

E-Brief 2022



Excellence Innovation Teamwork Integrity Action-Oriented

Friday, January 28, 2022



An explosion in an outdoor Conex box or cargo container on the campus of Poplar Grove Middle School this morning appeared to have been caused by a leaking propane tank and space heater, according to Franklin Fire Marshal Andy King. There were no injuries and there was no damage to the school. The **Franklin Fire Department** was dispatched at 7:14 AM to the school at 2959 Del Rio Pike. King said the container was being used to store construction tools and serve as a workspace for construction workers. He said it appeared there was a propane leak

in the container overnight, which filled it with flammable gas. He said when a construction worker arrived at the site this morning, he started an electric space heater, which appeared to have ignited the gas, causing a substantial explosion. The blast was heard by several people in surrounding neighborhoods. School was getting ready to start at 7:30 AM. King said, "We're very fortunate that nobody was injured, because numerous students, parents, school buses, and staff were in the area at the time of the explosion." He said the worker was also uninjured, adding, "He was lucky because he was very close to the blast." **Great job by our Fire Department!**

See video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqqPiQEgUI>



WORK ZONE WATCH: Learn how strategic teamwork between the **City of Franklin Parks Department/Engineering** and the Franklin Special School District resulted in a big win for our community. A field of dreams, two fields actually, is turning into a reality as heavy equipment moves dirt and structures begin to go up. The Franklin Insider takes you to Freedom Middle School to get an update, a birds-eye view of the construction, and a look into the future - to see what this project will look like when it is complete in the Fall of 2022. Learn more

about this and other City capital projects here: <https://bit.ly/3KFs9bc>

See video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1b730orRM4>

Congratulations to the following folks!

Congratulations to **Walt Gatlin** in the **Building and Neighborhood Services Department** who was recently promoted from Building Inspector III to **Building Inspector Supervisor**. Walt is a Franklin native and graduate of UT-Knoxville. He started with the City in 2019. Congratulations Walt!



Maryville College has named **Kristine Tallent Brock** (class of '96) Inspiring MC Alumni! According to the college, Kristine never thought her career path would lead her to public finance and city government, but if there's one thing her time at [Maryville College](#) taught her, it's that all things are possible with a firm foundation.

"When I enrolled at Maryville College, I didn't necessarily anticipate what I would be doing for a career, but it gave me the background and helped me develop the interest in what I'm doing now," she tells us. "I was a student of Dr. Sherry Kasper, who was my advisor and senior thesis advisor as well, and she saw something in me that I really didn't see in myself. She suggested I look into graduate school in public finance, and 22 years later, this is still what I'm doing."

She currently serves as the **Assistant City Administrator/Chief Financial Officer** for the [City of Franklin, TN - Municipal Government](#), a position she's held since January 2017. Previously, she was the Director of

Management and Budget for [Maryville City Government](#) and Budget Director for [Gwinnett County Government](#) in Georgia. After graduating with a bachelor's in economics from MC, she obtained a master's in public policy and management (with a concentration in public finance) from [Carnegie Mellon University](#). In addition to numerous professional organizations – the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the Governmental Accounting Standard Board's (GASB) Governmental Accounting Standards Advisory Council, and various positions in the [Tennessee Government Finance Officer's Association - TGFOA](#) – she has also served on the MC Alumni Board and the MC Board of Directors. But no matter how far she's risen, she says, her time as MC remains a foundation stone of both her professional and personal development. "Certainly, I still have wonderful friends from my time at Maryville College, and the memories and the encouragement from those years ago are still wonderful," she says. "Growing up in East Tennessee, going to Maryville College was something I wanted very much to do, and certainly the building blocks of the career that I went into was formed there at Maryville College."

Welcome to our new employee in the Water Management Department.



Angelica "Angel" Harper, Administrative Secretary, Water Management Department
Angel is from Franklin. She enjoys shopping, taking care of her Dad and cheering for the Tennessee Vols. Angel previously worked in the ER at Williamson Medical. Her motto is "there isn't anything in the world Tacos can't fix."

