



Dyersburg City News

Vol. 3 Issue 12

Christmas Facts.....

- A Christmas Club savings account was originally started around 1905.
- Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday. This tradition began in 1836.
- The Friday after Thanksgiving is NOT the busiest shopping day of the year. The busiest day is the Friday and Saturday before Christmas.
- America's official national Christmas tree is located in King's Canyon National Park in California. It was made the official Christmas tree in 1925.
- The average household will mail out and receive on average 28 Christmas cards.
- California, Oregon, Michigan, Washington, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina are the top Christmas tree producing states. Oregon is the leading producer of 8.6 million in 1998.
- Christmas trees are edible. Many parts of the tree can be eaten and are a good source of nutrition.
- During the Christmas season, Visa cards are used an average of 5,340 times every minute in the United States.
 - For every real Christmas tree harvested, 2 to 3 seedlings are planted in its place.
 - Hallmark introduced its first Christmas card in 1915.
 - In 1937, the first postage stamp to commemorate Christmas was issued in Austria.
- It is estimated that 400,000 people become sick each year from eating tainted Christmas leftovers.
- Santa's Reindeers are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, and Rudolph.
 - The first Christmas card was created in England on December 9, 1842.
 - A traditional Christmas dinner was the head of a pig prepared with mustard.
- Animal Crackers are not really crackers, but cookies that were imported to the U.S. from England in the 1800s.
 - During the Christmas season over 1.76 billion candy canes are made.

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Wow, it's hard to believe that 2008 is almost over with. I want to say thank you to all of the City's employees; for your dedication and commitment this year. There have been numerous accomplishments this year and many of you have played a role in this. As I mentioned in last months newsletter, I've had the opportunity to present a "Progress Report for the City of Dyersburg" to various groups and organizations these past few weeks. I will not list these items again, (they are listed in the November newsletter) but there are many things that we have done this year!

Don't forget the 58th annual Downtown Dyersburg Christmas parade that will be held on December 1st beginning at 7pm. Once again we will open up City Hall to our city employees and families for hot chocolate and cookies. Please come visit us and enjoy the sights and sounds of the parade.

One other item I want to mention is the event being held at Sorghum Valley this month. As many of you know, Sorghum Valley was completed this year and is a wonderful addition to the Dyer County Fair. Sorghum Valley will be decorated for Christmas with 30 plus Christmas trees and other decorations. Santa Claus and Christmas carolers will be there as well. Opening night is on December 11th at 6pm. The admission is a non-perishable food item per person and these in turn will be donated to Matthew 25:40, Dyersburg/Dyer Co. Union Mission and The Salvation Army. So come out, get in the Christmas spirit and help out some of our local charitable organizations.

I would ask that you continue to remember our National Guard unit as they are away from us training in New Jersey for their deployment to the Middle East.

Thank you for a great year, I appreciate each and every one of you. I hope that you and your families have a very Merry Christmas!



Mayor Holden

Thank You!

The Main Street Board of Directors would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the City Employees that keep our Historic District downtown so neat and clean. We would also like to thank City Beautiful for the flowers downtown, the well maintained planters and the maintenance of the entrance signs to our city. We also appreciate the efforts of the Dyersburg Electric System for installing the American Flags for City Beautiful.

While we prepare for the revitalization on Veteran's Square, we find a renewed sense of pride in the downtown area. Thank you to everyone helping to bring people and commerce back to Downtown Dyersburg!

*Steve Guttery
Director of Downtown Development*

Recycled electronics information Attention all city residents

Dyer County is now accepting used computers, printers, television sets and copiers for recycling. These items may be brought to the Dyer County Building & Zoning building located at 1910 Pioneer Rd.

For more information you may call the office of Daniel Cobb, Dyer County Building Official at 287-0775

Please note that electronics, including television sets are not accepted at the city land-fill. These items will not be collected during regularly scheduled curbside pick up. Do not set these items on your curb. Please dispose of electronics properly.

*Congratulations
Royce McGuire!*



Royce McGuire, Water/Sewer Dept., was selected to fill the position of Assistant Superintendent on November 10, 2008. Royce has been with the City of Dyersburg for 9-1/2 years beginning as a Heavy Equipment Operator, moving up the ranks to Crew Leader/ Heavy Equipment Operator and now Assistant Superintendent of the Water/Sewer Department. Congratulations and best wishes, Royce!



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

Sales Tax Collections Increase

The City of Dyersburg reports a 5.25% increase in sales tax collections for the first quarter of the 2008-2009 budget year.

