

NEXT MEETING | MARCH 26, 7:00 PM

Carondelet Park Rec Plex, 930 Holly Hills Avenue

Representatives from the St. Louis Public Library speaking about the renovations at the Central and Carondelet branches.



# HOLLY HILLS APPENINGS

HOLLY HILLS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION (HHIA) | Grand to Morganford and Bates to Loughborough

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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.

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## LUCKY DUCKS: NEIGHBORHOOD WOMEN KEEP WATCH OVER ABANDONED FOWL



*Pekin Duck Fund member Helen Stader cuddles an abandoned duck while sisters Marion Bender (center) and Dorothy Dick look on.  
photo courtesy of Helen Stader*

One morning in the 1980s, Holly Hills resident Helen Stader was driving through Carondelet Park on her way to work and decided to stop to talk to a woman she would often see feeding the ducks at Horseshoe Lake.

Stader learned the woman, who has since moved out of state, started a Pekin Duck Fund. The woman and other volunteers fed, cared for

and, when necessary, rescued the domesticated white Pekin ducks that were abandoned in the park. And from that encounter the Carondelet Branch was born.

The Canada geese, mallards and wood ducks in Carondelet Park are all migratory. But the white Pekin ducks are left behind each winter.

*continued on pg 9*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring has officially arrived (or will any day, depending on when you receive this newsletter) and with it are plants and trees budding and even blooming after a very mild winter. As we notice the beauty of our neighborhood while out on walks and bike rides, playing in the park and preparing our yards for warmer weather, let's keep it beautiful by picking up any trash we see along the way. If you go by the playground in Carondelet Park, you'll notice some additional trash receptacles—thanks to our City officials and Parks Department for putting them there. The new band stand next to the Boathouse in the Park, that is replacing the original one destroyed by fire in 2011, is nearing completion and will be ready for the 2012 summer concert season.

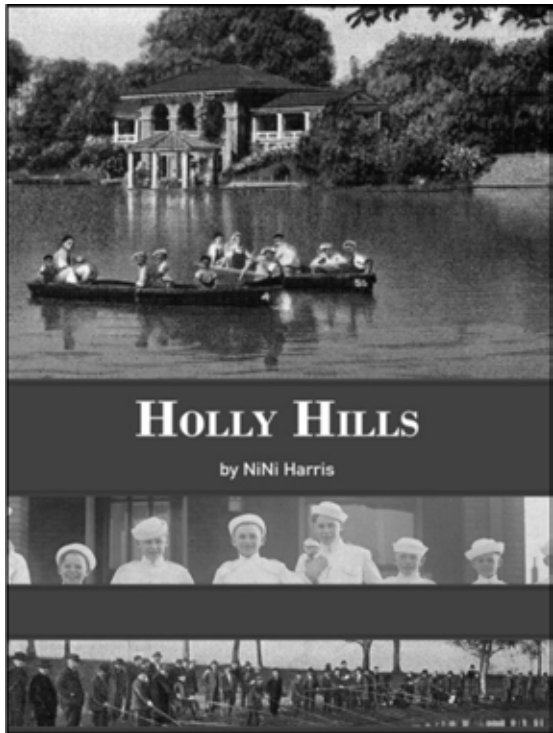
Another great City resource, the St. Louis Public Library, will be represented at our March 26th neighborhood meeting, when a library official will give a presentation on the major renovations occurring at the Central and Carondelet branches. The renewed beauty of these City gems should be revealed in mid-to-late-2012.

If you would like to participate in growth and renewal beyond your own yard, you might be interested in joining the Holly Hills Community Garden. See the article on page 6 of this newsletter. As we welcome spring to Holly Hills, I wish you a season of growth and renewal, and please remember to check on your neighbors, particularly seniors, those living alone, and anyone else who might appreciate a caring neighbor.

