Musselman, Michele Tracy, Diane Nardi,
Juanita Price, Meki Shifflett, Brenda Black, Vicki Foltz,
J.T. Turner, Teresa Arey,
Jennifer Rhodes, Keith Markel, Miriam Dickler

March 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			National Pig Day 			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					St. Patrick's Day 	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Goof-Off Day 			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
MAKE UP YOUR OWN HOLIDAY DAY						

Birthdays

2- J. Harold, P&R.
 2- D Spitzer, P. Util.
 3- V. Sullivan, Trans.
 3- M. Wade, Fin.
 4- D. Bundy, Trans.
 4- E. Morris, P. Works.
 4- R. Nelson Jr., P. Works
 4- A. Smallwood, Treas.
 5- D. Garrison, Fire.
 6- A. German, P&R.
 6- D. McGuffin, P. Util.
 6- T. Moffett, Fire.
 6- G. Nesbitt, P&R.
 7- C. Jenkins II, Trans.
 8- L. Zaccaria, P&R.

8- D. Gray, P. Util.
 9- A. Bauserman, Fire.
 9- B. Biddle, Fire.
 9- M. Spiggle, PD.
 11- K. Garber, Fire.
 11- B. Martin, P&R.
 12- C. Spain, Trans.
 13- H. Feldmeier Sr., Trans.
 14- J. Lambert, P&R.
 14- S. Lee, P&R.
 14- J. Taylor, P. Util.
 15- L. Fernandez, Trans.
 15- B. Hartt, Fire.
 15- C. Lancaster, COR.
 15-N. Stratford, HTVS

15- J. Weaver, Fire.
 16- L. Holsinger, PD.
 17- J. Smith, P&R.
 17- T. Wright, PD.
 18- W. Gangwer, PD.
 18- L. Gehman, P. Util.
 18- D. Morris, P. Util.
 18- L. Smith, Treas.
 19- M. Gangloff, PD.
 19- J. Joiner, ECC.
 19- B. Zimmerman, Fire.
 20- D. Logan, Reg.
 20-E. Long, Reg.
 20- M. Messerley, Fire.
 20- G. Silvious, PD.

21- K. Lanoue, PD.
 22- R. Huffman, P. Util.
 22- R. Sangabriel-Mateo, PD
 22- S. Sencindiver II, ECC.
 23- R. Aigner, Fire.
 23- R. Will, PD.
 24- S. Reedy, P. Works.
 24- S. Fairweather, PD.
 24- E. Skelton, PD.
 24- B. Tusing, PD.
 26- M. Fulk, P. Works.
 26- C. Sampson, Fire.
 27- M. Wine, ECC.
 28- E. Bumbaugh, HDR
 28- M. Zimmer, P&R.

29- J. Cassell, P&R.
 29- M. Leischner, Trans.
 29- Z. Lilly, Fire.
 29- L. Rogers, Mayor.
 29- M. Spain, Trans.
 29- J. Wyant, PD.
 30- D. Claxton, PD.
 30- D. Darrow, Com. Dev.
 30- M. Lamb, Trans.
 30- K. Puffenbarger Jr., PD
 31- C. Chandler, Fire