

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

SPRING GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY MAY 11, 2000 7:30 PM
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
3975 North Highway 67

UNINCORPORATED RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING PROGRAM

Laura Yates, Project Director from the St. Louis Health Department, will discuss the current status of the County proposal for consolidated solid waste/recycling in the unincorporated areas.

Refreshments

BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS/EVERYONE WELCOME

BELLEFONTAINE QUARRY EXPANSION DELAYED

The proposal to expand Bellefontaine Quarry was tabled in December after a request by Planning Director Glenn Powers for time "to allow further review of issues raised regarding blasting patterns, underground gas lines and the water table."

The proposal to expand Bellefontaine Quarry operations on an additional eighty acres southward along New Jamestown Road extending to Robbins Mill Road was submitted in 1998 and then withdrawn after the public hearing before being voted upon by the Planning Commission.

The same proposal was resubmitted to the Planning Commission in April of the following year and was scheduled for a public hearing on July 12th. After two requests by the owner to delay, the public hearing was finally held on November 15, 1999. A large number of area residents expressed their concern at the hearing (for the second time within a year) for airborne rocks being projected on their property, for damage to water wells, for shockwave damage to their houses, for depreciation of property values, and for the diminishment of their overall quality of life.

The Association again raised the safety issue of the proximity of long term blasting to the two Laclede Gas high pressure pipelines (20 inch natural gas and the more volatile 8 inch liquid propane) which are located on each side of the New Jamestown Road and the Robbins Mill Road right-of-ways for a distance of approximately 3000 feet along the frontage of the quarry property. The pipelines carry gas to the Laclede underground storage field which, during the heating season, provides gas to much of the metropolitan area. The same concern was raised by the Association at the first hearing in 1998. During the ensuing 1 1/2 years until the second public hearing, the quarry made no attempt to contact Laclede or to address the issue in any way.

J.H. Berra Construction, owners of Bellefontaine Quarry, are currently attempting to expand another of their quarries which is located in Lincoln County near Troy. The Association is in communications with residents in that area and are finding the same disregard for area property owners by Berra. Residents are currently in litigation involving The Department of Natural Resources and J.H. Berra.

The Planning Department anticipates April or May before the proposal is considered by the Planning Commission.

VINEYARD ESTATES

John Weese, project developer, has indicated that after several delays the project is moving forward and that sewer installation and the completion of road construction will be taking place this spring for Phases 1, 2, and 4 which consist of twenty four three acre sites. Commitments have been made on more than half of the lots as interest in the project continues to run high. Construction on the first homes is anticipated to begin in June.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF PORTLAND MEADOWS ADDITION

The St. Louis County Planning Commission has recommended approval of the proposal by McBride and Sons Inc. to construct 47 single family homes on the thirty four acre Frisella tract on the north side of Vaille, east of Old Halls Ferry Road. The proposed development will adjoin the Addition to the Manors of Portland Lake Estates currently under construction by McBride, and will provide access to Vaille Road from the Manors. Lot sizes in the Portland Meadows Addition will average slightly larger than 1/2 acre.

Two other developers had submitted proposals for this site with 69 and 75 lots within the last several years. The Association opposed both of those proposals as being too dense and not in conformance with recommendations of The Old Jamestown Community Area Study. In each case, the Planning Department recommended 47 units as being appropriate for the site. Both developers withdrew their proposals when they chose not to accept the County's development criteria. The Association has expressed support to the Planning Commission for the McBride proposal of 47 units which is now before the County Council for final approval.

