IN THIS ISSUE
Real Estate ....................... 3
Business Listings .............. 3-11
NiNi Harris ...................... 4
Meeting Minutes .............  5
Prevent Auto Theft ..........  6
Community Garden ..........  7

The Holly Hills Improvement Association (HHIA) was formed on September 10, 1927. Since its inception, HHIA has worked to promote the well being of Holly Hills and its residents. For more information or to become a member, please contact us.

PO Box 22144
St. Louis, MO  63116

http://hollyhills.info
hhia@hollyhills.info

Follow us on Twitter: #hollyhills_stl

NEIGHBORHOOD GLOWS WITH HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Three homes with distinctly different themes were recognized as winners of the annual HHIA Holiday Decorating Contest.

Judges for the decorating contest this year reported that it was difficult task.

“I want to thank everyone who went to the trouble of decorating their home to make our neighborhood festive and those of you who nominated a home,” said HHIA President Tara Ohler-Jenney.

The winners are:

The Lada Family at 4134 Rosa won the “Best Use of Technology” award for their Christmas Countdown Clock, which calculates Santa’s arrival down to the second, although Ken Lada cautioned, “I don’t know if it’s 100 percent accurate. It’s within a few hours.”

Keith & Pauline Thurmond at 4108 Holly Hills win the “Everything but the Kitchen Sink” award. The Thurmond’s display includes a nativity, reindeer, Christmas trees, candy canes, at least two Santas and lots of blinking lights. “Every year he gets inspired and has to add something else,” Pauline Thurmond said of her husband Keith’s hobby. “It’s just more, more, more.”

The Van Duyne Family at 6611 Leona wins the “Making the Neighbors Smile” award. The nomination noted that “There’s something about their gingerbread look that always makes me smile.” We’ll see if the award changes Dan Van Duyne’s pledge that this year was the last year he would exercise his decorating talents.

The winners get a sign in their yard announcing them as winners of the decorating contest and a free membership to HHIA. Congratulations!

In addition, there were many honorable mentions - really more than can be mentioned. Here’s a sampling: continued on page 8
Happy New Year, Holly Hills! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that 2012 is off to a great start.

Our neighborhood is off to a clean start after Friends of Carondelet Park’s Flash Trash Bash on Jan. 7. Stay tuned for more last-minute cleanups this winter whenever there is good weather.

As we begin this new year with a blank slate, let’s resolve to do some things as neighbors. Let’s continue to look out for each other and each other’s property. Resolve to call the police when you see suspicious activity. Unfortunately there were a number of thefts in the neighborhood leading up to the December holidays, so let’s all work to make it harder for the criminals to do their jobs.

Resolve to make it a habit to check in on an elderly neighbor. Resolve to participate in at least one more park cleanup and planting project in 2012 than you did in 2011. Resolve to attend at least one more neighborhood activity in 2012 than you did in 2011, such as the HHA movies in the park, a dinner at one of the neighborhood churches, or an event at the Carondelet Park RecPlex. Resolve to get to know a neighbor you didn’t know before.

Resolve to attend the Holly Hills Improvement Association meetings beginning with our next meeting on Monday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. at the RecPlex. Hope to see you there, Holly Hills.

~ Tara Ohler-Jenney

HOLLY HILLS REAL ESTATE

COURTESY OF PAUL SAGER | ACTIVE LISTINGS AS OF JANUARY 9, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgen</td>
<td>$34,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bates</td>
<td>$39,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concordia</td>
<td>$42,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma</td>
<td>(UC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowen</td>
<td>$79,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewey</td>
<td>$79,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morganford</td>
<td>$99,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marwinette</td>
<td>$99,900 (UC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adkins</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fillmore</td>
<td>$119,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leona</td>
<td>$121,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morganford</td>
<td>$128,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewey</td>
<td>$129,900 (UC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>$149,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haven</td>
<td>$149,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellerive</td>
<td>$149,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander</td>
<td>$159,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>$169,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>$179,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marwinette</td>
<td>$214,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leona</td>
<td>$224,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowen</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arendes</td>
<td>$254,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Hills</td>
<td>$274,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arendes</td>
<td>$279,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>$285,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Hills</td>
<td>$558,000 (UC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOLD AS OF JANUARY 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgen</td>
<td>$42,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgen</td>
<td>$71,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellerive</td>
<td>$132,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>$155,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgen</td>
<td>$42,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgen</td>
<td>$71,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellerive</td>
<td>$132,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>$155,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UC = Under Contract
MF = Multi-family

