

Message from the Mayor August 22, 2008

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Aren't we all proud of Janet Orgain? If we aren't we should be. We should be proud of everyone who does good things for other people. Although Janet stands out because of her article in last week's paper, there are many of you that have spent time and money volunteering to help those in need. It might be in some foreign country or some depressed area in Appalachia, or New Orleans, or it very well could be right here in Gibson County or Trenton. There are needy all around us. I worry when I read about rising energy and food prices. Who is going to shut off that air conditioner or go without food or medicine because the price of living costs more than what comes in each month? Winter is coming. I wish the city could solve everyone's problems, but unfortunately we can't. We sometimes have to shut off power because people make no attempt to pay their bill. It is not because they don't have the money, they just chose not to pay. Of course, that makes it bad on everybody else but that's when the Janet Orgains of the world step in and do their magic. Are you a Janet Orgain? I wish I was.

Well, it's football time in Tennessee again. The Golden Tide has started another season. Sometimes I think we just put up with the rest of the year here in Trenton because we know football season starts back in August. Of course it also means the cheerleaders are in full swing and the band is getting ready for another contest season. I wonder if you have ever noticed that way over half of the student body is not only at the football games, but is participating in one of the groups playing, performing or cheering at the game. I think it is important that we support our young people that participate in extracurricular activities in our school system. I am speaking of Elementary, Middle School and High School students and not just football, but golf, soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, academic clubs, agricultural clubs, and any other activity that keeps them focused on positive events. We hear every day about young people doing negative things but how many of them are involved with a school organization that keeps them focused on the positive? I think you will find it is a small percentage. There is a much higher percentage of young people doing positive things than negative.

Speaking of football, radio station 93.1 (Grace Broadcasting) will be carrying several of the Trenton Peabody Golden Tide football games on the radio. They also plan to carry basketball this winter. This is a step back in the correct direction. We will have to share some Friday nights with Gibson County but this all has to do with advertising dollars. There are two things I'd like to ask of you. First and most important, please let the sponsors know that you appreciate them by not only telling them but by patronizing their businesses. Second, if you have not sponsored but would like to, see Sherry Vaughn at the radio station on West Eaton Street and sign up. If we had enough sponsors, we could have all the Golden Tide games broadcast. Having the games back on the radio is great. Let's do all we can to keep them on.

Let me ask a favor of you. Many times trash and paper blow onto your property or is thrown out of a vehicle and lands in your yard. Sometimes, you throw it down. If trash and paper are on your property, the city will not pick it up. We do not have time to and it is on private property; yours. Please take a few minutes and pick up paper all the way to the street. Although I feel Trenton gets better looking each day; picking up this loose paper would really finish the job. It would be the icing on the cake. Also, again, remember that your trash in your trash can should be sealed in bags and stored in cans with lids secured on top. There should be no loose paper or trash in your can. We can add another dimension to our clean-up effort if everyone would do these small things.

Many of you call me when you see an ordinance infraction such as high grass, trash disposal, loose animals, etc... First, I want to say thank you for making me aware of these situations. Every week, Ricky Bailey and I (usually accompanied by one or so Aldermen) make a run through Trenton to see if there are property ordinance violations. When we first started, we wrote down several pages, but now we might have a half a dozen per week. Almost everybody has done a wonderful job of making Trenton a cleaner, more beautiful city. For that I (along with you and your neighbors) am truly grateful. As you are aware, not everyone has joined in with the same spirit. We at City Hall will continue to work to persuade everyone to abide by the law. Thank you to the majority of citizens that always abide by the law. Also, my sincerest thanks go out to all of you to whom I have sent a letter and you have complied without complaint. It was not and never will be personal. We all must remember that the majority of people in Trenton work very hard to make their property look immaculate. They, like me, can't see why everybody does not.

When I hear people speak badly of Trenton, I always wonder what they are missing. I see a wonderful, friendly, caring city full of great people. Yes, there are those who break the law, abuse others and disrespect the rights of the people around them, but they are a small minority. If you are in that small minority, wake up and get with the program. We don't want drug dealers and criminally folks in Trenton. We don't mind where you go, just go. This is a great place getting better all the time. There is one thing I know, Trenton isn't perfect, but we're working on it. Till next time, God Bless Trenton.