

APRIL 2009



# Dyersburg City News

Vol. 4 Issue 4



**Great American Cleanup™ 2009**

**April 25, 2009 (rain date May 2)**

**Dyersburg Registration and supplies: Okeena Park 8:00 am**

Dyersburg and Dyer County residents, businesses, churches and organizations are preparing to work together for its annual community cleanup and enhancement program The Great American Cleanup™. This yearly get-together is held strictly by the grace and goodness of community volunteers.

A perfect teaching exercise in self pride and community responsibility, this program teaches youngsters the value of a clean and safe community. We are teaching them to value themselves and to respect their property as well as the property of others. Cleaner communities are proven to be safer communities. Most children are taught, inadvertently, that littering is okay by their very own parents and other caretakers at athletic events such as football and baseball games. We have all been guilty of throwing our drink cup and snack wrappers on the ground during a game as we applaud and encourage our teams to do well. When our children see us litter it becomes second nature to them to litter also. Having them participate in neighborhood cleanups and enhancement activities such as planting flowers and trees, maintaining lawns and spring cleaning activities like picking up litter, washing windows and painting fences and sheds builds character and pride in a job well done. We invite you to promote your next scholastic or athletic event as a "litter free event". Call me at 288-7639 for more information or go to [www.ktnb.org](http://www.ktnb.org) and click "Programs" and then on "Stop Litter™".

We ask that you consider participating in the Great American Cleanup with the young people in your life. Organize a group, select an area you have targeted as an area in need of cleaning or "sprucing up". Dyersburg participants will meet at Okeena Park to pick up supplies and spend a couple hours cleaning up roadways, waterways and streets. Newbern volunteers will meet at the Train Depot and Trimble volunteers will meet at the Community Center. If you find something unusual, let us know; we keep records! Area maps will be on display so that you and/or your group can select an area to clean up. Trimble's map can be seen at Trimble's City Hall, 22 S. Main St. Newbern's map can be seen at Newbern City Hall at 103 Jefferson St. Dyersburg's city map can be seen at Dyersburg City Hall, 425 W. Court St. and the Dyer County map can be seen at the Dyer Co. courthouse on the square. If you would like to help in the Trimble area you may contact Mayor James Davis at 731-297-3955 and in Newbern contact Street Supt. Steve Dodds, 627-3753, Patty Williams, 627-2326 or Cathy Clements, 627-3021.

Dyersburg Cleanup will be from 8:00 am—noon. Lunch will be provided to all volunteers free of charge after the clean up. Entertainment also provided. See you there! For more information you may contact 2009 GAC chairman Ersley McLemore at 445-3023 or me, Penny Damesworth, at 731-288-7639. See you there!

pmd



**keep tennessee beautiful**  
A STATE AFFILIATE OF KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL, INC.

# MAYOR'S OFFICE

Eight city programs were honored on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Washington, DC by the National League of Cities for their efforts to enhance and celebrate cultural diversity in their communities. The 2009 Cultural Diversity Awards recognize cities that promote cultural diversity in community governance through citizen and community participation. Award recipients have implemented a variety of innovative programs and unique events designed to help citizens recognize the impressive diversity within their own community. I am very honored and proud of the fact that Dyersburg, TN. was the recipient of the runner-up award for a program implemented by Pastor Stuart Edmonds, Director of the Bruce and Future City Recreation Centers. His initiative titled "Taking Back Our Community " encourages youth to build character, improve self-esteem, inspire confidence and achieve academically in order to strengthen and support their future. This program also involves an innovative after school program which serves children ages 5 to 12 years old. These children are provided a safe, structured and supervised environment that provides computer access, homework assistance, family involvement and community enrichment activities for them. **Congratulations Stuart for your efforts in making a positive impact in our community.**

I also want to make you aware of the "Summer Works" internship program. The summer works program is made possible by the stimulus package – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Funding is available to engage economically disadvantaged young adults ages 16 – 24 in summer internships in private industry, business, and non-profit organizations in Dyer County. The goal of the Summer Works program is to teach our future workforce job readiness skills, work ethic, and the soft skills necessary for success in the workplace. These internships will enable young adults to have a job, gain valuable work experience, earn a wage, and reinvest those wages back into the local economy. The Tennessee Career Center and the Northwest Tennessee Workforce Board will manage this program. The Northwest Tennessee Workforce Board is located at 313 West Cedar Street in Dyersburg. Their telephone number is 286-3585.