HOLLY HILLS HAPPENINGS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

February 2012

NUMBERS TO KNOW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First District Police</td>
<td>444-0100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police (non-emergency)</td>
<td>231-1121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous Drug, Gang, Homicide Police Line</td>
<td>241-COPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Kolde—Ward 11 NGO</td>
<td>667-1364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Savage—Ward 12 NGO</td>
<td>613-3163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Olson—Ward 15 NGO</td>
<td>628-7776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens’ Service Bureau</td>
<td>622-4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humane Society</td>
<td>647-8800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Tom Villa 11th Ward</td>
<td>622-3287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Gary Frisby 14th Ward</td>
<td>622-3287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Fred Wessels 13th Ward</td>
<td>589-6836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Rep. John Hummel 10th District</td>
<td>457-1792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Senator Jim Lemberle 1st District</td>
<td>845-8508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Senator Robin Vertex-Jones 9th District</td>
<td>533-8800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOLLY HILLS Happenings is a publication of the Holly Hills Improvement Association.

Newsletter Editor: Stacy Ross
Layout & Production: Jen Chapman
Website Administrators: Jim Ross & Neal Jenney

HHIA Board Members

Tara Ohler-Jenney, President
Stacy Ross, Vice President/Recording Secretary
Paul Sager, Immediate Past President
Beth Murphy, Treasurer
Brenda Smarko, Financial Secretary
Anna Baldwin, Member at Large
Kendal Dauphin, Member at Large
Ted Disabato, Member at Large

Holly Hills, the book, profiling the history, architecture, parks and personalities of the Holly Hills neighborhood, written by St. Louis historian NNI Harris and published by Reedy Press is available for $19.50 by calling 314-752-2304.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year, Holly Hills! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that 2012 is off to a great start.

Our neighborhood is off to a clean start after Friends of Carondelet Park’s Flash Trash Bash on Jan. 7. Stay tuned for more last-minute cleanups this winter whenever there is good weather.

As we begin this new year with a blank slate, let’s resolve to do some things as neighbors. Let’s continue to look out for each other and each other’s property. Resolve to call the police when you see suspicious activity. Unfortunately there were a number of thefts in the neighborhood leading up to the December holidays, so let’s all work to make it harder for the criminals to do their jobs.

Resolve to make it a habit to check in on an elderly neighbor. Resolve to participate in at least one more park cleanup and planting project in 2012 than you did in 2011. Resolve to attend at least one more neighborhood activity in 2012 than you did in 2011, such as the HHA movies in the park, a dinner at one of the neighborhood churches, or an event at the Carondelet Park RecPlex. Resolve to get to know a neighbor you didn’t know before.

Resolve to attend the Holly Hills Improvement Association meetings beginning with our next meeting on Monday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. at the RecPlex. Hope to see you there, Holly Hills.

~ Tara Ohler-Jenney

HOLLY HILLS HAPPENINGS

PAGE 2

PAGE 3
LOCAL AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN SPREADS HER LOVE OF HISTORY THROUGH TOURS, BOOKS

You may have noticed while driving, walking or biking the shady, tree-lined streets of Holly Hills a group of people being led by a long-haired woman stopping in front of different homes and taking in the ambiance of our neighborhood.

“What are those people doing?,” you may have asked yourself. More than likely it was local author and historian NiNi Harris leading one of her four groups on the history and architecture of Holly Hills.

Harris began her walking tour programs in 1985. She offers tours of St. Louis neighborhoods in the spring and fall through Southwestern Illinois College, Maryville University and Oasis, an organization for older adults.

Harris’s love of the history and architecture of St. Louis was born in eighth grade at Woodward Grade School where it was a requirement to take a St. Louis History class.

While at St. Louis University in 1974 she began her career by writing a story about people who were moving into the city of St. Louis. She did free-lance writing for St. Louis Commerce Magazine for close to 20 years.

She has written 10 books and is currently working on her 11th—about St. Louis Parks — in collaboration with Esley Hamilton, a county parks department historian. The book is scheduled for publication later this year and she will soon start work on her new book about the Civil War in St. Louis.

