



# Abbeville Matters

City of Abbeville, Alabama | City of Dogwoods | A Quarterly Newsletter | December 2014

## From the Mayor's Desk...



If you will allow me a brief moment, I would like to begin by thanking each and every one of you for the phone calls, visits, support, and prayers (especially the prayers) afforded my family and me during my recent emergency surgery and recovery. Without these, the outcome would not have been nearly as successful as it has been as prayer is the one thing that works in any and all situations no matter how small or large they might seem.

I cannot believe that Thanksgiving and Christmas are already upon us, and 2014 will be coming to a rapid close. Please don't forget the upcoming Christmas tree lighting ceremony on Thursday, De-

cember 4<sup>th</sup> and parade on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Times will be posted at a number of locations throughout the city, and these will have something fun and entertaining for the entire family.

By the time this edition is published, our expanded Dollar General will have been in operation for several months along with McDonalds, Auto Zone, and Walmart Neighborhood Market. These are certainly welcome additions to our city, and I have heard nothing but positive comments regarding their locating here.

But let me remind you, many of our existing businesses and industries are also making plans, or have implemented plans, for expansion. We should never forget them as they are the ones that have weathered the economic storm, and kept us alive and well for many years.

The one thing that we should all be thankful for is that these

new businesses, as well as the existing ones, have created jobs so many of our residents will have income to provide the basic needs of their respective families. It is certainly a win-win situation for all of us.

Also, according to Probate Judge David Money, there are several other viable prospects on the horizon for our county. These will provide even more jobs for our area residents and hopefully some or all will eventually come to fruition.

I will close by asking each and every one of you, please continue to keep your government officials in your prayers as we make decisions that affect our city and her residents as well as the industries and businesses that are located within her domain. And rest assured, we will never quit seeking ways to make "our city" the best place for anyone to call "home".

Mayor Jim Giganti



*Abbeville Annual Christmas Tree Lighting & Walkabout*  
Thursday,

*Dec. 4, 2014 6:00 p.m.*  
on the Courthouse Lawn.

*Cookies with Santa at the Chamber office immediately following ceremony.*

*Join our businesses for our Christmas walkabout and get a great start on your Christmas shopping!*



*Abbeville Annual Christmas Parade*

*Monday,  
December 8, 2014  
6:00 p.m.*



Senior Holiday Blues

For most of us, the holidays are a time to gather with friends and family, celebrate, reflect on the past and plan for the future. However, for some, especially older individuals, the holidays can be a difficult time. During the holidays, older adults may feel more acutely the passing of time, the absence of parents, siblings and friends who have died, and the distance of loved ones who have moved away. Traditional reunions and rituals that were observed in the past may not be possible and in their absence, the holidays may seem devoid of meaning.

It is normal to feel subdued, reflective and sad in the face of these losses and changes. But family members or friends may notice that a senior is experiencing the “blues” for a long time and that what they may have thought was simple sadness is actually a serious case of depression.

Some major factors contributing to holiday depression in the elderly are:

- Financial limitations
  - Loss of independence
  - Being alone or separated from loved ones
  - Failing eyesight (and lessening of the ability to write or read holiday correspondence)
- Loss of mobility and/or the inability to get to religious services

**What can friends; family members and caregivers do to help?**

The simple answer is to openly communicate one’s concerns. Offer to call the individual’s doctor and accompany the senior to an appointment. A conversation with the senior’s clergy can also facilitate referral to a mental health professional. Do not ask the older person to follow through without giving your support. Suggest support groups, such as a local Senior Center or Club for fellowship.

Continued on Page 3

- The Abbeville Senior Center is a warm and loving environment for mature adults that are 60+ years of age. If you have a loved one that seems to be spending much time alone, please call the center and visit to see if we may help. Our activities and classes are prepared to offer fellowship and enjoyment for all members.



**Fundraiser**

Abbeville Senior Center is asking for help with their annual fundraiser. Each member is asking for \$1.00 donations for each chance to win a basket full of homemade goodies donated by Sonia Bush, owner of **Sonia’s Styles!** Please call or come by Abbeville Senior for tickets. Drawing will be on December 12, 2014.



**Health Screening**

SEAMC will be bringing their mobile unit to Abbeville Senior Center for Mammogram Screenings on December 10, 2014. Please call the center at 334-585-5900 no later than 2 weeks prior to date of screening to make an appointment. The screenings will be filled on the individuals insurances.

