

JULY 2009



Dyersburg City News

Vol. 4 Issue 7



On Friday, June 12, 2009 Dyersburg Mayor John Holden announced the appointment of Arthur "Art" Heun as the new Chief of Police for the Dyersburg Police Department. Scheduled to begin his service with the DPD in July, Heun is currently the Chief of Police for the Olive Branch, Miss. Police Department where he has served for approximately six years. He is also the former Chief of Police for the Pulaski, Tenn. Police Department, serving there for four years. While at the PPD, he was awarded the 2002 Middle Tennessee Chief of the Year by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police.

Prior to that, Heun served 27 years in the Shelby County Sheriff's Office. While there, he established a performance record of managerial, personal and professional growth in earning significant leadership positions, serving in critical high visibility roles including Executive Officer of the Narcotics Division, Commander of the Property Crimes Detective Division, Commander of Metro DUI and Sheriff's Traffic Division and Executive Officer of the Internal Affairs Bureau. He also served as a Hostage Negotiator and Commander of the Negotiating Unit for 16 years.

Chief Heun has served as Chairman of the Legislative Committee for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and is the current President-Elect of the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police. Heun has also participated in over 650 hours of specialized training seminars and programs including FBI Executive Development, Counseling Strategies for Crisis Intervention, FBI Hostage Negotiating School, US Secret Service, Advanced Accident investigation, Gang Investigation and FBI Quantico.

The appointment was made after a three-month selection process, beginning on Feb. 19, which included the assistance and recommendations from the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, located in Nashville. The position was advertised with the local State Gazette as well as the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police.

City of Dyersburg officials report that 31 resumes were received for the position. The resumes were reviewed by the City Human Resource Department as well as the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, reducing the number of applicants to 18. These 18 applicants submitted additional information for consideration, which reduced the pool to 13 applicants. Telephone interviews were conducted with the remaining 13 applicants April 20 through 29. These interviews were conducted by Chief of Police of the Oak Ridge, Tenn. Police Department David Beams, Chief of Police of the Brownsville, Tenn. Police Department Gil Kendrick, and City of Dyersburg Human Resources Director Sue Teague.

From these interviews, nine final applicants were selected for face-to-face interviews conducted over a period of two days, culminating on Friday with the appointment of Chief Heun. "I appreciate the hard work of Sue Teague, the assistance of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, Chief Beams and Chief Kendrick," said Holden. "I also appreciate the men and women of the Dyersburg Police Department for their patience and understanding as this process was conducted."

Mayor John Holden

MAYOR'S OFFICE

The 2009/2010 budget was approved Friday, June 26th, 2009. I want to thank everyone for their work in getting this completed on time. As each of you are aware this was a very difficult year due to the economic situation that surrounds us. During the last week of June, Sue Teague and I have conducted employee meetings to share with each of you the changes in the insurance for next year as well as other items relating to the 2009/2010 budget. I hope that you have found these meetings to be informative and helpful. There have been many great questions, suggestions, and discussions relating to the operations of the city. I would stress again the importance of conserving fuel, reducing utility costs, managing expenses and looking for any opportunities within your respective department to save money.

The fireworks show is scheduled once again this year. They will be shot from Dyersburg High School, between the baseball and softball fields on the 4th of July. I would like to thank Gerald Ketchum and the group of volunteers for their dedication each year in doing this for the City of Dyersburg. I would also like to thank those who help sponsor this event. It is always a great display.

Congratulations to Tim Griffith on his recent promotion to Assistant Superintendent of the Wastewater Plant. I know that he will do a great job in this new position.

We are planning again this year a back-to-school swim party for all city employees and their families at Okeena Park. The tentative date is scheduled for July 28th; more details will follow.

Please continue to remember our National Guard unit as they are away from us serving in the Middle East.

I appreciate each and every one of you and all that you do for our city. Stay safe and please let me know if ever I can assist you in any way.



Mayor Holden



Department News.....

THE NEW LOOK OF FIRE HYDRANTS

As you may have seen, the fire hydrants are changing colors. Since fire hydrants are needed during an emergency, they should be immediately recognizable to fire fighting forces as well as to the general public. The recent changes in the Rules for Water Systems (TDEC Rule # 1200-5-1-.17 (18)) in the State of Tennessee requires a water system to use a specific method of color coding certain fire hydrants. Also, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards calls for the bonnets and caps to be color coded to indicate the hydrants available flow. The City of Dyersburg's hydrants will have the bonnet/cap of the hydrant color code as follows and a chrome body.