Harris leaves nothing unturned in her research for her books and tours, scouring the St. Louis Public Library and City Hall archives looking up building permits, assessors records, census records, church records, city directories and ordinances, newspaper archives, and old atlases.

Census records are private for seven decades, Harris said. Records from the 1940s are not available yet.

“It is interesting to read some of the questions from the 1930 census,” Harris said, which asked questions like “Do you have a radio?” “This was important to know for national emergencies.”

“There are great records kept at City Hall on houses and old buildings, the earliest are from the 1870s,” Harris said. “It is like fitting the pieces of a puzzle together.”

While some areas such as Clayton have disposed of old building permits, making research more difficult, “St. Louisians have respected their heritage” and kept their old building permits, Harris said.

To buy one of Harris’s books, find information on walking tours or to commission a House History you can contact her at 314-752-2304 or email NIHarris@earthlink.net.


~ Barb Russell

HHIA MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 28, 2011

Board members in attendance: Tara Ohlert, Ted Disabato, Anna Baldwin, Stacy Ross

Tim Bolt and Stacy Ross discussed the revitalization of Friends of Carondelet Park, which will emphasize park clean-ups and plantings. Need volunteers.

Officer Christopher Rumpsa

Don’t leave anything of value in sight in your car. Don’t leave giant flat screen TV boxes in the dumpster. Suggest cutting them up, put them in the recycling bin in the park. Suggestion from audience – on neighborhood email listserve, don’t announce when you will be gone.

11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa

New ordinance dealing with copper theft - strong ordinance. It forces scrap dealers to computerize whether they like it or not. Transactions are more traceable and transparent than in the past.

Great Rivers Greenway - in February will finish bike trail from 55 & Germania over to Alabama.

Bandana’s – They want to construct a barbecue restaurant down in the final outlot at Schnucks.

Sight-line problems on Holly Hills bridge - Met with streets director and the bridge designer to see what can be done. Be careful.

Contract pending for the purchase of Southern Funeral Home. Contract on it for more than 6 months. Has been told the buyer wants to put in a Dollar General. Has left at least 4 phone messages for the buyers in Tennessee. There are some people who think that Southern Funeral home building is architecturally significant.

Bulk trash is first Monday of the month.

We are our own worst enemies when it comes to those Dumpsters. It’s a problem. If everybody pays when it comes to those Dumpsters.

13th Ward Alderman Fred Wessels

When Carondelet (animal facility) closes plan is to move all the building from the 27 acres. New equipment and materials currently on it for more than 6 months. Has been told the buyer wants to put in a Dollar General. Has left at least 4 phone messages for the buyers in Tennessee. There are some people who think that Southern Funeral home building is architecturally significant.

Question: is county looking to pass bond issue to fund parks? Currently, Carondelet Park gets $220,000 per year from 1/8 cent sales tax passed in 1993. Money is based on acreage. Also receive small piece of the 1/8 cent sales tax. That’s about $275,000 per year for capital improvements, not maintenance, not grass cutting.

Have used the money for new sidewalks, tennis courts redone, planted over 1,000 trees. Spent about half a million dollars on parkway that is very popular. It’s worked out great. The park is now in better condition than it’s been since most of us can remember. My feeling is if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.

The bond issue would provide $30 million for Forest Park, $34 million for all the rest. $3.1 million for Carondelet

Leona, Morgan Ford and Holly Hills block bounded by Loughborough, Leona, Morgan Ford and Holly Hills was in the 12th ward and is now in the 13th ward. Residents should get new voter cards in the mail.

The bond issue to fund parks: Currently, Carondelet Park gets $220,000 per year from 1/8 cent sales tax passed in 1993. Money is based on acreage. Also receive small piece of the 1/8 cent sales tax. That’s about $275,000 per year for capital improvements, not maintenance, not grass cutting.

Officer Christopher Rumpsa

Don’t leave anything of value in sight in your car. Don’t leave giant flat screen TV boxes in the dumpster. Suggest cutting them up, put them in the recycling bin in the park. Suggestion from audience – on neighborhood email listserve, don’t announce when you will be gone.

11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa

New ordinance dealing with copper theft - strong ordinance. It forces scrap dealers to computerize whether they like it or not. Transactions are more traceable and transparent than in the past.