**Center Closing Dates**

<u>Closed: November 27, 2014</u>	<u>Reopen: December 1, 2014</u>
<u>Closed: December 23, 2014</u>	<u>Reopen: January 5, 2015</u>



While weather sirens are great, will they wake you up from sleep or can you hear it inside your house? What if you are away from home? Will you get the message?

CodeRed is a **FREE** early warning weather and critical information system that can send you a message on your home phone, cell phone or by text. It is simple and you only have to sign up once and it only takes a couple of minutes. You will receive a call or text message for warnings that are only in and around your specific address.

Take a minute now to sign up. Simply go to [www.cityofabbeville.org](http://www.cityofabbeville.org) and scroll down to the CodeRed logo and click on it. You can also go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/122858D49DC5>. You may also call the City of Abbeville (334.585.6444), the EMA office (334.585.6702) or E911 office (334.585.1911) and someone will assist you over the phone. Don't forget about your neighbors, your parents and grandparents. Be sure to help them sign up so they too can receive the early warning message.



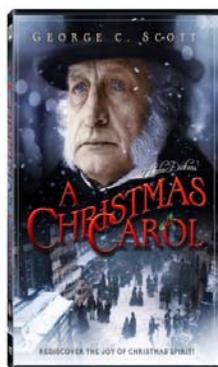
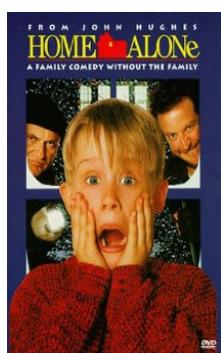
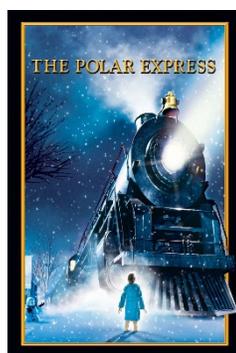
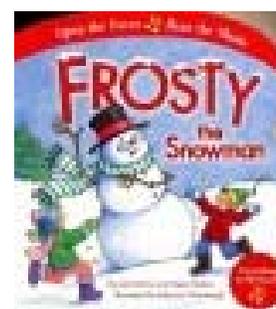
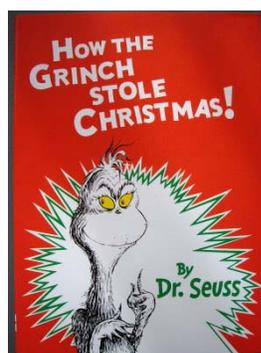
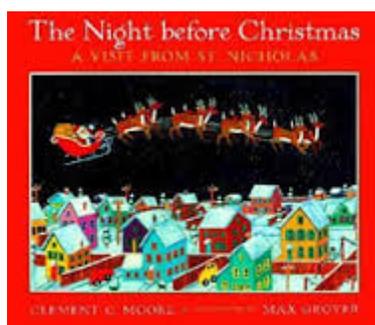
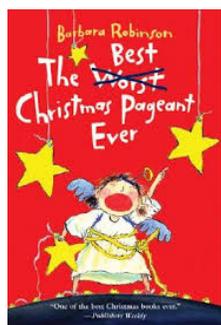
Beyond the Shelves....

# Happy Holidays from Abbeville Memorial Library!

Debbie McLain, Library Director  
Annie Mobley, Librarian's Assistant  
Paul McNamara, Library Aide



The Library has lots of ideas for making your holiday season happy and bright with books and DVD's! Check out a few holiday suggestions below.



*December 1st—23rd*





## USING THE LIBRARY

Library cards are free of charge. Your card allows you to check out books, e-books, DVDs, and magazines, and login to one of the library computers. To be eligible for a library card, you must live, work, or attend school in Henry County, Alabama. **If you are under 18, you will need a parent or guardian to come in and apply for you.** Library cards expire one year after the last time your information is updated. Please let us know if any of your contact information changes. If you are not eligible for a library card, you may still use the library computers with a temporary login number we will provide for you.

### Books

Books can be checked out for two weeks. If you have books out and will not be able to bring them back on time, stop by or give us a call and we can renew them for you! Books can only be renewed twice. Please let us know before the book is late-once it has a fine, we cannot renew it over the phone. **Fines for late books are \$0.10 per day, per book.**

Adults: up to 10 books at a time.