Class C—Red—less than 500 gallons per minute

Class D— Black bonnet of covering— temporarily out of service

Class B —Orange— 500-999 gallons per minute

Class A—Green-1000-1499 gallons per minute

Class AA— Blue— 1500 gallons per minute & above

The recommended Fire Hydrant body colors are as follows

Municipal System—Chrome or Yellow

Private System— Red

Non Potable System—Violet



500-999 GPM

All the Fire Hydrants on the Dyersburg Water System have been flushed including the RoEllen Area. Here are a few pictures so you can see the before and after. Thanks to all who were involved in the Flushing Program.



This is a picture of the water during the first few minutes of flushing. It is orange in color. The debris that has built up in the line over the last year is being removed.



This is a picture of the water after a line has been completely flushed. It is clear in color. Looks Great!

The purpose of the Flushing Program is to provide a safe high quality water supply to the customers of the City of Dyersburg Water System and for the Fire Department to get their flow readings.

Thanks Again to all who were involved.

HUMAN RESOURCES

We are in the process of developing an acceptable use policy for City of Dyersburg employees regarding the use of the internet and other city-owned networking resources.

This policy will address the use of social networking sites (Facebook, My Space, Twitter, etc.). We ask that you do not access any of these sites during work hours effective immediately.

We will publish a complete policy in the near future.

Thank You

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with:

**Brett Sipes and the family
of Peggy Patton**

**Jay Cryer and the family
of LaMotte McCorkle**

RETIREMENT STATEMENTS

Just as a reminder – Treasurer Steve Anderson has advised us that we can be looking for the updated Retirement Statements this fall!!



LOCATING PHYSICIANS WHO ARE IN NETWORK

This is just a reminder that each of you who are enrolled in the Underwriters' Medical Plan has the ability to go online and find what physicians are in the network. Not only can you access the physicians who are in the Underwriters' network, but the Health Choice physicians who are available to us as in-network physicians are also listed. Please follow the instructions below to access this information:

Go to: <http://www.uscky.com/>

Click on "Group Health Login" on left side of homepage.

Click on "Sign-up" and follow instructions to create your account.

You will be prompted to list a username and password. Be sure to write these down so you won't forget them.

Once you have signed in to your account, the following information is available to you:

Underwriters Safety and Claims

My Benefits

- Announcements
- Benefit Plan Information
- Claims
- Eligibility
- FAQ's
- Online** Customer Service

System

- System Services
- System News

When you click on "Benefit Plan Information" you will be able to view a list of the physicians in Underwriters network and Health Choice Network.

You can also click on "Claims" and check on any claims you have filed to see if they have been processed and paid.

You also can access Partners Rx which allows you to view the prescription drugs by category (Generic, Brand Formulary, and Brand Non-Formulary). This should be helpful when visiting your physician and obtaining your maintenance prescriptions such as blood pressure medication. And don't forget, you can save money by using the mail order plan and receiving a 90-day supply at one time.



MEDICAL PLAN CHANGES

We are listing the changes made in the medical plan just in case you missed the meetings that Mayor Holden and I have conducted this week. As stated in the meetings, these changes should not have a negative impact on you and your family if you will just be sure to use In-network physicians and facilities. We are also re-publishing the instructions you need to help you get onto the Website and look up these physicians and facilities that are in the network.

There will be no change in the co-pay for your generic prescription drugs (either retail or mail-order). Also keep in mind that there are some generic drugs that are available at some pharmacies for \$4.00/30 day supply or \$10.00/ 90 day supply. Remember, you can also check on the preferred brand name drugs on this website. Using the mail order plan is a great savings for you, as well as a convenience since these prescriptions are mailed directly to your home address.

Please also note that the Chiropractic benefits have been very much improved. We have increased the benefit to cover 20 visits rather than 10 per year and with a maximum payment of \$50/visit – which allows you a maximum of \$1,000/year rather than the previous \$250.

