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www.graymoor-devondale.com

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JOHN VAUGHAN MAYOR'S LETTER

I would like to thank everyone that decorated for the Holiday Season. The City looks very nice and I have heard several comments from people about how much they enjoy driving through the city checking out all the wonderful decorations. A big thank you goes to Council Person Yvette Winnette for coordinating the judges, taking the photos, distributing the awards and adding the photos to graymoor-devondale.com. Thanks to Council members David and Joe Meiners for hanging the lights and wreaths on the City Office. Looks great guys!

A very special thanks goes to Council members Joe Meiners and Harry Weddington for their years of service to the City. Joe has been instrumental in maintaining the City's public areas and Harry has worked hard on the insurance and financial matters for the City.

I am sure many of you are aware of the renewed activity with the Veteran's Hospital Project. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released on October 27th. Public meetings were held on November 15th providing the general public opportunities to comment on the EIS. Written comments on the EIS were due by December 12th. The VA received several requests to extend the comment period and responded by extending the comment period to January 11th 2017.

During the November Council meeting Crossgate Mayor Kirk Hilbrecht and Crossgate residents Mike and Irene Yeager informed us of several concerns the Crossgate City Commission has with the EIS. Due to their concerns with the EIS the Crossgate Commission has retained the legal services of Strobo Barkley PLLC, an environmental law firm with experience in NEPA regulations and environmental law. This law firm has been contracted to review the draft EIS for the proposed VA Hospital project and to submit comments related to the draft EIS on behalf of the City of Crossgate. Crossgate is offering to cities impacted by the proposed VA Hospital project the opportunity to participate with them in the preparing comments on the EIS. At the city's December Council meeting, our council took action and will join Crossgate and their legal team. Additional information about the VA project and our city's actions are included in this newsletter.

Happy New Year to all!

- Mayor**
John Vaughan
- Council Members**
David Beaudoin
David Meiners
Dr. Joe Meiners
Mark Sites
Harry Weddington
Yvette Winnette

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Solicitors in Graymoor-Devondale Must Have a Permit Issued by Graymoor-Devondale

While residents may be tempted to allow solicitors into their homes when the weather is cold and nasty, residents should always be very cautious when solicitors knock on their door. Passing our flyers, selling services, products or magazines door-to-door is considered solicitation. Our city does not allow solicitors to go door-to-door without a permit that's issued by our City Clerk.

For their safety and the safety of others, residents should not allow any commercial solicitor into your home until you have verified they have our City's required permit. Unfortunately many solicitors report they have a permit from Graymoor-Devondale when they do not. Please note, permits issued by any other city or agency do not meet Graymoor-Devondale's permit requirements.

If a resident suspects a commercial solicitor does not have the required permit, please call the Graymoor-Devondale Police Department as soon as possible so an officer can assist with the situation. You can reach an Officer by calling 502-327-2677.

Residents are encouraged to ask commercial solicitors to contact Graymoor-Devondale's City Clerk at 1500 Lynn Way or 502-429-0834 to request the required permit.

Our city requires solicitors to obtain a permit for several reasons. First, by obtaining a permit from Graymoor-Devondale, solicitors will know and understand how they may move about our city and approach residents. Second, and more common than one would expect, there are "labor trafficking" sales crews operating all over the United States.

Solicitors in Graymoor-Devondale Must Have a Permit Issued by Graymoor-Devondale continued

Earlier this month I called the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) and visited the website, www.polarisproject.org to learn more about labor trafficking and how "sales crews" operate in neighborhoods like ours. This is what I learned:

"Labor trafficking has been left unchecked in the traveling sales crews industry in the United States for decades. Traffickers target young people to sell magazines and other products door-to-door throughout the United States with false promises of fun, travel, and high earnings. Instead, abusive managers manipulate, abuse, sexually harass or even sexually assault victims to coerce them into working long hours for little pay and to intimidate those who wish to leave their situation. Crew members who do manage to leave often end up isolated and abandoned in unfamiliar areas with no means to travel back home."

While calling the police because someone knocks on your door and wants to give or sell you something may be hard, for those forced into labor trafficking situations, a police officer may be the friend they need.

2016 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

Yvette Winnette

Judging the 2016 Graymoor-Devondale Holiday Decorating Contest was not an easy task for this year's judges, Patty and Chris, from Zeggz Amazing Eggs. As first time judges they were very impressed with the creativity, quality and level of effort residents put into decorating their homes.

