

Message from the Mayor #53 10-14-2009

Isn't great to have friends that will let you know if you are messing up? I seem to have a lot more of them now than I did a few years ago but their advice is invaluable to me. So, after talking to a good friend of mine, I have decided that my articles have been getting longer and longer until it is becoming harder to read through them. When I first started, they were about 800 words and lately they have grown to as many as 1300 words. So, from now on, I will be keeping these writings to about 800-1000 words and I hope you will continue your reading of these thoughts every other week.

The big event that will start next week is our city-wide Trenton Clean and Green Recycling Program. I could probably write 1000 words on this subject but I will try just to give you the highlights. Hopefully in the next weeks, you will be given some information on exactly how to go about your recycling efforts. Students from the PHS Science Club will be circulating the city with brochures and bags to get you started. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of all of us participating in the program. We have tried to make it as easy as possible for you to help us become the first small city in Tennessee to adopt a recycling program of this type.

This is what you will do. You will only have two types of waste. One will be your weekly garbage that you have always had and the other will be all your cans, cardboard, paper, and plastics or what we will call CCPP (cans, cardboard, paper, plastic). You will dispose of your regular trash on the same day you always have. You will put your recyclables out to be picked up on Tuesdays and Thursdays and our street trucks will be by to pick up your bags. At that point they will leave you another bag or you will be able to pick a bag up at certain businesses in town. That's it! It is simple and very easy to do. Our goal is to have 30% of Trenton recycling by the end of the first year and 80% at the end of 5 years. We can do this but we all need to commit to making this a success.

Ralph Bobbitt and Billy Woods have volunteered to help make this a success by becoming our volunteer coordinators. They will be calling some of you to help and if you would like to volunteer to be part of this program, please contact them or me. We need your help for administrative duties. There will not be any lifting or handling of the recyclables so think about it. This is a great way for you to do something positive for the city.

Music on the Square is the place to be on Saturday night, Oct.17th. Haywood Elam and the Mt. Orange Men's Choir will be singing at 6:00, we will be having a big kick-off for Trenton Clean and Green with representatives from Doxicom and the city on hand to answer questions and get the audience excited about the project. I heard there might be a green kangaroo running around. Then the Blues Berry Jam Band will top off the night with their brand of blues, soul, and traditional music (I've heard the drummer is pretty good). We want everybody to come and bring a bag of recyclable materials with you. We will have a street truck there to put your bag in. Don't miss this event.

The 17th will be a huge day with a 5K run sponsored by the Gibson Co. Healthcare Foundation, the West Tennessee Small Division Band Contest sponsored by the PHS Band of Gold, and the Walk Through History at the Oakland Cemetery, co-sponsored by the Oakland Cemetery Association and Gibson County Historical Society. Check the paper for times of all these events.

I know there have been a lot of rumors lately about business and industry that may be coming to Trenton. No one in Trenton is ready for positive things to happen any more than I am. Yes, we have had interested parties looking at different places around the city and I am positive that there will be new business and industry coming to Trenton in our future. There is a lot of work and luck involved in persuading prospects from other parts of the world to come settle with us. We also know that a deal is not a done deal until we see them coming into town. We have been close a few times and at the last minute, somebody's corporate office will make a change. Things will get better here soon and when we can, with certainty, let everyone know, we will.

There are a group of people I never talk about and I should more often. They are the office staff here at City Hall. I can't tell you how important they are to me. Sammy, Audrey, Chris, and Leigh Ann do a wonderful job of making sure the City runs smoothly and efficiently. Maybe their best quality is that they all are just nice people and fun to be around. They work hard for you and are concerned with how we spend your tax dollars.

There is no more important time to SHOP TRENTON than the next 3 months. Please do as much buying as you can right here and if you can't in Trenton spend it in Gibson County. Keep our tax dollars local. Those monies will help us and even though we know Trenton isn't perfect, we are working on it. Till next time; God Bless Trenton.