



Abbeville Matters

Abbeville, Alabama | City of Dogwoods | A Quarterly Newsletter | March 2011

Mayor Reviews City Progress

As the year 2011 rang in and we said goodbye to 2010, we gratefully reflect on many signs of progress in the City of Abbeville while acknowledging some areas that are moving slower than we'd like.

For example, our primary goal of filling the "West Point" building has not yet been accomplished. We showed the building to potential investors and businesses five times in 2010, and it is evident that those who might be interested in operating a business there are more interested in the city itself than the actual building and the infrastructure that goes with it. This proves that the current administration's strategy of focusing on community development and improving quality of life is the correct path. Businesses locate where business owners and managers want to live. The Mayor and City Council of the City of Abbeville will continue leading the charge in connecting the right business with the quality of life its owners are seeking.

The financial stability of Abbeville in 2010 was made possible by extremely tough decisions made by the City Council in 2009. By cutting ex-

penses, increasing revenue and enacting policies to improve productivity and performance of city services, the City of Abbeville operated under budget and in the black for 2010, compared to a loss of \$400,000 for 2009. Operational efficiencies were improved through a complete overhaul of our personnel policy, job descriptions and employee compensation plan, and the City of Abbeville is on a sounder platform.

The City Council continues to focus on a three-part economic development strategy, which includes: continued efforts to recruit industry, a renewed interest in increasing tourism, and a desire to solicit retiree recruitment. The three parts of this strategy are all dependent upon how others view the appearance and pride of our community.

Throughout 2011, we will continue the focus on beautification and community development. This focus is the primary reason we developed a department solely responsible for grounds and beautification, which is headed by Danny Creel.

All of the decisions and ac-

complishments of 2010 have been with this strategy in mind, including: the progress on the airport to encourage others to visit and invest in Abbeville; complete restructuring of the police department and compensation package; and active pursuit of planning and zoning in order to properly plan for growth while preserving our past.

We established partnerships with HRDC, Henry County Schools and Henry County Child Partnership to provide the first-ever Summer Youth Program which also led to the formation of an after-school program to help prepare our future leaders.

Additionally, the City updated and added ordinances related to zoning and land use and expanded activities within the recreation department to offer more recreational opportunities for children and adults. All of these things help to improve the overall quality of life and increase the interest of

"Success is where preparation and opportunity meet." Preparation is not glamorous (ask any painter), but it is necessary.

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others in our community.

Many of the successes of 2010 were, in fact, attributable to volunteers, civic groups and churches within the City of Abbeville. The Abbeville Historic Cemetery Committee headed by Lucky Armstrong and steered by Sylvia Clark is among the best of these. This committee has raised over \$50,000. They have used this money to complete phase one of improvements to the historic cemetery, which incurred extensive damage from the 2002 tornado. They have also used grant money to begin a

walking tour which will draw many visitors to our city every year.

Volunteers, including those from the Chamber of Commerce, were responsible for the second annual Yatta-Abba day, first-ever Howl-O-Ween festival, adult league softball, Christmas Parade and many other events. We encourage more volunteers to join in, and we hope you will call City Hall to find out how you can get involved in making Abbeville an even better place to live.

Bobby Unser, a very success-

ful race car driver, once said, "Success is where preparation and opportunity meet." Preparation is not glamorous (ask any painter), but it is necessary. Throughout 2011, we will continue the task of preparation through new industry recruitment, existing industry expansion, tourism expansion and retiree recruitment. We will do this by focusing on preserving our history while planning our future. When opportunity shows up, the preparation will be there to meet it.

Ryan Blalock, Mayor

Senior Living

The Abbeville Senior Center is always full of exciting events and weekly programs for our seniors ages 60 and over. It seems Senior Centers have a reputation for being a place to come and hang out with "old folks" to play cards or dominoes. This just is not the case!

