

Claycom News

February 2012

- Town Hall Meeting February 27, 2012 at 6:30pm Community Building
- Town Hall Meeting March 26, 2012 at 6:30pm Community Building
- Meet the Candidates Meeting set for March 29, 2012 at 6:00pm Community Building
- Pancake Day March 31 7:00am to 2:00pm Community Building
- April 3 Election Vote for 2 Trustees and proposition to increase ceiling of the tax levy



Pancake Day On Saturday March 31, 2012 the Claycom Fire Department will be having the 49th Annual Pancake Day. The firefighters would like to thank the Village residents for their support. Pancake Day will be free for residents and their families. Please bring the ticket located below with you on Pancake Day. Once Again, Thank you for all your support.

RESIDENT TICKET

This ticket entitles residents to free entry to the
48th Annual Pancake Day
Saturday March 31, 2012
Good for All You Can Eat Pancakes
Claycom Community Building, 28 South Drake

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 7, 2012 10:00am
Mildred Keeney Park
Ages 12 and under

Bring your own basket *Appearance by the Easter Bunny and McGruff the crime dog* Bring your camera*
Contact Gndy for information at 816-452-5539*in case of rain, location changes to the Fire Station*

Claycom made Christmas bright for local families

December 17th Santa made a special delivery to a family in need in our area. Through the efforts of the Clerk's Office many donations were collected from area businesses, churches, employees, and residents. Times are tough for a lot of people right now, some of the children in our school district are currently homeless. The donations given to this family and others in need provide so much more than food or clothing; it provides a sense of community and the opportunity to know that people care about others. Other donations were collected and delivered to another needy family and to a local food pantry and clothes closet that will help many other local families. You can donate canned goods, hygiene products and other items year round at city hall. The donations will be taken to area food pantries.

Trash Ordinance

Sec. 14-22

(a) It shall be unlawful to place or keep containers on any public street, alley, place or elsewhere, except on private property provided that containers may be placed on designated locations on public streets or alleys within twelve (12) hours before collection days to permit the village or an authorized collector to make collection of such garbage or rubbish. Containers must be removed from designated locations not more than twelve (12) hours after trash collection.

(b) Containers for garbage and rubbish shall be placed, and at all times kept and provided, on private property, provided that such containers shall be placed and stored in close proximity to each other and located [within] not more than a ten-foot radius from the building and not in front of such building so as to be between said building and street. Buildings on a corner lot shall be permitted to place their containers to the side of said building even though it results in the containers being between the building and a street. If more than one (1) container is necessary to hold the garbage or rubbish accumulating on the premises, or, if more than one (1) container is used for the garbage or rubbish from any building, all containers shall be placed at the same location for collection.

POLICE NEWS



The Clayco Police Department recently purchased a mobile radar trailer designed to monitor speed limits throughout the Village limits. Radar trailers have been proven to slow traffic, making our streets and neighborhoods safer. The Clayco Police Department dedicates themselves to the safety and security of the public.

The mobile radar unit will be placed on residential and main thoroughfares in the Village to make motorists aware of their speed. The police department encourages residents that are experiencing speeding vehicles in their neighborhoods to contact the Clayco Police Department at 816-452-4614.

From the Chairman The Board of Trustees and the Dept. Heads have been brainstorming and moving forward with ideas for a long range master plan for Clayco. Efforts are being made to bring a grocery store and other businesses into the Village. The Board and Dept. Heads have begun meeting with the Clay County Presiding Commissioner, along with other representatives from Clay County EDC and MARC to put together a memorandum of understanding to pull Clayco out of the rut it is in and to entice businesses to want to locate here.

These topics will be discussed on the 3rd Monday of each month beginning February 20th at 2:00pm in the courtroom in the basement of city hall. The public is invited to attend these meetings.

The Board unanimously decided to put the proposal for the Tax ceiling to be raised, on the April Ballot. The Board has set public meetings to discuss this and I encourage the public to attend the Town Hall meetings that are set for February 27 at 6:30pm and March 26 at 6:30pm at the Community Center. **PLEASE do not listen to the rumors and mis-information** Come to a meeting and get the straight facts.

The Board will be answering questions about the upcoming ballot proposition for the request to raise the ceiling for the tax levy. This is confusing to some as it does not necessarily mean that the taxes will be raised, it simply creates the availability to assess a higher tax if it becomes necessary. Town Hall meetings are the perfect opportunity to learn how the tax levy system works and what is needed to run the Village successfully.

If we are successful in attracting new business then our tax levy could be reduced. The Board cannot raise the levy to the maximum just because they want to. The State of Missouri requires the Clerk to use a formula every year to set the upcoming year tax levy.

Your Board of Trustees is trying to maintain our current level of services and if we don't replace our lost revenue we cannot continue to provide the services that we are used to. Revenue is down due to a reduction in Ford's taxes and property taxes in general.

