

January 2010



# Dyersburg City News

## "We're here for you"

Vol. 5 Issue 1



One number for all non-emergency city service requests.

## MAYOR'S OFFICE

Wow, it's hard to believe that 2010 is here. I want to thank each of you again for your hard work and dedication in 2009. I hope that each of you enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend quality time with your family and friends. I know that some of our employees experienced the loss of loved ones recently and in 2009, please know that our thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

The 2008/ 2009 audit is complete. Thanks once again to Steve Anderson and his staff for the timely completion of this report. Soon we will begin preparations for the 2010/2011 budget; please begin to think about your department's operations and needs as we will be scheduling these meetings in the near future.

I would like to thank Sue Teague, Judy Burns and Teresa Thompson for conducting meetings with all city departments and employees in the month of December regarding the City of Dyersburg retirement plan. We hope that you found these meetings to be beneficial and informative. If you have any questions concerning your retirement plan, please contact myself or Sue at City Hall.

Congratulations to Jeff Moore (Water Treatment Superintendent) for receiving The James W. "Doc" Murphrey Award for the West Tennessee division. This award is presented to operators throughout the state for water management excellence. We appreciate you and your staff for their hard work and dedication ensuring that our residents have access to clean, safe water.

As many of you know, we kicked off the City of Dyersburg 311 non-emergency customer service request system on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. 311 will provide the public one simple telephone number to call to initiate requests for all city government services and information. From all indications, the start up process was very smooth and helpful to those citizens who have utilized this service. I have already received several positive comments about our 311 Citizen Call Center. I would like to thank Mark Grant for the successful implementation of this new service. I also appreciate each of the city departments and employees for their great work and outstanding efforts prior to the start up date to make sure that this service is successful.

Thanks for all that you do, let's have a great year and if ever I can be of assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mayor Holden



# Department News.....

## **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)  
 Mike Fisher — (City Shop)



If you have a safety concern, questions or ideas that you would like to discuss, please speak with your department head or

## **Congratulations**

to Water Plant Supt. Jeff Moore on being awarded the  
 26th Annual  
 James W. “Doc” Murphrey Award  
 for Excellence In Water Management  
 West Section, TWWA  
 November 19, 2009



## *Our Thoughts and Prayers are with:*

The family of former W/S employee  
 John Warren  
 Chad Webb (DPD) and family  
 and the family of Connie Ray Webb  
 Rodger (Gas) and Pam (GIS) Pleasant and family  
 and the family of Helen Vernell “Nell” Pleasant

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

### **Fire Safety for the New Year**

Are you looking for a New Year’s resolution that can benefit you and your family? We expect to feel safe and secure inside our homes, so this is a great time to set a resolution for improved fire safety and take a few minutes to make our homes safer from fires.

Here are a few reminders from the (*Dyersburg Fire Prevention Bureau*) to help keep your family safe during the New Year:

- ✦ Test smoke alarms once a month.
- ✦ Change alarm batteries annually.
- ✦ Develop a fire escape plan.
- ✦ Practice the escape plan with your family.

Make sure you have smoke alarms by each bedroom.

**PREVENT FIRES  
 IT'S YOUR JOB!**

# POLICE DEPT.

## Spreading Christmas Cheer.....



The pictures include Chief Heun, Capt. Isbell, Sgt. Danley, and McGruff the crime dog.

McGruff visited the Head start Christmas party on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

The police department employees donate gifts each year to the Headstart Program which provides children in the community a brighter and happier Christmas.

### 2009 SHOOT DYER COUNTY



# Congratulations!

**Tiffany Parker (RHWP)**  
First Place Winner  
2009 Shoot Dyer County Photo Contest

**“East Court Cemetery”**

First Place –Historical Category

# Community News.....

## TOPS # 431 Dyersburg OPEN HOUSE



January 2010 is Open House month for TOPS #431. TOPS is a weight support group. Chapter #431 meets each Thursday evening at 5pm for weigh in and 5:30pm for meeting at Volunteer Baptist Church located at 1125 Vendall Rd. Please come visit our group with no obligations.

