

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

June 8, 2016

Splash Island starts season with a bang!

Thanks to all the Splash Island patrons and Splash Island team members, an attendance record was set on Memorial Day. A total of 869 swimmers enjoyed either the morning or afternoon shift at southern, middle Tennessee's newest aquatic park. I stopped by that day for a few minutes and everyone seemed to be having a big time. A total of 3,550 visited the first week!

New business in town

Every month I sign 5 to 10 "Welcome to Tullahoma" letters to business owners who have invested in Tullahoma. One of the newest is Seller's Surplus at 209 N.W. Atlantic Street (next to Sun Drop). I stopped by and met owners Brittany and Caleb Sellers (yes, their last name is really Sellers). Their shop is full of every day discounted items including kitchen, home décor, bedding, toys, camping/outdoors, lawn and garden, electronics, furniture and much more. I like their slogan: "If your cash is tight, that's alright at Seller's Surplus". The Sellers hope to move to Tullahoma after their store gets off the ground. It is open Tuesday through Saturday. Stop by and welcome them to Tullahoma.

Summer reading program begins

I love partnerships and was pleased to be invited to Lannom Library's "On your mark, get set, READ" summer reading program. The summer program combines Get Fit! Tullahoma and reading. I enjoyed meeting about 50 youngsters Saturday morning at the bridge entrance to the greenway on Collins Street. Parents walked (and the youngsters ran) the half mile on the greenway to the Rotary Rocket playground and back. Once they returned, they received a stamp on a bookmark, summer reading bag and a pinwheel. They also registered for the summer reading program and checked out their books. Talk about a win-win.

City honored by Gov. Haslam

I was so proud of the people of Tullahoma and the progress of our Get Fit! Tullahoma campaign when Gov. Haslam recognized only the cities of Tullahoma and Franklin and Hickman County for our fitness initiatives. Like most successful programs, our community fitness initiative is a team effort. I appreciate everyone who has worked so hard to encourage the citizens of Tullahoma to be more fit. Over the past couple of years the greenway has been extended, exercise equipment installed, 5K runs sponsored, healthy eating programs offered and so much more. I am convinced healthy people are happier and more productive. Keep it up, Tullahoma!

Guest speaker discusses Zika virus

I appreciate the Coffee County Health Department securing the services of Abelando Moncayo, Ph.D. at our quarterly Emergency Preparedness meeting last Tuesday. Dr. Moncayo is the Director of the

Vector-Borne Disease Program for the Tennessee Department of Health. He gave a very thorough and interesting program on the Zika virus. Approximately 50 emergency preparedness leaders attended the program. His biggest advice: Tip and Toss! Always eliminate standing water around your home including flower pots, wading pools and bird baths. This eliminates options where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

Graduation numbers up!

Perhaps the biggest and best news this past week was contained in the email from Director of Schools Dr. Dan Lawson. The THS class of 2016 had 261 members. One of the primary measures of effectiveness of any high school is the graduation rate. The graduation rate in Tennessee includes graduation in a timely manner (4 years and one summer) with a regular diploma and completing a state mandated course of study. Drum roll, please.....preliminary calculations at THS indicate the Class of 2016 will report nearly a 94% graduation rate! Great news for the Class of 2016 and the THS staff. This rate is significantly above the state graduation average.

Have an idea or suggestion? Contact me at mayor@tullahomatin.gov , voice mail 581-0630, PO Box 807, or Facebook.