



# Abbeville Matters

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

## From the Mayor's Desk...



It is hard to believe that we are now in the spring of the year and summer is rapidly approaching. After one of the most brutal winters that we have experienced in some time, the weather we are currently having is a blessing for all of us. The trees and grass are turning green, the flowers are blooming, and the birds are singing. I can only imagine how elated the outside animals, as well as anyone whose job required them to be out in the elements, are after what they were subjected to in January and February.

2014 Youth Day has come and gone,

and the city's baseball and softball seasons are winding down. There are several tournaments planned for later in the year so keep an eye on our city website and *The Abbeville Herald* for details as these events unfold.

2014 Yatta Abba Day was a huge success by all accounts. I really believe that it was the largest I have seen with so many activities for our residents and visitors. We had vendors of every imaginable nature as well as the usual events; i.e., beauty pageant, sock hop, and even a barbeque cook-off competition for the first time. Thanks go to all of those that made this day possible and a success, as they are too numerous to list here. You can rest assured that each and every one of them worked long and countless hours to

bring all to fruition keeping in mind that the majority of these individuals were non-compensated volunteers.

Now as promised in the March issue of this publication, I want to bring you up to date with some retail businesses that are on the horizon. Of course the new Family Dollar is booming. Construction has begun on the 12,500 sq. ft. Dollar General facility to be located on the corner of Kirkland and West Alabama Streets. No completion or opening date has been determined at this point in time.

We have now received the final drawings for approval for a McDonald's and Auto-Zone to be located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 431 and State Highway 27. This site is just north and next to the A. W. Herndon station lo-

cated on Highway 431. Also, we have been informed that plans for a Walmart Express should be forthcoming in the next few weeks for the city's review. There is currently no word as to construction start dates, or planned opening dates, on any of these projects.

Needless to say, the city administration is happy to have all of this new activity; however, we are cautiously optimistic as to the city's economic recovery from the downturn of several years past. Again, we ask each of you to keep our city in your prayers as we try to make decisions for the betterment of our community, her residents, and her varied businesses and industries.

Jim Giganti  
Mayor

To the residents of the City of Abbeville:

Thank you to the citizens of Abbeville for your support of the Street and Sanitation Departments. I understand your recent frustrations with the slow pickup of limbs and debris in a timely manner. We are frustrated as well. However, we want to do all that we can to work together with you to see that our streets are cleaned and well kept. I know that you have concerns and I would like to take this time to explain some of the limitations we face as we work hard to support you in pick up and clean up. Our two vehicles for the street department are working hard at regaining their schedule due to rainy weather delays. We expect the schedules to return to normal in about two weeks provided the weather remains clear. We work with the county landfill in providing a place for disposal of debris. Mixed loads ( furniture, construction debris, anything besides limbs) cannot be taken to the landfill in rainy weather. the landfill is closed and we must wait until the ground is dry before being allowed to dump on this site.

I know this waiting is upsetting to you as a citizen as much as it is to us as we want to work hard for you and provide the services you deserve. I am happy to report that the city of Headland offered support in the use of their knuckle-boom during times of limited resources to help us get back on schedule. 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 have 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 to not flow or drain properly and will cause the streets to flood as well as creating a hazard for traffic. The street department cannot pick up treated lumber, ie: decking, fence post, 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, [rwright@cityofabbeville.org](mailto:rwright@cityofabbeville.org). We are also on our summer schedule which is 6:00am to 3:00pm Monday through Friday.

Robert Wright  
Public Works Superintendant



Hurricane season is just around the corner. We have already experienced severe thunder storms and tornado warnings. Did you get the message? 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.

## FLEA CONTROL

Fleas are predicted to be severe this year. Here are a few things to help manage the spread of fleas in your home.