~ Tara Ohler-Jenney

NUMBERS TO KNOW

First District Police .....	444-0100
Police (non-emergency) .....	231-1212
Anonymous Drug, Gang, Homicide Police Line .....	241-COPS
Brian Kolde—Ward 11 NSO .....	657-1364
T. J. Minden—Ward 13 NSO .....	622-3444
Citizens' Service Bureau .....	622-4800
Humane Society .....	647-8800
Alderman Tom Villa 11th Ward .....	622-3287
Alderman Fred Wessels 13th Ward .....	589-6836
State Rep. Jake Hummel 108th District .....	457-1792
State Senator Jim Lembke 1st District .....	845-8508
State Senator Robin Wright-Jones 5th District .....	533-8800



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

*Holly Hills Happenings* is a publication of the Holly Hills Improvement Association.  
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Layout & Production: Jen Chapman  
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HOLLY HILLS REAL ESTATE

COURTESY OF PAUL SAGER | ACTIVE LISTINGS AS OF MARCH 4, 2012

4082 Burgen.....	\$29,900 (UC)	3952 Dover .....	\$134,900
3862 Bates .....	\$39,900	3833 Dover .....	\$135,000
4150 Fillmore .....	\$64,500	4120 Haven .....	\$149,900
3650 Bowen .....	\$69,900	3686 Bellerive.....	\$149,950 (UC)
4153 Fillmore .....	\$79,900	6101 Ray.....	\$160,000
6015 Dewey.....	\$79,900 (UC)	3624 Bellerive.....	\$167,500
3856 Bates .....	\$81,000	4119 Haven .....	\$174,500
6127 Adkins.....	\$85,900	3971 Dover .....	\$174,900
6125 Newport .....	\$99,900	6142 Leona.....	\$174,900
4143 Burgen.....	\$100,000	3935 Bowen.....	\$185,000
4127 Bowen.....	\$100,000	3622 Bellerive.....	\$199,000
6730 Morganford.....	\$110,000	61589 Marwinette .....	\$214,500
4120 Fillmore .....	\$119,500	6120 Leona.....	\$219,000
5907 Leona.....	\$121,500 (UC)	4074 Holly Hills.....	\$229,900
6823 Leona.....	\$125,000	4068 Toenges .....	\$239,900
4079 Alma .....	\$125,000 (UC)	6240 Arendes.....	\$264,900
3900 Burgen.....	\$125,000	5620 Arendes.....	\$279,900
5706 Arendes.....	\$132,000	3644 Bates .....	\$295,000

SOLD AS OF MARCH 4

4150 Concordia .....	\$42,000
5947 Marwinette .....	\$80,000
4107 Alma .....	\$101,500
5701 Dewey.....	\$108,500
4114 Wilmington .....	\$110,000
6015 Leona.....	\$180,000
3823 Holly Hills .....	\$480,000

UC = Under Contract

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TEEN LEADERS FROM Y HELP WITH PARK CLEAN UP

About 150 teen leaders from throughout the Midwest descended on the Carondelet Rec Plex on March 3. They were in town for a teen leadership rally.

As part of the event, the teens spent some time on service projects Saturday afternoon

including sorting books for the annual YMCA book fair and picking up trash in Carondelet Park. "We were really excited to have



About 100 students from across the Midwest descend on Carondelet Park to pick up trash as part of a YMCA Teen Leaders Rally hosted by the Carondelet Park Rec Plex

them help out in the park," said Friends of Carondelet Park President Stacy Ross about the 90 or so kids who participated in the park cleanup. "It was a chilly afternoon and many were tired from getting to St. Louis and the earlier activities. But we got a lot of trash picked up that otherwise wouldn't have been."



above Team 3 takes a break from picking up trash around the playground.

right Two boys from the Twin Cities Leadership Club (Minneapolis/St. Paul) show off the baseball they found while cleaning the park.



HHIA MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 23, 2012

Roll call. Board Members in attendance: Tara Ohler-Jenney, Beth Murphy, Anna Baldwin, Kendal Dauphin, Ted Disabato.

Welcome of new neighbors; members.