The Board had the choices of:

1. **Asking you the residents to increase the tax ceiling. (Ford would pay the lion's share)**
2. **Asking you the residents to approve a sales tax. (shoppers would pay the lion's share)**
3. **Reduce the number of employees, therefore reducing services.**
4. **Doing away with the free trash (residents would have to pay about \$14 per month \$170 a year) (*that's A LOT MORE than the requested tax ceiling increase!)**
5. **Doing away with the "free" ambulance for residents (where residents are not billed for ambulance trips above what your insurance pays)**

The Board decided that increasing the tax ceiling would be the best and cheapest thing to do for our residents. We are spoiled with the services we enjoy. There's no place else you can live with the Police, Fire and Ambulance that will be there when you need them just a couple of minutes and such a low crime rate. No place else where you can enjoy free trash pick-up that costs the Village about \$53,000 a year. (In other cities your trash pick-up would cost YOU about \$170 a year **That's more than you pay in property taxes in Clayco for your residence!!!!) No place else you can live that the city writes off the ambulance bill if your insurance don't pay it all.

Your elected Board of Trustees doesn't like taxes at all. If we could we would reduce your taxes to "\$0.00. Our goal is to continue to provide the best services we can to you. But to do that we have to have the dollars to pay the bills. We need the tax increase to continue what we have.

Please make an effort to attend a public meeting and to get informed. Don't listen to those that don't know all the facts. Listen to the Board members that have all the facts and believe that we need this ballot proposition on increasing tax ceiling approved. Please feel free to call myself or any Board Member with any questions.

***** VOTE APRIL 3, 2012 *** Voter Registration info *****

Residents can register to vote at Clayco Cmty Hall. You must be **registered by March 7, 2012 to be eligible to vote in the April 3rd election**

Contact Clay Court y 415-8683 for information regarding absentee voting

The following residents signed up to run for two open positions on the Board of Trustees

Debbie Taylor has become a familiar face around the Village. You can find her supporting local businesses by having lunch and shopping at area merchants. Taylor has served four terms and loves being a part of the Board of Trustees. She has supported such efforts as the Economic Development Committee, the Lions Club, parks, Stream Team “Shop Clayco First” and has spent numerous hours at City Hall helping out and volunteering when needed. Debbie has lived in the Village for about 25 years. She is surrounded by two other generations of her family who also live in Clayco. She has two grown children who work at Ford Motor Company and Allied, both in Clayco and two grandchildren. Debbie hopes to be voted back into the position of Trustee so that she can continue to work toward the goals the Board has set for a long range Master Plan and to continue working to get new businesses to locate here and to get them involved in the community. Taylor wants to promote a sense of family in our community between residents, businesses and employees by creating events and activities that join all of these groups together. Debbie has always been open to communication with the residents she represents and brings their concerns to the entire Board to be resolved.

Jay Vantuyl is an active board member. He has spent the past term learning the ropes of being a Trustee, researching and getting involved in various areas of the Village. Jay shares that being on the Board has been a learning experience and he thinks every resident should have to take a turn at least once to understand how the Village works. “Snail” as he is called by friends, has lived in the Village since 1958, 54 years! His life goal is to help others. He has shared this gift with the Village by creating signs for upcoming events, cooking for dinners, playing Santa, and participating in efforts that benefit the Village. His goals for the next term he hopes to serve on the Board of Trustees if elected are to “HELP- LISTEN and use COMMON SENSE”. He is looking forward to another term of serving the community.

Ben Watkins served two terms on the Board of Trustees in the 1970’s. He is running for this term to try to insure the Village residents receive the most benefits for their tax dollars. Ben has lived in the Village for 43 years and retired from General Motors. He is currently in the real estate business. When asked what his goals would be if elected he responded by saying that he would like to see some improvements to the way the tax money is spent.

Larry Barrera has served on the Board of Trustees five or six times in the past. His decision to run for the Board of Trustees at this time is to serve as a voice of reason for the citizens, business people and employees of the Village of Clayco. Barrera has been a homeowner in the Village for 33 years and his family has owned and operated a business in the Village since 1964. He started working at the family restaurant when he was 10 years old and now at 55 is the co-owner with his sister. Larry states that he has participated in several areas in the Village such as 20 years in the Lions Club, coaching little league baseball for 6 years for a team made up mostly of Clayco children, working on the Route 69 task force which brought about the updated 69 highway we now enjoy. Larry has been on the zoning board and co-sponsored the Clayco Softball Classic, an annual event that allows businesses and employees to play softball in a friendly environment. He chairs the Economic Development Committee, is family oriented and has many hobbies. His goals as trustee would be to help bring financial stability as well as a wealth of knowledge and common sense to various issues facing the Village today. He expresses that with your vote he looks forward to working with the Board, to serve the voters, his constituents, in easing any concerns you may have within the Village.