The City of Dyersburg recently earned recognition in Site Selection magazine earning a tie for 26<sup>th</sup> place as one of the top Micropolitan areas in the United States. Quality of life, excellent public schools, deal ready sites, availability of skilled labor, highway and interstate accessibility, low taxes, water and wastewater capacity, site location, availability of higher education are just a few of the important factors that are considered when manufacturing and industrial prospects are looking at our community.

Many of you remember the ice storm that hit our area at the end of January. As you are all aware, there was an influx of people in our community for many weeks after this. While our hearts go out to those that were displaced from their homes, our local hotels in particular experienced a dramatic increase in occupancy. The hotel/motel tax collected in the month of February increased 68% over January. We soon will have sales tax collections figures for this time period and I will share those with you also.

Events in April to make note of include our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Spring Cleanup for the City of Dyersburg. The cleanup schedule will coincide with the regularly scheduled curbside trash pickup dates. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, The Great American Cleanup for the City of Dyersburg will be held. You can sign up to help at Dyersburg City Hall. The cleanup will involve Dyersburg, Dyer County, Newbern and Trimble. The next planning session will be at City Hall at 9am on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

Also this month is The First United Methodist Church Mission Blitz that will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009. I certainly appreciate their dedication, hard work and commitment to our community. As their Senior Minister Dr. Phillip A. Cook stated, "Our purpose is to seek to be faithful loving others and caring for God's creation."

Continue to remember our National Guard unit as they are serving in the Middle East.

Thanks again for all that you do for our city. Stay safe and please let me know if ever I can be of any assistance to you.



Mayor Holden



# DEAL READY IN DYERSBURG

## EXPECT II Building Specs

- Located in the Dyersburg, TN Industrial Park adjacent to I-155 (future I-69)
- 100,000 SF (expandable to 300,000 SF)
- 400' x 250' Dimensions
- 15 acres +/-
- 30' Ceilings
- 40' x 50' Columns
- Up to 45 dock doors



2000 Commerce Avenue  
Dyersburg, TN 38024  
Phone: 731-285-3433  
Fax: 731-286-4926  
www.dyerchamber.com  
ahester@ecsis.net



## Industrial Park Specs

- New Industrial Park w/Interstate Frontage
- EPA attainment status on air quality
- Low electric and gas costs
- Abundant water and wastewater capacity

## World Class Manufacturing is Alive and Well in West Tennessee!

- NSK Steering Systems, Inc. bought the EXPECT I Building in September 2006
- Briggs & Stratton, Inc. located in the former Honeywell building in January 2007
- Industry expansions in 2006-2007 include Caterpillar, Quebecor, Royalguard, ERMCO, and Huish
- 100 acre "Deal Ready" rail site available



# Department News.....

## Managing Customer Service

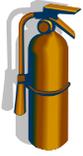
### Phase II 311 Service in planning stages

A meeting was held March 19 to execute the planning stages for implementing Phase II of the 3-1-1 Service as part of an overall approach by city government to improve the level of customer satisfaction; that is, the feeling that city services have met customer's expectations. 311 is an easy to remember telephone number which connects resident with specially-trained service representatives

Dyersburg is the fourth city in Tennessee and the first non-metropolitan area in Tennessee to implement 311 services for its residents. 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, illegal yards, a missing stop sign, or problems with traffic signals, and request a variety of information and services instead of dialing their individual numbers.

This service, when implemented, will be able to quickly accept citizen service requests and route them directly to the department responsible for resolving the issue. For instance calls about potholes will be routed to public works, downed power lines will be routed directly to the electric system, animal issues will be directed to animal control, and so on. The 311 system provides an interface for both the public and staff to manage all inquiries. Management and callers will be able to track requests with a given "tracking number" which will be accessible by phone or online much like FED EX or UPS tracks packages.

