

"Travel to the Land of the Pharaohs" with Dr. Albright Jan. 27

Travel to the Land of the Pharaohs" with Dr. Jimmy Albright as he shares his personal experiences of many years of traveling to, and teaching about, ancient Egypt. His presentation will include images of some of the major sites in Egypt including a mummified hand with part of the painted fabric in which the mummy was wrapped, an ancient seated bronze statue of the god Osiris pictured as a pharaoh on a throne, replicas of Egyptian artifacts, and samples of the earliest paper (papyrus) invented by the Egyptians. Dr. Albright will also provide information about an upcoming trip to Egypt that he will be hosting in October of 2010 co-sponsored by the St. Joseph Museum and Missouri Western State University.

Dr. Jimmy Albright has taught "Introduction to Archaeology" and "Mediterranean Archaeology" for thirty years at Missouri Western State University, while also making regular trips to Israel to work on excavations there. He has toured Egypt eight times, as well as leading tours of Greece and Israel.

During the "Travel to the Land of the Pharaohs," travel tips, a packing list, and packing suggestions will be provided as well as information on what travelers will experience on the upcoming trip and what they have to look forward to. There will be a Question-and-Answer session at the end of Dr. Albright's presentation to allow guests to ask questions.

"An archaeologist and personal friend of mine whom I have worked with several years, Wahid Gad, will be our personal guide. He works with Dr. Hawass, the head of the Antiquities Department of Egyptian Archaeology. He is the spokesperson whom most of us see when they announce new discoveries on the History Channel, National Geographic Channel and other stations. Wahid and I have personally planned the itinerary for a maximum

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or a new wastewater treatment plant.

Black & Veatch has evaluated Site A and Site B to see which will work better economically, socially and environmentally for the city.

The firm recommends a pump station at Site A as the best alternative for an estimated \$103 million. It also recommends that the City buy enough land at that site, however, to put in a wastewater treatment facility in the future.

"This is a community issue," Burks said.

Review criteria for any site include water quality, endangered species, historical resources, wetlands, site contamination, and ease of permitting, she said. Other criteria include life cycle, service area by gravity, existing infrastructure, site utilization, floodplain, reserve capacity and economic development, Burks explained.

"Construction of a new pump station is the highest value at this time," she said.

Andy Clements, assistant public works director, said the sewer projects would be paid through city sewer utility bills.

The plans for the sewer system are based on an estimated growth in the East Side population from 13,400 to 28,300 in 2030.

Dan Gilpin, superintendent of the City's wastewater operations, said the City's current facilities have had problems for the past 10 years. "We have been doing everything we can to keep the Faraon Street Pumping Station in as good of shape as physically possible," he said. "It's like keeping a Model T going."

"It's an ideal time as we start thinking and talking about aging infrastructure to think about growth, so

experience that takes in nearly all of the country of Egypt and its main archaeological discoveries," said Dr. Albright.

The "Travel to the Land of the Pharaohs" program will be held at the St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 27. Admission is free. For more information, please contact the St. Joseph Museum at 816-232-8471

CAP Raises Money for Warmth

A little change goes a long way when it comes to keeping families warm. Nearly 30 St. Joseph banks, lenders, and realtors competed during December and early January to raise money for families without heat. Each business collected change from customers and employees to benefit LIHEAP, Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph's (CAP St. Joe) Home Energy Assistance Program.

Reece & Nichols Ide Capital Realty, LLC is the winner, collecting \$155. In a very close second place is Commerce Bank, 4th and Felix Branch. Honorable mention goes to Don Evans, Evans Realty.

More than 50 change boxes were out across town at banks, lenders, mortgage companies and realtors. The project was spearheaded by the St. Joseph Regional Association of Realtors and is the first time CAP and the Association of Realtors have partnered for a project like this. "We were happy to participate in such an important cause that helps local families," says Linda Sturgis, CEO, Association of Realtors. "The Association has a long history of partnering with community organizations."

Together, these businesses raised \$850. In addition to change raised, the drive helped raise awareness of those without heat, spurring some individual donations received by mail. "Community Action

we can spend it all at once instead of ignoring where we think growth will happen in the future and spend yet more money to address that," Clements said. "This would set the stage for several thousand acres of growth down the road in the next few decades," he continued. "We're just trying to set the stage so that we can grow when we need to grow."

