

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

March 11, 2015

Mentoring going on

One of the Chamber of Commerce initiatives last year was a business-oriented mentoring group. Last week this group met for the first time this year, with about 25 mentors and 50 mentees attending. I was asked to be a mentor to two young businesspeople in town. The group meets four times a year and mentors are to also meet with their two mentees to discuss business in general and encourage the mentees' participation in community affairs. The speaker at Monday's meeting was AEDC Commander Ray Toth. He did an excellent job speaking on leadership. I was asked to speak at the May meeting on the history of Tullahoma.

Dr. Seuss week

Last week was Dr. Seuss week and I had the opportunity to visit several schools and read Dr. Seuss books to the children. I enjoyed reading the books as much as the children seemed to enjoy listening. Wednesday was Pajama Day at Bel-Aire Elementary. I guess I didn't get that memo as I was the only person at the school who wasn't wearing pajamas (even the teachers were wearing pajamas). I capped off Dr. Seuss week by attending a "Green Eggs and Ham" breakfast at Damron's Restaurant Saturday morning. This was a fundraiser for the Imagination Library and a large crowd attended. Yes, the eggs really were green.

Fall "fly-in" planned

I hope you are aware our airport is hosting one of only five "Fly-Ins" across the country this year sponsored by the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA). On October 10th, 500 to 700 planes will land at our airport and the pilots will attend seminars, enjoy meals and view exhibits and airplane displays. In a three hour window that Saturday morning, planes will be landing every 20 seconds.

The event is free to the public as well. Last Monday and Tuesday six staffers from AOPA were in Tullahoma to brief airport staff, area pilots, safety officials and more to discuss their plans. Volunteers are needed. To sign up go to www.aopa.org. I was proud to be one of the first to sign up.

Scouting event

Last Wednesday I delivered the Keynote Address to the Friends of Scouting Elk River District. There are five Cub Scout packs and four Boy Scout troops in Tullahoma. In the three counties that make up the Elk River District, 811 boys are served with 325 adult volunteers. As a reminder, the scout motto is "Be Prepared", the scout slogan is: "Do a Good Turn Daily", and the scout law: "Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent."

Downtown improvements planned

On Wednesday evening we hosted a meeting at City Hall for the 26 downtown property owners to explain the timing and extent of the renovations planned for downtown. The city government has secured a \$750,000 grant to improve the sidewalks, utilities, crosswalks and lighting in the downtown area. The improvements affect the 100 blocks of Lincoln and Atlantic Streets. Bids will go out soon and work is expected to start in early summer. The contractor has 300 days to complete the work. It is critical the contractor work closely with property owners to assure as little business interruption as possible. Also attending and making a presentation was Linda Williams of the state's Main Street program. I encouraged the property owners this was a great time to refurbish both the inside and outside of their properties.

Health Fair Saturday

This Saturday from 9 am to noon is our Spring Health Fair and Fitness Expo at Northgate Mall. Please attend and benefit from the many booths full of information on nutrition and exercise. Also, Harton Regional Medical Center will provide six different screenings and health tips. There's more.....at 9 am there will be a Cross Fit demonstration, at 10 a lemon-squeezing contest hosted by Chick-Fil-A and at 11 a line-dancing demonstration.

Yellow Dot program

Please make plans to stop by Brookdale Tullahoma (formerly Emeritus) next Monday between 2 and 6 to learn more about the "Yellow Dot" program. You will be given a yellow dot and form to complete with your medical information. The yellow dot goes on the left corner of your rear window. In the event of a vehicle emergency, if you have a yellow dot on your window, first responders know to look in your glove compartment for your medical information. This information can mean the difference between life and death following a serious crash or other emergency.

Thought of the day: "If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun." – Katharine Hepburn

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