



Issue 66

www.parksrec.com

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Parks & Rec Employee Recently Deployed

Matthew "Matt" Finrock, a member of the Air National Guard, has been deployed for six months to the United Arab Emirates. He started his career with Parks & Rec at age 16 in Aquatics working as a Lifeguard and later as Pool Manager. He currently now works in the Parks & Rec Maintenance Department. Our best wishes and prayers go to Matt and his family as he serves our country. We look forward to his safe return to his maintenance duties as soon as possible.

Reindeer Run Road Race & Fun Run/Walk

This race, which is the third leg of the Healthy Blount Triple Crown of Running, is a 5K (3.1 miles) and a 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk. **A portion of the proceeds from this event will go to the Empty Pantry Fund.**

Date: Sunday, December 6

Time: Check-in 12:45 - 1:30 PM

5K Race - 2:00 PM

1 Mile Run/Walk - 2:45

Registration: For online registration, complete rules and a course map go to www.parksrec.com. Click on the Triple Crown of Running. Forms may also be obtained at the Parks & Rec Office.

Fee: Adults \$18.00, Students 18 & under \$15.00 if pre-registered by November 30. Day of race Adults \$25.00, Students \$20.00 The fee includes a T-shirt and great give away items.

The Parks & Rec Administrative Office will be closed Nov. 26-27 for Thanksgiving .

HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS EVENTS SCHEDULE

H.O.M.E. for Christmas

Hall-Oldfield-Maryville Empowerment Inc. (H.O.M.E.) and the MKL Community Center partner for this annual community celebration to kick-off the Christmas holidays. Enjoy music, family fun, light refreshments and surprises from the MLK Center's children. You are invited to join in the decorating of the Center tree with Memorial and Honor ornaments which will be sold for \$1.00 each.

Date: November 28 *Time:* 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Springbrook Splendor

Celebrate the lighting of the City of Alcoa Christmas Tree in the Upper Fields of Springbrook Park where the trails will be lit with luminaries. Following the ceremony, there will be special music, refreshments, visits with Santa Claus, and hay rides for the children. Event is free.

Date: November 30 *Rain/Snow Date:* December 1 *Time:* 6:15 PM

Festival of Trees

The lawn of the Blount County Courthouse will be illuminated with a display of live Christmas trees of all sizes, colors, and decorative themes. This unique month-long event allows the community to enjoy the festival either by driving by or walking through for a closer look. The official opening of the Festival will take place on the Courthouse lawn and will include music, refreshments, visits with Santa, and hay rides for the children. Event is free.

Date: December 3 *Tree Lighting Ceremony Time:* 6:30 PM

City of Maryville Tree Lighting

Enjoy the City of Maryville Tree Lighting ceremony at the pedestrian bridge at Pistol Creek Station leading to the Library. The program will feature music, light refreshments, a candy hunt for Ages 2-12, and visits with Santa Claus in the Library at the end of the event. In case of inclement weather, the entire event will be held inside. Event is free.

Date : December 7 *Time:* 6:30 - 7:30 PM *Visit with Santa:* 7:30 PM



Santa Calls

Children in Blount County can enjoy a special call from Santa Claus free of charge thanks to the continued support of volunteers from the Maryville-Alcoa Civitan Club who provide special phone lines from the North Pole.

Dates: 3 - 5 years old - December 8 6 - 7 years old - December 10

Time: All calls are made between the hours of 5:00 - 9:00 PM

Registration: Applications may be obtained online at www.parksrec.com by going to Hometown Christmas on the Special Events page OR at the Parks & Rec Administrative Office. Deadline to register is Dec. 1 at 5:00 PM.



Special Olympics News

Area 15 Special Olympics "Athlete of the Year", Russell Hogsed, was recently honored by the Blount County Sports Hall of Fame at their annual banquet. He is the son of Frank and Shirley Hogsed and a 2004 graduate of Maryville High School. A Special Olympian since his early childhood, he also participates in Challenger League Baseball & Upward Basketball. He is an honorary member of the Board of Directors of The Gateway to Independence known as "The Gate", an organization Russell and his family help to found. The Gate provides opportunities for disabled young adults to achieve independence. He is pictured at left participating in the Area 15 Spring Games Opening Ceremony Parade of Athletes.

We are very happy to report the Area 15 Bowlers who recently competed in the Tennessee Special Olympics State Bowling Competition held in Columbia: Derek Kyle, Andrew Motychak, Lexy Low, Robby Ellis, Taylor Frost, Tammy McCammon & Eddie Franklin brought home three gold, five silver and four bronze medals as well as two 6th Place ribbons. Congratulations to these athletes on their state-level success !

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