- Bathe your dog or cat using a gentle shampoo or a citrus-based dishwashing liquid. After a bath, comb your pet with a flea comb.
- Treat all your pets using oral and topical medications. Note that flea treatments are not all the same and should be used with caution. It is very important to see your veterinarian to assist with the proper treatment for your dog or cat.
- Wash your pet's bedding as well as any cloth items that have been on the floor. Washing will significantly reduce the number of flea eggs and larvae on the bedding and cloth items. The dryer cycle on normal for over 30 minutes will kill the eggs and any fleas remaining on the cloth.
- Allow pets to roam freely in house after being treated. Fleas can smell your pet and will jump onto their fur and will be eliminated when they bite your pet's skin.
- Mopping floors using vinegar will cause fleas to emerge from holes and cracks in flooring.
- Vacuum all carpets, rugs, flooring and upholstery to remove as many fleas, eggs, and larvae as you can. Then dispose of vacuum bag in outside garbage container.

Vicki Bedsole  
Deputy City Clerk

## ANIMAL CONTROL

Due to numerous animal calls and concerns, this brief article has been written to give an overview of the Animal Control Policies and Procedures for the city of Abbeville.



Pets are not to be left unattended in vehicles at any time, especially in the summer months. Please report unattended animals left in vehicles to the Abbeville Police Department.



Pets are to have adequate shelter from the elements and must be provided food and water. Please report violators to the Abbeville Police Department.

The City of Abbeville does not have a leash law at this time, but there is an animal nuisance ordinance for instances such as continuous barking, habitually trespassing, chasing pedestrians, etc. If the above examples of animal nuisance apply, please call the Abbeville Police Department to file a report.

As with any animal complaint, for action to be taken a formal complaint with the Abbeville Police Department has to be made. Animal

control must be notified by the Abbeville Police Department in order to go out and investigate or handle animal complaints or issues.

To contact the Abbeville Police Department about animal concerns and complaints, call 585-2221.

Danny Creel  
Animal Control Officer





Ahhh, the sun. There is really nothing quite like it is there? A cold winter day can be tolerable if the sun is shining. A down in the dumps mood can be lifted by a few moments in the sun. People get depressed

when the sun isn't shining bright in the sky.

You may have heard the terms UVA and UVB, but maybe you don't know what the difference is. UVA and UVB are respon-

sible for cancer, but the UVB rays are what gives you sunburn and the UVA rays are what age you.

UVA rays are constantly present, no matter the season or the weather. If you think you can't get sun damage on a cloudy day, tell that to the UVA rays. They are so powerful that they can also penetrate some clothing and even glass. When you think of UVA rays, think sun spots, leathery skin, and wrinkles.

UVB rays are the rays you blame when you get sunburn. UVB rays are more prevalent in the summer months. UVB rays are

responsible for causing most skin cancers. UVB rays are most relevant in the mid day time. When you think of UVB rays, think sunburn and skin cancer.

The best ways to protect your skin is to use sunscreen. Use at least one with an SPF 15 and preferably and SPF 30. Wear a wide brim hat and long sleeve light clothing when working in the yard. Also gloves can be worn. So stay safe and have a wonderful summer.

Billy Wayne Bedsole  
Grounds & Beautification Director

### BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CLEANUP DAY



On June 28th, 8am till after lunch, there will be a work day for the new Abbeville Boys and Girls Club. Lots of work has been done to lay a foundation for the club which will open later in 2014.

The Abbeville Boys and Girls Club will be located at the Middle School on Phillips Street just East of downtown. We need help with cleaning, yard work and getting the club in shape for the opening. If you would like to help, just come and join us. Bring gloves and any hand tools such as rakes, brooms, etc. A hot dog lunch will be provided for our volunteers. Thank you for your willingness to help!