WATERFORD NORTH APARTMENT PROJECT IS REACTIVATED

The Kemp Companies have revived plans for Waterford North, a 200 unit apartment complex proposed for Lusher Road and Arrowpoint Drive near the intersection of Highway 367 and New Jamestown Road. Kemp obtained approval for apartments in 1969 as part of a project that also included 404 single-family houses that were built in 1973. The apartment portion of the project remained dormant until 1995 when Kemp conveyed his intentions to utilize financing which would qualify residents for subsidized housing programs. This plan met with a storm of protests from area residents which resulted in Kemp withdrawing the plan and the County enacting legislation, sponsored by Councilman Jim O'Mara, which in the future would prevent rezonings to remain in place longer than eight years if the original project was not built. That legislation however, did not apply to the Kemp project.

Since 1995, the Spanish Lake Community Area Study was completed. One provision of that study recommended that no more apartment units be constructed in the Spanish Lake area. That same position has been voiced on many occasions by officials of the Hazelwood School District as they attempt to manage the large number of students which come out of the apartment projects.

In January 2000 Kemp announced his intentions to resurrect the apartments again, with minor variations, but without any subsidized units. Residents again expressed their concerns, but this time there was no provision that required a public hearing, and if Kemp's site plan fulfilled the original requirements the County would have no choice but to approve the project. The Hazelwood School District and five area residents enjoined in a lawsuit against the County which would require the project to conform to the current regulations. The project has been placed on hold pending a decision by the court system.

KARST GEOLOGY ARTICLE IN CURRENT MISSOURI CONSERVATIONIST

The March 2000 issue of the Missouri Conservationist has an excellent article on Karst Groundwater which describes and illustrates the geological phenomena known as karst. Such areas are characterized by sinkholes, caves, and springs, all of which transmit water in and out of the groundwater system which provides drinking water and life support to underground aquatic life. Karst areas are "self draining" in that all surface runoff water flows into sinkholes and is then transmitted into underground natural channels which have been created by the dissolvment of limestone over a period of hundreds of thousands of years. Karst areas are also characterized by the absence of surface streams and channels to carry the stormwater runoff to larger streams and rivers. The contamination of groundwater by surface runoff in St. Louis County is controlled by County and Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) regulations which prohibit using sinkholes as natural discharge points for developed stormwater runoff

Approximately four square miles in the Old Jamestown Area consists of karst geology and as a result have limitations on the extent of development that can occur without damage to the environment. The Old Jamestown Community Area Study, completed by the County in 1988, recognizes those limitations by the type of development which is permitted in the karst area.

COUNTY CONTINUES DEVELOPMENT OF SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING PLAN

The County began last fall to develop a plan that would establish waste collection districts in the unincorporated county. Collection services would be contracted by the county to minimize the cost and the amount of trash truck traffic on local streets. The comments and concerns about the concept which were expressed at the Association meeting last October were transmitted to the County by Donna Smith, Association vice-president, and a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee to review the proposed procedures for solid waste/recycling in unincorporated areas.

Laura Yates, Project Director for the County Health Department, will be present at the General Meeting in May to discuss the most current developments in the plan.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATIONS

The second Old Jamestown Area Citizen of the Year Award was made to Laurie Donovan at the May 1999 general meeting. Laurie served 14 years in the Missouri House of Representatives for the 72nd District. The award was established in 1997 by the Association board of directors. The purpose of the award is to give recognition to an individual who has contributed to the quality of life in the Old Jamestown Area and to promoting the objectives of the Association. The nomination and selection procedure for 2000 is as follows:

PURPOSE To recognize an individual who has contributed to the overall quality of life in the Old Jamestown Area and has promoted the objectives of the Association. The purpose of the Association, which is taken from the founding constitution in 1942 and updated in 1987 is as follows:

"The purpose of the Association is to promote the Old Jamestown Area as a better place to live; to facilitate communications between residents and the government of St. Louis County and neighboring communities; to provide educational resources to the residents and the government of St. Louis County; to advocate procedures which are compatible with the environmental fragility and geological uniqueness of the area; and to generally act in such ways and in such manner that will make the area a better, healthier, more agreeable, and more beautiful place in which to live."

ELIGIBILITY Any person, whether Association member/nonmember or Area resident/non resident, is eligible to receive this award with the exception of current Directors or any member of their immediate family.