### Bruce Community Monthly Fellowship

A monthly fellowship program sponsored by the Bruce Community Center, Holy Angels Catholic Church and Tucker Street Church feeds the soul and the stomach.

The program is held the 2nd Thursday of each month and includes the reading of God's Word, a video, singing, a meal, and fellowship.

Please join us at the Bruce Community Center  
Thursday January 14th from 5:30—6:30.  
There is no charge and everyone is welcome.

For more information call:  
Stuart Edmonds 731-334-7628

## Dyersburg High School Class of 1970 40th Reunion June 19, 2010 Professional Development Center (PDC) (old DHS) 305 College St.

### Classmates of the 1970 DHS Class

If you graduated or were a part of the class of '70, please contact any committee member or classmate. You are invited to join us at the meetings at the PDC. Addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses will help a great deal in informing everyone about the upcoming events.

#### Please call:

Nancy Bond Deere -731-285-0846 or [ndeere@k12tn.net](mailto:ndeere@k12tn.net)  
Mickey Tubbs Jones - 731-589-1650  
Sherry Bevis Agee or Steve Agee - 731-286-0950  
Kathy Moore King - 731-287-1776  
Pat Moore Willis - 731-676-3831  
Connie Taylor Sentell or Jimmy Sentell - 731-286-1973  
or email us at: [sentell@cablone.net](mailto:sentell@cablone.net)

### Next meeting

January 25, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. - PDC  
We look forward to seeing you!



# Beginning January 1, 2010



## What is 311?

- A free service provided to City of Dyersburg residents for non-emergency public safety requests and local government services.
- Simply dial 311 for an easy to remember number in order to receive information and gain access to City government services.
- This service will also be available on the City of Dyersburg's web site at [www.dyersburgtn.gov](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov)

## When should I call 311?

- Request for non emergency (non life threatening) Police, Fire, EMS
- Request for City Services, missed garbage pick up, missing street signs, potholes, water leaks, etc
- Questions about my Gas/Water Bill; how to pay property taxes, etc

**"311 is only for the City of Dyersburg Services"**

**DIAL 3-1-1**

**731-285-4019** - Is the non-emergency number for those who may be calling long distance or who have VOIP telephone service.

*Citizen Contact Center*

*Non Emergency Service Request*

## Saving Water Saves Energy: Make the Drops-to-Watts Connection

### It's Time for a New Way to Think About Water and Energy Efficiency

With climate change concerns, pervasive droughts, and high energy prices across the country, nearly everyone is looking for ways to conserve resources and cut costs. The good news is that by using a little “water sense” we can all use water and energy more efficiently, save money, and preserve our nation’s energy supplies and water for future generations.



It's time for a new way of thinking about using water and energy more efficiently. The WaterSense program can help you save both.

### Drops & Watts: You Can't Have One Without the Other

Many Americans know about the importance of saving energy, and many know about the importance of saving water. But few know about the direct connection between saving both. We turn on the bathroom lights and the shower without realizing how closely related water and electricity are to each other.

The truth is vast amounts of energy are used to pump, treat, deliver, and heat our nation’s water.

Approximately 4 percent of the nation's electricity consumption is used moving or treating water and wastewater. Considerable amounts of energy also go to heat water for bathing, shaving, cooking, and cleaning our homes, dishes, and clothes. In homes with electric water heaters, one-quarter of the households’ electricity is used to heat water.



Given how closely related saving water is to saving energy, one of the best ways to save energy across the country and in our own homes is to use water more efficiently.

#### Did You Know?

Saving water saves energy. If 1 percent of American homes replaced older toilets with WaterSense labeled ones, the United States would save enough electricity to power more than 40,000 homes for a month.

