

CLAYCOMO NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2015 EDITION

ELECTION DAY – APRIL 7, 2015

Election Day is rapidly approaching!! Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, April 7, 2015** to vote.

This newsletter will provide residents with information about the upcoming election and the individuals who have declared their candidacy for the Board.

In this year's ballot, Claycomo residents will elect three (3) new members to the Board of Trustees. This newsletter includes information about where and when to vote; "Meet the Candidates" night on Thursday, April 2; and a brief background summary of each candidate running for Board.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND

6:30 PM

CLAYCOMO COMMUNITY CENTER

All seven (7) of the declared candidates will have the opportunity to share their views and answer questions from the audience.

Residents will have an opportunity to submit their questions to the moderator at the beginning of the night. All questions must be phrased in such a manner that all candidates can have a chance to respond. Questions directed to one specific candidate will not be read.

VOTING LOCATION

**VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE
VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER**

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015

**POLLS WILL OPEN AT
6:00 AM**

**AND CLOSE AT
7:00 PM**

DECLARED CANDIDATES

Below find the names of those who have declared their candidacy for the April 7th General Election to the office of Board of Trustees:

The list is in the order the candidates filed their application:

LINDA POWELL

DAN BAUMLI

JIM STOUFER

MARK BENTON

DEBORAH (HOOK) CROSSLEY

JEFF CARTER

ROXANNA McCLURE

The ballot will allow each voter to select no more than three (3) candidates for the position of Board of Trustee. Each elected Trustee will serve a two (2) year term.

The following pages have campaign information submitted by each candidate.

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LINDA POWELL

As a long-time resident of Claycomo, I have been actively involved in the community. For the past two years I have been a Trustee attending **EVERY** Board meeting, EDC, community events, resident & business forums, and attended the MML Trustee Training School. Other community involvement includes being a member of the Park Board for 9 years (Treas. for 5 years); budgeting for 6 years; EDC member from 2010-15; and a representative for the 69 Highway Corridor Project.

A graduate of Baker University, I was President with People to People; ZTA Historian my Jr./Sr. years. Working for Dillards, I spent 5 years in their Cash Vault. At WHS, I was involved with the Band parents as VP/Fund Raising for 2 yrs.

Working relationships with departments and boards **NEEDS TO BE DEVELOPED**. Budgeting needs to be done with a goal! **THERE'S ENOUGH** for upgrades, repairs & services **Without Tax Increases!**

Re-elect Linda Powell

Thank you for your support,
Linda Powell

DAN BAUMLI

As a trustee, I will be informed when considering all aspects and individuals at hand. I will inform the residents of proposed ordinances or changes to ordinances and be unbiased in decisions regardless of the person involved. Lastly, I will make sure all meetings and discussions are productive.

Sincerely, **Dan Baumli**

JIM STOUFER

My name is Jim Stoufer, I have lived here in Claycomo since 1987. I raised my children here. I served on the Park Board, Zoning Board and Funfest Committee until I was first elected in 1991 to the Board of Trustees. I served for 10 years, then in 2001, I decided to not seek re-election as I was going to school at night while working full time. Then with all the problems between Claycomo and the Ford plant in 2002 and after receiving many requests to run again, I ran for the Board of Trustees again in 2003. I won the election and I have been serving since then. I have served as the Chairman of the Board all but 3 years of the 22 years total I have served.

I am very proud of my service to Claycomo's residents and employees. I always keep the best interest of the residents in mind with every decision I make. When the economy went down and the funds got very tight, I was proud to give up my Trustees pay. We worked hard to keep all our services for you and keep moving to the better days ahead.

I am also proud that we have always had a balanced budget and that our funds have always been audited and accounted for every year.

I am humbled with the trust that you have placed in me over the years to keep doing things right, to watch over our Village and to use my best judgment with every decision I make and with every dollar we spend. We have been through a lot the last few years and we are finally turning the corner. Revenue is up and we can see brighter days ahead.

We have some great employees and we are working together to make our Village better every day.

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Jim Stoufer – continued

I will always fight to keep your full-time Fire, Ambulance, Police Department and friendly City Hall staff to serve you!

I am again asking for your support and vote on April 7th. I promise to use my experience to serve you every day, to always put the residents first, and to keep earning your trust and support. Let's keep moving this Village forward.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jim Stoufer

MARK BENTON

Hi, my name is Mark Benton. I live at 56 N. Riley St. with my wife Sheri. We moved to Claycomo in 2011 for many reasons, the main one is that we found a place we fell in love with and wanted to call "Home".

Since then I have watched and listened to the life here in the Village and I also remembered what I used to see here when I was a child and my Dad worked at Ford. I remember a busy and friendly place with many small family owned shops and businesses and that is what and how I like to think Claycomo is today. This is why I am running for a position on the Board of Trustees. I feel I can give fresh input and insight to the present operations of the Village as well as to the future of it. I base this on the facts that I have been and am currently a Business Man for many years and I understand the needs of not only individuals but also those who are endeavoring to build and maintain businesses and shop as well as their homes. I sat on the Police oversight board when I lived in Richmond, MO. I understand and support a well rounded and balanced Police and Fire department as well as a well rounded public works department to meet the needs of the Village.