Benefits of this new operation will be real-time statistics, reduced phone calls, reduction of calls to 911, improved response time, a more efficient government, happier citizens and more. This operation will reduce the number of records being written by hand because the information is input directly into the computer reducing the cost of paper products for applications, work orders, etc. and thereby reduce the paper waste going to the landfill, saving precious air space and extending the life of our landfill. It is a win-win situation for all involved. We'll keep you updated.



## Fire Department

The Fire Department will be giving Fire Extinguisher Training to all City Departments starting March 31, 2009. Please contact **Mark Sykes at 288-7614** to setup a time for your employees to receive this training.



## Water Treatment Plants

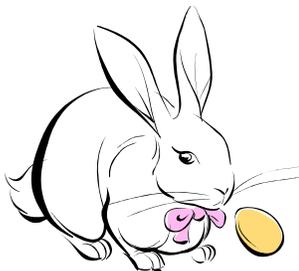
The CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) has been mailed. If you are a City of Dyersburg water customer, you should have received one in the mail. If you haven't received one and would like one contact **Tiffany at 731-288-0724** or visit our website at [www.dyersburgtn.gov](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov). The CCR is an annual report required by the State of Tennessee and has important information about the quality of your drinking water.



## Safety Committee

### Hand & Power Tool Safety

- **Do not take for granted how dangerous hand & power tools can be**
  - **Maintain your tools properly**
  - **Plan your work ahead of time**
  - **Choose the right tool for the job**
  - **Make sure you have the right PPE**  
(Personal protective equipment)



## Street Department

# Neighborhood Spring Clean

## ATTENTION ALL CITY RESIDENTS!

City of Dyersburg's annual Neighborhood Spring Clean event will begin April 1st and run through April 30th.

This is the time to prepare for spring cleaning your house, attic, garage, shed, etc. and put items you no longer want on the curb for pick up by the Street Dept. It is important to remember that electronics, including TVs, computers, printers, microwave ovens, etc. are no longer acceptable items to put on the curb as they are considered hazardous waste. These items may be taken to Daniel Cobb's office on Pioneer Rd. Tires, free flowing liquids, batteries, automotive products, lawn and garden products, chemicals, gas or propane containers, paint, varnish, sealers, thinners, strippers and adhesives are also considered hazardous and must be properly contained and stored for a hazardous waste pick up event. If you have questionable items you may call Public Works for more information.

Street Dept. crews will collect your items during your regularly scheduled curbside pick up. You may call **Public Works at 286-7630** or visit [www.dyersburgtn.gov](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov) to get your scheduled dates. Please be prepared and adhere to these dates.



# SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING



**When: April 16th**  
**Where: City Hall**  
**Time: 12:00 p.m.**

### Committee Members

- Keith Burns—Chairperson ( Fire Dept.)
- Tiffany Parker—Secretary (Water Plant)
- Sue Teague (Human Resources)
- Conell King (Waste Water Plant)
- Kerry Owen (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)

If you have a safety concerns, questions or ideas that you would like to discuss, please speak with your department head or with one of the committee members.



## Our Thoughts and Prayers are with:

*Ronnie Collins - Fire Dept.  
and the family of Alice Collins*

*Donna (Gas) & Eddie Hicks  
and the family of Marilyn Polotko*

*Gwen (City Hall) & Stuart Edmonds (Parks & Rec)  
and the family of Charlie Horton*



*For Sale: 6 beautiful,  
full-blooded Border Collie pups, \$75.00 ea.  
Parents on site. Will be ready April 14th. Will give first  
worming. call  
Kim Wilson: 676-7334*



**Happy Birthday!**  
**Linley Claire Dennis**  
**Born: March 6, 2009**  
**Proud Grandparents:**  
**Tony(W/S) and Kelly Epperson**

## Think You Have a Gas Leak?

**Call:**

**288-7604 from: 8:30 – 5:00**  
**After Hours and Weekends:**  
**285-1212**



**DYERSBURG GAS SYSTEM**



# Congratulations!

On March 24th, guests arrived at Bruce Activity Center to honor the accomplishments of Pastor Stuart Edmonds (Director of Bruce and Future City Recreation Centers). After being honored locally for his contribution to area youth through his “**Taking Back Our Community**” program, Stuart humbly spoke giving the credit to God and to Bruce Community members present.