## SCHOOL'S OUT!



**Please drive safe and watch for our children at play. Have a safe summer vacation!**

# Summer Vacation Safety Tips

**The Abbeville Police Department would like to remind everyone to have a safe and fun summer. With this in mind we would like to remind everyone of some basic safety tips to follow as you enjoy your summer this year.**

## **Summer Safety Tips**

- Make sure your house has effective locks, and that those locks are used. For maximum protection, choose high security locks. Even the best locks can't protect you if you don't use them.
- Do some yard work before you leave the house for an extended period of time. Trim your hedges and bushes so thieves won't have a chance to hide out, and you won't give the impression your home has been left unattended and vacant.
- Remember to secure your spare key and leave it with a trusted neighbor. Never hide it on the property or a easy location for thieves to find it. Keyless entry locks are also a great option. Burglars have more experience looking for keys than you do hiding them.
- Be sure all outside entrances of the home are well lit. A timer or solar-powered light on the front, back and side of the house make it difficult for burglars to hide.
- Think twice before posting upcoming vacations on Facebook, Twitter or any other social media outlet. You'd be surprised how fast information can travel on the information highway – and sometimes to the wrong computer screen.

Again all of us at the Abbeville Police Department are wishing you a safe summer and call us anytime you need assistance. Thank you!

Chief Marlos Walker

## Greek Pasta Salad with Red Wine Vinaigrette

### For the pasta salad:

2 1/2 cups uncooked pasta, such as penne or rotini  
 2/3 cup sliced red onions  
 15 cherry tomatoes, halved  
 1 cup diced cucumbers  
 3/4 cup sliced olives  
 3/4 cup diced green peppers  
 1 cup crumbled feta cheese

### For the vinaigrette:

1/3 cup red wine vinegar  
 2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lemon juice  
 1 1/2 teaspoons minced garlic  
 1 teaspoon sugar  
 2 teaspoons dried oregano  
 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil

### Make the pasta salad:

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the pasta and cook it until al dente. Strain the pasta and transfer it to a large bowl to cool slightly. While the pasta cools, make the dressing.

### Make the dressing:

In a small bowl, whisk together all of the dressing ingredients, except for the olive oil. While whisking, stream in the olive oil. Season the dressing with salt and pepper, to taste.

Add the red onions, tomatoes, cucumbers, olives, green peppers and feta cheese to the bowl with the pasta.

Pour the dressing over the pasta, tossing to combine, then cover the salad with plastic wrap and refrigerate it for at least 3 hours and up to overnight. When ready to serve, toss the pasta salad again and enjoy cold or at room temperature.

Recipe by Kelly Senyei of [Just a Taste](http://JustATaste.com)



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Abbeville Boys & Girls Club Becomes a Reality!

After months of planning and meeting, Abbeville is proud to announce they will soon be opening the Boys & Girls Club of Abbeville. Operating under the umbrella of the Eufaula Boys & Girls Club, Abbeville will operate independently with its own board of directors, a facility director and part time assistants.

The Abbeville Middle School will be the club's home with plans to open around the middle of August. The center will be open from the time school gets out till 6:00 p.m. with numerous programs including home work assistance, mentorship, computer lab, arts, etc. The Abbeville Police Department and the Henry County Sheriff's office will also support a sub-station in the center that will also participate in mentorship programs with the youth. Children from six years through age 18 will be allowed to join the center.

Volunteers are needed to assist the center with various programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please send us your information to Boys & Girls Club of Abbeville, P O Box 549, Abbeville AL 36310. Send us your name, address, phone number and email. We will follow up with you within the next few weeks.

The success of the Boys & Girls Club is based on the cooperation and assistance of our community by volunteering and/or donating financially. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please send it to: Boys & Girls Club of Abbeville, P O Box 549, Abbeville, AL 36310.

A general clean up day will be held on June 28th for the facility from 8:00 a.m. till after noon. Please watch for more news in the upcoming weeks via our Facebook pages or the city website post. Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

Abbeville Senior Center provides a focal point in the community for senior services. Besides providing a hot meal to participants, the senior center offers many education and recreation activities. It is especially important for providing socialization to many who might otherwise be isolated. In an effort to help seniors adapt to new technology and have access to valuable information, the senior center provides a computer with internet availability for its members.

Abbeville Senior Center offers transportation programs for participants, primarily for access to the center, delivery of meals, shopping trips and recreation.