Juveniles (under 18): up to 8 books

Current Policy does not allow juvenile patrons to check out books from the Adult Fiction section.

### DVDs

DVDs can be checked out for ONE week (by adult patrons only). They cannot be renewed.

**Fines for late DVDs are \$1.00 per day, per DVD.**

You may check out up to 4 DVDs per household.

### Computers

**ALL PATRONS MUST BRING PHOTO IDENTIFICATION TO USE LIBRARY COMPUTERS.**

If you only wish to use the WI-FI on your own device, you do not need a photo I.D.

Adults: 1 hour/day

Juveniles: 30 min/day (must have form signed by parent or legal guardian)

Time limits can be extended if needed for work, school, or job-seeking purposes. Just let us know before your timer runs out.

Library computers automatically print black and white pages. If you need color prints, please let us know beforehand.

### Copies and Faxes

Black and white copies: \$0.25/page

Color copies: \$1.00/page

Faxes: \$1.00/page (cover sheets are free)

The back side of a piece of paper counts as a separate page.

### Notary

Notary is available for \$1.00.

**E-books** can be accessed through our website: [www.abbevillelibrary.org](http://www.abbevillelibrary.org) .

### History Room

We do not currently allow patrons to enter our History Room. However, if you know what you are looking for, we will be happy to bring it out for you. You will need to leave your Driver's license at the front desk to use history room materials. History Room materials cannot be checked out.

Our new microfilm scanner allows microfilms to be scanned and printed (\$0.25/page) or saved to a flash drive.

[Ancestry.com Library Edition](#) - can only be used from computers here at the library.

**Serves:** 12 -16 nostalgic cake lovers!

**Level of Difficulty:** simple!

- 2 1/2 sticks (10 ounces) of unsalted butter at room temperature
- 2 1/3 cups of all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons of baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon of salt
- 1 3/4 cup of granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 large egg yolks, at room temperature
- 2/3 of a cup of whole milk, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons of pure vanilla extract
- a heaping 2/3 of a cup of jam (I used 4 berry jam)
- baking spray with flour
- powdered sugar for dusting



With the rack in the center position, preheat your oven to 350°F. Generously spray the inside of a 12 cup Bundt pan with baking spray that contains flour.

Whisk together your dry ingredients : flour, baking powder and salt.

Fit the paddle attachment onto your stand mixer and beat the butter and sugar at medium speed until it is light and fluffy. Reduce the speed to low and add the yolks. Continue to beat until the mixture is smooth, scraping down the bowl as necessary. And then add the whole eggs, one at a time, making sure each is incorporated before adding the next. You may have to scrape down the bowl again!

Keep the mixer on low and add half of the flour mixture. Mix it just to combine and then add the milk. Again, mix until just combined and then add the remaining flour. And yes, you guessed it! Mix until it is just combined. Scrape down the bowl and then add the vanilla extract. Now kick the speed up to medium and mix for about 30 seconds, until the batter is smooth.

Scoop out about a cup and a half of the batter and smooth it evenly into the bottom of the pan. With a teaspoon, make a little trench in the batter and spoon in the jam. Then add the remaining batter. Using a long toothpick or skewer, carefully give the batter a little swirl. (You can certainly use a knife and swirl the jam throughout the batter.) But a light swirl will create a pretty ruby crown.

Bake for 50-60 minutes, or until the cake is a golden brown and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with a few moist crumbs. Cool the cake for about 30 minutes and then turn the pan out onto a rack to cool completely. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar before serving.

<http://www.frommysweetheart.com/butter-and-jam-bundt-cake-bundtmonth/#comment-20092>