At Abbeville Senior Center we provide something for every personality. Maybe you are someone who enjoys dominos or bingo. We have groups that play and compete with each other in friendly competition. We even offer a state wide competition in several games such as dominoes, basket ball free throws, horse shoes, bowling, and many more. If you enjoy different activities such as dance classes, singing for groups, bible studies, computer classes, or just want to make new friends and fellowship,

we have the group for you. By becoming a member, you have access to many resources for prescription drug plans, electric assistance, food stamp assistance, and many other programs. The center has speakers to come to the center to give education on health tips and facilities around the area for specific needs.

The Abbeville Seniors go on trips around the area.

Some of them ride on the center vans while others drive themselves to the various places we visit.

We keep a calendar of monthly events posted inside the center. You are always welcome to stop in

to see if any activity may spark an interest for the month.

One thing is for sure! There are many different personalities, a variety of needs, and lots of different activities. However, it's a place we all can feel at home. Come visit the Abbeville Senior Center. You will be so glad you did.

Amanda Gamble
Senior Center Director

One thing is for sure! There are many different personalities, a variety of needs, and lots of different activities.



Seniors enjoy a spirited round of dominos

Recreation

COME OUT AND PLAY



Recreation is defined as the refreshment of one's mind or body after work through activity that amuses or stimulates.

Whether you are old or young, male or female, the City of Abbeville Recreation Department has a lot to offer individuals who are in search of fun and exercise.

The winter is turning to spring, which indicates for many the start of the baseball and softball season. We are looking forward to a great season for both of these sports. Practice begins for boys and girls from ages three to fifteen on Febru-

ary 28th. This is a time for learning about the rules of the game, as well as learning about sportsmanship. It is also an exciting time of fellowship for the parents who gather to watch their children have fun.

The first games of the season begin on the 28th of March. April 16th is the date of the much anticipated Youth Day. The day begins with a parade of athletes through town, making their way to the city park for a fun-filled day of carnival type games, food and activities as well as their softball and baseball games.

As the season comes to an end for the youngsters, it is just beginning for adults. For the second year in a row, we

will have an adult Church Softball league. This has proven to be very entertaining to participate in as well as to watch. We look forward to more teams joining the league this year. The team meeting with coaches and officials to review rules will be held on Saturday, May 7th at the Recreation office. Rosters and fees must be turned in no later than May 21st. More information will be available in the Abbeville Herald as teams are selected and games schedule.

If softball or baseball is not your choice of sport, the Abbeville Recreation Department has more to offer. A tennis program began last year with good participation. The second season begins on

February 12 and will run for 8 weeks.

We also have a couple of ideas in the works for new programs for the Recreation Department. We hope to start an Adult Basketball League and create an Archery program. If you have any thoughts or suggestions of additional programs, please feel free to contact any of the Recreation Board members or Melvin Harris at 334.585.3612. I will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and assist you in getting signed up for the sport of your choice. Come on out and play, you will be glad that you did!

Melvin Harris,
Recreation Director

Street & Sanitation

I would like to say thank you for allowing me to serve you and the community during this past year. I am looking forward to an even better year in 2011. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on what the Abbeville Street and Sanitation Departments do.

Sanitation—The men who work on the garbage trucks are very dedicated to their jobs. They have to work in all kinds of weather and handle material that no one else wants to touch. You can help us when putting your trash at the curb by having the trash out by 7:00 a.m. the day of your pickup. Trash cans should be no larger than 30 gallons. Anything larger will be too heavy for one man to pickup and could cause costly injuries. TV's, computers and

microwaves can be put out with your household trash. Garbage cans that are un-serviceable will be disposed of at the discretion of the Superintendent. All trash should be placed in heavy duty yard bags or in appropriate garbage cans. It is not the job of the Sanitation Department to clean up loose garbage. Please remember changes that were made concerning holiday pickups. If a holiday falls on your pickup day, your garbage will be picked up on the following work day. These changes were made to better serve the residents of Abbeville.

Street—The Street Depart-

ment serves the community in a lot of different ways. We maintain all city streets, repair pot holes, change out traffic lights, pickup trash and cut grass along right of ways. We are also responsible for upkeep and cleaning of storm drains. With the help of the residents, we could do these jobs even better.