Another great feature of the Underwriters website is the fact that you can track your claims to see when they are being paid. Please familiarize yourself with the website and it will be a great resource.

As we emphasized in our meetings – we all must learn to manage our health care plan in much the same way that we manage our family budget.

CITY OF DYERSURG MEDICAL PLAN CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009



Deductible, Per Calendar Year—per covered person out of Network \$2000.00
per family unit out of Network \$4,000.00

Maximum Out Of Pocket Amount, Per Calendar Year– per covered person out of network \$5,000.00
per family unit out of network \$10,000.00

Primary Care Physician Office Visit—All services that are performed in office of network provider—100% of the allowable amount after \$25.00 copayment.

Specialist Office Visit—All services that are performed in office of network provider– 100% of the allowable amount after \$50.00 copayment.

Spinal Manipulation Chiropractic—20 visits per calendar year maximum \$50.00 per visit in office of network provider.
20 visits per calendar year maximum \$50.00 per visit in office of non-net work provider.

Allergy Testing– 100% of allowable amount after \$50.00 copayment in office of network provider.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

Pharmacy Option

Formulary Brand Name Drugs Copayment—\$35.00

Non-Formulary Brand Name Drugs Copayment-\$50.00

Mail Order Prescription Drug Option

Formulary Brand Name Drugs Copayment—\$70.00

Non-Formulary Brand Name Drugs Copayment-\$100.00



For More information on these medical changes Contact Sue Teague at City Hall 288-7604.

INSURANCE MEETINGS



News of the slight changes in benefits and even the news that there would be no cost-of-living raises was well received by employees at the meetings presented to employees by Mayor John Holden and Human Resources Director Sue Teague during June. The economic hardships felt here and across the country are causing a lot of pain, much of it close to home. Fortunately our hours will not be cut, there will be no layoffs, and all benefits — vacation, holiday, medical and prescription all remain intact. With very little change to the cost of prescriptions, co-pay for specialists, and out-of-network providers, and an increase in chiropractic benefits; we remain blessed.



Congratulations



to Tyler Forrest McGuire, son of Royce (W/S) and Becky McGuire.
Tyler was recently accepted as a member of the United States Coast Guard,
the nation's oldest continuous seagoing service, dedicated to the preservation of life and property.

Tyler's recruiter, Craig Phillips, had this to say about Tyler:

"I would like to make you aware of ...student Tyler Forrest McGuire. Tyler has completed the process of enlistment and been selected to receive one of the opening positions as an Electricians Mate in the United States Coast Guard. Tyler demonstrated through the process his strong moral character and willingness to pursue a career in the Department of Homeland Security. Though Tyler will be going for training in the Electricians Mate field where he will be able to achieve title of Master Electrician, he will also be charged with the duties of saving lives and being on the forefront of the battle to stop the flow of illegal drugs into our country. This is a large task that grows bigger every day. He will serve as a member of our vital organization with Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. To join our service is different from any other. You must have high aptitude scores; complete a thorough background check, clean credit record, and no criminal involvement, and the confidence to uphold our service traditions. The year alone we only had 43 openings to fill out of an applicant pool of thousands. We interview for West TN, MS, AR, and KY and MO. Now you may understand the scope of selection we go through and just how he was chosen to become a member of our service instead of just "enlisting". He will be a welcomed member...May we all sleep better each night with the assurance that Tyler is defending our freedoms".

Craig Phillips, US Coast Guard

From the Department of Sanitation/Landfill

“Your Job”

Page 3 of the Employee Handbook under the above titled section states:

“Your job at the City is very important. The performance of your assigned work must be done promptly, efficiently and courteously in order that the City may fulfill its obligations to its citizens. Never underestimate the significance of your job, since your fellow employees and the citizens of the City depend upon you. Your dress, speech, and personal habits are observed by the people with whom you come in contact namely, the general public as well as fellow employees. Every employee has the basic responsibility to project a good image throughout the community at all times. To the citizens of this City, you are the City of Dyersburg.”

I received in the mail from Sue Teague a letter she received about customer service provided to a relatively new Dyersburg resident, it follows in part:

“My husband and I are writing this letter to express our sincerest thank you to **Walter Lowery** of the...Sanitation Dept. in the handling of the...customer service call regarding garbage service.