## Star Power— Associates Corner

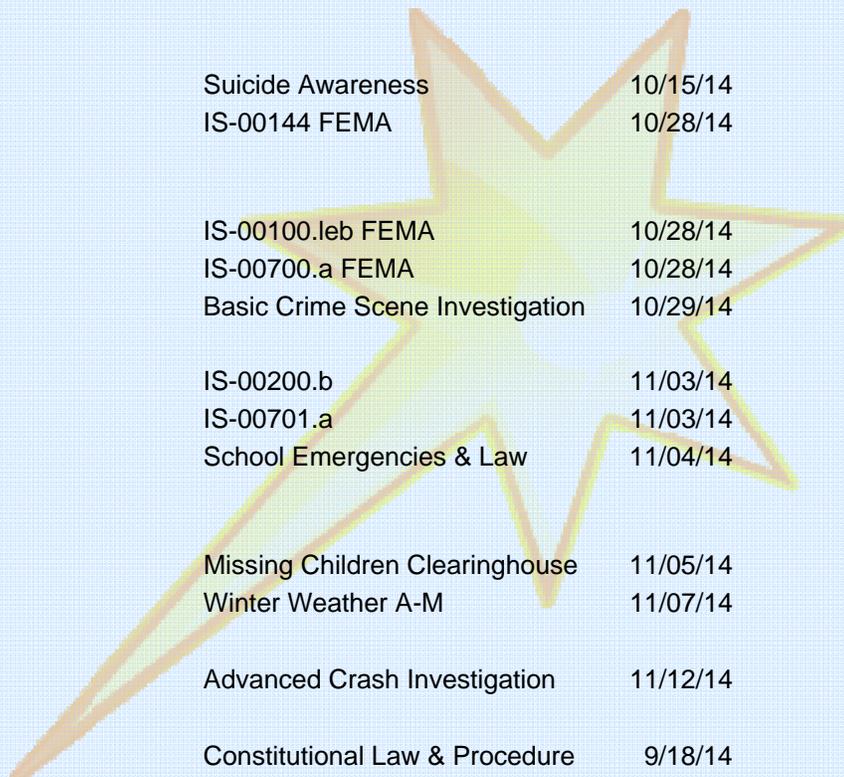
**Birthdays...**join us in wishing Happy Birthday to our Associates with Birthdays in December, January & February.

Giganti, James M.	12	6
Walker, Marlos L.	12	6
Murphy, Malcolm B.	12	21
Burkes, Alton	1	16
Ruble, James A.	1	10
Armstrong, Vonda V.	1	27
Ward, Katie M.	1	31
Helms, Billy R.	2	17
Yoder, Betty J.	2	18
Jones, Virginia	2	18

### Increasing Our Knowledge...

Our Mayor, City Council and employees are constantly working toward improving their skills which enables them to perform their jobs more efficiently, safely and professionally. The following is a list of education and practical training they have completed over the last few months:

Barfield, April	Effective Comm. in Comm Center	14-Oct
Earle, Sherry		
Money, Dana		
Dozier, David	Suicide Awareness	10/15/14
Money, Dana	IS-00144 FEMA	10/28/14
Jones, Dawn		
Armstrong, Vonda		
Money, Dana	IS-00100.leb FEMA	10/28/14
Armstrong, Vonda	IS-00700.a FEMA	10/28/14
Ruble, Drew	Basic Crime Scene Investigation	10/29/14
Mullins, Gerrit		
Earle, Sherry	IS-00200.b	11/03/14
Earle, Sherry	IS-00701.a	11/03/14
Barfield, April	School Emergencies & Law	11/04/14
Earle, Sherry		
Dozier, David		
Barfield, April	Missing Children Clearinghouse	11/05/14
Dozier, David	Winter Weather A-M	11/07/14
Earle, Sherry		
Power, Rebecca	Advanced Crash Investigation	11/12/14
Mullins, Gerrit		
Mize, Derrick	Constitutional Law & Procedure	9/18/14
Mize, Derrick	Professional Traffic Stops	2/26/14
Carruthers, Jimmy	Criminal Behavior Assessment	11/13/14
Hollingsworth, Delgrita		



## Abbeville Police Department



The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors. The Abbeville Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

### When Driving

- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. This creates a temptation for thieves. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put them down or on top of the car in order to open the door.
- When approaching and leaving your vehicle be aware of your surroundings.

### When Shopping

- Shop only during daylight hours and if you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.

### At Home

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended

time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.

- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.

### Children Safety

- If possible, leave small children at home with a trusted babysitter.
- Teach your child to go to a store clerk and ask for help in case your child is separated from you.
- Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and they should never be left alone in the car.
- Teach children their full name, address and telephone number to give to police officers or mall security. Teach children to immediately inform you if a stranger is bothering them.