Congregate meals served in the center provide a hot nutritious lunch for multiple seniors per day in the center. Individuals are rotated for meals in order for a greater number of seniors to receive the benefits of the center. Home-delivered meals are packaged in the center and delivered to homebound seniors, providing a hot meal and a brief visit. The senior center offers a variety of other services including educational programs, exercise, arts and crafts, bingo, dominoes and many recreational activities. The Senior Center staff and volunteers also provide telephone reassurance, friendly visiting and some homemaker services to community seniors. To be eligible to receive senior center services, a person must be 60 years or older or the spouse of an eligible senior.

If you are interested in membership or would like to give a donation please contact Abbeville Senior Center at 334-585-5900.

**Upcoming Field trips:**

June 11, 2014- Highland Park

June 26, 2014- Landmark Park

**\*Abbeville Senior Center will be closed June 30<sup>th</sup>-July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**KNOW YOUR  
EMERGENCY  
SIGNALS!**



The City of Abbeville will do monthly weather siren testing at 10:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month. This test is to ensure that back up power systems and sirens are properly working. In the event there is inclement weather, there will be a silent test. We are making every effort to ensure our emergency systems are in good working order for our residents.

**Star Power— Associates Corner**

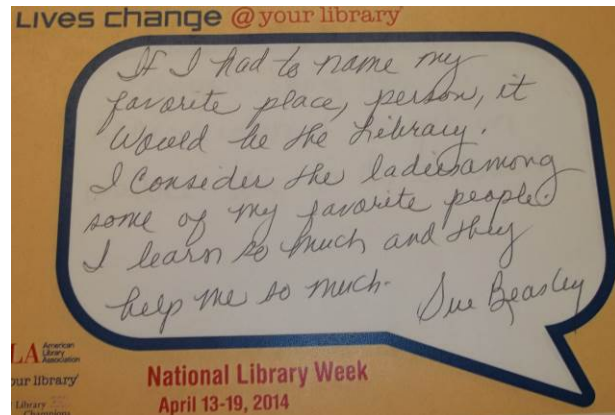
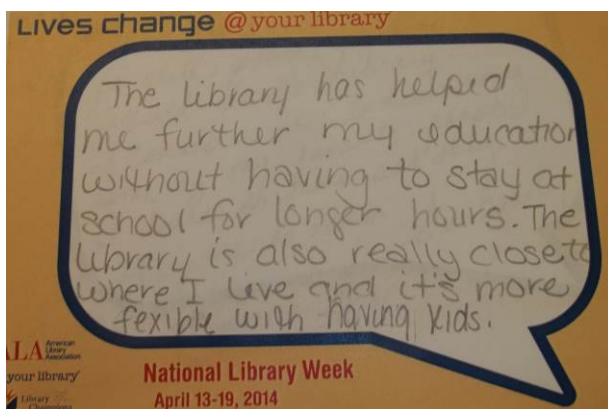
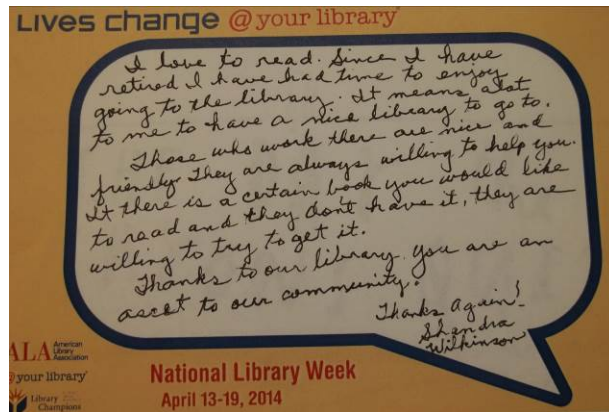
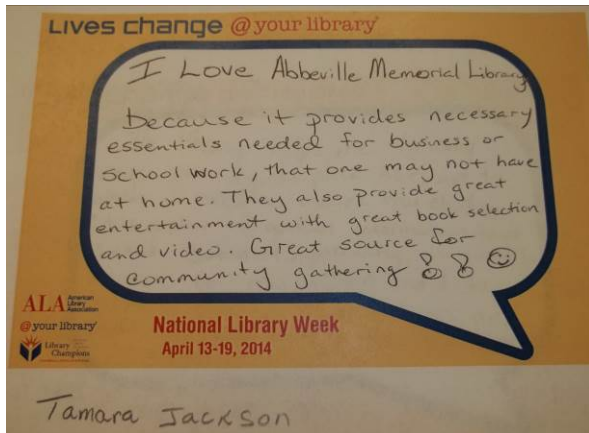
**Promotions:** Congratulations to Davie Dozier on his recent promotion to Communications Supervisor. In his new roll, Davie will provide day to day management, training and scheduling of the E-911 dispatchers. He will report directly to the Chief of Police.