### How Can We Start Saving?

One of the simplest ways to save both water and energy is to install water-efficient plumbing fixtures. The WaterSense label makes it easy to identify toilets, faucets, and accessories that not only save water, but reduce your energy bills. Installing WaterSense labeled faucet aerators in your bathrooms, for example, costs just a few dollars but could save you enough electricity to dry your hair every day for a year!



There are hundreds of WaterSense labeled toilets and bathroom sink faucets and faucet accessories to choose from. What's more, you can be sure the products will not only save resources, but they will perform to your expectations. WaterSense labeled products must achieve independent, third-party testing and certification to prove they meet EPA's rigorous criteria for both efficiency and performance before they can earn the label.

[Look for WaterSense labeled products](#) and start saving both water and energy!

#### Did You Know?

It also takes water to create energy. Vast amounts of water are used to cool the power plants that generate electricity. In fact, it takes 3,000 to 6,000 gallons of water to power a 60-watt incandescent

**25th Annual Martin Luther King Luncheon  
Friday, January 15th, 2010—noon  
DSCC Student Center**

**Key Note Speaker:**

**Dr. R. Michelle Skinner of Collierville, TN.  
Tickets (\$10) must be purchased in advance.**

**On sale until January 12 at  
DSCC Business Office (Eller Bldg) or  
Dyersburg/Dyer Co Chamber of Commerce**

**For more information call:  
731-285-3433**

**Solid Waste Management**



**New Residential Rear Loader  
Delivered December, 2009.**

**FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE**

Just as a reminder, any time it is necessary for you to be absent from your job for more than a week, you need to call the Human Resources Department to inquire about family medical leave. We have had several instances lately where employees have had surgery or an illness that kept them from work for an extended period of time, but they did not think to apply for FMLA.

Please remember the following:

Reasons for taking FMLA leave include:

To care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care.

To care for the employee's spouse, son or daughter, or parent who has a serious health condition.

For a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.

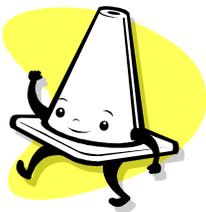
By applying for FMLA, you are protecting your job for the duration of your illness, up to twelve (12) weeks.

Any questions regarding FMLA, please contact the Human Resources Department. 288-7607

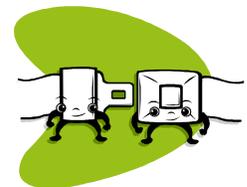


**SAFETY AWARD WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER 2009**

We are happy to announce that we have four (4) winners for the safety incentive award for the month of November. They are:



Eugene McLean  
Jannifer Ross  
Joe Scott  
Kenneth Sollis



For the month of November, we had one (1) recordable accident, which was not the fault of the injured city employee.

Please remember to work safely every day. You may be the one to receive an extra \$50 on your check next month.

## EXERCISE MAY BE YOUR BEST DEFENSE

Well—Christmas is over and the new year is about to begin – and we all know what that means – it’s time for the season of sniffles, sneezes, sore throats, and stuffy noses.

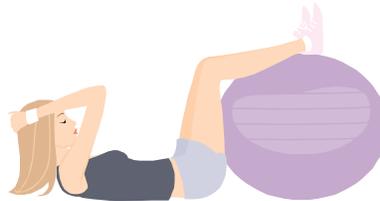
Cold and flu season can be rough, but it doesn’t mean that you have to hibernate. In fact, we should get with the system and start exercising. Recent studies at North Carolina’s Appalachian State University indicate that people who do moderate exercise such as walking on most days of the week experience up to 50% less sick time than those who don’t. Studies show that exercise boosts immunity. Not only do we decrease the risk of getting sick, but when we do get sick, the symptoms are less severe and we recover more quickly.