Advising, counseling and mentoring children have been and is Stuart’s passion. Ministering to children, striving to nurture and instruct them in a manner that will ultimately prepare them for the challenges of adult life is his challenge. Three years ago Stuart began his initiative.

It was a great surprise and confirmation; that his work with children is essential in building strengths which will enable area youth to contribute positively to their neighborhoods as well as our society as adults, when he and his wife Gwen (City Hall) received the news that Dyersburg was being honored as a runner up in the 2009 Cultural Diversity Awards by the National League of Cities. An accomplishment which stands on its own merits, made even more impressive when you consider that only 8 cities in the United States were selected as award winners/runners up and in Tennessee, Dyersburg was the sole selection. He and Gwen traveled to Washington, D.C. to accept this prestigious award in mid-March.

Last year’s 3-day **TBOC** event included speakers from as far away as California, local officials and other role models such as a DPD Gang Unit speaker. Prayer, singing and activities for children were part of the three day affair. What Stuart intends to impress upon the community with this program is the need to be responsible for ourselves and each other; that we cannot expect others to raise our children or let them fall by the wayside without consequences. Discipline, respect and accountability is what he imprints on the minds of children and area adults who care enough to take our youth by the hand and mentor through social activity, exercise, and education.

This year’s **TBOC** program is in the planning stages and promises to exceed last year’s endeavors with a few surprises. Area churches are encouraged and welcome to participate to help build the promise of a better tomorrow for our children and grandchildren. For more information contact Pastor Stuart Edmonds at 731-286-7624 or email him at [bruce@dyersburgtn.gov](mailto:bruce@dyersburgtn.gov).

Congratulations, Stuart and to those who work with you and the children who benefit. For every action, there is a reaction, perhaps the reaction for the efforts put forth will be tomorrow’s adults “paying it forward” to future generations.

# Community Softball

## Community Softball

Enjoy an afternoon of fun!  
sponsored by:  
Bruce Community Center  
No age limit!



When: Saturday, April 18,  
2009

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Where: Bruce Community Center  
801 Vernon St.  
Dyersburg, TN 38024

Area wide get-together for kids & adults of all ages. Fun time for family and friends you won't want to miss!

For more information contact:  
Stuart Edmonds, Director  
731-286-7624



Come and join  
us!



Department Heads  
City of Dyersburg

To whom it may concern:

Once again the City of Dyersburg has the safety of their employees at heart. The Dyersburg Fire Department has been conducting a class on Working in Confined Space. Keith Burns safety director of the Dyersburg Fire Department has been teaching the class for each department. The safety of the cities employees is a major concern for the Human Resources department and the Mayor.

The participation of each department head and their employees was great. I would like to thank each person who attended this class. The safety of our employees should be first and foremost on our list as leaders in the city. The department heads showed great leadership in bringing all the city employees together as one unit to work toward a higher goal. As a result of your cooperation we are now more safety conscious of our working in confined spaces and the hazards that could occur.

Again thank you for participating in this class and for your cooperation to work together. As a result of your participation each of you as city employees have shown that you are a city willing to come together as one to help each other. Working together as one unit will strengthen our city to move forward to be number one in safety and concern for our employees.

Sincerely,

*Bob Veal*

Bob Veal,

Fire Chief  
Dyersburg Fire Department



# Community News.....

## BARK IN THE PARK (Humane Society)

Will be held May 2nd at  
Okeena Park.

Come and join the fun.



Former Dyersburg City Schools Superintendent, Sam Reed, had a birthday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Reed is receiving care at the Life Care Center in Cleveland, TN. If you would like to send Mr. Reed a birthday wish, well wishes or just a note you may send it to:

Sam Reed  
Life Care Center Room 8  
3530 Keath St. NW  
Cleveland, TN 37312

*Wishing you well,  
Mr. Reed*



## Dyer County Project Graduation



Dyer County Project Graduation 2009 is now selling tickets for the locally renowned Hee-Haw Comedy Shows to be held at the Bogota Community Center. Shows will be Thursday through Saturday nights, April 9-11; beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

All proceeds benefit Dyer County Project Graduation class of 2009.

