



# Dyersburg City News

Vol. 4 Issue 5

## 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



### 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



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

## Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

May 7th, 2009

6:30 a.m.—7:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church  
 Fellowship Hall  
 220 Masonic St. W.  
 Dyersburg, TN 38024



For more information or tickets \$3  
 Contact:

Mayor John Holden's Office  
 at 731-288-7600

Sponsored By: Dyer County Ministerial  
 Organization

We will not be meeting on the square this year.



- [Switching Channels](#) Make the transition from analog to digital television--scheduled now for June 12--with eco-grace, responsibly recycling old sets and shopping for new ones that are the most environmentally friendly.

*Congratulations Larry Putman (Fire Dept)*

*On your Retirement! You will be missed!*



## MAYOR'S OFFICE

In the month of May we will begin budget hearings. Steve Anderson has sent budget worksheets to every department head. Some of you have already completed these and returned to City Hall. I would ask that these are submitted on time so that we may begin our 2009 / 2010 budget process on time. As I stated in the January newsletter, these are troubling economic times that our Country is facing. This certainly is apparent by factory closings, an increase in unemployment rates and the reduction of wages and benefits. We (the City of Dyersburg) have for the past two years and especially last year have been diligent in cutting expenses, reducing costs, re-negotiating contracts and looking for opportunities to increase revenues. We have been very successful in these areas and now, because of those actions, we are in a much better position than other municipalities. We must continue to look for ways to reduce our costs while providing necessary services to our citizens. Please share with us any ideas you may have to help us be more efficient.

In the April newsletter I mentioned the increase in our hotel/motel tax as a result of the ice storm that hit our area at the end of January. The hotel/motel tax increased 68% that month. I also stated that I would share with you the sales tax collection figures for that time period. I have just received those and in the month of February 2009 we experienced a **9.3%** increase in our local option sales tax. Year to date our local option sales tax reflects an increase of **1.47%**.

I want to thank Ersley McLemore and his committee for their recent efforts with the Great American Cleanup. The event was held Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> and there was a tremendous turnout. It was a great opportunity to clean up our city, fellowship with others and to teach our young people the importance of making a positive impact in the community.

I also want to thank the First United Methodist Church for their hard work and community improvement projects as they held their 3<sup>rd</sup> Mission Blitz on the last Saturday in April. I truly appreciate their dedication and commitment in improving and ministering in our community..

Upcoming events in the month of May include the Inaugural Dyersburg/Dyer County Volkswalk which will be held Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Dyersburg State Community College. Registration begins at 7:30am at the Administration Building. The DMS Earthfest will be held on Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>, at The Dyersburg Middle School Outdoor Classroom and Campus from 9:00am – 2:00pm. Earthfest is designed to teach sixth graders about their role in protecting the environment and simple things they can do to ensure the future of our Earth.

The Mayors Prayer Breakfast will be held on Thursday May 7th at First Baptist Church, serving will begin at 6:15am. Tickets are available at City Hall and the cost is \$3.00 per ticket. This year instead of a guest speaker there will be a concert of prayers and special singing. I encourage you to attend as we unite in prayer.

The month of May we will also celebrate Public Works Week and we will take this opportunity to thank those employees of the Public Works Department. We appreciate their hard work and service to the City of Dyersburg.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dyersburg Bluegrass Festival will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at the Dyersburg/Dyer County Fairgrounds. Friday night events will begin at 5pm and on Saturday the time will be from 10am – 10pm. There is no admission fee. For more information contact Freeman Dudley at 693-8275. Also Relay for Life will be held on Friday night May 15<sup>th</sup> at Dyersburg State Community College.

Please 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



An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.



The WHO is reporting that the Swine Flu outbreak has reached  
Level 5 pandemic threat.

**Until further notice, all City employees should do the following:**

1. Wash your hands often throughout the work day, especially before eating. Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 2 minutes.
2. Daily, spray the work area with one a general burst of a spray disinfectant. Note, lightly spray, **DO NOT** spray so that it leaves a damp residue.
3. If you have a cough, then please use a Kleenex to cover your mouth and nose and immediately dispose of it in a waste container.
5. Lightly disinfect the interior/exterior door handles that are commonly used, as well as common areas such as the hallways and restrooms, kitchen, etc, several times a day.
6. Be familiar with the symptoms. Do not come to work if you are showing these symptoms. Seek medical attention.

Don't be scared, be prepared.

