

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

July, 2001

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HHIA July General Meeting

HHIA General Meeting
Monday, July 23, 7:30 pm
Southern Commercial Bank
5515 South Grand

At our next meeting, Kelly Butler, President of the River Des Peres Beautification Alliance, will be presenting an update of River Des Peres Projects including a report on the long-term plans of the Rivers South Task Force.

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September Speaker

The featured speaker for the September general meeting will be Principal George Taubenheim from Woerner School, now a neighborhood public school, grades K through 6. The topic of education has something for everyone--whether you have school-age children, wish to volunteer or mentor kids, or if you just want to see your property values increase along with a better educational system.

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HHIA Changes By-Laws

To accomodate a growing interest in neighborhood projects, HHIA voted at its last general meeting on May 21 to adjust its by-laws as follows:

*Article II, Section 2: The Board of Directors shall be composed of the officers of the Association, **up to seven persons** elected at large from the Association membership, and the two most immediate past presidents.*

Previous wording allowed "three to five persons elected at large" rather than "up to seven." The amendment becomes effective in time for the July general meeting, having received a minimum two-thirds approval vote at the May meeting, having laid over a minimum of 30 days, and having been announced in the newsletter. Should anyone have questions about the amendment or wish to review a copy of our by-laws, please contact our HHIA hotline at 569-5708.

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Holly Hills New Business Profile

Chameleons Catering
5535 S. Grand
(314) 481-8086

"We change to fit your needs"

Welcome to Chameleons Catering, a tasty new business opening in our neighborhood at 5535 S. Grand, next door to Lisa Michelle's Hair Salon. Chameleon Catering is owned by a husband and wife team, Jody and Ken Shelton, and their partner, Chef Cal Manske. They've been in business for 21/2 years, working mostly in St. Louis county and University City, until now when they've found their south city home. Plans are for Chameleons Catering to open by Labor Day with an on-site kitchen, office, and party room seating 30 to 40 people. The party room will be available for meetings, rehearsal dinners, and even wedding ceremonies (they work with a minister who will convert the room into a chapel setting). 80% of their business, however, is off-site catering. They frequently do corporate lunches ranging from box lunches to more elaborate options. They will accept orders for an intimate dinner for two catered to your home (or other romantic spot), and they can handle requests for as many as 600 people. Jody also creates gourmet dessert and gift baskets, which they've shipped as far as Hawaii. Check out the following sample of their signature dishes:

Appetizer: Baked Brie, wrapped in a braided puff pastry with a toasted almond frangelico glaze

Entree: Chameleons Chicken Pesto Lasagna, an original recipe created by Chef Cal

Side dish: Creamy Swiss Rosemary Potatoes

Dessert: Peanut Butter Cheesecake or Chameleons Coconut Berries, strawberries dipped in chocolate and rubbed in colored coconut. Jody then arranges the berries in an edible bouquet (yum).

They get their bread from another local business--Companion Bakery on Gustine.

In the words of Jody, "our best client is someone who's hungry!" Jody will be attending our next meeting to personally introduce herself and her business to our community.

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Federer Place Grows Urban Gardeners

On June 14th, ten 7th and 8th graders from St. Stephen's School planted the flowerbeds in the common areas of the 3900 block of Federer. They were joined by adult volunteers who planted the 3800 block. Megan Everding coordinated the efforts with the help of Francesca Vangel, a student from St. Stephen's. Neighbors are encouraged to water and weed these beds. The planting day was a great way for our younger neighbors to invest a little sweat equity in their neighborhood. Please join them in maintaining the beds! Other neighbors are encouraged to start their own "block gardens" and can contact Tim Bolt at 284-7804 for more information on how to get "growing."

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Holly Hills Going to Pot--?

Certainly not, but on June 16, 70 new pots were planted and placed along Grand Avenue as part of a Gateway Greening grant applied for by Tim Bolt. Harry Bennet from CDA and Alderman Matt Villa, both in conjunction with the South Broadway Merchants Association, have committed to sponsor the remaining costs for the project. The Herculean task of filling and moving the giant pots was performed with the help of a local Boy Scout troop and around 25 other volunteers from the neighborhood. Local businesses (contacted by the C-4 Group) have agreed to water the pots in front of their businesses. Anyone interested in helping to maintain the other pots can contact Tim at 284-7804. A special "thank you" to the Prosser-White family for providing the truck and lift used for the big job. Jim Sahaida and Tom Cook also lent their pickup trucks, and some kind souls provided donuts for the hungry workers. This project has been a true cooperation between private/public funding; civic, business, and religious groups; and plain old neighbors! A big Thank You to all involved.