Grass clippings, leaves and all other debris should always be put at or behind the curbs—not in the street or

the sidewalk. This reduces safety concerns and keeps the storm drains from being plugged by debris left in the street. Limbs and yard debris should always be separated

from other debris such as furniture, appliances, etc. We also allow the flatbed truck to be used by residents overnight or on weekends so residents can load up excessive debris. Residents should call City Hall to make arrangements.

Beginning March 28th through April 2nd we will have a city wide **Spring Clean Up**. This will be a great time to clean up your yards and homes of old debris.

If you have any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at 334.585.6444 or by email at: rwright@cityofabbeville.org Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Robert Wright
Superintendent



Beyond the Shelves

It is the purpose of Abbeville Memorial Library to serve as

completely as possible, all Henry County residents who wish to read and have access to information. Presently, there are over 5,000 patrons registered with the library which allows them access to over 23,000 items and 10 computers. Patrons and visitors to the library may also bring in personal laptops and access the internet via our wireless internet connection.

In order to make the library a pleasant place for all of our patrons, we ask for everyone's cooperation in observing the following policies:

- Anyone living in Henry County may apply for a library card.
- Children and teens under 17 years of age must have a library card completed and signed by a parent or guardian.
- Books and audio books (CD's) may be borrowed for a period of two weeks. Renewals may be made by telephone or by visiting the library.
- New patrons may borrow two items on their first check out. When those items have been returned, patrons may check out up to a maximum of eight items.
- Fines for overdue books and audio books accrue at a rate of 10 cents per day, per item.
- DVD's may be borrowed

for one week and will not be renewed. Late fees for DVD's accrue at \$1.00 per day, per DVD.

- Materials from our reference section must remain in the library.

Patrons who have a clear library account may sign in to use the library computers. (Computers are preset to allow each patron 60 minutes per day of computer use.)

William W. Nordan Local History Room

Precious and irreplaceable items from our local history room over time have become very fragile. Some very important items are missing due to theft by patrons and/or visitors. In order to save the items we have in our collection, the following changes have been made in accessing these materials.

- Local History Room materials will be made available upon written request of the patron.
- After filling out a request form and presenting your driver's license at the front desk, one of our helpful staff members will be happy to pull the books and documents you have requested for viewing in the main library.
- No pens, large bags, back packs, or briefcases are to be on hand while using local history room materials. Please leave these items at the front desk, and they will be returned to you when you return the history room materials to a staff mem-

ber.

Your understanding and help in maintaining our local history room collection is greatly appreciated.

MEMORIALS and GIFTS

A memorial book is donated to the Library in memory of a loved one, a friend, co-worker or an acquaintance. Clubs, businesses and other organizations may also donate a memorial book. A book price ranges from \$25 and up to whatever the donor wishes to donate. Books given in honor or in memory of someone may be arranged by calling or visiting the library.

Friends of the Library

Members of the Friends of the Library are community minded men and women who realize the importance of a quality library to the people of Abbeville and all of Henry County. Friends of the Library meet the fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information, you may contact the officers listed below or contact the library.

President – Sarah Williams
Vice-President – Sallie Williams
Secretary – Cheryl Yawn
Treasurer – Lisa Sanders

Library Happenings

February 2011

Black History Month
"Name the Newsletter Contest" 02/01-02/28—\$50 prize to the selected winner—Send entries to pwward@cityofabbeville.org
Friends of the Library Meeting @4 p.m. 02/22

March 2011

Women's History Month

Retired Teachers' Meeting @ 2 p.m. 03/28

April 2011

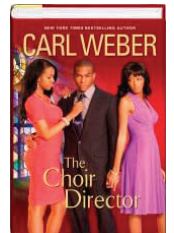
National Library Week 04/10 - 04/16

What's New on the Shelf?

NYC's #1 detective, Michael Bennett, has a huge problem—the Son of Sam, the Werewolf of Wisteria and the Mad Bomber are all back. The city has never been more terrified!



New York Times bestselling author Carl Weber resurrects Bishop T.K. Wilson and his delightfully dysfunctional First Jamaica Ministries in his latest page-turner!