# Department News.....

**WATER PLANTS**

## National Drinking Water Week May 3-9 2009



The City of Dyersburg's Water Treatment Plants Operator's constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water sources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Take this month to think about how precious your drinking water supply is and find out what you can do to protect it. Water treatment operators take pride in providing the city with clean water. If you are curious on how the treatment process works, give us a call (731) 288-0724 or go online at [www.dyersburgtn.gov](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov) and click on Water Treatment Department.

## DYERSBURG FIRE PREVENTION



### Tips on how to prevent Burns and Scalds...



- Set your water heater at 120 degrees F or less or just below the medium setting.
  - Test the water before your children get into the tub.
  - When children are in the tub, stay close enough to touch them.
- Use safety caps to keep children from putting things into electrical outlets.
  - Keep children away from the range when you are cooking.
    - Lock up all matches and lighters.
  - Only use candles when an adult is in the room.
  - Blow out candle if you leave the room or go to sleep.
- Gasoline can catch fire with only a tiny spark. Store it in a special safety can. Never bring it indoors, even in small amounts.

[www.homesafetycouncil.org](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org)



## DYERSBURG POLICE DEPT.

The Dyersburg Police Department will join law enforcement agencies around the nation to pay tribute to those peace officers who have died in the line of duty. This annual event will be held at the Dyer County Courthouse at 12 noon on Friday, May 15th. The 30-minute ceremony will include special music and will honor the local officers who were killed while serving our citizens. We encourage everyone to support our law enforcement officers by attending this short event.

# National Public Safety Week Telecommunicators Week April 12th—18th 2009

Every year the second full week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators, also known as dispatchers. These men and women play a very important role in the distribution of emergency services throughout the nation.

When a person calls 9-1-1 it is a telecommunicator/dispatcher who answers the call, usually the caller is in a crisis and needs an immediate response. It is up to the dispatcher to analyze the call and attend to the immediate needs of the caller and to make certain that the information received is broadcasted to police, firefighters, and paramedics to ensure the protection of life and property.

On a daily basis these men and women deal with an assortment highly stressed calls; it is their compassion, calmness, dedication, skills, and understanding that these fine individuals possess that gives them the ability to make sure that everyone gets the help and information they need.

Here are a few tips for citizens that will help assist telecommunicators during a call:

- know where you are
- stay on the line
- be prepared to answer questions
- follow the directions given

Remember that these individuals are the link between you and the emergency responders. If you haven't told them how much you appreciate them, let them know.



Connie Crawford  
1998



Leaha Garrison  
2007



Alea Johnson  
2002

Pamela McKelvy  
1997



WAY TO GO!



Christi Holland  
2006



Gloria Spence  
1998



Debbie Sanders  
1998



Khyra Maclin  
2005

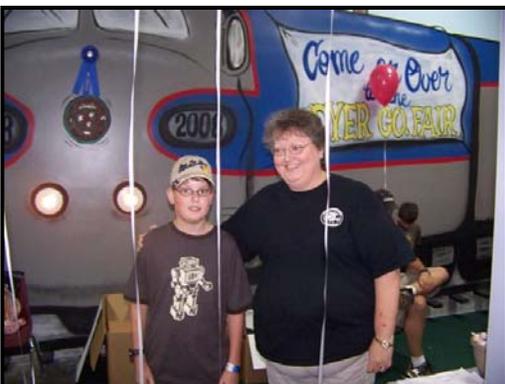
**GREAT JOB!**



Jennifer Brock  
2005



Lee Ann Hallum  
1997



Cathy Cavness  
1987



Mark Grant  
1984

## SRT TRAINING AT THE DYERSBURG WATER PLANT

There was a lot of commotion going on downtown on April 22nd. There was a hostage situation staged at the water plant where two criminals were holding seven hostages. After some bribery with water and food, a few hostages were released. An hour later, the SRT team, along with the help of the negotiators, was able to free all hostages within a 2 1/2 hour training exercise.

This was a great learning experience for those of us who do not realize how the DPD works in a serious circumstance, and how stressful it can be to the ones involved. It takes a lot of people to make everything work out in a situation like this, their variety of expertise allows them to work with each other to prevent an unpleasant outcome.

If you haven't told our officers how much you appreciate them, let them know, they work to protect all of us everyday. Great Job!



## LOCATING PHYSICIANS WHO ARE IN NETWORK

This is just a reminder that those 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 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.



