

Message from the Mayor
#61 01-28-2010

One of the greatest assets we have going for us right now is www.trentontn.net. Yes, it is our City of Trenton website. We have around 11,000 people who visit us on a monthly basis looking at city services, our teapot collection, our police department and many other things that can be found in Trenton. People from all over the world virtually visit Trenton every day.

Do you want to know all about the 2010 Census? There are links on the website. How about businesses in the city, biographies of the Mayor and Aldermen, recycling information, pictures of historic homes, Teapot Festival information, links to our schools, hospital, Chamber of Commerce, YMCA and Dyersburg State Community College? It is all there on the website. If you have never visited our website, please do. There is even a way for you to email us with your thoughts and ideas. It is the source for information about our city.

Our Trenton Clean and Green initiative is really going great. We are still not caught up from Christmas due to all the recycling we received from the holidays. Our best estimates show that between 25% and 35% of households are doing some sort of recycling. That is a great number for a program that has only been in existence since September. I wonder if we could have 50% by the end of 2010. I truly think it is possible but we need your help. If you are not recycling now, it's time to start. It's so simple. All you have to do is put all your cardboard, cans, paper, and plastic (CCPP) in your recycling bags and put them out to be picked up on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have a business, put your recyclables in a bag and put them in front of your business or if you have a dumpster set your recycling bags and cardboard beside the dumpster and we'll come get it. If you have questions, call me at City Hall or contact Bill Woods or Ralph Bobbitt and we will try to help you. Come on, let's all get Clean and Green.

An issue that holds quite a bit of concern for our police and fire department not to mention the ambulance service is the lack of a street address somewhere in your yard or on your house. Anytime they are called to your address in an emergency, it is imperative that they can find the correct address. If your house number is not visible, it may cause them to pass by or even worse, not be able to find you.

There is a city ordinance that requires you to post your house number somewhere as to be visible. The ordinance is designed to help you in case emergency personnel are needed. If your house has no numbers on it now, the city urges you to please get some numbers posted. If you're talking to a neighbor and they don't have numbers posted, please pass this on. We want to provide you every opportunity to benefit from the services we provide.

There seems to be some confusion about a certain internet website and its' connection with the City of Trenton. I am purposely not going to mention the website's name because of the content of the bulk of conversation associated with it. I will say this; the City of Trenton maintains one website and that is www.trentontn.net. The city has no connection whatsoever with any internet website that encourages people to gossip, speculate, conjecture, slander, lie, or purposely malign the character of any individual or group. The site in question is a world-wide site and we have no control over it. I have received some calls asking me to take it off the web and unfortunately, I cannot. I do have a bit of advice for the cowardly individuals often found posting who won't tell who they are and give some fictitious geographical location as to where they can be found; if you have a problem with something or somebody, look them in the eye and tell them. That's how a real person does it.

I am really excited about our School Resource Officers (SRO's) that are currently at Trenton Rosenwald Middle and Peabody High Schools. The officers are enjoying the assignment and from all reports coming from the schools, things are going well. I am always encouraged by positive relationships that are formed by any two entities. In this case between the city and the schools, the school administration and the police department, and most importantly, the students and our police officers. I can't help but think something very good will come from this program.

In his State of the Union address, President Obama said that the creation of jobs needs to head the list of priorities for us in the time to come. I think that is a statement we can all agree with. I am convinced that we are not going to recover until jobs come back to West Tennessee. Industry can play a huge part in job creation but it is not the only way. Retail businesses create jobs. Wouldn't it be great if our Trenton businesses were so busy they had to hire extra help? Industry might return in the future but we can help our own cause right now by buying the majority of our goods and services locally where they help our economy, pay for city services,

allow us to have the best teachers for our children, and support our local organizations. If we are to grow, we need to spend money here at home. We all need to SHOP TRENTON. I know that not everything you want is here but everything you can buy here is tax money that benefits us. It's all part of knowing that Trenton isn't perfect but we're working on it. Till next time, God Bless Trenton.

Tony Burriss
Mayor, City of Trenton
309 South College Street
Trenton, Tennessee 38382
731-855-2013 (work)
731-695-6209 (mobile)
trentonmayor@bellsouth.net