Great Rivers Greenway - in February will finish bike trail from 55 & Germania over to Alabama.

Bandana’s – They want to construct a barbecue restaurant down in the final outlot at Schnucks.

Sight-line problems on Holly Hills bridge - Met with streets director and the bridge designer to see what can be done. Be careful.

Contract pending for the purchase of Southern Funeral Home. Contract on it for more than 6 months. Has been told the buyer wants to put in a Dollar General. Has left at least 4 phone messages for the buyers in Tennessee. There are some people who think that Southern Funeral home building is architecturally significant.

Question: is county looking to pass similar copper ordinance? St. Louis County does not have that.

Baldwin, Stacy Ross

Tim Bolt and Stacy Ross discussed the revitalization of Friends of Carondelet Park, which will emphasize park clean-ups and plantings. Need volunteers.

Officer Christopher Rumpsa

Don’t leave anything of value in sight in your car. Don’t leave giant flat screen TV boxes in the dumpster. Suggest cutting them up, put them in the recycling bin in the park. Suggestion from audience – on neighborhood email listserve, don’t announce when you will be gone.

11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa

New ordinance dealing with copper theft - strong ordinance. It forces scrap dealers to computerize whether they like it or not. Transactions are more traceable and transparent than in the past.

Great Rivers Greenway - in February will finish bike trail from 55 & Germania over to Alabama.

Bandana’s – They want to construct a barbecue restaurant down in the final outlot at Schnucks.

Sight-line problems on Holly Hills bridge - Met with streets director and the bridge designer to see what can be done. Be careful.

Contract pending for the purchase of Southern Funeral Home. Contract on it for more than 6 months. Has been told the buyer wants to put in a Dollar General. Has left at least 4 phone messages for the buyers in Tennessee. There are some people who think that Southern Funeral home building is architecturally significant.

Question: is county looking to pass similar copper ordinance? St. Louis County does not have that.

13th Ward Alderman Fred Wessels

When Carondelet (animal facility) closes plan is to move all the building from the 27 acres. New equipment and materials currently housed in the fenced area just south of the Lyle House to the Gasconade facility – hopefully within the year.

Block bounded by Loughborough, Leona, Morgan Ford and Holly Hills was in the 12th ward and is now in the 13th ward. Residents should get new voter cards in the mail.
In the United States, a car is stolen every 26.4 seconds. If your vehicle is stolen, it can cause both financial and emotional stress. Auto theft is often a crime of opportunity, and thieves target those who make it easy to steal their cars. This winter season, the Circuit Attorney’s Office has compiled helpful information and tips to help keep your car safe.

For the first time since 2002, car thieves prefer American-made cars over foreign cars. In Missouri, the top stolen cars are the Ford Taurus, Dodge Intrepid, and Pontiac Grand Prix. There are several ways that you can prevent car theft and tampering. According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, one-third of people admit that they have left their car unattended while it was running. During the winter, it is tempting to leave your car running to warm up in the morning. However, this can make you a very easy target for thieves.

Another mistake people often make is leaving their valuables in the car. According to the FBI, there was nearly $4.5 billion lost due to motor vehicle theft in 2010. There are several simple ways you can avoid becoming part of this statistic. Don’t leave items within sight when you park your car. Always put valuables, purses, or other items in the trunk. Thieves are much less likely to break into a car if they cannot see what it has to offer.

The National Insurance Crime Bureau recommends placing four levels of protection on your vehicle. First, common sense. Always lock your car and take the keys with you. Second, install a warning device. Warning devices come with both visible and audible options. Third, install an immobilizing device. These include “kill switches”, fuel cut off, and smart keys. Finally, have a tracking device. A tracking device such as OnStar uses GPS technologies to help police locate your car if it is stolen.

You can help prevent car theft by being aware. If you see suspicious activity, call 911.

~ Jennifer M. Joyce, Circuit Attorney City of St. Louis

Think Spring! The holidays are over and months of cold, possibly snowy days stretch before us — want to beat those winter doldrums? The Holly Hills Community Garden has a few beds available so now’s the time to start planning your spring garden!