Library Hours

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesdays, Thursdays 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Abbeville Memorial Library

301 Kirkland Street
Abbeville, AL 36310
Phone: (334) 585-2818
Email:

abbevillelibrary@comcast.net

Debbie McLain
Library Director

It's time to renew those business licenses again for 2011, if you haven't already done so. The City of Abbeville Ordinance No. 12-07-1, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, states that anyone doing any kind of business, trade, profession or other activity within the city limits or police jurisdiction is required to purchase a City of Abbeville Privilege License. If you have never purchased one before please contact City Hall to get an application. Generally, the license can be purchased the same day as your completed application is submitted.

For those businesses that have purchased a license in the past, but will not be working in the city this year, please contact City Hall and request to be placed on an

inactive status. This will prevent your business from being placed on the delinquent license list, receiving delinquent notices, acquiring late fees and interest, and possibly being contacted by law enforcement due to nonrenewal.

Our Police Department has taken an active role in enforcing our Privilege License Ordinance. They are subject to making random checks on contractors and other businesses seen working in the community. Any person or persons who is caught working within the city limits or police jurisdiction, and cannot produce a current City of Abbeville Privilege License,

will be forced to stop the job immediately and will be escorted to City Hall to purchase the required license and permits.

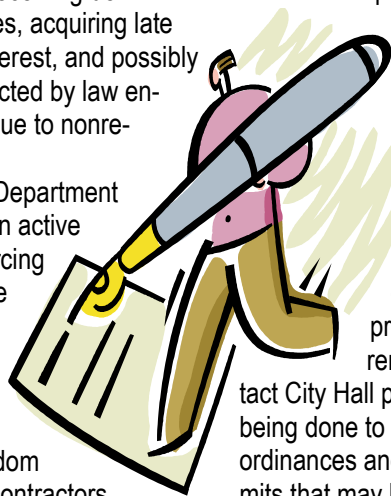
If you are a homeowner and are having repairs, maintenance, remodels, and other such work done on your property, please remember to contact City Hall prior to the work being done to inquire on zoning ordinances and/or building permits that may be necessary.

Also, be sure to check with your contractor to ensure they are licensed by The City of Abbeville before allowing them to perform any work for you.

A State of Alabama License may also be required of the

business, depending on the type of work being performed. A City of Abbeville License is required, no matter what other licenses the contractor holds. This is done to help protect homeowners, due to the fact that they may not be aware of new regulations placed on certain job titles such as construction, plumbers, electricians, among others. All reputable contractors keep the required licenses current and are able to produce them when asked. If you are not sure if a contractor is licensed through the City, please feel free to contact Abbeville City Hall (334-585-6444) to make an inquiry.

Melissa Cheek
Licensing & Payroll Clerk



On-Line and Pay by Phone Options Available for City Utility Payment

Many times our water customers have asked if we are set up to accept payments online for their monthly utility bills. Until last month we were not capable of serving our customers with an online payment service. However, now our customers have the ability to pay online.

To pay online, visit our city website by clicking on www.cityofabbeville.org. Once you have reached our homepage, click on the Nex-Check link and follow a few steps. The logo below is the link you will look for on the front page of our website as well as on the Water Department page.

You will need your account number, the correct name and payment amount in order to complete the payment process.



Your payment will be accepted and applied to your account the next business day. There is a convenience charge for you to use this service. Fees are based on amount of your bill and will be clearly shown before you process your payment.

Coming soon is an additional feature of paying by phone. You

can call the phone number which will be made available to you twenty-four hours a day. Like our online bill pay, you will need your correct name, payment amount and account number. This information is all listed on your utility bill. More information will be made available to you in the near future.

If you have any questions you may call City Hall at 334-585-6444. Our office hours are Monday thru Friday from 8AM until 5PM.

Aggie Barron
Customer Service

DID YOU KNOW

The City web site contains a lot of useful information for our residents. Did you know the community calendar list events, meetings, holidays, etc? If you have an event you would like placed on the calendar, please contact City Hall with the details and we will be glad to get the word out! See us at: www.cityofabbeville.org



Most home and property owners use lawnmowers to maintain their property. A lawnmower is a great, but potentially dangerous tool. Nearly 100,000 people a year are injured by lawnmowers.