NOMINATIONS Nominations are to include the name, address, and telephone number of the nominee and a statement supporting the nomination signed by an active member of the Association. Mail nominations to:

The Old Jamestown Association
Box 2223
Florissant MO 63032

Nominations must be received by March 18, 2000

SELECTION PROCESS Nominations will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the recipient selected. Names of unsuccessful nominees and supporting statements will remain confidential. The recipient will be notified prior to the general meeting at which the award will be made.

Nominations may be submitted on the following form or a separate letter indicating the same information.

**OLD JAMESTOWN AREA
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINATION**

Nominee _____ Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____ State _____ Zip _____

Statement of Recommendation:

Use additional page(s) as necessary

Member Making the Nomination _____

Telephone _____

WOJTKOWSKI ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Association member Don Wojtkowski has been elected chairman of the St. Louis County Boundary Commission.

The Boundary Commission was re-formed in June 1999 when a state law was adopted that would establish a new commission. Representatives from both the St. Louis County Municipal League and St. Louis County Government jointly developed all of the language of the bill which redefined the procedure for appointing members and the criteria by which the commission would operate. Don had served as a member of the prior commission.

The new commission consists of eleven members. Four appointed by the County Executive, four selected by a caucus of mayors from municipalities, and three selected by a committee of municipal and county officials. There is presently a two year moratorium on any new annexations, mergers or incorporations. Until July 1, 2000, cities, citizens groups and the County will have an opportunity to prepare a map plan indicating their proposed intentions for the next five years. Public hearings to obtain public input will be conducted between July and December, 2000. Map plans on file by April, 2001 will become the basis for any boundary changes for the subsequent five year period. The entire planning cycle will begin again in 2006.

SECOND ST. NORBERT TOWN HALL FORUM IS HELD

St. Norbert held their second Town Hall Meeting on February 27, 2000 which featured panel members from Christian Hospital NE-NW, the office of the St. Louis County Executive, Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU), and North County Churches Uniting for Racial Harmony and Justice (NCCU). Each speaker gave a brief presentation and then all responded to written questions from the audience. In addition, panel members from the first town Hall Meeting held last August were on hand to answer questions. Ken Smith represented the Association as a panel member. The meeting was open to the public and was attended by approximately 100 persons.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION SCHEDULED FOR MTIA TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Gary Smith of Bi-State Development Agency presented the Major Traffic Investment Analysis (MTIA) options for North St. Louis County at the Association general meeting last October. The MTIA Projects are jointly sponsored by East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, Missouri Department of Transportation, and the Bi-State Development Agency. Their purpose is to analyze transportation problems and to develop long range plans for development of multi-modal transportation in the St. Louis area. The conceptual engineering and technical analysis on the alternatives presented at the meeting last fall are complete and ready for public review. The open house and presentation in North County will be on Tuesday, March 28th from 5-7:00 P.M. in the Student Center at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, 3400 Pershall Road. Members of the MTIA team will give a formal presentation and then be available for individual discussion.

COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN NEARS COMPLETION

The final meeting of the St. Louis County Strategic Plan Steering Committee is scheduled for March 16th. Delay in obtaining results from the public opinion poll which tested recommendations from the Strategic Plan resulted in a several week delay of the final presentation. The purpose of the plan is to provide a framework to assist in coordinated decision-making by the County during the next five years, after which time the plan will be updated. The specific strategic issues addressed by this plan are:

-Reinvestment in Older Communities
-Transportation
-Unincorporated Services
-County's Role in the Region

Access and availability of the plan will be announced at the time of release

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Everyone is welcome to become a part of the network of residents who are informed about events and issues in the Old Jamestown Area by sending a \$10.00 check for annual dues to The Old Jamestown Association, Box 2223 Florissant, MO 63032. The Association was founded in 1942. New members will receive an information packet about the area