I understand the challenges of doing this, all in line with the available funding and not putting any more of a burden on our citizens or the people that work for the Village. I will and am a strong supporter of hearing the issues and working toward the most feasible and sustainable answers for each situation that we face, well knowing that we can't fix everything at once but also knowing without planning for the future we will never solve the problems of the moment either.

I would appreciate your support in the run for a position on the Board of Trustees and I would be honored to represent you in that capacity. I don't have all the answers, but I feel that if we gather together with the Best interests of the Village and not our own, we can keep and make this a better place to live and work and draw and keep our citizens here and have a bright Future for The Village of Claycomo.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts and I would appreciate your support.

Mark Benton

DEBORAH (HOOK) CROSSLEY

My parents moved to Claycomo in 1956 and since that time, regardless of where any of us have lived, Claycomo has always been home. I am a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications.

My work experience has been varied. I have held clerical, human resource, one-person office, accounting, supervisory and Executive Management positions. I have worked in for-profit and non-profit organizations and the Federal Government. My experience has been in the entertainment, restaurant, repair service, construction, and security industries. For the past 19 months, I had the opportunity to work for the Village of Claycomo in the City Hall offices.

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Deborah (Hook) Crossley - continued

This was a great experience to meet and work with the staff and gain some knowledge as to the challenges of running Municipal government.

Additionally, I have been actively involved with volunteer organizations such as PTA, and Boy Scouts of America.

I have often been approached to run for the Board of Trustees. Due to inexperience, I had never seriously considered running. However, after my position was eliminated it prompted me to explore how I could next serve our Village. I feel the many things I learned during my employment as well as my other jobs, would be beneficial and provide additional insight as a member of the Board of Trustees.

My Goals for the Village:

*To become pro-active rather than re-active. We need to anticipate our needs and goals, make a plan and work that plan. We need to develop both 5 year and 10 year plans.

*Better lines of Communication between employees, department heads and the Board.

*We need to research and develop additional revenue sources to become less reliant on and impacted by the franchise fees.

*Fiscal responsibility. Our annual budget should ensure expenses not exceed our income. We need to develop plans to build our financial reserves so the Village can meet its financial obligations from the General Fund and General Savings without drawing from our specialty funds.

*Our sewers are over 50 years old. We must develop a plan for maintenance and/or replacement of these sewer lines and more importantly develop a plan for the funding of this project.

*Review and re-vamp the Village Ordinances. Some ordinances need to be updated and changed to more accurately reflect the current and future needs of our community.

*Community Involvement – One thing I discovered in working for the Village, there are many things that need to be fixed.

We can't afford to hire it all done and we can't expect the employees to do it all. I would like to develop a program to enlist residents to lend time and talent to help get projects completed.

*Most importantly, we need to improve the image of the Village of Claycomo.

The reason I want to be a Trustee? Simply, this is my home. This is my family's home. I have emotional attachment to this Village; I want to see it survive and thrive.

Deborah (Hook) Crossley

JEFF CARTER

I have never held nor have I ever run for an elective office so I can't dazzle you with an extensive political background. What I can do is tell you the kind of man I am and the values I hold. First of all, I am a Christian man that puts Christ first in everything I do. The Village of Claycomo has been home to my wife Sandy & I since 1992. We have been married for 24 years, 25 in August. Her willingness to stand by me as I run for Trustee is highly valued to me.

I am a proud veteran of the United States Navy where I served in communications with a top secret security clearance that allowed me to handle sensitive military documents.

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Jeff Carter - continued

I left the Navy with an honorable discharge with a good conduct award. After the military, I worked for Osco Drug as a union shipping receiving clerk/manager. I currently work for United States Infrastructure Company (USIC) and have been there for 16 years as a non-union lead utility locator. There I work with contractors in the utility field. I am versed in how a city/village utility infrastructure works. I read phone, power, cable TV, gas and sewer prints on a daily basis.

My work history is exemplary and I value a hard day's work and attendance daily to support my family. I say all this to tell the residents of the Village that I will work hard and attend meetings if elected as Trustee. I've been asked, "Why run for a position that you don't get paid for"? The reason I am running is Claycomo has outstanding Police and Fire Departments that I can count on to take care of the Village residents if called upon. I also have friendly neighbors that live around me that would help me out if I asked them to. That to me is payment enough. I have served my country, and feel it is time now to serve our Village. I have gotten to know many of the Village residents in Board meetings these past few years. I really enjoy hearing stories from the older folks about Claycomo's past history. I say let's leave a legacy for our children and grandchildren we can be proud of.

In closing, I will not blow you away with a long glowing political history but I promise I will work hard to earn your trust as a Village **TRUST—EE**. I ask for your support and look forward to seeing you on Election Day, Tuesday, April 7th.