**Birthdays...**join us in wishing Happy Birthday to our Associates with Birthdays in June, July and August!

Jones, Geoffry B.—Police	6/2
Joyner, Jeffery T.— Water	6/4
Bedsole, Billy W.—Grounds	6/15
Volf, Stephanie L.— Library	6/15
Shaw, Barbara A— Senior Center	6/16
Gilmore, Nella M.—Administration	6/17
Danowski, Amy M.— Street	6/17
Danowski, Christopher-Street/Rec.	7/1
Ludlam, Colton D.— Police	7/6
Flowers, Tae H.— Water	7/13
Bradley, Bobby J.— Street	8/7
Horn, Preston— Water	8/9
Bradley, James J.-Street	8/11
Mobley, Annie B.-Library	8/21
Spann, Alvin-Sanitation	8/28



Abbeville Memorial Library celebrated National Library Week with a Friends of the Library Book Sale on April the 14<sup>th</sup>. (We still have many books available for purchase from old classics to new favorites so stop by anytime and check out our book sale table in the main lobby.) On the 15<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual NLW Reception/Open House in which The Abbeville Memorial Library Board members Maribeth Bedsole, Catherine Killebrew, Elizabeth Starling, and Willadean Hall were honored at the Reception for their longtime dedicated service to the library. Mayor Giganti presented the library with the National Library Week Proclamation and thanked the library board, the Friends of the Library, and the library staff for their service to the community. The 2014 theme is "Lives Change @ Your Library", so we asked our patrons how our library benefits their lives. Below are a few of the responses, many more were read aloud at the reception. (To see more, check our facebook page.)



On April 16<sup>th</sup>, Abbeville Memorial Library and the Friends of the Library hosted a Safety Tips for Women program presented by Chief Walker and the Abbeville Police Department. This informative program was so well received that another session was scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> for those that were unable to attend in April.





# **FIZZ! BOOM! READ!**

## **ABBEVILLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2014!**

### **DON'T MISS IT!**

### **SIGN UP TODAY! AGES 5-15**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>  
ANIMAL TALES AMAZING ANIMALS!**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>  
MUSIC AND FUN WITH MARK SEYMORE!**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>  
MCWANE SCIENCE CENTER SPECTACULAR!**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>  
LEW-E'S SCIENCE EXPLOSION CIRCUS**

**ALL STUDENTS MUST MEET IN THE LIBRARY MEETING ROOM AT 1:45 ON THE DATE OF EACH PROGRAM TO RECEIVE A SPECIAL TICKET FOR THAT DAY'S EVENT. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED AND HAVE A TICKET TO ATTEND EACH PROGRAM.**

*Return bottom portion to the library.*

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### **ABBEVILLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY Summer Reading Program 2014 Registration Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_ (next year)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

As Parent or Guardian, I give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in Abbeville Memorial Library's Summer Reading Program which may include my child's picture in newspapers or promotional video. I also give permission for my child to participate in the walk from the library to the elementary school gym for special events sponsored by the library.