Sue Teague

## FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

I don't have a fire extinguisher at home...I know...I should but to tell you the truth, I had never had training on one and was, well, kind of scared of one. In my mind, I thought, I don't know how to use one anyway. I'm not always comfortable with "new things"; what if I don't do it right, then what? So when Fire Inspector Mark Sykes mentioned he would be setting up dates and times for fire extinguisher training for all personnel I thought...hmmm, this will be a good learning experience.

Our training was on a cold and windy, rainy day when Mark brought, a Bullex Fire Extinguisher Trainer, fire extinguishers and information. The trainer, a stainless steel pan with burners that uses environmentally safe propane as its fuel, was fired up several times as employees (as I found out, most had never held a fire extinguisher or ever used one to actually put a fire out) took turns putting out the fire. We also learned there are different types of fire extinguishers to put out different types of fires and an acronym to help remember how to use a fire extinguisher: I now feel comfortable purchasing a fire extinguisher and I won't be afraid to use it! Thanks Mark, for the valuable training!

Penny

### P.A.S.S.: pull, aim, squeeze and sweep.

#### Types of Fire Extinguishers



Class A extinguishers put out fires in ordinary combustible materials such as cloth, wood, rubber, paper and many plastics.



Class B extinguishers are used on fires involving flammable liquids, such as grease, gasoline, oil, and oil-based paints.



Class C extinguishers are suitable for use on fires involving appliances, tools, or other equipment that is electrically energized or plugged in.



Class D extinguishers are designed for use on flammable metals and are often specific for the type of metal in question. These are typically found only in factories working with these metals.



Class K fire extinguishers are intended for use on fires that involve vegetable oils, animal oils, or fats in cooking appliances. These extinguishers are generally found in commercial kitchens, such as those found in restaurants, cafeterias, and caterers. Class K extinguishers are now finding their way into the residential market for use in kitchens.



These are only the common types of fire extinguishers. There are many others to choose from. Base your selection on the classification and the extinguisher's compatibility with the items you wish to protect.

Use a fire extinguisher only if:

- You have alerted other occupants and someone has called the fire department;
- The fire is small and contained to a single object, such as a wastebasket;
- You are safe from the toxic smoke produced by the fire;
- You have a means of escape identified and the fire is not between you and the escape route; and your instincts tell you that it is safe to use an extinguisher.



**It is vital to know what type of extinguisher you are using. Using the wrong type of extinguisher for the wrong type of fire can be life-threatening.**

# PUBLIC WORKS FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING



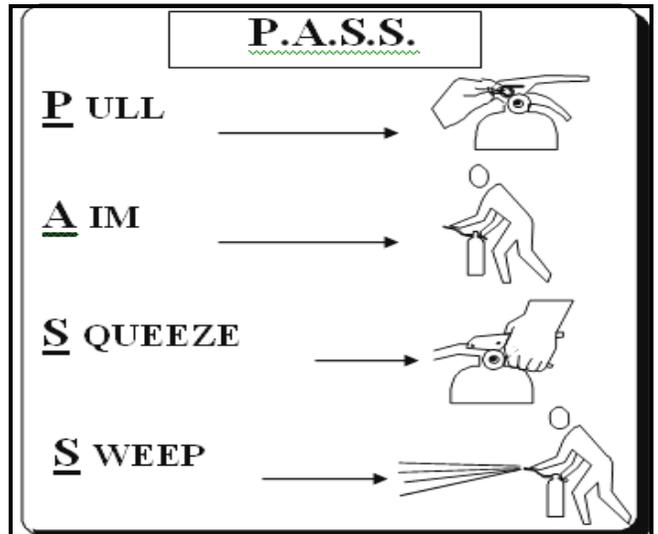
Connie Sentell



Donnie Hutcheson



Andre Alston



Pam Pleasant



John Murray

# Dyersburg Fire Department

The Technical Rope Rescue team has been out and about. Team members are keeping up skill levels required to perform their tasks when the need arrives. In April they have been brushing up on rappelling "Pickoff Rigging and Rescue Technique". This practice shows an injured climber or worker. The Rescue team sets up a "Main and Belay System" for the rescuer to rappel down. The Belay Line has an additional connection tied at the end so it can be attached to the victim. In addition to that connection a "Rescue Victim Harness" will be applied to the victim for a second connection. Once the rescuer has made it to the victim, he will apply the Rescue Victim Harness connect the Belay Line and run a "Pick-Off Strap" from his (Rescuer) "Rappel Pack" to the Rescue Victim Harness. After all new connections are made, the rescuer will take all the tension off of the victims personal ropes and disconnect them. This will completely sever the victims original equipment (for safety); at this point the rescuer and the victim are on the same system. The rescuer and the victim will have two connections each. The rescuer will then continue to rappel to the ground.