God Bless all of you. **Jeff Carter**

ROXANNA McCLURE

My name is Roxanna McClure, most people call me Roxie. My husband and I are lifelong Northland residents, and we bought our house at 125 N. Bryant in 1986. We have one daughter in college. For the past 27 years, I have worked full time for an electrical contraction association. I am the Office Manager and most of my duties are bookkeeping and audit related.

I have attended nearly all the Trustee meetings for the past 18 months, trying to educate myself on the functions of the Village and identify some areas where we can improve. Approximately 2 years ago I become very concerned that our Village could no longer afford to fund our dispatching center for our Fire and Police Departments. As a resident I feel that the safety of our community is vital. The Village of Claycomo has been under financial strain the past several years (just like the rest of the country) and I am hoping to be part of the Board that can continue to make positive changes; and make sure that the safety of our community is the number one priority.

I'd like to encourage you all to help make a difference in Claycomo. I invite you to attend the Trustee meetings and be informed. We have all heard the saying "It takes a Village to raise a child". I would like to turn that around and say "It takes the residents to make a Village." Many years ago my husband and I worked on the grant that helped build the trails in the parks and install the trail lights at Mildred Keeney Park. There are many opportunities to volunteer in the parks, stream team, as well as the Economic Development Committee and Zoning Board.

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Roxanna McClure - continued

Last fall, I was appointed to the Economic Development Committee by the current Claycomo Board of Trustees. We have been working on some plans to help our current Claycomo businesses grow and attract new businesses to the Village. In December, I volunteered with the other EDC members to host the Holiday Event with Santa, which we hope to become an annual event.

I don't claim to have all the answers. My only promise is that if you choose to elect me as Trustee that I will work hard to help ensure that the Village of Claycomo is a place we will all love to call home.

Thank you for your time. **Roxie McClure**

CHILDREN PLAYING!!

With the weather becoming warmer, children are making their way outside to play. **PLEASE** keep an eye out for our children and **DRIVE CAREFULLY** on residential streets.

VOLUNTEER DAY – APRIL 18TH

Saturday, April 18th, beginning at 9:00 am, will be a "Volunteer Day" for all Claycomo residents to come out and help clean up our parks in preparation for the summer! All residents are encouraged to attend and participate. Clean up will include trimming trees, picking up trash, spreading mulch, and painting. Bring your work gloves and any tools to **Mildred Keeney Park at 9:00 am!!** If rain cancels the event, the following Saturday, April 25th will be the rain date.

PANCAKE DAY - MARCH 28TH

The Annual Claycomo Fire Department Pancake Breakfast will be on Saturday, March 28th from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Community Center. The event is free to the public with donations accepted. Come spend the morning having breakfast with your neighbors and friends!!

GOOD NEIGHBOR'S!!!!

Claycomo has many good deeds for one another done each day by our residents. Often these deeds go without notice or recognition. Beginning with this newsletter, and in future newsletters, we will recognize our neighbors who have helped out one another without being asked.

Shawn Hamilton and **Dennis Schmidt** plowed several driveways this past winter for their neighbors without being asked or paid. Many thanks to Shawn and Dennis for helping out their neighbors!!!!

If you have a neighbor who has helped you and want to have them recognized in future newsletters, you may either contact City Hall at 452-5539 or email to cityhall@claycomo.org with their name and how they assisted you.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

March 19 EDC Meeting – 7:00 PM
March 23 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
March 28 **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

April 2 **MEET THE CANDIDATES
6:30 PM COMMUNITY BLDG.**
April 7 **ELECTION DAY**
April 8 Zoning Board Meeting-2:00 PM
April 13 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
April 14 Municipal Court – 5:00 PM
April 16 EDC Meeting – 7:00 PM
April 18 **VOLUNTEER DAY – 9:00 AM**
April 20 Business Owners Forum with
Village Clerk – 9:00 AM
April 21 Resident’s Forum with Village
Clerk - 10 AM & 6:00 PM
April 25 **VOLUNTEER DAY
(RAIN DATE) – 9:00 AM**
April 27 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

May 5 Municipal Court – 5:00 PM
May 10 **MOTHER’S DAY**
May 11 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
May 12 Municipal Court – 5:00 PM
May 21 EDC Meeting – 7:00 PM
May 25 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

June 2 Municipal Court – 5:00 PM
June 4 EDC Meeting – 7:00 PM
June 6 **VILLAGE GARAGE SALE**
June 8 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
June 9 Municipal Court – 5:00 PM
June 13 **VILLAGE CLEAN-UP DAY**
June 14 **FATHER’S DAY**
June 18 EDC Meeting – 7:00 PM
June 20 **STREAM TEAM DAY 10:00 AM
MILDRED KEENEY PARK**
June 22 Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

VILLAGE PHONE DIRECTORY

Village Offices	452-5539
Fire (non emergency)	452-4612
Police (non emergency)	452-4613
Police Supervisor (on duty)	500-8665
Dispatch (non-emergency)	234-5111
Emergency	911

(identify yourself as Claycomo resident)