



CITY SHENANIGANS

A Newsletter for the City of St. Marys Employees

Volume 1, Issue 2

March 2008

Special Points of Interest

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- Relay for Life
- City Hats
- Grand Opening of Fire station No. 7
- Employee of the Month
- Congratulations Deputy Clerk

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Manager's Corner



Chief Robbie Horton
Fire Department

Are You the Shadow or are you the Tree?

When I was asked to write this article the first thing that came to mind was the words of Abraham Lincoln, "The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing." I often think about this being an employee of the City.

We often cast a large shadow of who we are and what we do, but are we really the tree that the shadow represents? If we tell someone, whether it is a citizen or another employee, what we are doing, or have done, do we follow through with it to see that it is done right or do we sugar coat it to make our shadows a little larger than they really are?

You know when I came here eight years ago I came from another municipal government in a neighboring County; and I have traveled all over this State as a part of my job and when I got here I could not believe what I found here. The workers cared about what they did and took care of what they had, regardless of the condition. The City employees spoke to one another and dropped the departmental boundaries that you find in most communities. This allowed them to help one another with whatever task was at hand. They took time to help the citizens of our City. I don't believe that any of that has changed, or I hope that it hasn't. I am proud to tell people where I work, and I am happy to provide any service I can to help the citizens or any of our employees. We all do care and it shows daily in our efforts.

So I guess what I am saying is continue to be the tree, the real thing, and forget about the shadow. Keep up the good work and be good to each other and to the citizens we serve. There is no doubt we do a great job at what we do. As a last thought to ponder, Lincoln also said, "What kills a skunk is the publicity it gives itself." Maybe they will let me talk more about this next time or maybe not.

Public Works Team Conquers Untimely Sink Hole

On February 23, 2008, what seemed to be a perfectly normal Friday, the 5:00 o'clock hour was approaching and the majority of the employees of the City of St. Marys were gearing up to go home and enjoy their weekend. A team of Public Works employees were preparing to attack a nasty sink hole that reared its ugly head on Mickler Drive, near Mary Lee Clark Elementary School. The team consisted of 9 men: Jeffrey Berg, Joshua Cribbs, John Harper, Adam Hernandez, Eric Petty, Eddie Robinson, Robert Robinson, Edward Souls and Craig Stoddard.

These gentlemen worked diligently and efficiently to take care of the situation and ensure public safety. The success of this project is a testimonial to their teamwork and determination. This is just another example of the many projects, in addition to the day to day operations that Public Works performs for the citizens of our city.

? Of the Month Contest

The February Issue contained the question "Who is Uncle Fluffy?" The correct answer to this question was Bobby Marr, the Department Head of Public Works. We are happy to announce that the winner of the ? of the Month for February was Dianna Forester of the Public Works Department.

For the month of March, the question involves a bit of history. You will need to think back to the days of the 1950's and ask yourself, "What did the teenagers do in St. Marys to make money on a regular basis?"

Please make sure to submit your answer to lori.whitlow@tds.net via email with the subject line of ? of the Month or you may stop by and hand deliver your answer.

Let's see your wheels turning to figure this one out. Good Luck!



Could Your Cookie Recipe Be First Place?



Cookie Contest Update

If you are interested in participating in the upcoming City of St. Marys Cookie Contest, please see either your Department Head or Lori Whitlow to obtain an application form. Please note, you will need to bring in 2 dozen of the cookies made from the submitted recipe on the day of the contest (April 23, 2008). The applicant must be the person baking or preparing the cookies. The judging will

be at 4:00PM. This form should be submitted to the Administrative Assistant to the City Manager. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008.

The first place winner will receive a trophy for his or her recipe. After the judging, the fun begins, when the cookies left are available for all to share. We are looking forward to an exciting competition! How sweet?!

City of St. Marys Hats

Roger Weaver of Building and Planning, is working on getting an order together for ball type hats with the round St. Marys logo (like the shirts) on them. The hats can be obtained for \$15.00 each. Orders must be placed in 12 hat lots, which means, 12 of one color or style. Roger will take the funds and arrange for the hats through Lil Seabags. These hats would be for staff to wear when on business as well as anytime, so they can show their support for the City. Please note, the purchase of these hats is at your own expense

Staff can contact Roger Weaver through his email to place their order, get sizes, etc. His email is as follows:

roger.weaver@tds.net

HAT +



Relay for Life Events

The City of St. Marys is happy to announce that we will be represented at this year's Relay for Life Event. The City has put together a team of twenty five employees who will be participating in the event. Fundraising will be ongoing until the walk. There will be a yard/bake sale on the Saturday, April 5, 2008 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the lot in front of James Jewelers along Spur 40. If you would like to donate things for the yard sale or baked goodies for

the bake sale, please see Lori Whitlow or Kathy Johnson

for more information. The team will also be selling luminaries to honor those who have been lost to cancer or are battling the disease. All funds raised for this event will go to the American Cancer Association to help fund the search for a cure for Cancer. Most of us know someone who is or has battled this disease.



Happy
St. Patrick's
Day
City of
St. Marys!

A Message From Municipal Court

"ZERO POINT" VIOLATIONS"

Did you know that any Georgia Licensed driver may request a zero-point order for any point bearing violation?

