Kha McDonald: Woman of the Year!

Congratulations to Team Thomasville’s very own Kha McDonald for being named Woman of the Year during the Thomasville-Thomas County Chamber of Commerce’s Community Impact Awards. Kha is the Executive Director of Human Resources and Community Relations. She is not only a leader with Team Thomasville but an outstanding leader throughout our community.

Congratulations, Kha!
**Veterans Day Parade**

The Veterans Day Parade is this Saturday, November 9th at 10 am in downtown Thomasville. Join us on Broad Street as we honor those who have served our country.

**West Jackson Streetscape Ribbon Cutting**

Please join us for the Ribbon Cutting for the West Jackson Streetscape Project being held on November 15th at 9:15 am beginning at the Ritz Amphitheater.

**Fall Xtravaganza**

The Fall Xtravaganza will be held Saturday, November 16th, from 11 am until 2 pm at Paradise Park. Bring the family out for free games, prizes, and so much more!

**Victorian Christmas**

The 33rd Annual Victorian Christmas will be held in downtown Thomasville on Thursday and Friday December 12th and 13th. Join us for street performances, artists, food vendors, visits with St. Nick, and much more holiday excitement!
**Team Thomasville in the News**

*We are proud of our dedicated staff and all they do to serve our community. Here are just a couple of special accomplishments members of Team Thomasville have made lately.*

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**Thomasville Fire Rescue Engineer Awarded for 20 Consecutive Years of Certification**

Thomasville Fire Rescue Engineer Randy Wood was recently recognized by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for achieving 20 consecutive years of National EMS Certification.

“Few EMS professionals hold the distinction of 20 consecutive years of certification,” said Thomasville Fire Rescue Chief Chris Bowman, “In our organization, only one other fire professional holds this certification. It’s an honor for Engineer Wood to have earned this recognition, and shows his loyalty to our organization and his commitment to the safety of our community.”

Wood has been in the fire service since 1989, and employed with Thomasville Fire Rescue since 2005. He first achieved National EMS Certification in 1999, and has worked diligently ever since to maintain the certification. “I worked hard to initially earn EMS certification, so keeping up with the standards and changes is important to me,” Wood said.

To maintain his status as a Nationally Registered EMS, Wood has completed, on a biennial basis, the most comprehensive recertification program for EMS professionals in America. “The recertification process is difficult, but important to me to provide the best in prehospital emergency medical care to my community,” Wood said.

The National Registry of Emergency Management Technicians serves as the National EMS Certification organization by providing a valid, uniformed process to access the knowledge and skills required for competent practice by EMS professionals throughout their careers and by maintaining a registry of certification status.
City of Thomasville Public Works Staff Earns Golden Backhoe Award

The City of Thomasville Public Works department was recently nominated for, and won, the 2019 Region Four Golden Backhoe Award.

The award was given during the Fall Conference for the Georgia Utility Coordinating Council (GUCC) in Dillard, Georgia. Stephen Stewart, City of Thomasville Public Works Superintendent, was in attendance with members of his department to receive the award. “We earned the Golden Backhoe Award in recognition of safe digging and no chargeable damages in a calendar year,” Stewart said, “This is a huge achievement for a department of our size and with the workload we safely accomplish each year.”

Wayne Newsome, City of Thomasville City Engineer, said earning this award requires a good bit of coordination and understanding of underground utilities, “This award was earned thanks to our Public Works staff’s thorough understanding of underground utilities, combined with the department’s ability to focus on and meet the needs of our community,” said Newsome.

“A selection committee reviews nominations for each region and makes their selection,” Stewart said, “This was the first year our Public Works department received the award, and we are proud of the hard working staff who made it possible.”

The Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council is an extension of the Utility Location and Coordination Council of the American Public Works Association, of which the City of Thomasville is a member.

For more information on the award, please contact City of Thomasville Public Works at 229-227-7025.
Don’t Spring a Leak!