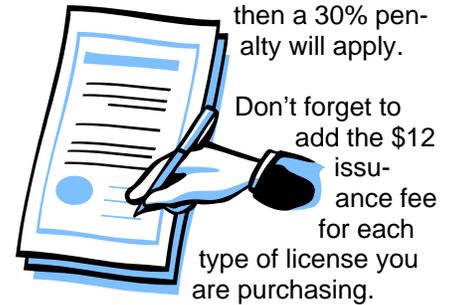
These are just a few holiday safety tips to assist you and your family with the elements of this holiday season. If any member of the Abbeville Police Department can assist you please don't hesitate to call us.

We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

Chief Marlos Walker  
Abbeville Police Department

## PRIVILEGE LICENSES DUE!

Privilege License Reminders will be going out in mid December. They are renewable starting January 1, 2015. We cannot process any 2015 license prior to January 1. You may send your renewal checks in early, but they will be held until we begin processing the renewals January 1. If you do not receive a reminder by January 1, please call City Hall to verify that we have your correct mailing address on file. Licenses are due January 1 and are delinquent after February 15, to which a 15% penalty will apply, until March 15, and then a 30% penalty will apply.



Don't forget to add the \$12 issuance fee for each type of license you are purchasing. Some businesses have multiple license codes under the same business name, so multiple issuance fees will apply. If you have any questions, please call City Hall.

Thank you to all of our business owners, managers, and employees for the services you provide to our community. We appreciate your devotion and hard work!!

Melissa Watford  
License Clerk





### Abbeville Water—Quality On Tap

The Abbeville Water Department has gone through some changes lately. The board has divided the department into water and wastewater. I am now in charge of the water and everything to do with our water. Tae-Hui Flowers, who was my assistant, is now in charge of the wastewater and everything to do with wastewater. We will continue to assist each other and our departments as needed.

This was done for several reason; one of which is to provide quicker and more direct service to our customers. We strive to give the most prompt and quality service. We work together with all departments of the city and will never tell you that something is not our job, even if it involves other departments. We work for the betterment of the citizens of Abbeville; that will not change!

We have had some equipment problems lately. We have a new dump truck in the budget because our old truck was a 1990 model with a rusted out bed. Our truck was in an accident and was totaled, so we had to get a new truck quicker than we expected. We were able to find a good used truck, rather than buying a new one, saving the city some \$70,000.

We attempt to stretch every dollar as far as we can. We treat our budget and money as if they are our own, because they are. We are citizens of Abbeville as well.

We have had several leaks lately, but that is to be expected. Pipes and such are, and will continue to be repaired or replaced as necessary and as time allows. We appreciate you being considerate when our workers are present. We do our best to work quickly and efficiently so that traffic can move safely and smoothly. Please do not hesitate to call us if you see an issue you think we can assist with.

Your concerns with water and wastewater are ours. Feel free to call us if you have questions or concerns. We appreciate, you, our customers!

Mike Johnson, Water Superintendent

### Abbeville Wastewater Treatment Facility

Abbeville's wastewater treatment facilities were improved in 1979 by constructing the new five-cell south lagoon treatment system on County Road 53 in Abbeville, Alabama. In 1997 the south lagoon wastewater treatment facility was converted to an activated sludge system by the addition of a clarifier and return sludge pumping station in cell one. The two remaining aerated cells were converted to sludge digestion. This wastewater treatment facility is designed for an average flow of 0.75 MGD (million gallons per day) with a peak flow of 1.9 MGD.

The treatment facility is designed to produce an effluent containing 30 mg/l of BOD<sub>5</sub> (biochemical oxygen demand) and 30 mg/l of TSS (total suspended solid) or less with and incoming BOD of 1,918 mg/l. The Abbeville Wastewater Treatment Facility is a secondary treatment facility utilizing influent pumping, preliminary screening, complete mix extended aeration, floating siphon clarification, return sludge pumping, effluent polishing, benthic sludge stabilization, sludge dewatering and effluent pumping. Treated effluent is pumped several miles through a 10 inch force main into the Abbey Creek.

The Abbeville Treatment Facility is designed to produce a high quality effluent for disposal by means of release into the Abbey Creek. This facility will continue to work hard to maintain the high quality effluent. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Tae Hui Flowers, Wastewater Superintendent, in person or call City Hall 334-585-6444 or by email at [tflowers@cityof abbeville.org](mailto:tflowers@cityof abbeville.org).

