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**CELEBRITIES**

The Tennessean's celebrity news column publishes Sunday through Friday.

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**Turn out the lights, the party's on**

From Tennessean music writer Peter Cooper:

On Wednesday, Nashville lights went out amidst blustery winds. That was not good.

On March 28, the Nashville skyline will go dark between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. That will be good.

What's the difference? Well, the March deal is an actual, city-bolstered event called Earth Hour, with backing from **Mayor Karl Dean** and a bunch of celebrity types, including **Jo Dee Messina, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, Wynonna, Lady Antebellum, Jars of Clay, Michael Nouri, SHeDAISY, Terri Clark** and **Dierks Bentley**.

The purpose of Earth Hour isn't so much to save power (though it'll do that too) as to call attention to the problems brought about by climate change. The World Wildlife Federation is behind all this, and 74 cities in 62 countries across the globe will participate.

Mayor Dean and Jo Dee will hold a news conference this morning to announce details, but we can tell you a few pertinent things:

» Businesses and residents will turn off downtown, in Bellevue, in East Nashville and in other neighborhoods.

» We're talking "nonessential" lighting here. It's OK for me to keep that flood light working out by my East Nashville backyard shed. Otherwise, this would be a combination of Earth Hour and Lawnmower Giveaway Night.

» Public safety officials will be consulted along the way, so our Music City well-being won't be compromised.