

City of Duenweg

January and February 2006

Welcome Home

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a big “**Welcome Home**” to Sgt. Doug Hennen, who has just returned home after serving our country in Iraq for the past year. We know that Kerri and their daughters Kelsey and Tara are sure glad to have him home safe with them again.

Welcome Melinda Ingram

The City of Duenweg would like to welcome Melinda Ingram to the City Hall staff. Melinda has lived in Duenweg for 10 years with her husband, Rob (Robbie) and their children Mike, Riley and Sam. She was formerly employed at Lakeland Office Systems. Melinda is actively involved in the First Baptist Church here in Duenweg, where she teaches 5th grade students in the Wednesday Night Team Kid Program, along with coaching 3rd and 4th grade cheerleading in the Upward Program at First Baptist Church in Webb City. She is also active in the PTO at Duenweg Elementary School.

Melinda enjoys working with crafts, and she, Rob and mother-in-law; Billie operated Ingram’s Woodcrafting and Gifts on East 7th Street here in Duenweg for a while. With an 8-year-old and a 5-year-old, she has little time to even think about being crafty these days.

Her 18-year-old son, Mike, also helps by umpiring in the youth baseball program here. So, you can see that Melinda is very interested in this community and has been participating in local activities for several years. We anticipate that she will be an asset to our City Hall.

“This is an equal opportunity program
Discrimination is prohibited by Federal
Law. Complaints of discrimination may be
filed with the Secretary of Agriculture,
Washington D. C. 20250.”

What’s in this newsletter

1. Welcome Home Doug Hennen
2. Welcome Melinda Ingram
3. Parade Still In the Planning
4. January and February Birthdays & Anniversaries
5. Duenweg Police Department 2005 End of Year Report
6. Christmas Lights Contest
7. New Cable Rates
8. Coloring Contest Winners
9. Lost Pets
10. Valentines Day History
11. Presidents’ Day History

Parade Still In the Planning

We are still planning to have a parade here to honor those of our community who have served in the Armed Forces. This will be our way of showing our appreciation to all that have so graciously served our great country to protect our rights and our lives. We are just waiting for warmer weather, so that everyone might be more comfortable while taking part in this.

January and February Birthdays & Anniversaries

John James – January 2nd
Jason St.Onge – January 4th
Megan Phillips – January 9th
Josh Phillips – January 11th
Jeff & Julie Trotnic – January 14th (17 yrs.)
Amy Lentz – January 18th
Brenda Olds – January 26th
Mike Riley – January 29th
Morgan Olds – January 18th
Rob Ingram – February 25th

Christmas Light Contest

Congratulations to the Lightle's at 609 Kimberly they are the winners of the Christmas Light Contest in 2005. The Mayor will be paying there water bill in January.

New Cable Rates

Broadcast Basic is going up \$4.00 to \$18.95 per month. Expanded Basic is going down \$2.00 to 31.00 per month. Total Family Cable is going up \$2.00 to \$49.95 per month.

Duenweg City Hall Coloring Contest Winners

The coloring contest winners were Amber Thornton in kindergarten and Sammy Stokes in 4th grade. They were chosen by citizen Mark Hutchinson. The winners received a \$15 gift card from Toys-R-Us.

Lost Pets

If you have lost a pet please contact City Hall first to see if when have your pet.

Valentines Day History

The origin of the Valentines Day is shrouded in mystery and there is varying opinions about it. Its origin has become theme of many legends. St. Valentines Day as we celebrate today had remnants of both Christian and ancient Roman traditions. According to some legends Saint Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius then had Valentine jailed for defying his decree, which outlawed marriage for young men.

Some legends have it that the Valentines Day originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity on Feb. 14, 269 AD. Today the Roman Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine, all of whom were martyred. St. Valentine may have been imprisoned and later killed for helping Christians to escape harsh punishment in Roman prisons.

There is an interesting story portraying the love affair between St. Valentine and the jailor's daughter. St. Valentine left a farewell note for her, the note read- "from your Valentine. Valentine's Day is said to have started in the Roman Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holiday to honor Juno. Juno was the Queen of Roman Gods and Goddesses. The Romans regarded her as the Goddess of women and marriage. The following day, February 15th, began the festival of Lupercalia, in honor of Lupercus, the hunter of wolves. Legends aside, the popularity of the Valentines Day rose manifold among the people and in tune with it Pope Gelasius set aside February 14th to honor St. Valentine, the patron saint of love and romance.

Presidents' Day History

Presidents' Day or Washington's Birthday? Well, according to the federal government, the holiday observed on the third Monday in February is officially **Washington's Birthday**. But many Americans believe that this holiday is now called "Presidents' Day," in honor of both Presidents' Washington and Lincoln, whose birthdays are Feb. 22 and Feb. 12, respectively. It turns out that whether you honor one or the other or both of these presidents may depend on where you live.

States Decide on Holidays

The states are not obliged to adopt federal holidays, which only affect federal offices and agencies. While most states have adopted Washington's Birthday, a dozen of them officially celebrate Presidents' Day. A number of the states that celebrate Washington's Birthday also recognize Lincoln's Birthday as a separate legal holiday.

Origins of the Monday Holiday

In 1968, Congress passed the Monday Holidays Act, which moved the official observance of Washington's birthday from Feb. 22 to the third Monday in February. Some reformers had wanted to change the name of the holiday as well, to Presidents' Day, in honor of both Lincoln and Washington, but that proposal was rejected by Congress, and the holiday remained officially Washington's Birthday. But in 1971, when the Act went into effect, President Nixon proclaimed the holiday as Presidents' Day, to commemorate all past presidents, not just

Lincoln and Washington. This idea was never intended or authorized by congress: nevertheless, it gained a strong hold on the public consciousness.

When was the First Public Celebration of Washington's Birthday?

Washington's Birthday has a history as old as our country. It was celebrated publicly for the first time in the late 18th century, while George Washington was still president.

Washington's Birthday became official in 1885, when President Chester Arthur signed a bill making it a federal holiday. Meanwhile, there was President Lincoln's birthday on Feb. 12, which never became a federal holiday but was celebrated as a legal holiday in many states outside the old Confederacy.

You Can't Please all of the People...

Many people feel that Lincoln, the president credited with preserving the nation during the Civil War, has been short-changed. To them, having Presidents' Day is a sensible way to recognize both Washington and Lincoln. Others feel just as strongly that having an inclusive Presidents' Day diminishes Washington's importance in American history.