Exercise is more effective than any medicine, pill or supplement for preventing illness, says David Nieman, of the American College of Sports Medicine and Director of the Human Performance Lab at Appalachian State University. Regular moderate exercisers demonstrated improved immune responses, including a post-workout, three-hour flooding of natural cells that help find and kill viruses.

Exercise can reduce sick time by helping to counter inflammation, an underlying cause of many chronic diseases. He also advised that exercising just before getting a flu shot has been shown to improve the body’s response to the vaccine. Be careful not to overdo it though. Some studies suggest that high-intensity activity can actually hinder immune-system function.

If you do get sick, though, by all means take care of yourself. Know your limits and be sensible. According to Nieman, it’s safe to work out if the symptoms are confined to your head (colds, runny noses, or sore throats) if you stick to something simple like walking. Stay in bed if you have the flu, a respiratory infection, a fever, swollen glands, or extreme aches and pains – exercising with one of these conditions could prolong or worsen your illness. After an illness, start back to exercising with a short, easy walk and work back into your regular exercise regime. When it comes to staying healthy, resting up is just as important as working out.

(This information was taken from Parade Magazine-November 22, 2009)



## Take a Hike!

Dyer County Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association will host a short hike of the Forked Deer River trail on Saturday, January 2, 2010. Hikers will assemble at the Main Street Farmers Market for the 9:00 a.m. hike. TTA monthly meeting will be held on January 28th at 5:30 p.m. in the Downtown Development Office at 111 Market Street. For more information contact Steve Guttery at the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce at 731-285-3433.



# **HAPPY EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY**

- Eddie Brimm—24 years
- James Lyons Jr.— 22 years
- Ricky Tidwell—22 years
- Tracy McIntosh—22 years
- James Joyner—20 years
- Kevin Joslin -19 years
- Donna Hicks—18 years
- Charles Barrineau—17 years
- Jimmy Despain—17 years
- Paul Wilson—15 years
- John Damesworth- 15 years
- Jason Alexander— 14 years
- Mike Henson— 14 years
- Ruby Bernard—13 years
- Pamela McKeivey— 13 years
- Alan Dunevant—12 years
- Debbie Sanders— 12 years
- Carrie Campbell— 11 years
- Earl Wheatley—8 years
- George McCaig—7 years
- Jimmy Hurst—6 years
- Richie Anderson—6 years
- Sterlin Wright—5 years
- Cody Pierce—4 years
- Steve Anderson—3 years
- Michael Galloway—2 years
- Michael Mahoney—2 years
- Jannifer Ross—2 years
- Anthony Kilzer—1 years

## **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 the gift of life, give blood.**
- Dyersburg Municipal Golf Course**—  
Every Wednesday at 9:00 am. 55 years and up.  
Play from Senior Tees.
- January 1st— New Year's Day—City Offices Closed
- January 2nd—TTA Forked Deer River Short Hike—  
See article for info—page 9
- January 14th—Bruce Community Fellowship
- January 15th—25th Annual Martin Luther King Luncheon  
See article for info—page 8
- January 18th— Martin Luther King Jr. Day-offices closed
- January 19th—Board Meeting—7:00 pm (Holiday schedule)

## **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)

# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Louis Ahmad  
Albert Armstrong  
Margaret Avery  
Anna Carol Cantu  
Heath Ennis  
Zachery Freeman  
Robert Gonzales  
Tyler Hammett  
Mike Henson  
Donnie Hutcheson  
Conell King  
Donna Palmer  
Cody Pierce

Rodger Pleasant  
William Price  
Christopher Reeves  
Penny Rice  
Connie Sentell  
Christopher Simpson  
Jenny Spence  
Larry Waller  
Dustin White  
Ronnie Wilson  
Richard Wright  
Randy Littles



City of Dyersburg News  
Compliments of Mayor Holden

Editors: Tiffany Parker  
Penny Damesworth

Proof Reader: Connie Sentell

Please contact us with any questions you may have or any information to submit.

288-0724 or 288-7639

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