These injuries include burns, cuts, broken bones, loss of limbs and death. Lawnmower accidents are preventable if you focus on the job at hand and use the following basic safety tips.

Keep your lawnmowers in good working order by:

1. Maintain sharp blades
 2. Check belts and replace worn belts
 3. Insure deck housing is secure
 4. Make sure all fluids are at proper levels (including oil!)
 5. Never remove trash or debris while mower is running!
- Use a long stick or broom/mop handle to dislodge objects, **not your feet or hands!**

Proper Lawnmower Operation:

1. **Always** read the lawnmower instruction manual before using your lawnmower!
2. Safety guards from switches and other safety devices or shields **should never** be removed.
3. Put fuel in the mower before starting it up. **Do not** add fuel to a hot engine or while the engine is running.
4. Avoid the engine cowling because it will become extremely hot .

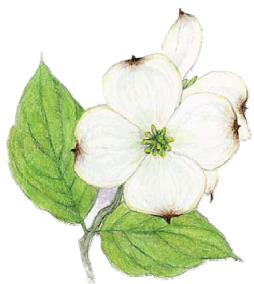
Child Safety Tips:

1. Teach kids to avoid all lawnmowers when their en-

- gines are on.
2. Do not allow kids to play near areas where mowers are in operation.
3. Kids should not be allowed to be passengers on mowers with anyone (including parents!)
4. No one should ever pull or tow a child behind a mower.

For more information go to:
www.homeservicesengine.com/articles/tips_lawn_mower_safety.html

Yatta Abba Day to Bring Festival Atmosphere to Abbeville



Abbevillians gear up to celebrate Yatta Abba Day Saturday, April 9, 2011. Mayor Ryan Blalock, the Abbeville City Council and Chamber of Commerce president Ronnie Marshall announce an all day festival in Abbeville held around the court house square to celebrate Yatta Abba Day. The festivities begin at 9:00 a.m. with music and end at 9:00 p.m. with a sock hop.

Garden vendors will have the court house square inundated with a variety of plants, garden art, outdoor furniture, wind chimes, trees, blueberry bushes, fertilizers, lawn mowers – anything you would want for your garden. Food vendors will offer turnip greens and cornbread, turkey legs, boiled peanuts, funnel cakes, hot dogs, chili dogs, and more. Live entertainment will highlight the main stage with Master of Ceremony David Money and Judge Charles Woodham introducing acts varying from four-part harmony and gospel singing to oldies and hip-hop. Local young dancers and bell ringers will bring smiles to parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles

Classic cars will line Kirkland Street from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Cemetery tour and play will commence at 4:00 p.m. at the Old Cemetery on Kirkland Street, and skits involving infamous Abbeville residents of days gone by. Skits will repeat until 6:00 p.m. to accommodate overflow visitors.

At 9:00 a.m., a dog contest will feature local dogs vying for the top dog in a myriad of unusual categories. Children's activities including a train, bouncers, face painting, contests and more will fill the day in the children's section. A sock hop from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. brings out the young at heart as well as the young to join in a favorite Abbeville treat – dancing in the street.

Yatta Abba Tee-shirts with local artist Paulette Riley's original design offers "art on a shirt" from a local accomplished artist. A limited edition, signed and numbered prints of the Yatta Abba art will be available.

Mayor Blalock hopes to bring enthusiasm and celebration to Abbeville by focusing on local talent and offerings. He invites surrounding counties and cities to join Abbevillians in its Yatta Abba Day celebration.

For more information contact: The Abbeville Chamber of Commerce at 334-585-2273 or abbevillechamber@centurytel.net or on the web at www.cityofabbeville.org or www.abbevillecoc.com. Vendors may contact Jeff Skipper at skipperstrucking@yahoo.com or by phone at 334.333.3473 for vendor applications.

Cemetery Lot Purchases

The death of a loved one is an emotional and trying time. No one wants to make decisions about the place of burial when they have just lost a family member. Although it's not a pleasant task, now may be the time for you to consider where you will want to be placed upon your death.