For more information contact:  
Penny Rice, City Hall  
731-445-8437



The Special Olympics Track and Field Event will be held April 30 at the DHS football arena. It usually runs from 8:30 am to noon. For more information contact: Faye Owen

The mission of Special Olympics Tennessee, including Dyer County, is to provide year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. Please join us.

## *2009 Weather Road Tour-April 21st*

Dave Brown and The Action News 5 Weather Team will be broadcasting the weather LIVE from Dyersburg State Community College Student Center on Thursday April 21st at 5 and 6 pm.

This is a great opportunity for plenty of fun “meet and greet” opportunities and a video presentation designed to educate viewers and their families on severe weather tools and safety. Get your weather questions answered, meet Dave and get an autograph. Bring the kids to see inside the WMC-TV weather chopper which will land on the DSCC campus!

Teachers: Don't miss this opportunity as an after school field trip and a means to enhance your students education! Local cheer squads, show your school spirit by gathering, in uniform, with your squad leader at 4:30 pm to practice briefly and cheer Dave on! Scout leaders, bring your troops, earn a badge! Senior Citizen Clubs, youth groups, businesses and other organizations are invited to come and learn how to keep yourself, your families and employees safer during emergency weather situations.

It takes an enormous amount of teamwork and planning across all departments at the WMC departments in the station to put this road show together. Let's make a big showing!

**Violent weather months are upon us; DO NOT MISS THIS, make plans to attend.**

**The Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce presents**

**Business**  
**EXPO**  
**2009**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16**

**2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. • The Lannom Center**

**Join us at the premier showcase and networking event of the year!**

The 22nd Annual Business Expo allows a diverse group of Chamber member businesses to showcase their products and services in one location to the public and business representatives. Many non-profits and home based businesses do not have the finances available for marketing, so a discounted rate allows them to participate.

For more information on how you can participate in Business Expo 2009 and showcase YOUR business contact: Paulie Ray or Steve Guttery at 731-285-3433.

## Suggestions for Warding off Starvation

### Roast Venison

6-8 lb roast of venison  
Flour, salt and pepper

6 strips bacon  
1 large onion, sliced



Wipe roast with a cloth soaked in vinegar. Dredge with flour that has been well salted and peppered. Lay strips of bacon over the top, add onion rings and fasten to roast with toothpicks. Roast in a very hot oven (500°) for about 15 minutes, then reduce the heat to moderate (350°) and roast 20 minutes to the pound. About 40 minutes before the end of cooking time, pour soup over roast. Continue cooking, basting occasionally. The soup makes a delicious gravy for the roast. 10-12 servings.

(Note that a soup was not given in this recipe book, use your own discretion, perhaps a broth or cream of mushroom, cream of celery, etc.)

### Potato Pancakes

3 large potatoes  
1 medium onion  
2 eggs

1/2 cup flour  
salt and pepper  
shortening for frying

Grate potatoes and onions and add unbeaten eggs.

Stir and add flour, salt and pepper. Mix all together. Drop by 1/4 cups into heated shortening in a heavy skillet. Serve with applesauce.



Recipes provided by Ricky Tidwell (DPD)

From the book: Cooking and Traveling the Cape Cod Way

Copyright:1953

## Dyersburg State Community College Lannom Gymnasium

on

### April 24th at 7 PM

Tickets can be purchased at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry on the campus of DSCC \$12 in advance or \$15 day of the concert.

The Dyersburg Christian Arts Council exists solely for the purpose of bringing family friendly, quality contemporary Christian music to the Dyersburg area.

On April 24th, families can enjoy live Christian music and quality entertainment at a price much cheaper than the same concerts when they appear in Nashville or Memphis.

We do not even attempt to make a profit on these concerts...only cover the costs...and present the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music!