This same technique can be accomplished utilizing a "Lowering & Raising System" (ascending & descending is controlled from the top) so the rescuer & victim can be raised or lowered, depending on the victim's needs.

Another technique that can be utilized is the "Stokes Basket" on a Lowering & Raising System. A medic is sent down first to assess the victim and make all attachments. The rescuer (known as the "Stokes Basket Tender") is attached to the Stokes Basket and sent down. Once down he and the medic will work together to get the victim into the Stokes Basket and secured. The medic can be raised or lowered to assist with the Stokes Basket. Then (depending on the victim's needs), the Stokes Tender and victim will be raised or lowered. These techniques can be applied to different settings, (i.e. buildings, platforms, cliffs, tanks, towers, etc.).

Department Rope Technicians are highly skilled and these skills are regularly updated and maintained.

At present, there is a movement in West Tennessee to form a "Local Task Force Team" that would mirror the "Tennessee Task Force One Team"; like the one in Memphis for example. Though still in the formative stages, A Local Task Force would be of great benefit to our area in the event of a major disaster. This Local Task Force would be made up of several departments in West Tennessee. Once all the details are ironed out, participating members will receive approximately 400 hours of training covering several different Rescue Capabilities, (ie. Medium & Heavy Vehicle Rescue, Structural Collapse, Confined Space, Trench Rescue, High/Low Angle Rope Rescue).



# Congratulations

## 2009

# Graduates



### **Stuart Marquis Edmonds**

Son of Stuart (Parks & Rec) and Gwen (City Hall) Edmonds

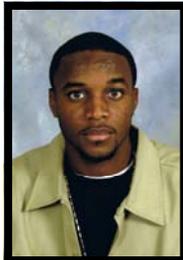
A 2009 graduate of Dyersburg High School, Marquis plans to continue his education at the Tennessee Technology Center studying the field of Industrial Maintenance



### **Taylor Wilkerson**

Son of Penny (City Hall) & Allen Rice and Mark Wilkerson. He is the grandson of Helen Rice (City Hall) and nephew of Walter Wilkerson (Fire Dept.) . A 2009 Graduate of Dyer County High School his accomplishments include being in the top 10% of his class, the Math Award, ACT Wall of Honors Award (scoring 28 or higher), and being recognized for 4 years of perfect attendance.

Taylor, we are extremely proud of you for your many achievements throughout your high school years. Good Luck and best wishes at UT Knoxville & Go Vols!



### **Kevin A. Newman Jr.**

Son of Kevin A. (Cross Connection) and Yolanda Newman, and Sylvia Mabins.

A 2009 graduate of Dyersburg High School, Kevin plans to continue his education at the Tennessee Technology Center. In addition to his studies, he currently works part-time at McDonalds.



### **Beth Fisher**

Daughter of Mike (City Shop) and Deloris Fisher

A 2009 Graduate of Dyer County High School, her accomplishments include a 3.6 GPA, FTA - 4 year member, Volleyball - 4 years, Softball - 3 years, 2008-2009 Football Homecoming Queen, voted Most Valuable Lady Choctaw. Beth has been accepted at MTSU and plans to further her studies in the field of education and pursue a career in education.



### **Airman Brennon M. Murphy**

Son of Kevin A. (Cross Connection) and Yolanda Newman and Keith Murphy. Brennon graduated from Basic Military Training on April 24th, 2009, Lackland of Air Force Base (San Antonio, TX) with the 737th Training Group—323 Training Squadron—Flight 315.

Airman Murphy extends his sympathies to the family of Staff Sgt. Kirby Weaver (his recruiter) who took an extra interest in him to make sure he stayed on the right path. Staff Sgt. Kirby went above and beyond his duty, even on his own time to make sure Brennon was prepared for basic training. Brennon is very thankful to have been acquainted with and work with Staff Sgt. Kirby Weaver.