Tae Hui Flowers, Wastewater Superintendent

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### Employee of the Quarter— Melissa Watford



The Employee of the Quarter is Melissa Watford. Melissa is our payroll clerk, but also performs numerous other human resource duties. She is willing to help our employees with important matters and she maintains a high level of confidentiality. She does the reporting, appointments and follow-ups of all workers compensation injuries.

Melissa is employed by the City of Abbeville and Abbeville Water Works & Sewer Board. This means she is also a back-up for assisting our water customers with payments, new customers, questions and concerns that may come up. She balances and submits taxes, retirement contributions and tax reports for the City and Water Board. Melissa works closely with our public in issuing permits, business licenses and dispatching departments out to address safety issues and customer concerns . She is polite and helpful in assisting our residents and visitors. Melissa celebrated her nine year anniversary with us in August. She is a joy to work with.



## SAFE HAVEN ANIMAL RESCUE & KENNELS

I wanted to take this opportunity to let the public know that there is a no-kill animal shelter in Henry County, just outside the Abbeville's City Limits. It is the Safe Haven Animal Rescue & Kennels, also known as SHARK. We rescue, care for and find homes for dogs. If you are looking for a pet or would like to volunteer or foster, we welcome your call. The point of contact number is (334) 441-8895. We also ask that you report lost and found animals to SHARK, area Veterinarian Clinics, County and City pounds, and your local City and County offices. Photos and good descriptions are very helpful. Let's help these animals find their homes.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the years in so many ways. Numerous dogs and puppies are now in loving homes on these cold winter nights because of you.

We have included this list of ways to help shelter dogs. Please take time to read and help in any way you can. Thank you.

1. Put a donation box in your workplace. An empty box for donations can inspire others to help as well. Food, collars, toys, that fancy bed that your dog won't look twice at..all of them can be used by a pet in need. If your company allows, try spreading the word via email or a flyer. (Be sure to drop the donations off to a dog shelter as soon as possible and thank your coworkers when you are done.
2. Collect old towels. Worn out towels and blankets are in high demand at shelters. Not only do they help make a cold, sterile cage more comforting, but they are easy to wash and replace for shelter staff.
3. Make some simple dog toys and donate them. The internet is full of simple patterns for basic dog toys that pooches love. For under \$20 you can make enough toys to keep a number of dogs very happy.
4. Volunteer to play with the pooches. Yes, really! socialization is a very important part of canine development. Many shelters lack adequate volunteers for cleaning and socializing, so it's worth contacting them to see if they have any volunteer slots free. Even once a month makes a difference.
5. Hold a dog toy drive. For your next party, consider asking guests to bring a small dog toy or other pet related item for donations.
6. Foster. There is always a need to foster puppies or dogs. You can find out more details from your favorite local shelter.
7. Volunteer for a Trap-Neuter-Release program. These programs help reduce the feral dog population by humanely trapping stray dogs, neutering/spaying the, and releasing them to their original territory.
8. Take photos for shelters. Got an eye behind the lens? Help homeless dogs by photographing them for adoption programs.
9. Put your change to work. At the end of every day, take all those spare pennies and nickels in your pockets and put them into a change jar. At the end of the month, donate your collections to the local shelter.
10. Donate while you shop. Some programs such as Amazon Smile will donate a percentage of your purchase to the charity of your choice.

***This is Roxie. She is a Wire-Haired Fox Terrier and one of residents in SHARK. She is looking for a loving forever home. Just call the number listed above and set up a time to visit the shelter. You may find that diamond in the ruff!***



Planting Fruit Trees

Planting- Fruit trees should be planted where they will receive full sun for 6 or more hours per day during the growing season. For maximum production, fruit tree need soil that is deep and well drained.



Tree Selection- Although fruit trees may be planted at any time of the year, they are often purchased during the winter months when they are dormant and available as "bare root" stock. The best trees have a trunk diameter from 1/2 to 3/8 inch and usually become established faster than smaller or larger planting stock.

Preparing the Planting Site- If the soil is compacted, it must be cultivated deeply in a wide area because the roots will not grow through densely compacted soil. Dig the hole at least twice as wide as the spread of the trees roots.

Planting the Tree- Examine the roots of bare-root trees and cut off any roots that are broken or kinked. Place the tree in the hole with the graft union at least 2 to 4 inches above the soil surface. Partially fill the hole with the same soil that was excavated and firm gently, eliminating large air pockets.