Dan Haag, one of the garden organizers gave us the run-down:

- **How many garden beds available?** At least 5
- **How much does it cost?** $25/bed per growing season
- **When is the request due by?** Garden beds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, so if you know you want a bed for sure send your payment today. You’ll need to have your payment in by the time you’re ready to start working the soil and putting plants in, which could be as early as the beginning of March.
- **Where do I send my check?** Checks are made payable to HHIA and sent to: Dan Haag, 6706 Alexander Street, St. Louis, MO 63116
- **If beds are still available, bring one to the Spring garden cleanup (usually in March)**
- **Who can I call with questions?** Dan Haag, 351-3845 or email at dhaag@esri.com

Whether you need a question answered, a problem solved or a claim reported, my job is to make it happen. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there. CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7
Decorating continued from page 1

4160 Wilmington for its “bright, yet restful display.”

4111, 4115 and 4119 Fillmore - these 3 festive homes all in a row were pretty much the only ones decorated on either side of the block.

6109 Marwinette is a perennial favorite; this year sporting bears, snowmen, Snoopy and lots of lights. Overall, this block of Marwinette is always very colorful - it must be a particularly happy street!

4001 Burgen for its “happy snowman theme.”

The 3800 and 3900 blocks of Holly Hills, whose collective lights can be seen from across the park and provide a jolly, elegant and colorful entrance to our neighborhood.

4043 Toenges for the way its outdoor lights perfectly framed the two indoor Christmas trees.

Any one of the many homes that highlighted the lovely architectural styles in the neighborhood.
Minutes continued from page 5

Park, that’s the good news. The bad news is that $275,000 is going to pay off the bond issue for the next 30 years. $1.2 million will be held back each year and if a park has a maintenance issue they don’t have the money to deal with, they’ll have access to that money. It sounds good, but there are 100 parks. This year we had 2 big expenses. The band stand burned down at a cost of $154,000 and the lighting burned out in the softball fields, which cost $100,000. We had the money for those. But what about in 15 years? What if we have a (large expense)? Will we get some of that $1.2 million that 100 parks are going after? I’m not sure it’s the best thing for Carondelet Park.

Spending that $3 million – That’s the question. Master plan – kind of vague. Bond issue doesn’t have to come before the voters because it’s not a tax increase. They will use existing revenue to pay off the bonds.

State Representative Jake Hummel
Special session ended in pretty near failure. Fixed the Facebook law. Special session cost about $300,000 in taxpayer dollars. They told the governor they had an agreement and apparently they did not.

State revenues picking up. When the bill comes due for the Joplin tornado, the federal government pays 90% and the state pays 10%, but if it’s a $2 billion disaster…

Holly Hills Bridge – Regarding bad sight lines “I asked for fencing and lights because the pedestrian walkway was eliminated. I’m sure the bridge was designed without those. They were going to send that money elsewhere and I wanted to keep it here.”

11th Ward NSO Brian Kolde 13th Ward NSO TJ Minden not here because his wife has cancer. Keep up with them through Caring Bridge. As far as these things go she’s doing well.

Gene Schaller passed away at age 96, father of Mary Lopinot. Longtime local resident and business owner.

Handouts- Fraud alerts from Jennifer Joyce - Can sign up online to get fraud alerts. Also posted on HHIA list.

Have had complaints about door-to-door security companies – don’t ever let a stranger in your house. If you have concerns, call police. Skimming devices on ATMs - Able to record your card number and PIN. Pay attention to the machine you’re using. If you are suspicious, don’t use that ATM.

Other Business
Rock ‘n Roll Marathon - Staffing was a problem – not enough people hired, many didn’t show up. Certain arteries were supposed to have cut-throughs but because there weren’t enough staff, they weren’t opened. Communications – needed to let more people know about it – even people who don’t live in neighborhoods affected, tried to drive into affected neighborhoods and didn’t know what was going on. The Oct. 22 movie in the park was canceled because of Cardinal’s game. Will show it next year. 2012 dues are due starting in January – pay early!
HHIA Memberships & Merchandise

☐ Household Membership......................................$15
☐ Business Membership..........................................$25
☐ Holly Hills Flag......................................................$30
☐ Boathouse Tile.....................................................$25
(Business membership includes business card size newsletter ad)

Name:_____________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________
City, State, Zip:______________________________________________
Phone:______________________________________________________
Email:_______________________________________________________

Click here for “green” email newsletter delivery ☐
Please mail this form with a check made out to HHIA to: PO Box 22144 | St. Louis, MO 63116