## 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.

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with:

**Kevin Patterson (Fire Dept.)  
 and the family of  
 Douglas “Bill” White**

**Kevin Weaver (Street Dept.)  
 and the family of  
 Staff Sgt. Kirby Weaver**



**Tim Ware (Fire Dept.)  
 and the family of  
 Juana Ware**

## CONGRATULATIONS! Melanie Moore

The daughter of Jeff (WTP) and Donna (CH) Moore, she won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the fashion design fashion show at Middle Tennessee State University on April 20, 2009. She competed with over 50 fashion design students. Melanie is a junior at MTSU majoring in Fashion Merchandising.

**OUTSTANDING!**

**Think You Have a Gas Leak?**

**Call:**

**288-7604 from: 8:30 – 5:00**

**After Hours and Weekends:**

**285-1212**



**DYERSBURG GAS SYSTEM**

## CONGRATULATIONS to ALL!

Cathy (EOC) and Stan Cavness are the grandparents of a new granddaughter...  
 Piper Elisabeth Cavness.

Piper is the daughter of Stephen and Christi Cavness and was born 04-13-09 weighing in at 7 lbs 15 oz and 20.5 inches long.



Donna (Gas) and Eddie Hicks are the grandparents of their first granddaughter Avery Kay Hicks. Avery is the daughter of Ryan and Mary Kay Hicks and was born 03-20-09. She weighed 6 lbs 1 oz and was 17.5 inches long

# Tennessee Rollerz Motorcycle Club

was named the most outstanding club or organization during the 35th annual Community Resource Development Awards and Scholarship Banquet. The Tennessee Rollerz are very active in the community; club members strive to be positive role models to the youth with the slogan "Positive Riders Doing Big Things." This is the second year in a row that the Tennessee Rollerz have won this award. WAY TO GO!



Kevin Newman (Cross Connection)

## WAY TO GO! Andre Alston For keeping it honest!

While out on work assignment Andre found a check in a flower bed on court square that was valued for over \$1000.00. He turned the check in to his supervisor and it was returned to its rightful owner. Per Mr. Hamm, the check had flown out of his hand and he had chased it at great lengths, but because of the high winds was unable to retrieve it. City resident Mr. Donnie Hamm and his wife were extremely grateful for Andre's honesty.



## DYERSBURG MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE Middle School Tournament

April 27th, 2009



Northview Middle School



Dyersburg Middle School



Three Oaks Middle School



Golf is lots of fun!



# Community News.....

Come celebrate!

Dyersburg/Dyer County Humane Society's  
fifth annual  
**"bark in the park"**  
(okeena Park)

with  
animal care hospital  
and  
dyer county animal hospital

saturday, may 2nd  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Rain Date: May 16

(In honor of National Pet week)

Field Trial Exhibition!!  
 Italian Ice!  
 Games!  
 Drawings & Giveaways!  
 Dyersburg Fire Dept. Truck and "Sparky"  
 Bake Sale!  
 Food & Fun!  
 Dyersburg Police Department!  
 Horseback Rides for Children!  
 Pet Contests!  
 Dalmation Jumping House!  
 Pet Photography!

**AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!**

## Armed Forces Day Celebration

The Veterans' Museum in Halls, Tennessee will hold an Armed Forces Day Celebration on Saturday, May 16th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Activities include vendors, military vehicle rally, reenactment of European and Pacific Theatres, children's activities, ROTC Drill Team presentation, bands, fly-in at the airport, and a chance to sit in an A-7 Jet. The event is free and open to the public. For additional information call 731.836.7400 or visit their web site at: [www.dyaab.us](http://www.dyaab.us).



## SNEEK PEEK




The Farmer's Market  
Opens June 13th 2009  
Support your local farmers!

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

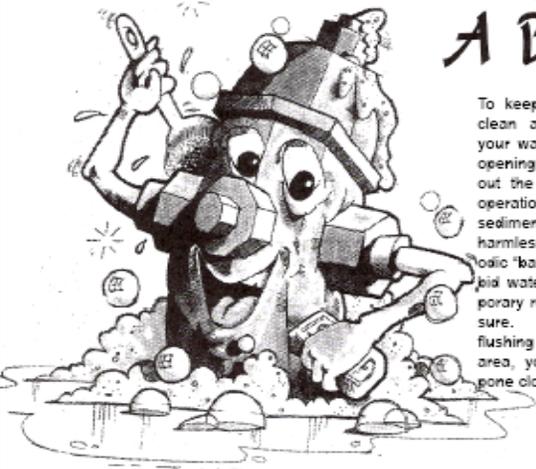
## The Great American Cleanup 2009

was another huge success, more to come when the statistics are all in. Thank you to everyone who participated.