**\*\*All students will be monitored and accompanied by library staff members and library volunteers.**

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.abbevillelibrary.org](http://www.abbevillelibrary.org) OR CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!



Drinking water supplies in the United States are among the safest in the world. Your Abbeville Waterworks and Sewer Board prides itself on providing safe, reliable drinking water to our customers.

A community's quality of life and economic vitality depend on wastewater systems that work. Wastewater is typically treated through a series of five major steps followed by processes to dispose of the remaining products. This treatment requires an intricate balance of physical, biological, and chemical processes. We test and treat our wastewater every day to insure that the water we are returning to our environment is as safe as possible.

Along with treating our community's wastewater, our drinking water is tested daily to regulate appropriate treatment before it gets to you. It is important to ensure that this water does not become contaminated in the distribution system because of such things as water main breaks, pressure problems, or growth of microorganisms. This is done by performing daily tests on our drinking water. We are also constantly monitoring the weather in order to keep our generators in working order and our equipment ready for anything in case of severe weather.

We train and school our employees to become certified water/wastewater operators. This insures that that all aspects of your water is handled in a professional manner, following the federal and state regulations.

When leaks develop in our water mains, we repair them promptly to protect your continuous water service. We work as quickly and efficiently as possible when a water problem is reported. We appreciate our citizens being so observant when possible problems arise and contacting us so that we can assess situations and make any necessary repairs.

We are always busy doing our best to make our water safe for the citizens of Abbeville. If you should ever notice a water problem, please contact me at 334-585-6444. I will do all I can to insure that things are running smoothly with our department.

Mike Johnson  
Superintendent

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### Employee of the Quarter— Officer Jimmy Carruthers



It is with great honor and pride that we announce Officer Jimmy Carruthers as the Employee of the Quarter for his dedication to the Abbeville Police Department and the City of Abbeville.

Officer Carruthers consistently provides the best service to the citizens of Abbeville and routinely demonstrates teamwork and is concerned for everyone he encounters.

The Abbeville Police Department and the City of Abbeville are proud to call Officer Carruthers a trusted coworker and friend. Thank you Officer Carruthers and we wish you continued success in all that you do.

