

Message from the Mayor

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It won't be long till we will be kicking off our Trenton Clean and Green recycling program. I am really excited about the possibilities and I have been out and about lately recruiting some great people to help get the initiative underway. This can be a really effective program if we can convince a majority of Trentonians to take part in the effort. The desired result will be to not only save the Earth by putting less trash and garbage in the ground but save and possibly make money by selling our recyclables to companies who will reuse the materials.

Christy Allen, Guy Maxwell and the PHS Science Club are volunteering to help us educate residents as to how to recycle and where to recycle. If you see them at some of the busier places in town a few weekends from now, get some information from them. They are going to be helping the city to make the most of the program. I want to thank them in advance for their assistance.

Here's how we hope it will work. You will be given recycling bags to be used at your home. There will be two types of trash: your regular trash and your recyclable trash. I want to tell you up front you will 3 times as much recyclable trash as you do regular trash. Any and all paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and #1 & #2 plastics can be recycled. If you look at a plastic product there is a triangular symbol that has a number in the center. Most of the plastics we use are either #1 or #2 plastics including water bottles, milk jugs, plastic sheets, mustard, mayonnaise, ketchup bottles, juice jugs, and so on..... When your recycling bag is full, set it on your curb and the street trucks will pick it up. If you rinse out your plastic bottles they are worth more and animals will not tear the bags open to get at the contents.

We are working out how we will get the recycling bags in your hands but we will do that. This is the way trash collecting will be done in the future and at some point in the future we hope we can figure out a way we can reward those of you who choose to recycle. But for now, let's get started and be in the lead of small municipalities who are winning the battle against trash.

If you haven't done so, please take a few minutes and vote for the Police Officer and Fireman of the Year. You will find the ballot in the paper and the city would sincerely appreciate your vote. These are individuals who put their lives on the line daily to keep you safe. They will be recognized by the Trenton Exchange Club at their October meeting. If an officer or fireman has done something to help you this past year, support them with your vote. It will make you feel good and they will appreciate it.

Speaking of police officers, the city is excited that our School Resource Officer (SRO) grant came through last week. This money will allow us to put a full time SRO's

at Trenton Rosenwald Middle and Peabody High Schools. The SRO's will be there to add security, teach some life skills, and show young people that police officers are there to help and protect. The officers will be available to provide security at ballgames and special events, accompany students on out of town field trips and just be someone they can depend on. Chief Will Sanders and our police department worked hard to secure the grant and we are hoping that it will be a positive program to benefit our young people. I am convinced that anything we can do to positively help our young people will benefit us all in the future.

I want to offer my apologies for Music on the Square being cancelled in September. We did not know what the weather was going to do and we felt like we needed to call it. We felt as if the threat of rain was there, people would stay home. Also, we had musical groups and vendors who would have lost money so decisions had to be made. The good news is that we have one more event in October on the 17th before we shut down for winter. We are going to start a little earlier because of the time of year but a good time will be had by all. Watch for the posters with the entertainment line-up and come downtown for a good time and some fellowship. I understand that the posters are becoming collector's items because of the pictures of Trenton from days gone by. I have started my own collection and am looking forward to adding to it.

October 17th is going to be a busy day in Trenton. The morning starts out with a 5K run sponsored by the Gibson General Healthcare Foundation. Sign up is at 8 a.m. and the run starts at 9.a.m. at the hospital. The Peabody Band of Gold is hosting their annual West Tennessee Small Division Band Contest that day. Division I and II bands from all over West Tennessee will be in Trenton that day to compete in the contest that is a foretaste to the State Championships in November. Also, the Cemetery Committee in conjunction with the Historical Society is hosting a walk-through history at Oakland Cemetery. Drop by and see some of our esteemed citizens portraying some of the colorful personalities who are resting peacefully in the city cemetery. The event is from 2p.m to 4. Then top off your day relaxing downtown listening to music and sharing some time with friends. How can you go wrong?

I know that most of you are wondering where we are in getting more jobs in Trenton. I don't blame you; I am concerned with it daily. We have had some promising conversations and visits recently with prospects but I can't offer you any solid information at this time. These things take time and planning. I can tell you that we are doing all we can in incentives and program help to persuade industry to come to Trenton. We are not looking to make money as a city, we just want the jobs. If you go back to work, the city will benefit. Pray for us, pray for the city, pray for jobs that will put our people back to work. I can't help but think that with you praying and us working, something good will come about.

I like to be positive. I like to be optimistic. That's the way I live and work and over the years, it has suited me well. I don't like to listen to complainers. My experience with complainers is that they are negative and do little to solve problems. It would be easy in this economy and at this time in history to have a negative attitude. The problem

is it doesn't fix anything. It leads to the same outcomes and we need positive changes to happen. What are you doing that is positive? Whatever it is, I truly thank you. I see it every day right here in our midst. If you're not on board, jump on and help. I'm looking for someone right now to volunteer to help me coordinate this new Recycling Program. It will be work but the rewards are great. I need you. Come by, call me and ask me what the job requires. We are trying to make Trenton better and although Trenton is not perfect, we're working on it. Till next time, God Bless Trenton.