



Season's greetings from all of the City of Seneca employees. We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The City of Seneca Offices will be closed December 25-27, 2017 and January 1, 2018.

City Administrator is Grand Marshal

It will still be some time until he officially rides off into the sunset, but Seneca City Administrator Greg Dietterick recently enjoyed a fitting sendoff in the city's Christmas parade.

Dietterick, who's been with the city since 1998, served as the grand marshal in the parade — the final one to be held while he still makes the daily commute to City Hall, as his final day is set for June 30, 2018.

Dietterick announced his upcoming retirement in October, when he fought back tears when breaking the news to city council. And while he'll still be around for more than half a year as the city looks to find his successor — with Dietterick set to assist in the transition process — the City Administrator was touched by being named the parade's grand marshal.

“Being the grand marshal was an honor, and I was humbled to even be considered,” he said. “It was an experience I won't forget. My grandchildren rode with me, so it was something they won't forget either.

“It was a great thing, and I'm very appreciative of the Oconee County Chamber of Commerce for even considering me. That was a great thing.”

Seneca utilities director Bob Faires drove the car for Dietterick and his grandchildren in the parade, and he said he was proud to be able to play a role in a special moment for someone he considers a close friend.

“It was an honor,” he said. “Greg has been a visionary for the city as he has worked along with the council. It's an honor to work with Greg, personally and professionally.”



(pictures courtesy of Jim Bandy Photography)

Seneca's Kelley retires after nearly three decades

On Nov. 1, longtime City Hall fixture Cindy Kelley celebrated her 28th year as a city employee. Exactly one month later, she bid the city farewell as she headed off into retirement following a reception at the Lowery Building.

Though she said her decision was met with some good-natured resistance, from Mayor Dan Alexander and Mayor Pro-Tem Ronnie O'Kelley among many others, Kelley said she's looking forward to spending more time with her three grandchildren and her friends as she moves on to the next phase of her life.

"Just the people I work with," she said when asked what she'll miss most. "I love everybody I work with, but one good thing is this is a public place and I can come see them anytime I want to.

And the feeling is mutual, as city administrator Greg Dietterick said Kelley will most certainly be missed, as he didn't ever have to worry about his administrative assistant pulling her weight and then some.

"She was always there with a smiling face and would volunteer to help anytime we needed it," he said. "A lot of times, I didn't have to say anything — she just followed up.

"She's going to be missed, and I hope she enjoys a very good retirement after 28 years of service."

City planning director Ed Halbig said Kelley will be hard to replace at City Hall, as she's served as Dietterick's administrative assistant since he came to work for the city.

"She's always been one of the cheerful, bright, happy people in the building, so it's going to be quite an adjustment."

"Everybody knows her, and she knows everybody," Seneca Mayor Dan Alexander added. "If you want to know what's going on, you ask her. We wish her nothing but the best."



Toy Drive ongoing

With the holiday season in full swing, the city is asking for the community to do what it can to help make sure area children have a merry Christmas.



The annual "Celebrate Christmas with a Hero" toy drive is going on at City Hall, where donations of unwrapped toys and clothing for elementary school children are being accepted. Monetary donations are also accepted.

Donations will be accepted at City Hall during regular business hours during the week, while donations can be made at the Seneca police and fire departments on weekends.

"The drive is working well, but of course we never have enough," said Mayor Pro-Tem Ronnie O'Kelley, who helps Lt. Lisa Williams of the SPD to oversee the toy drive. "We want more, because there are more children who won't have gifts." For more information, contact Lt. Lisa Williams at (864) 885-2730.

Seneca Events Coordinator Riley Johnson interviews Crystal Romanyszyn, owner of Loblolly Arts, which is located on Ram Cat Alley.



Hazel Snyder shared her talents and Christmas cheer with the ladies of Seneca Light & Water. The girls love their new hand crafted afghans.



Pictured are left, Patsy Hart and right, Hazel Snyder.



Pictured from left to right, Rebecca Bellotte, Tammy Winchester, Patsy Hart, Cerieda Durham, Rita Swaney, Barbara Bryson and Lindsay Ramey. Absent is Sherri Chandler.

Quote of the month:

“Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.”

- Dale Carnegie

FUN FACTS Germany made the first artificial Christmas trees. They were made of goose feathers and dyed green . If you received all of the gifts in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," you would receive 364 gifts. In Mexico, wearing red underwear on New Year's Eve is said to bring new love in the upcoming year. Christmas became a national holiday in America on June, 26, 1870. The first state to recognize the Christmas holiday officially was Alabama. Clearing up a common misconception, in Greek, X means Christ. That is where the word "X-Mas" comes from. Not because someone took the "Christ" out of Christmas.

City of Seneca
HALF MARATHON & 5K

SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH 2018

HALF MARATHON BEGINS @ 9:15AM
 5K BEGINS @ 8AM

RUN FOR THE GREEN

FINISHERS MEDAL (HALF MARATHON ONLY)

HALF MARATHON CASH PRIZES
 MALE & FEMALE, MASTERS MALE & FEMALE,
 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE OVERALL WINNERS

5K CASH PRIZES
 MALE & FEMALE, 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE
 OVERALL WINNERS

313 CAFE

UPSTATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, PA

CORE24

Dress your Best for the Pre Race PARTY!