

# The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

**March, 2002**

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## **A Spring Theme for our Next Meeting**

**HHIA General Meeting**  
**Monday, March 25, 7:30 pm**  
Southern Commercial Bank  
5515 South Grand

Gary Bess, St. Louis City Park Director, is our featured speaker at the next general HHIA meeting to be held March 25th at 7:30 in the basement of Southern Commercial Bank (5515 S. Grand). He will highlight developments in the works for Carondelet Park, including the Master Plan Process and the possibility of a recreation center to be located somewhere on the south side. It's a given that warm weather eventually will return, so come meet your city park director and find out what's happening in the park, which will be in bloom soon.

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## **7th Annual St. Louis Neighborhoods Conference**

Join neighborhood residents and leaders from throughout the St. Louis area to learn what it takes to build better neighborhoods and healthy communities at this year's St. Louis Neighborhoods Conference on Saturday, March 23. The full-day conference is coordinated by the St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) and co-sponsored by St. Louis Community College at Forest Park and KWMU-90.7 FM. Every year hundreds of St. Louisans gather to hear a morning keynote address, network with city officials and neighborhood leaders from throughout the city, attend interesting and informative workshops, and participate in an afternoon Town Hall Forum. All this and lunch for the low, low price of \$10.00!

Dr. Robert Archibald, president and CEO of the Missouri Historical Society is this year's keynote speaker. President of the Historical Society for over 10 years, Dr. Archibald is the author of the book, *A Place to Remember: Using History to Build Community* in which he explores the intersection of history, memory and community.

Conference attendees can choose from 21 different workshops focusing on the following topics: housing, economic development, crime prevention and reduction, environmental issues, technology tools, youth & school issues and organizational effectiveness. Attend a Q&A session with Police Chief Joe Mokwa, learn about lead poisoning prevention & remediation resources, or check out the improvements & updates to the City's website. This is just a sampling of the workshops available at this year's Neighborhoods Conference.

Be sure to stick around for the Town Hall forum at the end of the day! Greg Freeman, Post-Dispatch columnist and host of KWMU's "St. Louis on the Air," will be moderating a panel discussion on Home Rule for the City of St. Louis. Since this important issue is coming up on the November ballot, this forum will be a great opportunity to get your questions answered and learn what experts from inside and outside of city government think about the proposal.

So, join us at the 7th Annual Neighborhoods Conference and become part of the solution!

The St. Louis 7th Annual Neighborhoods Conference is Saturday, March 23, 2002 from 9 AM to 4:30 PM at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park (5600 Oakland). The cost is \$10.00, which includes breakfast pastries, a box lunch, and the closing reception. To register for the conference by phone with a credit card, call (314) 644-9175. For more information or to request a conference brochure, contact SLACO at (314) 533-9104, [slaco1@aol.com](mailto:slaco1@aol.com) or <http://stlouis.missouri.org/slaco>.

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## Lemmons Redux

From the outside, the Lemmons Restaurant at 5800 Gravois may look about the same, but don't let that fool you. On the inside is a delicious new dining option for our neighborhood in the form of Black Thorn at Lemmons. The Black Thorn Pub at 3735 Wyoming near Tower Grove Park has long been a popular southside hangout with a reputation for serving up great pizza. Purchasing the former Lemmons Restaurant turned out to be the perfect opportunity for Black Thorn's owner Dave Difani to expand his popular services at both locations. For now, both menus are dominated by Black Thorn's famous pizza -- including thin-crust, pan and deep-dish styles. Difani hopes to expand his menu at some point. (No guarantees, but perhaps someday the ever-popular Lemmons fried chicken may experience a come-back.) Because Lemmons has been a neighborhood landmark for so many years, Black Thorn's owners decided to leave the familiar signage in place. We are delighted that the Lemmons legacy lives on in the form of these caring new owners, and we wish them all the best in their new venture. Drop by their 5800 Gravois location or call ahead to place your order there at 481-4812.

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## It Takes a Neighborhood ...

... to build a playground. As we've written in previous issues of our newsletter, Woerner Elementary School is hoping to convert its large asphalt schoolyard into a safe and fun playground for its students to use during the day and neighborhood children to use on the evenings and weekends. A foundation project is currently underway and you can help either by donating items to be used for fundraising prizes and incentives or by making cash donations. If you have items to donate, please call 481-8585 to schedule a pickup. If you'd like to make a tax-deductible cash contribution, make your check payable to St. Louis Public Schools Foundation-Woerner Playground Project. It is also possible to make a tribute donation in memory of someone or in honor of a special occasion. Checks can be mailed to Woerner Playground

Project c/o St. Louis Public Schools Foundation, 1111 Olive St., St. Louis, MO 63101. You are always encouraged to stop by and visit the school if you'd like more information.

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## 13th Ward Update

- 2002 construction at Carondelet Park will include additional curb replacement and road resurfacing, improvements as ADA work in the Boat House restroom and permanent trash containers at Boat Lake and Horseshoe Lake. The improvements in the restroom adjacent to I-55 are not complete. Problems with the contractor have resulted in the delay. All drinking fountains in the park will be replaced.
- In addition, metal picnic tables will be purchased for the main pavilion. All other pavilions currently have metal picnic tables.
- Finally, a Carondelet Park Master Plan committee has been appointed by Parks Director Gary Bess and will begin work in the early spring. Alderman Villa and I have asked Gary to speak at the March HHIA meeting and we encourage you to attend.

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## Get Ready to Display Your Neighborhood Pride

They're not available yet, but they will be soon . . . HHIA is working on producing Holly Hills House Flags for you to hang as beautiful decoration outside of your home in any season. We plan to make the house flags available at approximately the same time that our new neighborhood signage is to be installed hopefully this spring or early summer. Together, the flags and signage will share with residents and visitors the strong pride we have in our neighborhood. (Plus, they'll look great!) Look to our next newsletter for details.

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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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