The main purpose of my call was to inquire about ...procedure in the disposal of cat litter. ...As my husband and I are relatively new to the State of TN and the City of Dyersburg, we wanted to verify we were following proper “bagging” guidelines. I was transferred to Walter Lowery. Walter was concerned and very polite during our phone call. He said that he would be over shortly to take care of my issue and discuss my concerns in person. I cannot express my disbelief when Walter, true to his word, arrived at my home a short time later. Honestly I thought this was just “a line” to pacify me and my complaint. He exited the work truck with a smile on his face with the intent of taking care of my problem in both a professional and courteous manner. Well, let me tell you...he most certainly did so. ...

I do not believe people take the time these days to say thank you when they have received outstanding customer service. I have no hesitation in giving credit where it is due. This letter serves as my “shout out” to Walter for being an outstanding employee. ...”

Sincerely thanks,
Carye Thomas & Mark Cunningham

My sincerest thanks go out to Walter for stepping up to the plate and doing a fantastic job as interim superintendent. I rest easier in my recuperation knowing you are able to handle the responsibilities and do them well. My thanks to the rest of the staff as well. I am feeling much better and will continue to improve. I hope to be back to work mid July. Thanks to everyone for their prayers, phone calls and cards. See you all soon.

John Damesworth
SWM Superintendent

Say it with a smile, on the phone or face to face, customer service counts!



Proud Poppy and Nana, David (W/S) and Tammy Rice welcome newest grandson Jayden Brooks. Jayden was born May 27th, weighed 6 lb. 2 oz. and was 18.5” long. Parents are Brandon and Ashley Brooks, big brother is Jaksen Brooks.





SGT D.J. Snyder: "I'm just sayin'....I'm just sayin'."



SGT DJ Snyder spent time with his wife Amanda and his daughter Dakota and son Caleb.

Former W/S employee DJ Snyder, son of Street Superintendent Dale Snyder, was recently featured in THE TITAN, a newsletter produced for and by the 168th Military Police Battalion. DJ was home recently for a little R & R before returning to Camp Bucca, Iraq. Thank you, DJ and the men and women of the 168th Military Police Battalion and all other branches of the United States Armed Forces for your dedication to Duty, Honor, and Country; stay safe.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

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)
- Debbie Sanders (EOC)



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.

The Dyersburg Activity Center will be having water aerobics for women on Monday and Thursday nights from 6pm – 8pm. City employees can come at no charge; others will pay \$3.00 per day or \$16.00 for the month. Classes will be held at Activity Center pool. Any questions please call 288-7623.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Paula Finley has been awarded the Secretary position at the Cemetery. She will be replacing Gail Hopgood who is retiring on July 31. Paula will move to this position on July 6 to start training with Gail. We wish Paula the best in her new position.

Tim Griffith has been awarded the Assistant Superintendent position at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. We wish Tim the best in his new position.

HAPPY RETIREMENT

Gail Hopgood



THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone for their support in the **TAKING BACK OUR COMMUNITY** event. It was a great success. We, the employees at Bruce & Future City, would like to thank everyone who helped on this event. We also would like to thank the Tennessee Rollerz for their help in participating in our **TAKE BACK OUR COMMUNITY** event. They were a great help. Once again we say thank you very much.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
STUART EDMONDS & THE BRUCE & FUTURE CITY EMPLOYEES

Community News.....

Recycle, Reduce, Reuse

In an effort to reduce the number of mailings and/or faxes received from duplicated mailings to outdated addressing and non-applicable correspondence, I asked long time Public Works employee, Connie Sentell to head up the project. Since September 24th, 2007 Connie has been emailing, faxing and calling the appropriate contact to request removal from their mailing lists and to update names. To date approximately 700 publications/correspondences have been purged or updated. It may take more than one attempt by Connie to accomplish this task, but she is diligent in her efforts with superb results. After spending nearly two years on this project, much less time is now spent making contacts and less time is spent distributing unnecessary and/or junk mail. In addition trees are saved, improving the environment and certainly the publishers must be saving postage!

The mailings and faxes that are received in the meantime are placed in the paper recycle bin to be recycled and reused in another form.

Small efforts go a long way toward a greener, leaner economy. This is Connie's contribution. What is yours?