**We appreciate your support!**





**DYERSBURG CIVITANS SELL WORLD FAMOUS  
JUMBO VIDALIA ONIONS TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY**

The Dyersburg Civitan Club is selling world famous Vidalia Onions to raise money for important local community service projects. The 10lb bags sell for \$10.00 each and can be purchased from any Dyersburg Civitan Club member or you can contact Jeff Jackson, Public Works, Lloyd Collier (285-8780) or Russ Maher (334-1168 )to place your order or fill out the order form below and send it in:

The Dyersburg Civitan Club helps support several local Dyersburg organizations including:

- Tennessee Area 20
- Special Olympics
- Matthew 25:40
- Boy and Girl Scouts
- Dyersburg State Community College
- DHS National Honor Society
- Dixie Youth Baseball
- Dyersburg Developmental Skills Center
- Tennessee Vocational
- Rehab Center
- Reelfoot Ministries
- Dream Factory

and other deserving organizations.....

<p align="center"><b>Dyersburg Civitan Club</b> <b>2009 Vidalia Onion – Order Form</b> <b>\$10.00 / 10 lb Bag</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Ph. #: _____</p> <p># Bags: _____ Total \$: _____</p> <p>Check/MO enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Pay at Pick-up <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Check or Money Order only, please do not send cash.</b></p> <p><b>Make checks/ mo payable to: The Dyersburg Civitan Club</b></p> <p><b>Mail order form to: PO Box 491, Dyersburg, TN 38025</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Clip and Save!</b> <b>Customer Order Record</b> <b>Civitan 2009 Onion Sale</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p># Bags: _____</p> <p>Total \$: _____</p> <p>Pre-paid: _____ Pay at Pick Up: _____</p> <p><b>Onions will be available for pick up at:</b> <b>Okeena Park</b> <b>Friday May 15, 2009</b> <b>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</b></p>
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Local Civitan clubs meet a wide variety of needs in their communities, with an emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities.

The Civitan International Foundation continues this mission with a \$20 million dollar commitment to its flagship project, The Civitan International Research Center at The University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Civitan is an international association of local community service clubs. Started in Birmingham, AL in 1917, Civitan has become one of the world's leading volunteer service organizations, with more than 40,000 men, women and youth in 24 countries.

You can visit us on the web at [www.civitan.net/dyersburgtn](http://www.civitan.net/dyersburgtn), [www.civitan.org](http://www.civitan.org) or call us at 1-800-CIVITAN (248-4826).



**The 2009 Civitan Golf Tournament**  
**Saturday, May 2, 2009**  
**The Farms Golf Club, Dyersburg, TN**

**For more info contact:**

**Russ Maher 731-334-1168, Daniel Booker 731-676-3523 or Brent Neal 731-287-4309**

*Support the Dyer County Chapter of the American Red Cross*  
Bring the whole family!



# **HOMETOWN HEROES SPRING EVENT**



April 4, 2009  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Dyersburg Square  
2400 Lake Rd



Meet our Hometown Heroes  
Firemen, National Guard, Police  
City Officials  
Senator Mark Norris

Barbecue by *Sun Products Barbeque Team*

Yard Sale & Bake Sale

Entertainment

Live and Silent Auction

See the Red Cross Safety House and the  
Red Cross ERV (Emergency Response Vehicle)

*All proceeds go to the Dyer County Chapter of the American Red Cross*

For more information call 731-286-4740

## You Can Raise Money-Smart Kids—Here's How

We've all had a conversation with our kids that has gone something like this:

*You:* "No, we can't afford that right now, put it back."

*Your kid:* "But why can't you just use your card to pay for it?"

To young kids and even teenagers, it's tough making the connection between that little piece of plastic and what's actually in your bank account or what you can pay on a month-to-month basis. In a time of online banking, debit cards, and revolving credit, it's even harder to show your children that budget-to-spending link.

For lots of parents it's easier to talk about sex than money. To help, Debra Pankow, PhD, a family economic specialist at North Dakota State University, shares four strategies that she's even used with her own kids:

**Follow the money.** For children under 10 (who can't connect the abstract debit card with cold hard cash), start with a field trip to the bank. Bring cash with you to make a deposit and explain how the money is credited to your account. Then you can use your card to take out the money again.

**Schedule some computer time.** Lots of parents use online bill paying because it's so easy. The next time you're getting ready to pay bills, have your child join you. As you pay bills, you can also review your account and show your child expenses such as food or gas that are also taken out of the account. And if there's a specific transaction your child can connect with, such as a toy you purchased using your debit card, be sure to point that out.

