

## **Message from the Mayor #65**

March is all but gone and April means the Teapot Festival is just around the corner. For me, it is the premier event of the year. There are lots of wonderful happenings every year in the Trenton area but the Festival draws the most positive attention to our community. Of course, this is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and big plans are being made. My understanding is that John Melton, the festival's founder is coming and members of the Freed family, who gave us the teapots originally, will also be in town. There will be a Teapot Gala on Friday night of the festival and all the usual events and luncheons will be held. What a great week for Trenton.

I think that in a time when the economy of not only Trenton but Gibson County, our state, and our nation is shaky, it is important that we celebrate who we are. We are fortunate to have a collection of teapots that no other city has and a historical heritage that I only hope someday will be one of our next measurable sources of revenue and that will separate us from other destinations in Tennessee and the southwest part of the United States. My wish is that all of us will get involved and support this important time in our city.

I had the opportunity to meet some people with Circles of Hope recently who, like the city council and I, are concerned about the dog and cat population in Trenton and Gibson County. Their mission is to try to save and find homes for as many animals as they can. The task is mind-boggling as we pick up hundreds of abandoned and abused animals each year. I know most of you treat your pets with respect and love, but there are those who mistreat, abuse and abandon dogs and cats at an alarming rate. Circles of Hope need help and maybe some of you are interested in giving them a hand.

If you are a Facebook person, you can join Friends of Gibson County Animals. They also rescue animals and you can contact them to let them know of your interest. If you are not a Facebook person, they will be having a rib-eye sandwich sale on April 9<sup>th</sup> at Foodrite in Trenton and you can ask how to help there. You can also find them at Music on the Square events. There are many, many ways you can help both of these groups. Taking care of God's creatures should be one of our concerns. Thanks for your help.

Speaking about Music on the Square, the first of four events will be held May 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30. The Gibson County Community Band, singer-guitarist Chad Karnes, and the Heartland Jazz Review will be featured performers that evening. There will be a lot of food, craft vendors, children's activities, and fellowship taking place on that Saturday night. If you've never been to one of the events, come out and give it a try. I hear people say there is nothing to do in Trenton and MOS is a way to start taking care of that problem. On a similar note, I wish I could find a group that would be interested in hosting a Movie on the Square event downtown. We could use the side of a downtown building to show family movies in the summer. I wonder if there is some club or civic group who would be interested in taking this on as a project. It could be a lot of fun.

Alright, let's change gears. The majority of us know what happens when you do not have a top on your trash can. Right, animals get in it and spread trash and garbage everywhere. What a mess and it is your responsibility to clean it up. Here are a few reminders: First, all of your trash should be in an enclosed bag, in a trash receptacle with a top on it. Our sanitation workers will only pull the bags from your can. Anything else in the can will be left there. Would you want to handle that stuff? I thought not. Next, it is an unwritten but adhered to rule in Trenton, that we do not leave our trash cans on the street all week. We keep them somewhere not in plain view. It makes your property and Trenton look better. Lastly, if there is trash, paper etc... in your yard, please pick it up. When the wind blows or we have a hard rain, your trash then becomes your neighbors and the problems start. I have ridden all over Trenton and there is no property in town that would take more than 15 minutes to get the trash,

limbs and debris picked up out of a yard. Now that spring is here, let's really work on keeping Trenton Clean and Green.

Here's another great transition from trash to recycling. We are requesting that you either put your recycling out the night before or before 7 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our guys run early in an effort to collect our recyclables and start processing them as quickly as possible. If you put them out after noon, they might not get picked up on that recycling day and then sit for several days. Thanks for your help with this.

Have you sent your Census form back yet? Have you received your Census form? If not, we have them at City Hall and a representative from the Census Bureau is here on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to help you fill it out. Please fill out your form and send it back. It is important for us as we are really hoping for the possibility of going above the 5000 population mark. It would mean a great deal financially to Trenton. We want to get better because even though Trenton is not perfect, we're working on it. Till next time, God Bless Trenton.

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