The City of Abbeville currently owns two beautiful cemeteries with available spaces for sale:

- **Abbeville Memorial Cemetery** is located be-

tween North Doswell Street and West Washington Street. Each space is six feet by ten feet three inches. They may be purchased in singles. Upright monuments are allowed. The price is \$300.00 each.

- **Abbeville Memorial Cemetery – East** is located on State Highway 10 East. This cemetery has four areas. The Garden of the Cross allows markers and the space size is three and one half

feet by nine feet and may be purchased in singles. The price is \$400.00 each. The Garden of Christus allows markers and the space size is four feet by nine feet and may be purchased in singles. The price is \$300.00 each. The Veterans Garden is for Veterans and their families, allows markers and the space size is four feet by nine feet and may be purchased in singles. The price is \$300.00 each. The Memorial Garden allows upright monuments and

the spaces are priced at \$600.00 each.

Anyone interested in purchasing cemetery lots may come by City Hall on 101 East Washington Street in Abbeville and ask for Vicki Bedsole or call us at (334) 585-6444 to inquire or set up an appointment to discuss cemetery lot needs. Upon completion of purchase, a deed will be issued.

Vicki Bedsole
Deputy City Clerk

On the Beat

The Abbeville Police Department hopes everyone had wonderful holidays. The Police Department did, except for the ones who had to work on the holiday. We know when we become Police Officers and dispatchers that our jobs are seven days a week and twenty-four hours a day. Luck comes around about every five years and the holidays fall on our off-days.

We have one officer, Jonathan McWaters attending the Alabama State Police Academy in Selma, Alabama. He has completed several weeks of the twelve week course. In March, another Officer will be attending the Academy, Officer Craig Adams. Officer Adams will be attending the Academy in Montgomery, Alabama.

We have had numerous complaints about speeding in

town. Over the last few months we have written 157 citations. We also continue to get complaints about loud noise and are taking actions. These tickets are very expensive for the offender but we continue to get complaints.

The Task Force continues to be busy. A few weeks ago they made two arrests in town for possession of marijuana and meth.

The criminal from Florida was captured but, at a very high price with a Florida Corrections officer being killed and another wounded.

Please remember if someone comes to your door and you do not know them, call the Police Department, and we will be glad to check them out.

If you hear noises call the Police Department, and we will be glad to assist you.

A reminder, if you get mail or telephone calls saying that you have won money or prizes, DO NOT give them any personal identification of any kind. You should never have to pay to receive prizes or money. If you have any doubt about the legality of a letter, prize, phone call or a person, please don't hesitate to contact us. Report any suspicious activity to the Police Department. With your assistance, we can stamp out crime.

The Abbeville Police Department is here to serve and protect the citizens of Abbeville.

Chief Mike Jones



"We know when we become Police Officers and dispatchers that our jobs are seven days a week and twenty-four hours a day."

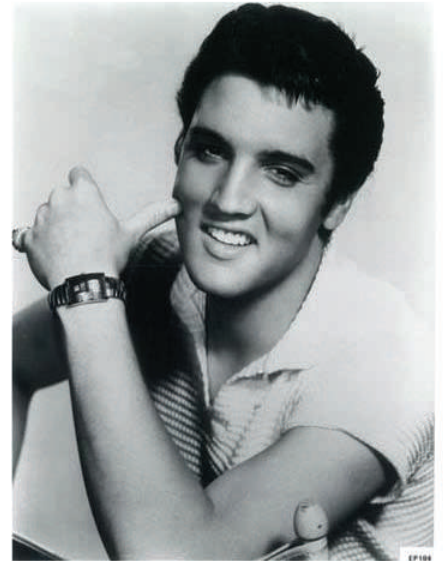
Elvis To Make An Appearance At The Annual Old City Cemetery Tour

A connection to Elvis and his beloved "Graceland" has been found in the old city cemetery behind First Baptist Church in Abbeville so it is likely that he will visit. After months of negotiations and contract restructuring, an agreement has been reached and Elvis will be on the annual Cemetery Tour scheduled for Saturday, April 9 at 4:00 for the Yatta Abba Day celebration in Abbe-

ville. Among the other "spirits" that have indicated their presence will be felt is the notorious "Huggin' Molly" and several other surprise ghost guests. Cost of the tour will be \$10.00 and will last approximately 30 to 35 minutes. Representing a cross-section of citizens from the past, local residents will bring to life, with assistance from a narrator and guides, the histories of the town, burial grounds, families resting there and introduce tour walk-

ers to many points of interest in the cemetery.