The **Human Resources Department** is happy to announce they have started accepting nominations for the **1st Quarter** of the **Employee of the Quarter 2022 Program**. You can submit paper nominations by coming into the Human Resource Department within City Hall or via email by filling out the attached nomination form.

As a reminder, the guidelines are as follows:

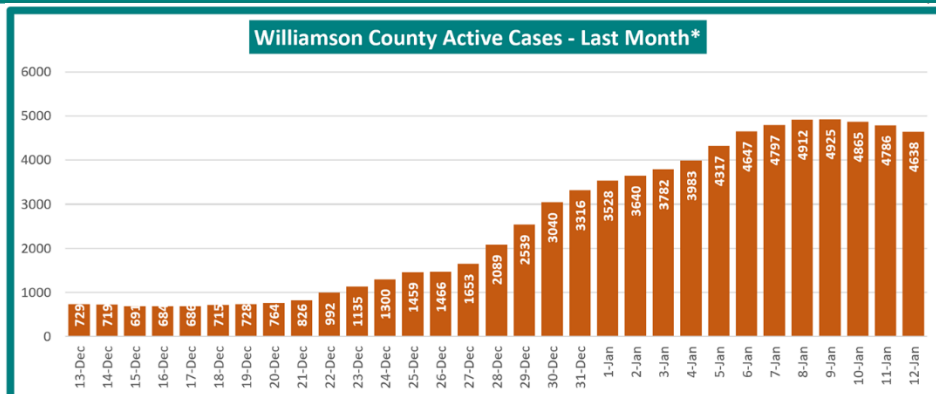
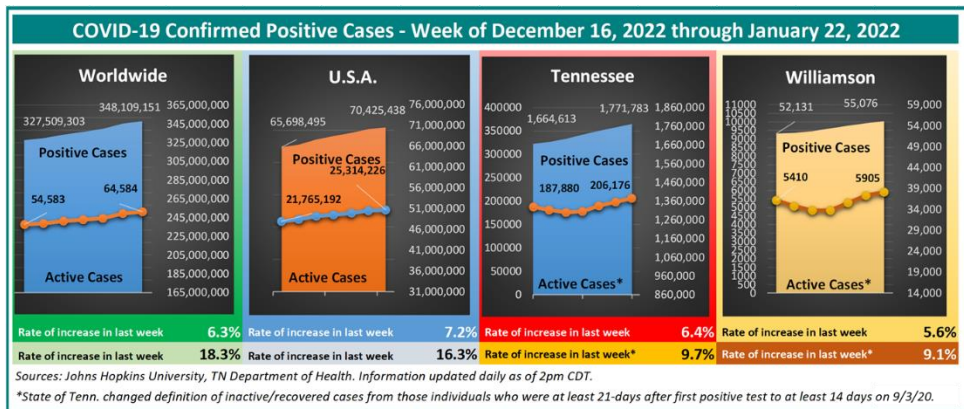
- **Any employee** can be nominated
- HR will accept unlimited nominations during the nomination window for each quarter
- **Nomination forms** are attached and will be available on *Inside the City*
- **Two employees will be selected per quarter** by a committee made up of your peers!
- Completed nomination forms can be emailed to nomination@franklintn.gov

The deadline for submitting nominations for the 1st Quarter is February 4th!

Here is the COVID-19 case update through 1/26/22:

Key Changes:

- Up 17,490 More** positive cases day over day in the State of Tennessee (1,771,783 total positive cases)
- Up 8,324 More** active cases day over day in the State of Tennessee (206,176 total active cases)
- Up 484 More** positive cases day over day in Williamson County (55,076 total positive cases)
- Up 214 More** active cases day over day in Williamson County (5,905 total active cases)
- Level** Williamson County share of total positive cases within Tennessee at **3.2**
- Up** Percent Positive / Total Tested at **13.82%**
- Level** Williamson County **Sixth** highest # of positive cases in Tennessee
- Up 9 New** deaths in Williamson County over the last week (**351** total deaths)
- Williamson County Community Transmission Status (CDC): High**



That's it for now. Have a great weekend. Thanks for all you do!
Eric



Website: www.franklintn.gov

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