SAVE MONEY – USE MAIL ORDER PRESCRIPTION PLAN

Just as a reminder to all city employees covered by our prescription drug program, you can save quite a lot of money by using our mail-order prescription drug program. If you are required to take any type of maintenance drugs (blood pressure, cholesterol, etc.) you can save a lot of money if you will only ask your doctor to write you a 90-day prescription (with 3 refills) and you are set for a year. All you will need to do is mail that original prescription along with your check (or credit card authorization) and completed mail order application form to the address listed (Prescription Solutions, P.O. Box 509075, San Diego, CA 92150-9075), and you should receive your medicine within two (2) weeks in your mailbox. It's just that simple! Below is listed a summary of the amounts you can save:

	30-day pharmacy	90-day mail-order	Savings-90 days
Generic Drugs	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$10.00
Form.Brand Name	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
Non-form.Brand	\$40.00	\$70.00	\$50.00

Please remember to keep this in mind the next time you visit your doctor and he writes you a prescription. If you do not feel comfortable with this procedure, I will be more than happy to assist you in getting this process started. Just give me (Sue Teague) a call at 288-7607 or 445-7032 if I can help. Also, please keep in mind that there are some pharmacies where you can purchase generic prescriptions (30 day supply) for \$4.00 and a 90-day supply for \$10.00. Under these conditions, you will not need to even use your prescription card.

“Santa Paws”
is coming to The Pet Stop



**Have Your Pet’s
 Photo made with Santa Paws
 \$8.00**

**Saturday, December 6
 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

AT



**The Pet Stop
 470 Mall Blvd.**

**All Proceeds to Benefit
 Dyersburg/Dyer County Humane Society**

NOTICE

A recertification class for EPSC Level 1 (stormwater) will be held at the Lan-nom Center on Dec 11th from 8:00 until 12:00 a.m.

Most of the City Employees Certifica-tions will expire on December 31st.

THANK YOU

It brings us great joy to be a part of such a loving city family. Thank you to all who willingly shared the burden of the loss of our infant son, Gavin. Many people have been praying for Gavin for quite some time. Those prayers enabled us to deal with what ultimately did happen. The out-pouring of visits, food, prayers, cards, and amaz-ing support have meant so much to us. God bless you all.

Chad, Mandy, and Madelyn Webb

Safety Committee

If you have any safety concerns, questions or ideas that you would like to discuss, you may schedule time to speak with your department head or with one of the committee members which include:

- Keith Burns—Chairperson (Fire Dept.)
- Tiffany Parker—Secretary (Water Plant)
- Sue Teague (Human Resources)
- Kerry Owens (Street Dept)
- Michael Hunter (Gas Dept)
- Mike Kesterson (Water/Sewer)
- Kevin Joslin (Codes)
- Greg Williams (City Hall)
- Rickie Tidwell (Police)
- Lloyd Stewart (Parks & Rec)
- Kenneth Moody (Solid Waste)

THINK SAFETY!

SAFETY TIP: Maintain a clean work area. Not only will you remove many hazards from a work area by keeping it clean, but you will also provide a more productive work environ-ment.



Think You Have a Gas Leak?

Call:

288-7604 from: 8:30 – 5:00

After Hours and Weekends:

285-1212



DYERSBURG GAS SYSTEM



311 Service

Congratulations to Dyersburg for becoming the first nonmetropolitan area in Tennessee to implement 311 service for its residents! Dyersburg is the fourth city in Tennessee to provide this service and is the first city in West Tennessee to provide the 311 number.

311 is an easy to remember telephone number which connects resident with specially-trained service representatives. "311 is a national non-emergency number established under Clinton's last administration." said Emergency Operations Manager, Mark Grant. "It is meant to compliment 911." The 311 service connects Dyersburg residents to emergency personnel for non-emergency situations which saves valuable time for the 911 dispatchers and offers our citizens a direct line to emergency departments without having to remember all the different telephone numbers.

Phase I is available now to Dyersburg residents and will be used for non-emergency requests for police, fire and emergency medical services within our city limits. Once Phase II is in place, residents will be able to dial 311 to check on garbage pick-up schedules, lodge non-emergency complaints to the police department, report potholes, missing stop sign, or problems with traffic signals instead of dialing their individual numbers.

"Some things residents need to know – you cannot block caller ID with 311," said Grant. "They will have to turn off blocking to be connected to the system. If residents have a problem with 311 on a wireless telephone, they should call 288.3595 and give the name of their carrier that they are having a problem with."

