

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

April 22, 2015

“Peter Pan” flies into town

The Theatre Arts department at THS is bringing the classic Broadway musical **Peter Pan** to life on their stage. And according to Director Aaron Miller, thanks to a special effects flying company out of Chicago, Peter, Tinker Bell, Wendy, John and Michael are all going to fly on stage at Tullahoma High School! Show dates are April 24th, 25th, 26th, May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (Friday and Saturday night shows are at 7 pm, Sunday afternoon shows are at 2 pm). The group is also hosting a **Neverland Luncheon** Saturday, April 25th at 1:30. The luncheon will feature the cast and characters from the play.

Anyone who would like to be a sponsor for the luncheon and/or the show, or provide any form of assistance from financial, to food, to manpower, please contact Mr. Miller at 931.954.2318.

This play will be a fun outing for those of all ages, so let’s support the Theatre Arts department and their presentation of **Peter Pan!**

CASA 5K a hit!

Congratulations to the volunteers and staff of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for hosting a successful 5K run/walk last Saturday. I understand nearly \$10,000 was raised. CASA volunteers play a special role in the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens – abused and neglected children. These volunteers represent and advocate for children in court proceedings. Thanks, CASA volunteers and staff for the important work you do.

Soccer fun

Even though it’s an adventure being mayor most days, it’s not often I get to do something I have never done before. Last Friday I got to flip the coin at the start of the THS Men’s Soccer match against Lawrence County. The coin toss winner got to select which end of the field they would defend. Not that my toss brought the THS team good luck, but our team won 9-0.

D.C. trip

For at least 15 years the Arnold Community Council has been a staunch advocate for AEDC, the economic engine in our area that makes many good things happen. Each year a group of Arnold Community Council volunteers goes to Washington, D.C. to make congressmen aware of the strategic importance of AEDC in our national defense. Last Monday and Tuesday I traveled with a group of 16 volunteers to our nation’s capitol in support of AEDC. We had four key objectives: encourage more congressmen to participate in the Range and Test Center caucus, enhance the opportunity for new tenants “outside the fence” at facilities like AEDC, streamline the defense acquisition process to help AEDC earn more business and encourage further hypersonic study in which AEDC has a critical interest.

On Monday we visited the Pentagon (my first-ever visit). It was fascinating. As you can imagine the security to enter the Pentagon is intense. Once inside, all visitors are escorted by a military staff person. Approximately 23,000 people work at the Pentagon. The Pentagon houses the Joint Chief of Staff, along with the Secretaries of the Air Force, Marines, Army and Navy.

Our group actually had a 30 minute meeting with the Secretary of the Air Force – Deborah James. Her staff person who accompanied her to our meeting was a 1 Star General. Ms. James was appointed by the President in 2013 and was confirmed by the senate. The Secretary is responsible for a \$110 billion budget. She has 30 years of senior homeland and national security experience with the U.S. government and private sector.

Between meetings at the Pentagon we took a short break and visited the Pentagon Memorial, which was built in memory of the 184 people whose lives were lost at the Pentagon in the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. It was a moving visit.

During our time in Washington we visited 23 congressmen. I believe many good contacts were made and the trip will prove beneficial.

Composting pays off

Thanks to AEDC IT professional Annie Clements for conducting our Go Green! Tullahoma meeting Thursday evening. She is very passionate about composting and the benefits to our community. Annie was very hands-on with her demonstrations. Please keep in mind everything you can recycle or compost and keep out of your garbage container saves money. Plus it's just the right thing to do.

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