

MMHF to host Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Complete with bow ties, high heels, cocktails and a doorman, the first annual Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball will be a night to remember.

Melissa Memorial Hospital Foundation will be hosting this formal event the evening of Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Phillips County Event Center.

Event chairmen Steve and Kim Young said the push is to have one major fundraising event each year—a replacement for the several small benefits held by MMHF in the past. The foundation will still do some of its annual activities throughout the year, but this will be the main fundraiser.

The fun-filled evening includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a nice Cajun-themed dinner. A live auction will follow with a limited number of big items for sale, in addition to a silent auction with smaller items. The evening concludes with a dance featuring live music.

“It’s going to be a night of being pampered,” said Kim. Either formal dance attire or Mardi Gras costumes are encouraged for this elaborate event.

While individual tickets may seem expensive, Steve emphasized it’s really a donation to the hospital foundation with the added bonus of a good meal and a fun night out. Individuals and couples are encouraged to invite their friends and fill a table of eight.

Funds raised from the Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball will go toward the expansion of MMHF’s scholarship program, the purchase of equipment for the hospital and future plans for an endowment for the foundation.

Organizers said this event has been in the planning stages for more than nine months. They noted their appreciation for table sponsors who have committed to the Mardi Gras benefit, allowing planners to move forward.

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MMHF intends to make this an annual event with a different theme each year.

Reserve a ticket by Monday, Feb. 14 by calling Cherrie Brown at 520-5320, Ardie Besse at 520-4209, Kim Young at 854-2133, Steve Young at 466-2133 or Gary Krumm at 520-4460.