

# final thoughts...

As the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season begins, let us not lose focus on the what is important. There are many distractions and many reasons we might want to hurry or reach. Let's be safe so we can enjoy this season to it's fullest!



In our last edition, we ran a picture of the American flag at the top of the fire truck ladder during the 2015 Veterans day parade here in Perryville. Jeremy Mantz took the photo and shared it with me. We have had so much great feedback that I have decided that the photo will become a permanent part of our banner headline. The Perry County courthouse bathed in the American flag. Enjoy the pride!

## in this issue >>>

- Emergency Planning
- Annual Plan
- Banquet Update
- Change
- And much more!



Vol. 3  
Issue 23

### Office Report

The Front Line Safety Committee meeting will be November 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:15. The Front Line Safety video will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 p.m. at the PPC. We will be reviewing our emergency plan.

### Visitors at Public Works!!

Visitors in the last two weeks includes Jeff Doss with CMT, Joel Ogle with Maguire Iron, Inc. and Joe Thomas with Aramark.

## Happy Birthdays in December :

Charlie McLeod	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Tim Underwood	11 <sup>th</sup>
Jeremy Mantz	13 <sup>th</sup>
Lyle Mudge	22 <sup>nd</sup>
David Clements Sr	26 <sup>th</sup>
Kim Messmer	30 <sup>th</sup>

## coming soon >>>

### In The Next Issue

- Christmas Season
- Annual Awards Banquet Report
- Get Ready for Snow
- Annual Plan Highlights
- And even some surprises!

A Twice Monthly Update from Perryville Public Works

November 25, 2015

# What's In The Works And More!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Banquet

We are preparing for the banquet on Dec 4 at the Elks. We are flattered and honored to have FOUR presenting sponsors this year: Gas Products Sales, Midwest Meter, Donohue and Associates and DeRossett Co. We are blessed to have many other great Gold, Bronze and Dinner sponsors as well.

Last year (see pic below of King family w/Tim Britt and Mark Brown), we honored two of our own by inducting Terry King and Howard Blair into our Legends Hall of Fame and we will induct two more this year.

This year, we will have more door prizes than ever and a fantastic meal including prime rib, sponsored by Baer Engineering and Excel Utilities. Festivities start at 6:30 with dinner at 7.

Dress up and be prepared for some surprises as well!

## From the Director

Great organizations are always changing. I don't mean change for the sake of change, but planned, structured, progressive change that enables organizations to grow, evolve, survive and thrive in any type of marketplace.

When discussing change, many questions arise, such as: "How can you leverage and manage change?" "How can you become a change agent who is constantly and proactively preparing for change?" "How can you create a culture where you are able to make change work to your advantage rather than allowing it to destroy you?" The better question is, "Why change?" The answer is reflected in the statements below:

- "Everything that can be invented has been invented." (Charles H. Duell, director of the U.S. Patent Office, 1899)
- "Sensible and responsible women do not want to vote." (Grover Cleveland, 1905)
- "There is no likelihood man can ever tap the power of the atom." (Robert Miliham, Nobel Prize in physics, 1923)
- "The horse is here today, but the automobile is only a novelty — a fad." (President of Michigan Savings Bank advising against investing in the Ford Motor Company)
- "Video won't be able to hold on to any market it captures after six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night." (Daryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century Fox, commenting on television, 1946)
- "What use could the company make of an electric toy?" (Western Union, when it turned down rights to the telephone in 1878)

Businesses today are experiencing more change than at any time in history, and the pace of change is accelerating. It has taken just 15 years for 25 percent of households to embrace personal computers, 13 years for cell phones, and astoundingly only seven years for the Internet.

We have been changing and progressing here in Perryville at a seemingly rapid pace but not near as fast as the world is changing around us. Our ability to adapt and to continue to be open minded is important in being able to maintain this progress and continue to get better for our customer. Of course, there are bumps but as they say "Rome wasn't built in a day!"



The gas division has been working with the Utility Department collecting ERT numbers from the meter change out program. Gas Products is in town to start changing the industrial meters dials over to the new radio read. Excel will be in town November 23, 24, and 25th programming all of the 1600 commercial meters We have been working with TG-MO installing their new gas meter set at the new distribution warehouse. I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

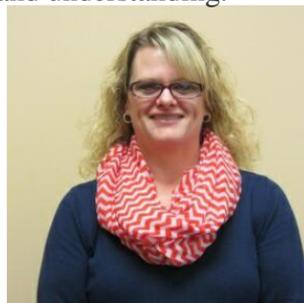


## Emergency Planning

On December 14 at the Perry Park Center , all Public Works employees will be part of a presentation of the Emergency Plan that was recently completed by the City Safety Committee. Much of that work was accomplished by our own Angie Fields, who will be leading the emergency training.

Chad Unterreiner, Chairman of the safety committee, kick the session off with his comments and direction. Then Angie will take over, using the video screen and asking for full participation from the group.