Cathy Cavness

WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

The Water Plants have to have their clearwells inspected every 5 years. A clearwell is a storage area for water that has already been treated and is ready to be transferred to the water tanks. Our clearwells are located underneath both of the water plants. In order to be inspected we have divers come in to do the inspection. Before they are able to dive into the clearwells they have to disinfect their equipment with bleach. This is to insure that nothing gets contaminated. During the inspection they vacuum out any debris and video each area of the clearwells so that we are able to view them also. Upon completion of the inspection we will receive the video and report from the divers.



Standing in bucket of bleach



Being sprayed with bleach



Entering into the clearwell



diver ready to go



clearwell entrance



clearwell entrance



DYERSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

In October the Lowes store in Dyersburg held their annual Safety & Health Fair. Lowes Corp. along with Kidde Products again came through for the citizens of Dyer County and the City of Dyersburg, with a donation of Smoke Alarms for the Outreach Program. This worked well with National Fire Prevention month.

Dyersburg Firemen along with E.O.C. dispatchers offered expert advice and handouts to the kids and adults as well.

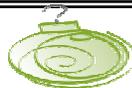
The weather was great for the annual event and as always everyone seemed to be wearing a smile.

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR HARD WORK!

Below: EOC Dispatcher Gloria Spence assist local Cub Scouts with 911 tips and handouts.



Below: Lowes employees offer a donation of smoke alarms to Dyersburg firefighters J. Shultz and K. Johnson.





Fire Department

This month the department has been conducting an Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC). It is state mandated training that must be conducted annually. Enacted by the General Assembly and titled the "Vanessa K. Free Emergency Services Act of 2005". The act went into effect on the 1st of January, 2006. The act is named for a teenager killed by a responding emergency vehicle. The intent is for each person who drives an emergency vehicle in its official capacity to be adequately trained to drive that vehicle. The training must cover, the operation of the vehicle in emergency and non-emergency situations; applicable laws pertaining to emergency vehicles; and responding to other vehicles (non-emergency) on the road. We are sorry for the inconvenience of closing the city parking lot; we are limited as to where the hands-on training can be conducted.

The Honor Guard is preparing for the annual Christmas parade. They will be performing Color Guard duties. The Color Guard will include; two Color Guards with axes, three flag bearers and other Honor Guard members following behind.

Cold weather is upon us, so please be safe, inside and outside. Be aware of safety issues with what ever type heating you may use in your home and work place. When outside, be sure to dress for the weather. Place extra clothing and possibly a blanket in your vehicle in the event you become stranded. Also, practice safety with Christmas lighting; don't overload outlets, for the exterior (only use outdoor extension cords and outdoor lighting), don't leave lights on when you aren't at home. If you have a natural tree, be sure to keep water in the bowl to minimize drying (which could lead to a fire).

kb

Shoot Dyer County 2008 Photo Contest

All photo entries have been turned in to the Dyersburg Photo Club and can be viewed at the Dyersburg Mall. Stop by the mall and choose the one you think is the "Peoples Choice /Best of Show" and vote! Ballots and ballot box are at the exhibit. Categories include:

**Agricultural, Historical
People/Events
Landscapes/Scenic
Pets
Photoshop Created Assemblages**

A \$100 prize will be awarded for the First Place winner in each category; Amateur classification only. A \$200 prize will be awarded in both the Amateur and Professional classifications for "Peoples Choice /Best of Show". Support your favorite photographer!

Judging will take place on December 4th. Votes must be in no later than closing time, December 3rd. Three judges from Lambuth University in Jackson, TN will be volunteering their time, including a Senior Art Professor, and two Senior Art Students.



Good news! Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Former Employee

The Dyersburg Golf Association held a benefit tournament on Saturday, November 8, 2008 for former Golf Course employee, David Weeks, now on dialysis and unable to work.

Twenty seven players participated in the event and donations were made by other members unable to play in the tournament. Prizes for the event were plaques for the four winners in the Four Man Scramble and winners of the Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin and a Putting contest.

David and his wife, other Association members and Golf Course employees are pictured as Bobby Baker, Association President, presents a check to David.

Thank you to everyone that supported this event and a special thank you to Kenny Lyte and George Mitchell, originators of this benefit tournament.

Additional donations may be mailed to Jim Putman, Superintendent c/o Dyersburg Municipal Golf Course, PO Box 1358, Dyersburg, TN 38029-1358

Bobby Baker



LANDFILL NEWS

November 10th was a good day for landfill heavy equipment operators Pam Reagan and Anthony Adams; their new Caterpillar D6T bulldozer was delivered and ready to go to work. It had been 10 years since the landfill had a new dozer.

Landfills are a very different environment when it comes to equipment and special equipment is necessary to get the job done efficiently.