Sylvia Clark
Cemetery Committee



On Tap

Over the years, a lot of changes have been made

in the Water Works and Sewer Board of Abbeville. I started working with the City almost 28 years ago. Our water system has gone from flat rate water charges to various types of water meters where you are billed for what you use. We are now considering updating our water system to the new radio frequency meters that allow us to be more cost conscious, accurate and consumer friendly. The new meters could send us an alarm if excessive water flow is occurring. This allows us to

check the meter for leaks and/or advise the consumer they may have a leak inside their home.

We've also had many changes in water testing procedures through the years. We now test for volatile organic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants and total trihalomethanes. Additionally, we publish a Consumer Confidence Report annually so that you are aware of the quality of water that Abbeville has to offer.

Our waste water testing has also changed drastically. We test bi-weekly instead of monthly so we have more up to date and accurate sam-

pling.

We have had numerous upgrades to the water system including a new water plant, well and water tank. Our wastewater lagoon has also undergone upgrades.

One thing that has not changed is the workload within our department. We repair leaks, unstop sewers and make repairs as always. We are on call 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

When you turn your water on, you may not know who is working or who has worked all night in the cold, rain or heat to keep your water running but you can be assured

the Water Department is dedicated to continue serving our community with excellent service and **Quality on Tap!**

Mike Johnson
Superintendent



Abbeville...First in the nation alphabetically...

City of Abbeville
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P O Box 427
Abbeville AL 36310

Phone: 334.585.6444
Fax: 334.585.6982
E-mail:
pward@cityofabbeville.org

*We are on the web at
www.cityofabbeville.org*

Community Calendar

- City Council Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall. Please join us and become an active participant in how your city government operates. To be on the agenda, contact the City Clerk no later than the Wednesday prior to the meeting at 585.6444.
- The Abbeville Chamber of Commerce meets the first Thursday of each month at the Great Southern Conference Center on Kirkland Street at noon. Please contact the Chamber at 585.2273 for your lunch reservation.
- The Water Works and Sewer Board of Abbeville meets the fourth Monday at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall.
- Planning Commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month in City Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- March 26th at Abbeville Recreation Complex—Tennis in America from Noon to 2:00 p.m.
- March 28th—Opening games for Recreation Softball and baseball teams
- April 9, 2011—Yatta Abba Day on the Square from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.—Arts & crafts, food, fun, entertainment, cemetery tours, historic re-enactments, antique car show. A street dance starts at 7:00 p.m.
- April 16, 2011—Abbeville Parks & Recreation Youth Day at Recreation Park on E. Washington St.
- May 21st—Deadline to turn in Church League rosters and fees.
- May 30th—Memorial Day—Holiday for City Employees. Monday garbage route will be picked up on Tuesday.



Increasing Our Knowledge...

Our Mayor, City Council and employees are constantly working toward improving their skills. The following is a list of activities over the last few months:

- Billy Helms & Pam Ward attended Water & Wastewater Utility Decision Makers Training
- Debbie McLain & Tae Hui Flowers attended Supervisors Training
- Max Mobley & Pam Ward attended CAPZO training for the Planning & Zoning Commission
- Rodney Dalton attended AAMA Spring Law Conference
- Melvin Harris attended the Alabama Recreation Conference
- Danny Creel & Melvin Harris attended the Softball/Baseball Rules Review Training
- Mayor Ryan Blalock attended the Design Alabama Mayor's Conference
- Pam Ward attended the Spring Alabama Airport Conference and the Economic Development Workshop
- Tae Hui Flowers, Billy Helms and Tim Baxley attended the Pump Maintenance and Repair Training
- Melissa Cheek attended the Payroll Law Seminar
- Vicki Bedsole attended the Alabama Secretary of State's Notary Conference