Penny D.

**BBQ BENEFIT SALE
FOR THE TROY &
CHRISTINA MCCALLUM
FAMILY**

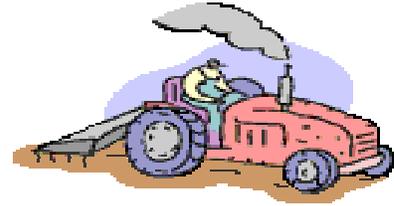
**Saturday, July 11th
Dyersburg Square Parking Lot
(next to McDonalds)
9AM—4PM**

- BBQ SANDWICH (\$3)
- BBQ BOLOGNA SANDWICH (\$3)
- CHICKEN LEG QUARTER (\$2)

COOKING PROVIDED BY MAW & PAW'S HILLSBILLY FUNDRAISING TEAM
(Sgt Armstrong, Head Cook)

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE MADE TO THE
MCCALLUM FAMILY FUND AT FIRST CITIZENS
NATIONAL BANK.

**Visit historic
Downtown Dyersburg**



and the
Farmer's Market
From 7:00 am to sell out
Every Tuesday and Saturday
Support your local farmers!

**Farmers...creating jobs from Main
Street to Wall Street...**

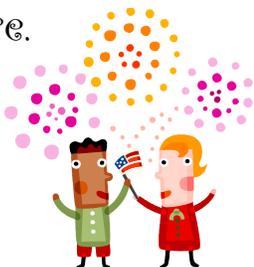


*Have a safe and
Happy 4th of July*

This year's fireworks display will be shot from the Dyersburg High School baseball parking lot. That area is located between Dyersburg High School and DSCC. There will still be viewing areas DSCC.

To make this event a "Litter Free Event", please place your garbage in the proper containers and leave nothing on the grounds.

Please come and enjoy the fireworks and celebrate 233 years of independence.



**Freedom isn't free.
Remember our troops.**



HAPPY EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY

Correction—Tommy Ellis- 39 years as of June 2009

- Joe Scott- 30 years
- James Johnson—29 years
- Anthony Veal-23 years
- Elma Ward-19 years
- Pam Reagan- 18 years
- Dale Snyder-17 years
- Keith Burns-15 years
- Chris Davenport-14 years
- Michael Hunter-14 years
- Adelene Chambers— 12 years
- Thomas Langford-11 years
- Chris Pursell-11 years
- James Roy-11 years
- Robert Palmer-10 years
- Brain Peckenpaugh- 10 years
- Wendy Thayer- 10 years
- William Littles- 9 years
- Kerry Owen- 9 years
- James Wells—9 years
- Barry Scobey—8 years
- Cara Johnson-7 years
- Matilda Tipton-7 years
- Joseph Stewart- 6 years
- Robert Beard Jr.- 5 years
- Rachel Anderson-4 years
- Penny Damesworth-4 years
- Allen Hardin- 3 years
- Donnie Hutcheson- 3 years
- John Murray- 3 years
- Annalee Austin-2 years
- Patricia Gibson- 2 years
- David Rice- 2 years
- Bethaney Willard-2 years
- Richard Wright-2 years
- Doris Jones-1 year
- Randy Littles- 1 year

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

- Board Meetings—1st & 3rd Monday of each month.
- To be placed on the agenda for a meeting you must call 288-7600 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.
- July 4th—Independence Day!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Everett "Anthony" Adams
 Rachel Anderson
 Jimmy Atchison
 Annalee Austin
 Melissa Bane
 Robert Beard Jr.
 Randall Beaver
 Jerry Blair
 Russell Blalock
 Paul Braithwaite
 Jennifer Brock
 Michael Carman
 Y Z Lyte
 Esther Manns
 Renne Pietroboni
 Randall Pinkley
 Robert Simmons
 David Williams

Kevin Chaney
 Katy Clark
 Connie Crawford
 Penny Damesworth
 Vella Denny
 Stuart Edmonds
 Paula Finley
 Michael Fisher
 Michael Galloway
 Jimmy Hurst
 James Johnson
 Doris Jones
 Jeremy McNutt
 Martha Mitchell
 Randall Pinkley
 Ricky Roberts
 Linda Webb
 Pam Pleasant

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!