**Test teens with a trial card.** When kids get older and go off to college or are on their own for the first time, they're likely to be deluged with credit card offers. Within a few years they can amass thousands of dollars of debt. To help avoid that, set up an account and card for your teen with a limit between \$300 to \$700. Establish rules about the use of the card, such as it can only be used for gas or textbooks or in emergencies, then monitor your teen's use of the card closely.

**Double the difference between debit and credit.** Those pieces of plastic look the same, but as you know, a debit card and credit card are different. Explain how a debit card comes directly out of your account, but a credit card creates a balance that can come with additional charges if not paid in full. So it can cost more to buy something with a credit card. A good example: If you charge \$1,000 at 18% interest and make the minimum payments, you'll end up paying double—\$2,000. So, when your son asks you to charge that \$1,000 sound system, ask him if he thinks it's really worth \$2,000.

### ***Did You Know?***

- \* As many as 40% of teenagers don't understand that banks charge interest on loans or that credit cards are a form of borrowing, with interest tacked on.
- \* There is now a Monopoly Electronic Banking Edition that uses debit cards instead of cash.
- \* The site PAYjr (payjr.com) allows you to assign chores and track allowance payments electronically. For kids 13 and up, you can even make allowance payments electronically through a reloadable prepaid Visa.
- \* The National Student Loan Program (NSLP) offers free online courses on credit cards, financing education, budgeting through NSLP Financial Literacy Online (nslpflonline.org).





Mayor John Holden, Dr. Phillip A Cook,  
Deana Self, Mylissa Clark  
and Rhonda Caldwell

The casual way of looking at things always answers only the question, "Why?" but never "To what end?" ... However if someone asks, "For what purpose should we help one another, make life easier for each other, make beautiful music together, have inspired thoughts?" he would have to be told, "If you don't feel the reasons no one can explain them to you." Without this primary feeling we are nothing and had better not live at all.

-Albert Einstein

## Congratulations and Thank You First United Methodist Church

**Rising out of the biblical call to love one another and care for one another is the reason First United Methodist Church members and their now annual Mission Blitz program (members from within and outside of the Church) reach out to the community to do the work of Christ. Only the second year as a community service program, First United Methodist Church was nominated and earned the statewide Community Leadership Award from TDOT and Keep Tennessee Beautiful.**

**Last year's event involved Mission Blitz members and participants in over 30 community wide projects from planting flowers, painting buildings, picking up trash and volunteering at local agencies. This event takes a year to plan with surveys going out to find out the needs in our community before volunteers are assigned specific projects.**

**We'd like to thank Dr. Cook, First United Methodist Church and Mission Blitz members for participating in last year's Great American Cleanup, for their inspiration, and for the good works they do in the community showing others in word and deed, how important it is to reach out to those in need, cementing a relationship with those they know and those they do not. For it is not what we have, but who we are that is important.**

pmd

<sup>1</sup>char·ac·ter

ker-ik-tər

**the complex of mental and ethical traits marking and often individualizing a person, group, or nation <the *character* of the American people>**

## April is National Donate Life Month

### 30 Days to Help Save a Life: What to Do in April

National Donate Life Month was established in 2003. Every day in April, people across the U.S. make a special effort to celebrate the tremendous generosity of those who have saved lives by becoming organ, tissue, marrow, and blood donors and to encourage more Americans to follow their fine example.

### Make it known: I want to be a donor

- Register with your State Donor Registry, [organdonor.gov](http://organdonor.gov)
- Say YES to donation on your driver's license.
- Tell your family, friends, physician, and faith leader that you want to be a donor.
- Fill out and sign a donor card, have it witnessed, carry it with you.

### Tell someone: The need is great and growing.

- More than 98,000 people are in need of an organ for transplant.
- Each day, about 77 people get the organ transplant that gives them a second chance, but 17 to 19 others die because they did not receive an organ transplant.
- More than half the people on the waiting list for a donated organ are racial or ethnic minorities. Chances of getting a transplant increase if donor and recipient share the same racial/ethnic background.