O.C.G.A. § 40-5-57(c)(1)(c)

- A "Zero-Point Order" is a transaction between the court and the licensee that is reported to DDS.
- The disposition will still post on the driver's record. However, no points will be assessed for the violation. This procedure may be used once every 5 years measured from date of arrest to date of arrest, in accordance with O.C.G.A. §40-5-57(c)(1)(c)

Office Safety

Remember to constantly think about safety around your office. It is the simplest things that can help to keep you from injury. Keep an orderly and functional workspace, while trying to remember to prevent safety hazards. Occasionally, the legs of humans tend to be magnets for corners of desks and sometimes the solution may be to have it moved over a few inches to free up space for passing by. Close drawers and don't forget to pick up loose paper that may have fallen to the floor. Most office injuries are unexpected, but could be prevented with simple measures.

Tip of the Day

Georgia law requires vehicle headlights to be on when it is raining. There a lot of people on the roads that are not aware of this law. Maybe if each employee will tell three non-employee friends the word will get spread around.

Georgia Code

§ 40-8-20. When lighted headlights and other lights required

Every vehicle upon a highway within this state at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before **sunrise and at any time when it is raining in the driving zone** and at any other time when there is not sufficient visibility to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead shall display lights, including headlights, and illuminating devices as required in this part for different classes of vehicles, subject to exceptions with respect to parked vehicles as stated in this part.



Grand Opening of Fire station No. 7

The city of St. Marys is happy to announce the Grand Opening of the new fire station, Fire station No. 7. The official opening and ceremony will take place on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 10:00 AM. The station will house the city's newest fire engine, Quint 7 and crew. This station was built through a collaborative effort between the Land Resource, LLC, Cumberland Property Owners Association and the City of St. Marys. The land upon which the station sits was given by Land Resource, LLC, while Cumberland Property Owners Association built the facility and provided the primary response apparatus. The City of St. Marys is responsible for the maintaining staff and furnishings of the station. There will be approximately three fire fighters on each shift for this station. This station will not only be responding to the emergency needs of the residents of Cumberland Harbour, but also of Point Peter and the City of St. Marys.

All City employees, as well as the citizens of St. Marys are welcome to attend the grand opening on Saturday. We are looking forward to a wonderful day for a wonderful event.



**Saturdays from
10:00 AM to 2:00**

**PM
206 Osborne**

**Street
(Tribune and Georgian
Parking Lot)**

**For more information
visit**

www.smcmarket.com

Employee of the Month

We would like to congratulate Terri Broxton of the Public Works Department for being nominated and recognized as the City of St. Marys Employee of the Month for January, 2008! Keep up the great work Terri !



Congratulations to the New Deputy Clerk of Council

The City Clerk's Department would like to congratulate Kathy Johnson on her appointment as Deputy Clerk of Council. Kathy completed the Georgia Municipal Association and Georgia Municipal Clerk's mandatory training in February. She will continue her training for the next three years to become a Certified Municipal Clerk. Official duties of the City Clerk's office include: custodian of all ordinances, resolutions,

records and other official documents filed in the Legislative Department. Some of the services provided consist of filing tax liens, annexations, cemetery deeds, senior homestead exemptions, alcohol licenses, record requests and notarizing documents.

Please note: The kiosk in front of City Hall is being used to post all meeting announcements, as well as, the City's website at

www.ci.st-marys.ga.us.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's office as follows:

City Clerk Darlene Roellig
510-4039
darlene.roellig@tds.net

Deputy Clerk Kathy Johnson
510-4019
kathy.johnson@tds.net

CITY OF ST. MARYS



City of St. Marys
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Phone: 912-510-4041
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E-mail: lori.whitlow@tds.net

CITY SHENANIGANS

Vision Statement

The City of St. Marys vision is to create a community of excellence governed by the principles of responsibility, fiscal soundness, accessibility and service to the public, in an atmosphere rich in historic and cultural significance, while retaining its natural beauty, charm, resources, and unique appearance; a community that attracts and maintains active and supportive citizens, with an enhanced quality of life and economic opportunity for all.

Mission Statement

The mission of the City of St. Marys is to provide the most responsive and progressive public services, within the resources provided, so that our citizens can enjoy the best possible quality of life.

Name the Newsletter

The City Newsletter needs a name. In the first edition, the title read "XXXX XXXX News," but we are asking the employees of the City of St. Marys to please take an active role in this newsletter and make a suggestion for the permanent name. You may email your ideas to lori.whitlow@tds.net or you may put it in writing and turn it in to your Department Head.

Pass the Popcorn Please



ST. MARYS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Interested in a little cultural diversion? Come to the library and enjoy some unique films. Each one is outstanding, but a little different from the mainstream culture. So come to one, come to some, or come to all. Showtime's are each Wednesday at 2:00 and 5:45 pm.

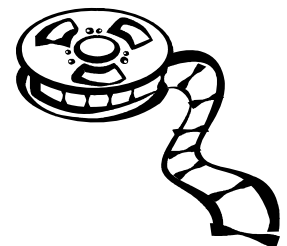
March features:

Wed., March 5th "Charms for the Easy Life"

Wed., March 12th "Nanny Diaries"

Wed., March 19th "Reign Over Me"

Wed., March 26th "Hairspray"



If you have information for this newsletter, please contact Lori Whitlow, Administrative Assistant to the City Manager, at 510-4041.