

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

November 26, 2014

“Sgt. York” exhibit proves popular

Last week I received a very nice summary of the “In the Footsteps of Sgt. York” exhibit from the Historic Preservation Society of Tullahoma. The exhibit was housed at South Jackson Civic Center from July 1 to October 3. Backroads Heritage and the South Jackson Civic Association also partnered to meet the challenge of bringing this outstanding exhibit to Tullahoma.

It turns out nearly 1,000 individuals toured the exhibit, 160 from out of state and ten from foreign countries. Thanks to the contributors, publicity partners and volunteers for making the exhibit such a great success and helping bring attention to this true American hero.

TUB honors two of its own

I was pleased to attend TUB’s Memorial Tree Dedication ceremony Monday to honor former TUB employee Jesse Taylor and TUB Board member David Griffith. The TUB Memorial Tree Dedication program began in 2003 and since that time 24 past TUB employers and TUB Board members have been honored for their contributions to TUB and the city of Tullahoma. The program started as a way to honor past employees and Board members and at the same time help beautify Tullahoma and enhance our environment.

TUB employee Chelsea Adams said at the ceremony, “Trees are an important part of our lives. They give us life with the oxygen they provide, beauty with the colors they display, and in the case of memorial trees, help us remember friends, loved ones and co-workers.”

I was pleased to visit with the many family members present and join with them in honoring these two fine individuals.

Joint meeting a success

There are seven independent agencies of city government: Housing, Planning, Utilities, Education, Arts, Economic Development, and Airport . At least once a year the Board of Mayor and Aldermen like to meet with each agency for three primary reasons: thank them for their service, learn about their accomplishments from the past year and hear about their plans for the future.

Last Tuesday we met with members of the Airport Authority. The staff and Authority members are making great progress in every category. This past year saw increases in fuel sales (a major source of income), landings and leases. Sometimes we don’t fully appreciate the vital role our airport plays in our economy and quality of life in Tullahoma.

Turkey dinner a hit

Thanks to First United Methodist Church for opening its doors Wednesday evening for the annual turkey dinner hosted by the Methodist Men's Group. With all the empty plates I am confident the 300 or so diners enjoyed every bite.

Leadership group tours city hall

For at least 20 years a group of volunteers has led the Coffee County Leadership Program. Each year approximately 30 individuals from all over the county agree to carve one day a month from their schedules to travel around the county and learn more about schools, water, governments, and services of all kinds. Last Wednesday the group spent the morning at City Hall. I shared with them my role as Mayor and as a community leader. City Administrator Jody Baltz talked with the group about City government.

There is also a student leadership group consisting of students from both THS and Coffee County Central High School. I met with that group last Tuesday afternoon. Both groups are excellent examples of how the county, Manchester, and Tullahoma can work together.

Thanks, THS Drama Troupe

I took the opportunity Friday to attend and enjoy the THS Drama Troupe's presentation of "The Curious Savage". The colorful characters were portrayed by eleven talented students. As always the talent on the stage was matched by the students behind the scenes. I had the opportunity to greet each of the actors after the play. All indicated they enjoyed the play and performing for the audience. No doubt some of these students will enjoy long theatrical careers.

Bobcat/Panther 5K Walk/Run a success

Last Saturday morning was a beautiful day in Tullahoma to hold the Second Annual Bobcat/Panther 5K Run/Walk. Over 200 people gathered for the friendly, but competitive race. The Run/Walk was very well organized as part of our Get Fit! Tullahoma initiative. If you consider yourself a couch potato, now is a great time to get outside and start moving. It's OK to start with a walk, gradually increasing your speed and the length of your walk. As your endurance increases, I can almost ensure you will feel better and be more productive. Thanks to all who made this run/walk so successful.

"Feelin' Groovy" at South Jackson

Evelyn and I thoroughly enjoyed the "Feelin' Groovy" production Saturday evening at South Jackson Civic Center. The crowd sang along with the five Canadian singers and musicians as they performed some of the more popular songs of the 60s. Be sure to catch the next production in this series at South Jackson Civic Center on December 12 when "The Return, a Tribute to the Beatles" will be on stage. We are lucky to have such diverse and talented performers coming to Tullahoma!

Thought of the week: "Do you give as much energy to your dreams as you do to your fears?" – Unknown

Have an idea or suggestion? Contact me at mayor@tullahomatn.gov, voice mail 581-0360, PO Box 807, or Facebook.