Not only did the judges endure unfriendly rain and thunder, there were so many homes throughout the city beautifully decorated for the holidays, choosing the winner for each category was a difficult task.

Anyone that likes to look at holiday lights will enjoy driving through the streets of Graymoor-Devondale. In the event your schedule does not allow you time to tour the city, over 40 photographs of so many of the homes have been added to the "Photos" section on the city's website, <http://www.graymoor-devondale.com>.

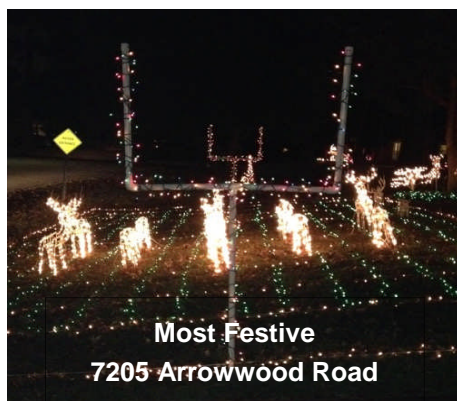
Thanks to all of our residents that decorated your home and thanks to our Mayor and Council Members, Joe and David Meiner for decorating our city office for the holidays. Outdoor decorations make the holidays so special for others.



Best Lighting
1414 Girard Dr.



Best Door
1808 Girard Dr.



Most Festive
7205 Arrowwood Road



Best Traditional
7105 Arrowwood Road

VA Hospital Brownsboro Road Location - Impact on Graymoor-Devondale Residents

Yvette Winnette

Since the Veterans Administration (VA) reported they had selected the Brownsboro Road site as the replacement site for their current hospital's location, Graymoor-Devondale officials have participated in meetings and submitted comments, at every opportunity, to know more about the VA's plans and then influence the VA's actions that would impact our residents. After reviewing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) released in October 2016, our city's officials noticed several changes in the VA's plans had changed and differed greatly from the agreements the VA and previously supported.

While all of our city's officials are supportive of providing the best possible medical services in the best possible hospital, there are serious concerns the best interest of our nation's veterans was not the primary focus when the Brownsboro Road site was selected. Listed below are highlights of several of many concerns with the EIS released in October:

- The project that started with replacing the current 104-bed hospital with another 104-bed hospital for veterans expanded. The new site will now include additional regional administrative and clinical community-based services that are located throughout the greater Louisville area.
- The once described as the "emergency use only" entrance to the back of the Brownsboro Road site at the end of Carlimar will be used when the VA's entrance is blocked due to traffic. Our streets, like most residential streets, were not designed and will not be safe for this increase in traffic.
- The EIS noted additional support would be needed for transportation and utility services required at the Brownsboro Road site. One example of their proposed expansion is to increase Herr Lane from two to three or five lanes. Since the EIS did not include how projects like this expansion would be funded, Louisville and Kentucky residents may be required to fund additional transportation and utility projects.
- Information and the data supporting how the EIS reported current and projected traffic is being questioned by many agencies. One example is that inappropriate and incomplete periods of times were used to calculate "rush hour".
- The EIS compared the Brownsboro Road site (36 acres) to the hospital's current location (48 acres) and the St. Josephs site at I-265 and Factory Lane (99 acres). The St. Joseph site, while included in the EIS, was, and is still not, available for the VA to purchase.

For those of us that have followed this project closely from the beginning, the VA has yet to provide informative and compelling information that supports selecting the Brownsboro Road site. If this is the best site for the VA to relocate a replacement hospital, administrative offices and community based medical clinics the VA should release information that assures everyone this is win-win situation for everyone.

At the December 20, 2016, City Council meeting the Council elected to join Crossgate and other small cities in our area and spend \$5,000 for legal services. The legal team is charged with evaluating the EIS and related regulations, and then submitting comments to the VA. They will also coordinate efforts of the project's Steering Committee. In addition to accepting and submitting comments on behalf of Graymoor-Devondale, our financial support assures our city is part of the legal team's Steering Committee. Yvette Winnette (Council Member) and John Vezeau (resident) will represent our city on this committee.

Residents are encouraged to review the EIS which is posted on the city's website. If you have comments related to the EIS, please send them to newsletters@graymoor-devondale.com by January 5th. Please include a daytime phone number with your message.

As additional information is released, it will be posted on the city's website, graymoor-devondale.com.