Irrigation- All newly planted trees should be watered thoroughly to settle the soil around the root ball. Construct a doughnut-shaped basin for the watering the newly planted tree, making sure that water drains away from the trunk. The ground within about 3 feet of the tree trunk should be kept free of grass, weeds and other vegetation that can compete with the tree for water and nutrients. A layer of mulch 3 to 6 inches thick helps control weeds.

Billy Wayne Bedsole  
Grounds & Beautification Director

Thank you to the citizens of Abbeville for your support of the Street and Sanitation Departments and we hope you all have a safe and happy holidays.

I know that you have concerns and I would like to take this time to explain some of the limitations we faced as we work hard to support you in pick up and clean up our streets. Our vehicles for the street department are working hard at regaining their schedule, plans are in the works to have the leaf truck in service as soon as possible. We expect the schedules to return to normal in about two weeks provided the weather remains clear.

We work with the county dump in providing a place for disposal of debris. Mixed loads ( furniture, construction debris, anything besides limbs) in rainy weather create problems with entrance to the county dump since we must wait until the ground is dry before being allowed to dump on this site. And until further notice the county dump is only open twice a week, Monday and Tuesday. I know this waiting is upsetting to you as a citizen as much as it is to us as workers who want to work hard for you and provide the services you deserve. So we ask for your patience and support of us as we work hard to provide your services.

There are some things that you can do to speed up the process and assist us with keeping

Abbeville beautiful. When you hire someone to cut grass, trim bushes, cut or trim trees, please see that they are responsible for debris removal.

Grass clippings and leaves can be bagged and set out with your household trash. The sanitation department has been advised to collect these bags.

We ask you not to pile grass clippings or trimmings in the road or on top of street drains. This will cause rain water not to flow or drain properly and will cause the streets to flood. The street department cannot pick up treated lumber, ie: decking, fence posts, fence boards, cross ties, or any wood that has been treated with chemicals.



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Robert Wright, Public Works Superintendent, in person or call city hall 585-644, or by email at: [superintendant@cityofabbeville.org](mailto:superintendant@cityofabbeville.org).

Robert E. Wright  
Public Works Superintendent



## Community Calendar

### City of Abbeville

101 E. Washington St.  
P O Box 427  
Abbeville AL 36310

Phone: 334-585-6444

Fax: 334-585-5982

E-mail: [pward@cityofabbeville.org](mailto:pward@cityofabbeville.org)

*We are on the web at  
[www.cityofabbeville.org](http://www.cityofabbeville.org)*

*Documents  
News & Events  
Newsletter  
Contact Information  
Community Calendar  
Government  
Boards  
City Departments*

- 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 except July at the Great Southern Conference Center on Kirkland Street at noon. Please contact the Chamber at 585.2273 for your lunch reservation.
- Abbeville Historic Preservation Commission meets quarterly (January, April, July & October) on the second Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.
- 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.
- Dec. 4, 2014—Christmas Tree Lighting, Walk About and pictures with Santa starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse. Santa at Chamber office after tree lighting.
- Dec. 8, 2014—Abbeville Christmas Parade; 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25 & 26, 2014—Christmas Holidays—City offices closed.
- Jan. 1, 2015—New Years Holiday
- Jan. 19, 2015—Martin Luther King Holiday



### ABBEVILLE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Youth sports teaches kids the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, perseverance, respect for rules and authority, and how to win and lose with dignity. Sports help children build positive character traits and values. These are traits we want our children to develop and have with them all of their lives. When parents and grandparents model the idea that they are proud of their kids or grandkids whether they win the game or not, they are reinforcing the importance of a positive attitude throughout life. Building a relationship with coaches can make kids more open to what adults have to say about life off the court, as well. The best coaches teach not only athletic skills, they also are a positive influence on the kids about staying away from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.

Sports helps kids learn how to deal with pressure. These skills will help your child or grandchild achieve success in other areas of life. Participating in team sports teaches kids how to relax, focus, and maintain confidence and can help kids be successful in making good decisions when in other pressured situations.

The Abbeville Recreation Department understands the positive impact that team sports can have on our youth, and we strive to provide the kids in our community with opportunities to develop their athletic abilities, build strong character, and develop a team spirit.

We thank all of our community leaders, board members, volunteer coaches, grandparents, parents, and kids for their participation and support of our sports programs. Basketball season is now underway. Hope to see you all at the games!

Danny Creel, Parks & Recreation Director