(Photo courtesy of Steve and James Guttery)

## Splish Splash We'll Be Taking A Bath...



To keep your water sparkling clean and running smoothly, your water department will be opening fire hydrants throughout the city. This "free-flow" operation flushes out possible sediment and build-up and any harmless impurities. Our periodic "bathing" may result in turbid water and perhaps a temporary reduction in water pressure. If you notice hydrant flushing taking place in your area, you may want to postpone clothes washing.

Thank You

**AREA**

The City of Dyersburg will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the city. Starting **May 4th—June 8th 2009**. We are sorry for the inconvenience that this may cause. For problems concerning your water quality call 288-7630.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **DYERSBURG** ~~MAY 15&16~~ **BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL** **2009**

*Be There For Fine Bluegrass & Old Time String Music!*  
**DYERSBURG/DYER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**



"Come see the best festival grounds in Tennessee, where you can step back in time in Sorghum Valley! Bring your instruments and jam in Sorghum Valley with the Jackson Area Plectral Society."

## **Shade Tree Band Competition** **Saturday @ 5 p.m.- \$100 prize**

| <b>ADMISSION</b>  |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>Friday:</b>    | <b>\$FREE</b> |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | <b>\$FREE</b> |
| <b>All Shows:</b> | <b>FREE</b>   |



"Jackson Area Plectral Society bands will be featured Friday night 5pm-9pm, and Saturday from 10am-5pm. On Saturday night from 6pm-10pm, featured bands will be: Hatchie Bottom Boys, Crosswind, Stone County Connection & Cane Ridge."



ANTIQUE TRACTOR  
& CAR SHOW



*RV hookups, tent camping, food vendors, car & tractor show, outdoor jamming, amphitheater seating, and much*

**Music on two stages Friday night & Saturday.**

**Friday: 5p.m. -9p.m**

**Saturday: 10a.m. -10p.m.**

*more!*

### **More Info:**

**Freeman Dudley- (731) 698-8375**

**John Few- (731) 571-2852**

**Colcy Graves- (901) 382-1197**

*Learn more now.*

April 24, 2009

## For Immediate Release!

### DSCC commencement set for May 9

*Large class requires use of DCHS gym*



Dyersburg, TN – As in the past three years, Dyersburg State Community College will be holding its Commencement Exercises at Dyer County High School. The thirty-ninth annual Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 p.m. Degrees will be conferred on 265 candidates. Since DSCC's first Commencement in 1971, more than five thousand students have graduated from Dyersburg State.

"As the college grows, so does the number participating in our commencement ceremony. Because of the large number of candidates and the guests who want to attend, the college must use the gymnasium at DCHS to seat everyone," said Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs J Dan Gullett.

This year, Dr. Richard Rhoda will serve as commencement speaker. Rhoda is the executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, a post he has held since 1997. Since last July, he is also the interim executive director of the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

He served previously with the Tennessee Board of Regents in numerous staff capacities, including chief academic officer and acting chancellor. While serving on the Regents staff, he also served as interim president of Nashville State Technical Community College and Austin Peay State University. He served earlier in the administration of Tennessee State University.

He has taught on the undergraduate and graduate levels at Vanderbilt University where he continues as an adjunct professor.

Dr. Rhoda serves on a number of boards, including the Tennessee Board of Regents, the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation Board of Directors, of which he is vice chair, and the Tennessee Foreign Language Institute, which he chairs.

On the national level, he is active in the State Higher Education Executive Officers organization and the Education Commission of the States, of which he serves as treasurer.

Dr. Rhoda holds a B.A. in History, an M.A. in Education, and the PhD. in Higher Education Administration, all from Vanderbilt University.

A reception to honor graduates and their guests will be held immediately following Commencement. For more information please contact J Dan Gullett at 731/286-3327.

**Dyersburg State Community College**  
**1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, Tennessee 38024**  
**Phone – 731-286-3347 - FAX – 731-288-7788**

**Contact – Jane Pate Vondy, Director of Public Information - [vondy@dsc.edu](mailto:vondy@dsc.edu)**

## Recycling Electronics



In the rush to keep up with the latest technological trends, many of us don't think about what to do with our old, forlorn TVs and computers. These machines go from being the hottest on the market to just another contribution to the 22 million tons of electronic waste (or e-waste) produced globally each year. This figure is rapidly increasing, and many experts believe the worst is yet to come.