This plan has been several years in the making and only recently, a push with the help of Keith Riney, Bill Jones and Angie got us over the hump on this very important plan. Please, this meeting is NOT optional. Everyone must attend and there will be individual sheets for everyone to sign acknowledging their participation and understanding.



## Water and Sewer Update

Daily lift station checks were completed, and water samples taken to Jackson for special and routine state sample reporting. Staff is still busy replacing old meter settings. We have about 140 meters to change out, due to Earth First not being able to remove the meter to be complete. One of the pumps at Oak Lift Station went down and we had it rebuilt and put back in service the end of October. We had a pump go down at the Airport Lift Station on Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The staff pulled the pump, flushed and replaced it. At Miles Lift Station we have a pump down due to a rotted discharge pipe. The pump has been sent in for repairs and staff will be re-piping the lift station. CE Contracting has received approval on change orders that they requested and will resume work on Saint Joseph the week of November 16<sup>th</sup>. Work on French Lane is progressing, tie-ins at La Petite and Chloe are completed and the tower tie ins should be done the week of November 9<sup>th</sup>.



## Project Directories

### Street Dept.

Sinkhole projects – In between  
Leaf Pickup ongoing – limbs delayed

### Gas Dept.

Changing old meters

### WWTP

Engineering study – Nearing end

### Water Plant

New UV – UV Equip delivered

### Water/ Wastewater Dept.

Expecting 1” meter delivery

### Water System Renovation –

Choosing new tank locations

### Manhole Lining: Planning stage

**Work Order System:** Prelim system on order

**Customer Care Center:** Planning stage



## NATURAL GAS: THE BEST CHOICE!

Is it cheaper to use an electric clothes dryer than a gas one?

**Gas dryers** cost approximately \$50 more to purchase initially, but since **natural gas** is usually less costly than **electricity**, **gas dryers** cost less to operate. Depending on your utility, **drying** a load of laundry can cost between 32 to 41 cents in an **electric dryer**, or 15 to 33 cents in a **gas dryer**. Pretty cool, eh?

Perryville  
**natural gas**

## Water Plant >>>

Sometimes you just want to pull your hair out when something won't work right! We have had a stubborn bleach pump that just wouldn't stay primed, but we finally got it! We replaced a solenoid valve at tank 1, unloaded and unpacked the UV system, had our filter room ceiling repaired and various other small items. Jeremy and Neil visited Sikeston's lab to see how they do their own Bac-T testing and it was a good visit.

They were very courteous people and we appreciated their time. We also gave four tours to High School students from PHS on Thursday. We enjoyed their questions and hope they got some good info as well.



## Refuse, Street, Airport & Maintenance

**Maintenance Department:** We did get the grader back from Erb Equipment and it is working ok. I went to Iowa looking for a dump plow truck that I found on line. It ran ok but it had some issues, so we didn't purchase it. We are still looking for one. After Thanksgiving we will take truck #700 to Armor Equipment, so they can put a newer valve for the cart dumper. We have been working on KOA Lift Station generator. We wrote up a request for parts and we can save about \$2,500 if we fix it our self. If we have Cummins come to repair it the cost is \$4,234.80. We are working on truck #609 to replace the stabilizer shock and the right tie rod end. We have several services to do and need to take a police car to Bening Ford for warranty work.

**Refuse Department:** We picked up biodegradable bags and trash in all three wards. Many residents did not get the word about our revised schedule and we are working to find a better way to communicate schedule changes.

**Street Department:** We worked on leaf pickup and swept several streets. We worked on brush and put up lights and banners on the square. We mowed grass at City Hall. We called in several locates and are still working on school signs and posts.

### Storm Water:

We cleaned catch boxes and sinkhole grates after the recent rainfall.

**Airport:** We checked the lights at the Airport and cleaned the FBO office.



Picture: Look at how huge  
The storm water pipe is under St Joe street near the General Store!

## Waste Water Plant Update

We certainly had a lot of rain this week! Almost 5 inches! Our lagoon is filling up as a result but we still have room to go. We were finally able to start mowing around the recently planted trees, fixed the bar screen, repaired the mower deck, and graded the road from all the washouts. We will have leach water to haul next week also. TTFN.



## Update From the Building Department

By Angie Fields, CBO

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we tend to think about all the things we are thankful for in our lives. I am no different. The people we choose to spend our time with and how we interact with them shape who we are. It may sound cliché, but I am truly thankful for my extended work family. Although we have had an extremely busy year and each project has had its own set of problems, we have all been able to work together to find a solution. Each personality brings its own unique perspective and although, those personalities and perspectives may differ, we have been able to find common ground and work toward the finish line. I have worked in many different environments, most have a distinct top dog and low man, but this work family has it figured out. No one's opinion is more or less important and although we may not have the final decision, what's best for the team and our customers is the most important factor. Not only am I thankful for my kids, family and friends, I am blessed to have one of the best work families in the world and I thank each and every one for the support they give to me. Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving.