Message from President Chan Mahanta

I would like to welcome you to The Old Jamestown Association’s upcoming Spring General Meeting on May 1, at the Black Jack Fire Protection District’s Administration Building. The agenda will include, among other things, the following:

The OJA Board of Directors has selected Black Jack Fire Chief Michael Gantner to be the 2014 Citizen of the Year. The other featured event for the evening will be a presentation on the brand new Christian Hospital’s Community Health Access Program (CHAP) by Jennifer Cordia, vice president and chief nurse executive and Chris Cebollero, EMS chief. CHAP was implemented Feb. 3, 2014 and in the first week 500 people were triaged into the new program, which addresses the patient population that calls 911 or visits the emergency department with non-emergency health care needs. The goal of CHAP is to assist citizens in obtaining the right resources, at the right time, at the right cost and with the right outcome. Christian Hospital has researched other health care models in states such as Tennessee and Texas. Those health systems have successfully managed to support the health care of their citizens by assisting them in navigating the system, connecting patients with the appropriate resources and creating partnerships in the community. Unlike these other organizations, Christian Hospital has coordinated efforts of both EMS and the Emergency Department to re-navigate non-emergency patients to receive care in a more appropriate setting.

Christian Hospital is also committed to developing a partnership with other organizations and resources in the community to improve the lives of their patients. St. Louis Public Radio featured CHAP on a detailed story on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. It maybe viewed online at: http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/new-take-emergency-care-christian-hospital-using-paramedics-reduce-911-calls#.U0_wPP5JgfU.facebook

I am sorry to report that a long time friend of the OJA, Mr. William Bearden, passed away on February 23rd this year. Mr. Bearden has placed the General Meeting signs at strategic places in the OJA area and removed them after the meetings for many years. He will be greatly missed.

Not much has been going on in the area projects front. The Walmart project at Hwy 67 recently received building permits from the City of Florissant for construction recently. The Emergency Broadcast Tower at Briscoe Park is nearing completion and the Carrico Road Group Homes seem to have been completed.

The Old Jamestown History project is moving along under the able guidance of Peggy Kruse with assistance and input from a number of the Old Jamestown area residents as well as local, regional and national historical societies. We are excited about the project, but need to generate funds to publish the documents when completed. Please respond to our appeal for fund-raising ideas that is included in this edition of the OJA Newsletter.

N CI Names 2014’s Award Recipients To Be Honored at 37th Annual Breakfast

North County Incorporated (NCI) is pleased to announce that our recipients have been chosen. The 2014 award recipients will be honored at NCI’s 37th Annual Breakfast on Friday, May 16, 2014 at 7:30 a.m. at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel.

NCI’s Business Development Award will be presented to Charter Communications. Hazelwood School District under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Grayling Tobias, current NCI Executive Board Member and Scott Negro, Owner, Negro Materials, Inc. and a former NCI Board Member will be honored with the Community Development Awards. Patty Gould, Director of School-Business Partnerships and Community Education for the Pattonville School District and a past Board Chair of NCI will receive the prestigious Elmer Belsha Leadership Award.

Public Service Awards and Special Recognition Awards will also be presented.

Dues are ten dollars per single membership and fifteen dollars per family membership.
**Citizen of the Year**

**Chief Michael Gantner**

Chief Gantner entered the Fire Service as a Firefighter and rose through the ranks to his current position, where he has served for the past 12 years and will celebrate his 40th year at Black Jack FPD later this year. A holder of degrees in Fire Service Technology and Business Management, Chief Gantner serves on the “Special Programs Committee” for St. Louis County Fire Academy, which coordinates and directs advanced level training. Currently the treasurer of the Greater St. Louis Area Fire Chiefs Association, he is a member of numerous Fire Service Organizations and ad-hoc committees.

Chief Gantner’s many civic services include the presidency of North County Inc. for 2014, Board Director of Greater North County Chamber of Commerce and memberships with a variety of other community organizations in our area.

Blessed with six grandchildren, two sons, Jeremy and Steven, both firefighters and two daughters, Kristin and Gina, he is married to his lovely wife of 26 years, Jan. Chief Gantner loves traveling to warm climates for vacations and enjoys golf, outdoor activities, fitness and family time. We in North County are grateful for his years of dedicated service to our community.

**FLASHBACK! It is 1987!!!**

President Reagan is in the White House. We are watching “ALF” and “Cheers” on TV. Bruce Springsteen has us rocking to Tunnel of Love. Washington defeats Denver in Super Bowl XXII. The Cardinals, managed by Whitey Herzog, are defeated by Minnesota in the World Series and Mark McGwire is baseball’s Rookie of the Year. We are using corded phones and our Personal Computers are not very portable. And take a look at some of our average prices from 1987: a gallon of regular gas is $0.95, a dozen eggs is $0.78 and a first-class stamp is $0.22!

Now FAST FORWARD to 2014!! Our phones go with us everywhere and are so much more than a phone. A first class stamp costs $0.49 and the average cost for a gallon of gas in our area is $3.47.

Why is all of this important to the OJA? Well… because our operating budget is based on 1987 costs! And that is not the world of 2014. This makes it difficult to do some of what we would like to do with such a limited budget. We are asking for your ideas and help to raise funds. If you have some ideas about how we can do this, please let us know. Of course, ideas without the help to implement are just ideas.

So… we need both your input and your help. If you will be at the General Meeting, write out your ideas and bring them with you. We want to hear from our membership! If you cannot make it, drop your ideas in the mail or use the contact form on the OJA web site.

**My Ideas are:**

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**IN MEMORIAM**

We are sorry to inform the membership of the passing of a long time Old Jamestown Association member, William “Will” Bearden on February 23, 2014. He was 83 years old. Burial was at Jefferson Barracks Cemetery.

He and his wife Alice attended the first meeting to reconstitute the Old Jamestown Association in 1987 and continued as concerned members.

He served as a director of the association from 1990 through 1993. He continued his activity by managing and placing the meeting signs through-out the Old Jamestown community for the spring and fall general meetings. It had been agreed that he would retire from that job this spring.


Will was a 56-year member of the Plumbers/Pipe Fitters Union # 62 and longtime plumbing installer for Handyman Hardware.

He was a gentle giant, a shy, quiet man, but assertively and convincingly stated his views at public hearings before the County Planning Commission.

We send our deepest sympathies and appreciation of his service to his family.

Memorials may be made to the BJC Hospice Foundation, P.O. Box 957421, St. Louis, MO, 63195.
Hammers established the Old Halls Ferry Stables, raising and boarding thoroughbred horses.

After their deaths in 1995 and 1997, one of their daughters, Rosann Stegall, was reported missing from the home in January 1999. About a month later, her body was discovered in the Gulf of Mexico 20 miles off the coast of New Orleans. However, a connection was not made between the two incidents until October 2004 and police did not find a motive for the murder.

The property is now known as Hammer’s Farm.

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The constitution of the Old Jamestown Association provides for the Executive Board to be comprised of 9 directors. Three directors will be elected each year to serve a 3 year term. The Executive Board elects officers and conducts the business of the Association. The current directors are: Loretta Becker, Jim Leighninger and Ellen Lutzow, whose terms expire in 2016; Ken Smith and Chan Mahanta, whose terms expire in 2015. Bev Girardier, Rich Young and Barb Doner, whose terms expire in 2014, have all been nominated to serve another 3 year term which expires in 2017. The election will be held at the May business meeting.

The constitution provides for candidates to be nominated in the following manner:

1) By a nominating committee appointed by the president and approved by the Executive Board, or

2) By a petition signed by ten members. Nominations by petition must be received at the Association’s business address, P.O. Box 2223, Florissant, MO 63032 by 4:30pm of the day prior to the annual business meeting to be placed on the written ballot, or

3) By nomination from the floor at the annual business meeting.
CELEBRATE THE 195TH ANNIVERSARY OF “JAMES TOWN”!

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11:00 A.M. UNTIL 12:00 NOON

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Detail from Clark’s map-1814