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Aldermanic Update

From Alderman Fred Wessels--13th Ward Update

The Grand and Bates business area continues to gain momentum. Chameleons Catering, Inc. recently signed a lease to occupy the first floor at 5535 South Grand (formerly Rozaneck Bakery). The three-year-old firm is moving from University City. They plan to offer small receptions (up to 50 people) in the outer area and do the food preparation in the rear. The owner has already developed a working relationship with the two businesses immediately south, Lisa Michelle's Hair Studio and Windler Florist, for wedding services. Chameleons expects to open in the fall.

Mess Plumbing Company at 5412 S. Grand is moving to a larger property and is selling the Grand Avenue real estate. Jewel Baptist Church, which is downsizing, has a contract to purchase the Mess property. Jewel Baptist has a congregation of about 30 and has been located at 4657 S. Grand for decades.

The church will be a good addition to the area. Mess Plumbing may have been satisfactory plumbers, but their back lot was, well, a mess.

Speaking of a mess, the green algae on Horseshoe Lake has proven very difficult to eradicate. The Parks Department is treating it and working to eliminate the problem. The sidewalk at Boat Lake should be completed in July. The water level at Boat Lake will be restored as soon as the sidewalk work is completed.

From Alderman Matt Villa--11th Ward Update

The 11th and 13th Wards are holding a mass Rabies Immunization Clinic on Saturday, September 15th. The location will be at Blow School, 516 Loughborough Ave. from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the front of the school. The cost per animal will be \$16.00. For more information, please contact Rosemary Ficken at 353-5838.

Carondelet Park Happenings

Playground Project

The Playground Committee would like to extend a warm thank you to Parks Commissioner Dan Skillman and Alderman Fred Wessels and Matt Villa for their commitment to the playground upgrade coming this fall. Stay tuned for more information about a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new playground.

2001 Music in the Park Calendar-or-The Hills are Alive

7/22 Michael Brooks Brass Band (CCBF 30 year anniversary)

7/29 Buffalo Bob and the Bedroom Blues Band

8/5 Patti and the Hitmen

8/12 Crawdaddys

8/19 Air National Guard Band of the Central States

8/26 Starlifters

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Neighborhood Photos Wanted

Plans for a neighborhood historical presentation are in the works. If you have any old photographs of your home or the neighborhood, please contact Board Member Dan Haag at 351-3845. We'd also like to scan some historical photographs for use on our web site.

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Want to Get More Involved?

Our bi-monthly meetings are only one facet of the Holly Hills Improvement Association. We sponsor committees and events that need volunteers. If you would like to get more involved in your neighborhood, contact us at 569-5708; or write us at P.O. Box 22144, St. Louis, MO 63116; or email at hollyhil@stlouis.missouri.org.

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The Welcoming Committee Returns

The Welcoming Committee returns to a new neighbor near you. It does, that is, if you notify our new chairpersons: Beth Murphy (352-1760), Marianne Powers (832-9427), or Anne Borgemeyer (752-2528). They will arrange a welcoming visit to provide pertinent information about Holly Hills and St. Louis at large, along with other "goodies." If you are a business who wants to provide coupons or some other "welcoming gesture," please contact us at our hotline number, 569-5708. Also, if you are a resident who is interested in volunteering on the committee or baking some goodies to be delivered, please give us a call.

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BURRITO LOCO Correction

The address of our neighborhood's newest addition to the carryout scene, Burrito Loco, was cut off in the May newsletter. The Mexican restaurant is located at 3611 Bates Avenue and is a great place to find pico de gallo, guacamole and, of course, delicious burritos. We wish this family-run business much success!

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Newsletter Volunteer Needed

We need some help labeling the newsletters. The job involves picking up the labels from Anne Borgemeyer and the newsletters from Mary Jo Gordon and then affixing the labels to the newsletters, which are sent out bimonthly. If you are interested in this easy but essential task, please contact Mary Jo Gordon at 832-2801.

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P.O. Problems

P.O. Problems During the past couple of months, mail to HHIA's PO Box 22144 may have been returned to sender, due to post office administrative errors. It is back in order and we apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you sent mail to our post office box that was returned to you, please resubmit at this time.

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

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