Caterpillar manufactures the only bulldozer produced with a factory made landfill or "waste handler" package. This D6T track-type tractor has separate hydraulic systems powering the steering system with one pump and the implement circuit with another. The result is a quick and powerful steering performance independent of implement operations enhancing blade response. The C9 engine delivers 200 horsepower.

To further reduce operating costs and extend undercarriage life up to 70%, the Cat SystemOne undercarriage is standard on the D6T, this one has XL undercarriage. It is also equipped with front and rear striker bars to keep large pieces of trash and debris from damaging the fenders and sides of the dozer. A pressurized cab keeps dust from entering the inside of the cab protecting the operators.



John is all smiles on the Landfill's new Caterpillar D6T bulldozer.



LF Operators Pam Reagan and Anthony Adams, SWM Supt. John Damesworth with Charlie Savery.



Hi ho hi ho — off to work it goes!



Reason for the Season **FOOD DRIVE**

The ***Reason for the Season Food Drive*** – do your part by bringing in canned goods & supplies any-time in November! Each can is food for 2 people going directly to our Local Salvation Army in Dyersburg – this organization serves any person in need. People from all over Dyer, Lake, and Lauderdale counties utilize our Salvation Army unit. They host a Soup Kitchen every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday serving about 75 people at every meal. They also send canned goods home with families every Friday. The Salvation Army is completely supported by donations! The more we give them, the more people they can help this Thanksgiving & Christmas – you can be a part of the ***Reason for the Season Food Drive*** by dropping off cans in your classroom! You can bring canned fruits, vegetables, juices, soups – also cereal, pasta, peanut butter, even shampoo, toothpaste, & soap! Donations will be accepted until Friday, December 5th.

The winning school receives an ICE CREAM SOCIAL from
Ja Ja's Java Café in Bells!

The winning class from each school receives a
Little Caesars Pizza/Pepsi Party on Fri, Dec 12!



Participating Schools: Fifth Consolidated Elementary, Newbern Elementary,
Dyersburg Middle, Dyersburg Primary

Santa Claus is coming to town!

Dear Old Santa is going to be very busy this month; why you might see him anywhere!

Soon he will be setting up house on the Court House Square, downtown Dyersburg. Won't you stop by and tell Santa what you are wishing for. That is, if you've been good! You may even have your picture taken with Santa in the evenings. Keep your eyes open and watch for him, he's certainly watching you!



**HO! HO! HO! MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**



EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

Board Meetings—1st & 3rd Monday of each month.
To be placed on the agenda for a meeting you must call 286-7600 before noon on the Thursday before the meeting. The meeting can be viewed on channel 4. The agenda and minutes of the Board meetings are on the City's web site. www.dyersburgtn.gov

Lifeline Blood Mobile is at Dyersburg Electric the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Help save lives; Give blood.

Dyersburg Municipal Golf Course—
Every Wednesday at 9:00 am. 55 years and up.
Play from Senior Tees.

December 1—Christmas Parade

December 2- Christmas Parade rain date

December 7- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 24—Christmas Eve- City Offices OPEN



HAPPY EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY

Michael Carman—27 years
Connell King—26 years
Rodger Pleasant—26 years
Wilburn Pierce— 24 years
Patty Smith—20 years
James Schaeffer—12 years
Jeff Wright—10 years
Dianne Gilliland—7 years
Katy Clark—6 years
Jesse Canada— 5 years
Dustin White—3 years
Joshua Lewis—2 years
Clint Veal—2years

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Michael Anderson
Richie Anderson
Allen Attaway, Jr.
Charles Barrineau
Kent Baumgardner
Maurice Boyd
Eddie Brimm
Keith Burns
Greg Campbell
Jonathan Crouch
Alvin Dance
Michael Davenport
Michael Dobis
Jimmy Dudley
Maria Duzan
Charles Epperson
Lloyd Stewart
Bruce Swanner

Jeffrey Fain
Jesse Halliburton
Robert Halton
Randal Hurst
Kenneth Jowers
William K. Kent
Bob Kirk
Ted Wayne Lowe
Roger McBride
James McCullough
Mark Moody
Dwight Paschal
Christopher Pursell
Ken Riddick
Debbie Sanders
Billy Gene Sorrell
James T. White
Chad Webb



NOTICE

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to receive your own copy each month, email pdamesworth@dyersburgtn.gov
If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter from the City of Dyersburg, email tparker@dyersburgtn.gov



City of Dyersburg News
Compliments of Mayor Holden
Editors: Tiffany Parker
Penny Damesworth



Please contact us with any questions you may have or any information to submit.
288-0724 or 288-7639
View online: www.dyersburgtn.gov
Thanks Everyone!