### Get involved: Become a donation advocate.

- Encourage your company, association, union, or other organizations to which you may belong to join the [Workplace Partnership for Life](#).
- Promote and support work site donation campaigns.
- Tell your local high school about [Decision Donation](#), a school program that educates students



# OrganDonor.Gov

Access to U.S. Government Information on  
Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation



## Summer Work Experience Program Launched

If you are interested in serving as a worksite, please complete the following form, detach and mail to Northwest Tennessee Workforce Board, 313 West Cedar Street, Dyersburg, TN 38024. For more information contact Lori Marberry, Youth Coordinator, (866) 286-3585, extension 15 or [marberry@nwtworks.org](mailto:marberry@nwtworks.org).



- Internship program for economically disadvantaged young adults
- Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- Administered by your local Tennessee Career Center—  
*Where People and Jobs Connect*

Company/Non-profit: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person/Supervisor of Intern(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Interns requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Internship (Please include the title of the position, describe the duties of the intern, responsibilities, work hours, proper attire, age requirement):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Northwest TN Workforce Board  
313 W Cedar St. / Dyersburg, TN 38024  
FAX: 731-286-3584



### DSCC Theatre Department Presents

## *Enchanted April*

*A story of laughter and love*

April 23-25 First Citizens National Bank Auditorium  
In the Campus Activities Building at DSCC

Tickets at the door: \$5.00 Students, faculty, staff and senior citizens  
\$6.00 all others—For more information contact Meleia Lewis 286-3261

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ruby Bernard  
 Jennifer Boyd  
 Latham Collier  
 Perry Cox  
 David Dodds  
 Rachel Dudley  
 Tommy Ellis  
 Richie Fowlkes  
 Jimmy Frazier  
 Patricia Gibson  
 Joel Goff  
 Jimmy Hicks  
 Rusty Hilliard  
 Christi Holland  
 Terryll Holland  
 Scotty Hollis  
 Michael Hunter

James Johnson  
 Kenneth Johnson  
 Sharon Lents  
 Mason McDowell  
 Barbara McElrath  
 Jerry Mealer  
 Dennis Moody  
 James Putman  
 Jannifer Ross  
 Brett Sipes  
 Barry Stanley  
 Todd Thayer  
 Linda Vaughn  
 Clint Veal  
 Rod Ward  
 Michael Ward  
 James Wells  
 Paul Daniel Wilson

# HAPPY EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY

Mark Moody—27 years  
 David Wicker—23 years  
 Joel Burkhead—22 years  
 Kenneth Moody—21 years  
 Alfred Stanbrough—19 years  
 William Gable Jr.—19 years  
 Janie Connell-16 years  
 Johnny Garner- 14 years  
 Barbara McElrath- 14 years  
 Joey Clutts- 13 years  
 Sandra Cooley—13 years  
 Connie Sentell- 13 years  
 James Tyus- 12 years  
 Linda Pujol- 11 years  
 Royce McGuire-10 years  
 Alea Johnson— 7 years  
 Jason Leake- 7 years  
 Charles Epperson- 5 years  
 Kevin Newman- 5 years  
 Khyra Maclin- 4 years  
 Joel Goff- 3 years  
 Heath Pritchett- 3 years  
 Jimmy Atchison- 2 years  
 Sharon Lents- 1 year

# 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](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov)
- **Lifeline Blood Mobile** is at Dyersburg Electric the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- **April 1st—30th**—City of Dyersburg Neighborhood Cleanup
- **April 10th** — Good Friday—City Offices Closed
- **April 12th**—Easter
- **April 21st**—Weather Road show
- **April 22nd**— Administrative Professionals Day
- **April 25th**—26th Annual Great American Clean Up
- **May 2nd**—Bark In The Park—Humane Society
- **May 7th**—National Day of Prayer
- **May 8th**—Chamber Business & Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament
- **May 15th**— Relay for Life  
 National Law Enforcement Recognition Day,  
 Dyersburg Police Department



# NOTICE

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to receive your own copy each month, email [pdamesworth@dyersburgtn.gov](mailto:pdamesworth@dyersburgtn.gov)  
 If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter from the City of Dyersburg, email [tparker@dyersburgtn.gov](mailto: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](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov)  
 Thanks Everyone!