

## City Calendar

<http://bit.ly/mgacal>

**Monday, 1/7**  
**Council Meeting**  
6pm @ City Hall

**Thursday, 1/10**  
**Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting**  
5:15pm @ City Hall

**Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting**  
6pm @ Community House

**Friday, 1/11**  
**Kinky Boots**  
7:30pm @ CoMMA

**Monday, 1/21**  
**"We Shall Overcome"  
A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King**  
7:30pm @ CoMMA

**Tuesday, 1/29**  
**Carolina Blue**  
7:30pm @ CoMMA

**Monday, 2/4**  
**Council Meeting**  
6pm @ City Hall

**Thursday, 2/14**  
**Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting**  
5:15pm @ City Hall

**Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting**  
6pm @ Community House

## Leaf Pickup

The City will collect loose leaves through January.

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT LIMBS OR OTHER DEBRIS IN LEAF PILES!**

## Water Resources wins award

The City of Morganton Water Treatment Plant staff recently earned statewide recognition for its commitment to safety in the workplace.

Water Resources Director Brad Boris and Water Plant Superintendent Raymond Presley attended the annual North Carolina American Water Works Association & Water Environment Association (NC AWWA-WEA) conference in Raleigh to accept the Walter J. Courmon Safety Award on behalf of the Water Treatment Plant's staff.

The award recognizes an organization's commitment to safety that is demonstrated by its practices. The NC AWWA-WEA said the City of Morganton Water Treatment Plant has a number of plans and programs that reinforce its dedication to safety. This included having monthly safety committee meetings; employees who regularly attend safety classes; exceptional hazard communication protocol and risk management programs; and having a work environment where employees are comfortable raising safety concerns.



Morganton Water Plant Superintendent Raymond Presley, left, and Water Resources Director Brad Boris accepted the Walter J. Courmon Safety Award.

The NC AWWA-WEA Risk Management Committee, which makes the selection for the award, specifically commended the plant's practice of filing a report that is reviewed at several levels for any accident or "near-miss incident," and noted that the Water Treatment Plant has not had an accident that resulted in lost time or putting an employee on restricted duty in 19 years.

## CoMMA named most progressive theater

CoMMA recently won the title of Most Progressive Theater from the South Arts Theater Awards for its numerous efforts in attracting crowds, having a variety of programs, executing innovative marketing plans, and being an outstanding performing venue.

"These awards honor outstanding work in revitalizing your community through theatre," said CoMMA Director Jim Smith. "We are very thankful to receive this award, and I am grateful to my staff for their

efforts in making CoMMA an impressive, innovative venue."

An honorary awards committee selected the award recipients based on artistic achievement, community programming, and involvement of local schools and arts programs in local performances. Touring groups, producers and artists also nominate recipients of the awards in various categories. The awards were first presented to recipients in 2005.

CoMMA excelled over other theaters in

providing programming for school shows, creating outstanding local programming, executing innovative marketing plans and increasing millennial patronage.

South Arts was founded in 1975 and is located in Atlanta, Georgia. It is a non-profit regional arts organization working in partnership with the state arts agencies of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

## Protect your water pipes during winter

Take some precautions this winter to prevent frozen pipes.

- **INSULATE:** Pipes in attics and crawl spaces should be protected with insulation or heat. Pipe insulation is available in fiberglass or foam sleeves. Home centers and hardware stores have sleeves providing 1/8 to 5/8 inches of insulation.

- **WARM THEM UP:** Heating cables and tapes are effective in freeze protection. Select a heating cable with the UL label and a built-in thermostat that turns the heat on when needed (without a thermostat, the cable has to be plugged in each time and might be forgotten).

- **LET HEAT IN:** Doors on cabinets under kitchen and bathroom sinks should be left open during cold spells to allow the warmer air of the room to circulate around the pipes.

- **EMPTY THEM:** Exterior pipes should be drained or enclosed in 2-inch fiberglass insulation sleeves.

- **SHUT THEM OFF:** Pipes leading to the exterior should be shut off and drained at the start of the winter.

- **LET THEM DRIP:** Let faucets drip slowly to keep water flowing through pipes that are vulnerable to freezing. Ice might still form in the pipes, but an open faucet allows water to escape before the pressure builds to where a pipe can burst. If the dripping stops, it may mean that ice is blocking the pipe; keep the faucet open, since the pipe still needs pressure relief.



## New bus routes for Morganton

You can now explore Morganton or visit your neighboring town with the four new bus flex routes from Greenway Public Transportation in Burke County.

It is free to ride any bus operating on a flex route until March 31, 2019, so now is the perfect time to try it out and familiarize yourself with this new service.

You can visit [mygreenway.org](http://mygreenway.org) for maps and schedules of the four routes. Service hours are from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If you don't live along the routes, that's not a problem. The four new bus routes offer the flexibility of a three-quarter mile deviation from the stops. Any deviations must be scheduled by noon, one business day in advance through Greenway dispatch. Greenway also offers van service for areas outside of the three-quarter mile buffer of the new bus service.

You can also use your smart phone to track each bus to cut down on



your wait time. Download the real-time application at: <http://mobile.ridesystems.net/>, or check out each bus stop on the interactive map at: <http://mygreenway.org/>

Greenway wants the routes to best serve Burke County residents. Let them know how to make that possible by taking this quick survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/burketransit>

## New Art in the Hall display

Artwork by Uschi Jeffcoat is now on display through January in Morganton City Hall. Jeffcoat, a German-born artist, lives in Florence, South Carolina, and her work is featured for Art in the Hall through January.

"I always liked art as a child," Jeffcoat said. "I enjoyed just creating. An art instructor told my mother to not let me take art lessons as a child because she was afraid it would stifle me. So, although I would've liked to take art lessons, I was just allowed to experiment on my own, and then I took art classes in high school."

Jeffcoat grew up in Huntsville, Alabama, spending her summers in Germany. Her mother was German

and her father was American, and she was raised speaking both German and English.

Jeffcoat's work is an effort at understanding the space she lives in. Her work can be viewed online at [uschijeffcoat.com](http://uschijeffcoat.com), on Instagram @u\_jeffcoat and on Facebook at [facebook.com/uschijeffcoat](https://www.facebook.com/uschijeffcoat).



*A painting of a European Blackbird by Jeffcoat*

### MORGANTON CITY COUNCIL

Ronnie Thompson • Mayor  
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Chris Hawkins • District 3  
Wendy Cato • District 4

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