

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

January, 2002

CONTENTS

- [Annual Dinner Meeting](#)
- [Q & A With Mayor Slay](#)
- [Carondelet Park](#)
- [Friends of Carondelet Park](#)
- [Woerner Elementary Fundraising Project](#)
- [Health Care Center Benefit](#)
- [Holly Hills New Business Profile](#)
- [Holiday Lighting Contest Winners](#)

Annual Dinner Meeting

In lieu of the bimonthly meeting, HHIA's annual holiday dinner meeting will be held January 28th at the Bevo Mill. Tickets are \$18 per person. Reservations must be made by Thursday, January 24th.

Menu:

Mixed green salad with house dressing

Pasta salad

Sauerbraten, with spaetzles

Baked chicken with herb stuffing

Glazed carrots

Fresh broccoli

Au Gratin potatoes

Bevo's cheddar and chive bisquits and butter

Deluxe dessert table

coffee, tea, brewed decaf

2 drink tickets per person

(cash bar available after tickets have been redeemed)

Entertainment to be provided by our very own Stan Kann.

Attendance prizes! Fill out the form enclosed in this newsletter.

(Did I mention that it is also time to renew your membership?)

Checks can be made payable to HHIA and mailed to:

P.O. Box 22144, St. Louis, MO 63116.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Q & A With Mayor Slay

At the last general meeting, we promised to have answers for the unanswered questions. Following, are those answers from the Mayor.

Please re-define your position on home rule?

I am supportive of home rule.

What is the current status of re-districting?

I signed the redistricting bill into law on December 26, 2001 .

What do you think the chances are of the city and county reuniting to form one, large metropolitan area?

I believe the City re-entering the County would be very good for the City's future. St. Louis is one of only two cities in America that must bear the burden for county functions like courts, jails and health care. In other cities (like Cook County for the city of Chicago), the counties take care of those costs. As a result, City taxpayers spend tens of millions of dollars that otherwise could be invested in neighborhoods, job creation and public safety.

However, I don't believe County residents would have us at this point. I think it is incumbent on us to restore confidence in City government not only among City residents, but among County residents. In the meantime, there are a number of regional issues the City and County are working on together like a regional health commission to better deliver health care services for the poor and indigent.

St. Louis City has an extremely high infant mortality rate (higher than some third world nations).

What is your administration doing about that?

The Health Department is doing several things to address the infant mortality rate, including a prenatal home visitation program that sends nurses into the homes of mothers and continues to work with them until their children reach two years of age. But it should be noted that the City's infant mortality rate is actually lower than the national average and not even close to the rates in third world countries. The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths of infants under the age of 1 per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate in the City of St. Louis is 12.4 compared to the national average of 13.85 and rates to such third world countries as 149 in Afghanistan, 120 in Rwanda and 82 in Pakistan.

What new programs or initiatives does your administration have for improving St. Louis neighborhoods?

Improving the quality of life in our City is neither simple nor easy. But, it is the single most important challenge facing the City of St. Louis. We are creating a strike force to crack down on absentee landlords and quality of life crimes in our neighborhoods. The strike force will be comprised of the Mayor's office, police department, City Counselor, City Judges, neighborhood stabilization officers and numerous city departments. We are working to reform the Municipal Courts so that people charged with housing violations and quality of life crimes will be brought to trial in a more timely manner.

I am working with the state Attorney General to crack down on illegal dumping in our neighborhoods.

I have formed a task force involving the U.S. Attorney, Circuit Attorney, Police Chief and others to take a comprehensive approach to reducing serious crime.

My staff and I are working with the St. Louis Public Schools to improve education. But, we are also working to provide alternatives to parents with children. Quality educational opportunities will strengthen our neighborhoods.

We are working to reform the Community Development Agency so City government will be a partner in the redevelopment of neighborhoods, rather than a hindrance.

What is the standard procedure for a citizen to schedule a meeting with the Mayor?

Jenny Wingo is the Mayor's scheduler. She can be reached at 314-622-3201.

Can anything be done about landlords who are letting their property run down?