Water leaks are often the culprit when it comes to increased utility bills. A water leak can cause water and wastewater bills to skyrocket! There are a few simple ways you can check for a water leak around your home:

• First, locate your water meter. Lift the lid and turn on the water in your home to verify the meter is turning. Next, turn off all water to the house and isolate water using appliances. Observe your meter and make sure it’s stopped turning. If your meter is still turning with all water turned off, there’s a leak between the meter and your home. Now you just need to find the source of the leak!

• Next, check for wet areas around your lawn. If there’s an unusually wet area in your yard where the remainder of the yard is dry, this may be the source of the leak.

• Check the toilets in your home to ensure they aren’t running. A toilet that continues to run excessively after flushing can cause hundreds of gallons of water to run unnecessarily.

• Look for dripping faucets in sinks and showers. A simple drip may not seem like much, but over time the water being used can really add up both on your water and wastewater charges.

• Inspect your household appliances. Leaks can be located around garbage disposals, water heaters, and washing machines, just to name a few. Look for wet areas or soft areas on floors or counters. These can cause substantial damage to your home, along with increased utility bills!

Help Us Name the Park Pups!

November 15th is the final day to submit name suggestions for the Cherokee Lake Decoy Dogs. These decoy dogs don’t keep the geese away, but they do deter them from common areas, ensuring your time at our beautiful park is always enjoyable. We’ve received hundreds of name suggestions, and would love to add yours to the list.

Visit thomasville.org for more information.
Cool Weather Energy Efficiency Tips

Cracks in windows and doors can bring cold air right into your home! Window shades, curtains, and shutters can help. Also consider caulking or sealing areas where you can feel cool air seeping in. This will save money on heating and keep you more comfortable!

Not using your fireplace? Ensure the damper is closed unless you’ve got a fire burning. This can significantly reduce heat loss by keeping your warm air from going up the chimney. Not using your fireplace at all? Plug and seal the chimney flue so you never have to worry about losing warm air.

Be Alert When it Comes to Scammers!

The Holiday Season is a busy time of year for scammers. We’d like to remind our customers to remain alert. The City of Thomasville will never reach out to customers utilizing pop up ads or the like. If you receive a message or pop up ad that seems questionable, it probably is. Should you ever receive a message that appears to be from us but you question its legitimacy, give us a call! We’re available to put your mind at ease at 229-227-7001.
Thanksgiving Fire Safety Tips

Did you know that the greatest number of home cooking fires occur on Thanksgiving Day? If you didn’t check your smoke alarms during Daylight Savings Time, make sure to test them now before Thanksgiving, just in case! Some other tips for making sure your holiday is un alarming:

• Make sure your frozen turkey has thawed completely.
• When frying a turkey, make sure to do so outside.
• If you’ve got food cooking, stay in the kitchen.
• Use oven mitts to protect your hands, but keep them away from hot surfaces.
• Let children play, but away from the kitchen.
• Never, ever fall asleep while cooking.

Public Meetings & Events Calendar

11/16: 11:00 am Fall Xtravaganza
11/18: 4:00 pm Public Meeting: Discussion of the WWTF Improvements
11/20: 4:00 pm City Council Workshop
11/25: 8:30 am Payroll Development Authority Meeting
11/25: 6:00 pm City Council Meeting
12/2: 5:30 pm Planning and Zoning Board Meeting
12/3: 8:00 am Main Street Advisory Board Meeting
12/4: 8:30 am Utilities Committee Meeting
12/4: 10:00 am Land Bank Authority Meeting
12/4: 11:00 am Public Safety Committee Meeting
12/4: 1:00 pm Solid Waste Committee Meeting
12/4: 2:00 pm Public Works Committee Meeting
12/4: 4:00 pm City Council Workshop
12/6: 12:00 pm Housing Authority Meeting
12/9: 6:00 pm City Council Meeting
12/10: 10:00 am Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
12/11: 10:00 am Architectural Review and Zoning Appeals Board Meeting
12/12: 9:00 am Downtown Development Authority Meeting
12/12: 6:00 pm Airport Advisory Board Meeting