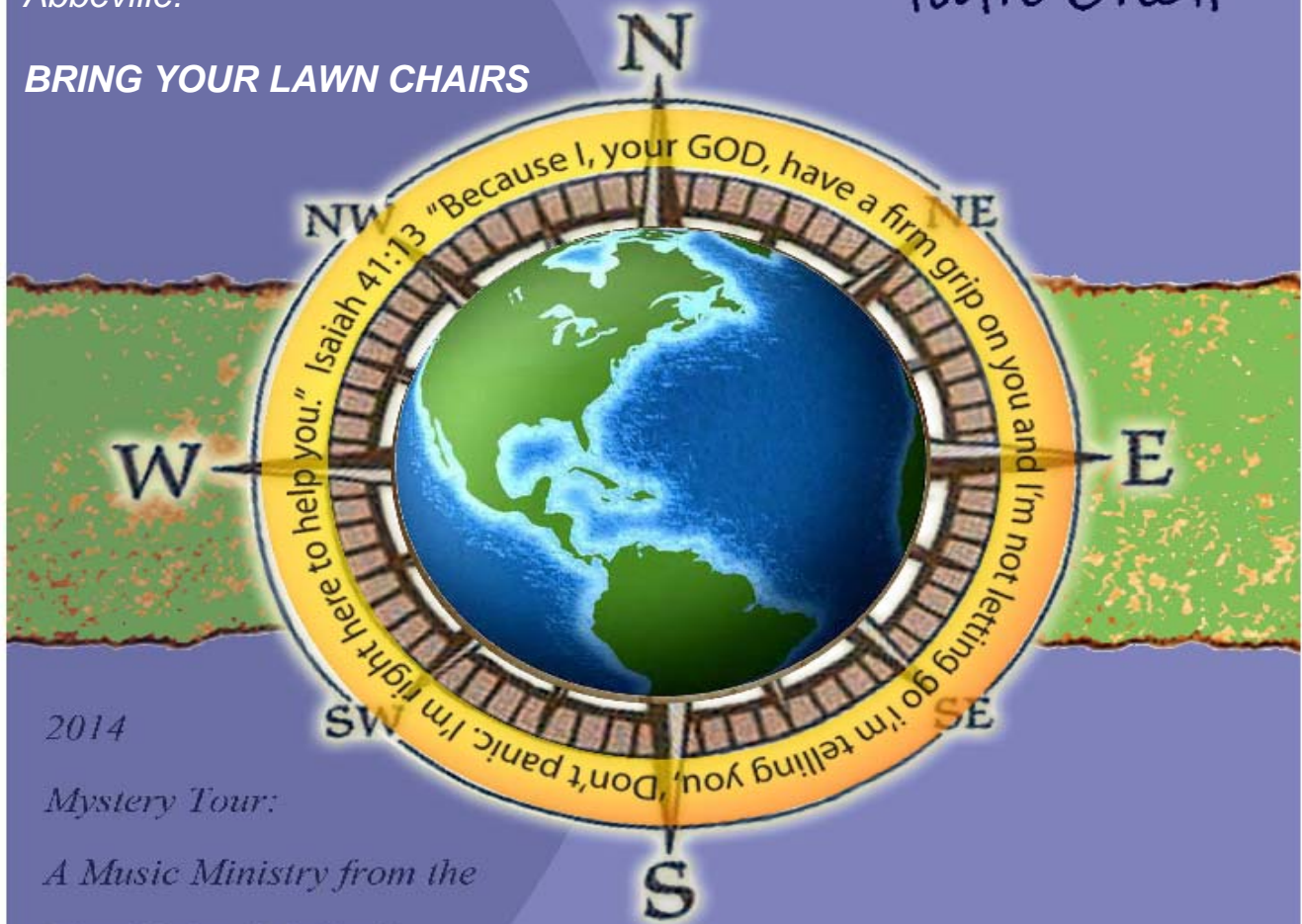
# Trust Without Borders

*A Musical Worship Service  
presented by*

Join the Boys & Girls Club of Abbeville for an evening of musical entertainment. The event is free and open to the public. All donations will benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Abbeville!

**God's Light**  
Youth Choir

**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS**



2014

*Mystery Tour:*

*A Music Ministry from the*

*First United Methodist*

*Church of Smyrna,*

*Georgia.*

**Place:** Henry County Courthouse, On the Square

**Date:** Tuesday, June 3rd, 2014

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to approximately 7:00 p.m.

## Community Calendar



## City of Abbeville

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

Phone: 334.585.6444

Fax: 334.585.6982

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 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. at 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.
- Chamber of Council meets the first Thursday of each month except in July. Contact the Chamber to make reservations for lunch. Please help us maintain and build our great business community. Joint Abbeville/Headland Chamber Luncheon—March 4, 2014. Please call for reservations at 585.2273.
- July 4, 2014—Independence Day Holiday
- September 1, 2014—Labor Day Holiday
- Oct. 20, 2014—Last day to register for the Howl-O-Ween Scarecrow Contest @ chamber office.
- Oct. 31, 2014—Howl-O-Ween
- Dec. 4, 2014—Christmas Tree Light, Walk About and Cookies with Santa starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse
- Dec. 8, 2014—Abbeville Christmas Parade

## 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:

- Mike Johnson has completed IS-00100.b, IS-00200.b, and IS-00700.a National Incident Management courses.
- Willie Lampley completed the Taser Training Academy for TASER Electronic Control Devices
- Melissa Watford completed training in Employee Recognition and Workplace Harassment, Personal Professionalism, Time Management Skills and Walking Your Way to Fitness
- Aggie Bradley and Tae Hui Flowers completed training with Neptune meters.
- Danny Creel completed Animal Control training