He said the City cannot provide adequate service to industrial parks in the East Side of St. Joseph now. Gilpin said the Faraon Street Pumping Station was built in 1979. "The entire station is in a dire state," he said, "including the concrete and the pumps."

"This work is not federally mandated, but you need to keep up the system," Burks said.

"We have some pump stations that are 50 years old and are doing fine," Gilpin said. "Some pumps at the Whitehead Pumping Station are from 1965 and are working well."

Clements said that if the East Side population does not double, planning for the doubling will mean the City will be ready when it does happen.

"The council wants voluntary annexation," Clements said, "so voluntary annexation will occur on the east edge of town."

"Black & Veatch is under contract to do the study on the East Side of St. Joseph," Schultze said. "This is planned for 28,000 people, which is driving the cost."

"The existing wastewater treatment plant on the West Side of St. Joseph has plenty of capacity," Burks said, "and it will have more room when it doesn't treat stormwater, including creek water." The proposed plans will be presented to the St. Joseph City Council at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, for discussion.

Partnership would like to thank everyone who participated, both businesses and customers," says Rachel McCoy, Director of Development at CAP. "It is amazing what a little pocket change can do. Sometimes \$50 can make the difference between a family getting their heat turned back on or living in the cold."

Right now, as many as 3,000 families, many with children, are living without heat and lights—or will be within a few weeks. This year, CAP has seen a 20% increase in applications so far compared to last year—a more than 50% increase from winter 2007.

Community Action Partnership provides crisis utilities assistance to households that have had their primary or secondary heat source shut off. LIHEAP helps get the heat turned back on and works with the utility to figure out a payment plan that will keep utility service on all winter.

For more information about LIHEAP, please contact Community Action Partnership at 816-233-8281. For information about donations, contact Rachel McCoy at rmccoy@endpov.com or 816-344-5010

Officials Launch Census Awareness Campaign

Only a few days into the New Year, St. Joseph kicked off its 2010 Census Awareness Campaign at the City Hall with federal, state and local officials, community leaders and the public in attendance. U.S. Census Bureau Regional Director, Dennis Johnson officially launched the St. Joseph 2010 Census Awareness Campaign.

St. Joseph is going all out to make sure every person living in St. Joseph is counted in the 2010 Census with a multi-faceted awareness campaign designed to reach out to everyone in the community. Local officials encouraged all resi-

dents of St. Joseph to talk to their family, friends and neighbors and remind them to complete and return their questionnaires right way because it is safe, easy and vitally important to our community.

The 2010 Census is important to all the residents of St. Joseph because it directly affects the amount of federal funding it receives for schools, highways, health care, economic development and many other essential public needs. Everyone should be counted in the 2010 Census because it determines how more than \$400 billion in federal funding is distributed annually. The census also influences political representation because census data is used to allocate the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the states based on population.

The 2010 Census will be one of the shortest in our nation's history. It is only 10 questions and it should only take about 10 minutes to complete. The information collected is kept strictly confidential and is only used for statistical purposes. The Census Bureau is prohibited by federal law from sharing anyone's personal information with any other federal agency or law enforcement.

Dennis Johnson, Regional Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, stated "The St. Joseph 2010 Census Awareness Campaign is doing an excellent job informing, educating and motivating the public to participate in the census. The more residents know about the census, the more they will understand how they will benefit in the future from having complete and accurate census data."

Director Johnson also said "The 2010 Census is a huge undertaking that provides temporary employment opportunities for local residents interested in working on the census. Census jobs offer good pay, flexible hours and paid training while you perform an important public service. Best of all you work right in your own community. Interested persons may call the U.S. Census Bureau at 1-866-861-2010."

Ice & Snow On Sidewalks

In winter, we are reminded how important our sidewalks are to school children, senior citizens, people with special needs, mail carriers ... as well as business customers.

City Ordinance (Section 25-78) states, "it is the property owner's responsibility to remove ice and snow from their sidewalks."

Cleared sidewalks are important to the safety and mobility of our entire community. Be a good neighbor and help keep your sidewalks safe. Offer your neighbor a hand if they are unable to shovel their own sidewalks.



The City of
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