Yes. People in the suburbs do not tolerate landlords who allow their properties to deteriorate nor people who disrupt our neighborhoods. City residents shouldn't either. I am utilizing the problem properties

team to work with neighborhoods to crack down on landlords who let their property run down. I am also working to reform the Municipal Courts so that when charges are brought, people will have a level of confidence that something will happen to people who reduce the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Carondelet Park

A Master Plan committee is being formed to help coordinate the improvements and enhancements to Carondelet Park. The Master Plan committee will be comprised of members of the community who will, among several tasks, assist the Parks Department and Aldermen in organizing public forums to discuss changes to the park. The Master Plan itself is a long-range plan for Carondelet Park; to be developed in a collaborative effort with the community, the Parks Department and the Aldermen. Through public forums, citizens will be able to voice their opinions regarding the Master Plan. Once the community has voiced its opinion, and after thorough research into the potential opportunities, the Master Plan's "vision" will be developed. As of January 2002, the Master Plan committee is being formed. It will be several months before public forums will be held. We'll have more information to share with you this Spring as things progress.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Friends of Carondelet Park

Friends of Carondelet Park is its own entity that serves to raise funds for development in the park and is a member of the master plan committee. If you are interested in being involved Friends of Carondelet Park, call 832-0775.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Woerner Elementary Fundraising Project

Woerner Elementary School is asking community members to collect General Mills "Box Tops" to help fund their school playground project. You can clip the box tops from cereal boxes or other General Mills products and drop them off at the collection bin located in the school. If you'd like, you can also call 481-8585 to arrange for someone to pick the box tops up from your location. Either way, collecting box tops is an easy way to help the local public school enhance its playground.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Health Care Center Benefit

Family Health Care Center will be hosting a Mardi Gras masked ball on February 2 from 711 p.m. at the Royale Orleans banquet center. Royale Orleans is located at 2801 Telegraph Road, one mile north of 270/255. A \$50 dollar donation includes a buffet and open bar. Costumes and/or mask is optional. Dance to the tunes of The Jazz Legacy. Proceeds from this even go toward the construction of the new health center which will be located at the corner of Michigan and Holly Hills Avenue. Call 481-1615, ext. 306 for more information.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Holly Hills New Business Profile

Mr. X Pizza and Coffee House

There's a new guy in town and his name is "Mr. X." Sound intriguing? If it's Euro-pean style pizza or coffee that you're looking for, you need look no further than 5922 Morganford. Abnan Karabas is the Bosnian owner of Mr. X Pizza, which is open 7 days a week from 8 AM to 11 PM. You can call 353-7060 for free delivery or carryout. Their pizza selections range from Pizza Margherita (tomato, cheese, oregano) to the more exotic Pizza Tono (tuna, artichoke, anchovy, onion, garlic and tomato). Of course, they have traditional American pizza offerings as well. This writer can personally recommend the Spinach Pizza, which had a delicious, New York-style crust and plenty of fresh spinach and oregano. An added bonus was the delivery person, who was unusually friendly and polite. The HHIA welcomes this latest business to our neighborhood.

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Holiday Lighting Contest Winners

GRAND PRIZE (two banquet tickets): 3909 FEDERER

Smaller House category

First prize (\$10 certificate to Blockbuster): 6116 Newport

Second prize (1-year membership to HHIA): 4232 Bates

Honorable mention to 3958 Bates

Larger House category

First prize (\$10 certificate to Blockbuster): 3886 Federer

Second prize (1-year membership to HHIA): to 6100 Arendes

Honorable mentions: 3949 Federer, 3889 Federer, 3961 Holly Hills

Multi-family

First Prize (2-\$10 gift certificates to Burrito Loco): 5939 Coronado

Honorable mentions: 5945 Coronado, 4616 Dover, 3963 Wilmington

Block recognitions

4100 and 4200 blocks Tyrolean

6700 and 6800 blocks of Leona

5900 block of Coronado

3800 Federer

3900 Bowen

[\[Return to Contents\]](#)

Please address questions or comments about this Web site, the Holly Hills neighborhood, or the Holly Hills Improvement Association to [our Webmaster](#).

[Main](#) [Map](#) [Photos](#) [Newsletter](#) [Calendar](#) [Email HHIA](#)