Up to 75 percent of potential e-waste is sitting in garages, drawers, and storage spaces in the form of broken or unused electronics, waiting to fill landfills where they might leach harmful chemicals such as brain-damaging lead, neuro-toxic mercury and carcinogenic arsenic, into our air, soil and groundwater. Each computer monitor contains on average **5 to 8 pounds of lead**, for example, and consumer electronics as a whole contribute an astonishing **40 percent** of the lead that is found in landfills, according to the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition.

Plastics in computers pose other disposal hazards. Each year computers contribute up to 250 million pounds of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic—which releases highly toxic, carcinogenic dioxins when manufactured or incinerated—into the U.S. waste stream. TVs, monitors, and computer circuit boards also use flame-retardant chemicals known as polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) and polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs). PBDE is a suspected hormone disruptor, interferes with thyroid functioning and has affected development in laboratory mice. Most alarming, some studies have found that levels of some PBDEs have been doubling in human breast milk every five years, and that levels are highest in North American women. PBBs are considered probable carcinogens by the U.S. National Toxicology Program.

It's legal in many states to simply dump this waste in landfills or burn it in incinerators. The City of Dyersburg no longer accepts e waste at our landfill in order to protect the public and to be in compliance with federally mandated laws.

**What You Can Do**-Buy from companies that have comprehensive take back programs. Here's a comparison of the major programs: [www.computertakeback.com/docUploads/Using\\_takeback\\_programsv7a.pdf](http://www.computertakeback.com/docUploads/Using_takeback_programsv7a.pdf)

-Buy computers rated by the EPA's Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT), which rates models according to 51 environmental criteria, including take back programs and the use of a minimum of 65 percent reusable or recyclable components. See [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net).

-Donate your old computer if it still works. The National Cristina Foundation ([www.cristina.org](http://www.cristina.org)) and Computers for Schools ([www.pcsforschools.org](http://www.pcsforschools.org)) accept computers.

-Take non-working computers to nonprofits that can use them for job training, such as Per Scholas ([www.perscholas.org](http://www.perscholas.org)).

Respect the earth, save the planet...

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mike Adair  
 Andy Baker  
 Chris Clements  
 William Danley  
 Jimmy Despain  
 Terry Harris  
 James Jackson  
 Pat Kilzer  
 Reginald King  
 Erik Larson  
 Russell Lindsey  
 Stuart McLemore

Joseph Stewart  
 Charles Sullivan  
 Rickie Tidwell  
 Sharon Windle  
 Phyllis Works  
 Pam Reagan  
 Amy Redmond  
 Helen Rice  
 Joe Scott  
 Dale Snyder  
 Mike Morgan

# HAPPY EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY

Helen Rice—38 years  
 Linda Vaughn—35 years  
 Kenneth Tirey—33 years  
 Kent Baumgardner—31 years  
 Terryll Holland—29 years  
 Mark Grant—25 years  
 Cathy Cavness—22 years  
 Kenneth Jowers—15 years  
 Lloyd Stewart—15 years  
 Amy Sims—14 years  
 Jerry Blair—11 years

Tyler Hammett—10 years  
 Robin Roberts—8 years  
 Joseph Schultz—5 years  
 Michael Hardin—4 years  
 Ricky Roberts—4 years  
 Dean Dedmond—3 years  
 Tommie McGhee—3 years  
 Melissa Bane—2 years  
 Jeremy Burris—2 years  
 Lauren Dycus—1 year  
 Rayjoe Evans—1 year  
 Sue Teague—1 year

Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964 provides:

*“No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”*

# HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY!

**Mike Webb**



# 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 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.



May 2nd—Bark In The Park—Humane Society  
 Volkswalk—DSCC

May 3rd—9th—National Drinking Water Week

May 7th—National Day of Prayer—Mayor's Prayer Breakfast  
 DMS Earth Fest

May 8th—Chamber Business & Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament

May 10th—Mother's Day.

May 15th—Relay for Life  
 National Law Enforcement Recognition Day, DPD

May 15-16—2nd Annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival  
 Dyer County Fairgrounds

May 17th-23rd—National Public Works Week

May 16th—Armed Forces Day Celebration, Halls Veterans Museum

May 26th—Memorial Day—Offices closed.

# 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!