**Update on Grace Church** Norb Butz, Chaplain for Marine veteran group taking over Grace Church. Property gifted to them by United Church of Christ. Keep Troop 181 Scouts in the building - working with them. VFW meetings will stay as well. Very civic minded (Toys for Tots one of the organizations). Not a church and not involved politically. They will be good neighbors, do a lot of charity work. Norb has lived

in the neighborhood for 25 years, loves the neighborhood.

**Southern Funeral Home/Dollar General discussion** Steve Schultz, engineer, Liaison at Shafer, Kline & Warren, Inc. for company contracted to put Dollar General in Southern Funeral Home. Firm headquarters in Kansas City. Dollar General is their client. Dollar General leases buildings. Steve asked by developer to get feedback on how the community feels about this.

Questions from audience: Is design of building set? Schultz: Yes, typical Dollar General structure. There is some latitude to change the structure. Building will be close to

street, with parking in back. Does not know square footage. Dollar General has not really looked at any other properties. Have not looked at Food Land. Deliveries will come in on Tennessee side of building. Does not have a physical loading dock.

Audience: This will not improve the appearance of the neighborhood. This is not going to attract the type of people in the neighborhood that the community wants. People in the neighborhood general consensus of the group.

First step, before the Board of Adjustment - Demolition of the continued on pg 10




**THE CARONDELET PARK REC COMPLEX**  
Strengthening the foundation of our community starts right in your backyard! At the Rec Complex, the Y is committed to healthy living, youth development and social responsibility.



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GET YOUR HOLLY HILLS STYLE ON

We need your input!

Local business STL-Style produces a variety of St. Louis-themed T-shirts and other items. They recently added a Holly Hills version – a take-off on the Hollywood sign – to their lineup.

HHIA is planning a partnership with STL-Style that will allow us to sell the shirts and other items with

proceeds going to benefit HHIA. Because HHIA would purchase the items up front, we need to know what sizes, colors and types of shirts (short sleeve, long sleeve, tank tops etc.), and what other items (ball caps, coffee mugs, tote bags) you would be interested in purchasing.

We will have a sample shirt at the March 26 meeting. Send your thoughts to us at: tara@hollyhills.



HOLLY HILLS COMMUNITY GARDEN

Does the unusually mild weather have you thinking spring? The time is now to reserve a plot in the Holly Hills Community Garden. Beds are \$25 and HHIA membership is required. Contact Dan Haag at dhaag@esri.com for more information.

The garden received a grant from Gateway Greening for 50 percent of the cost of installing a

permanent water line, which Haag hopes will be installed by June.

HHIA also provided some funding and a loan. To help pay off the loan, gardeners are discussing several fundraising opportunities, including bed sponsorships which will allow local businesses to advertise in the garden.

Gardeners are planning to donate

some of their produce to food pantries.

KMOX's Mike Miller took a stroll through the Holly Hills Community Garden on his Garden Hotline show on Saturday, March 3, carefully describing many of the beds. Take a listen: <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2012/03/03/kmox-garden-hotline-16/>.

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TASKFORCE HELPS PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT

As many as 10 million Americans have their identities stolen annually. With more people using the internet for shopping, banking, and other secure transactions, the opportunity for fraud has increased. The Circuit Attorney's Office has a Fraud Prevention Taskforce aimed at helping St. Louis citizens protect themselves against fraud, identity theft, and scams. The Fraud Prevention Taskforce, which was founded in 2007, is led by 36-year St. Louis Police Department veteran Jack Huelsmann.

The Taskforce provides free information and seminars to the public on a variety of subjects. One popular subject is Mail and Internet Fraud, which accounts for 20-30% of all scams committed in the US. A seminar on Senior Fraud gives seniors and their loved ones tools to protect themselves. When the economy is slow, people can become targets of Employment and Job Search Fraud. This seminar provides tips on how to search for jobs safely online and avoid

*When there is fraudulent activity occurring in St. Louis, a fraud alert is issued to warn people and tell them what they can do to protect themselves.*

When there is fraudulent activity occurring in St. Louis, a fraud alert is issued to warn people and tell them what they can do to protect themselves. If you want to be added to the fraud alert distribution list, email [caocommunication@stlouisco.org](mailto:caocommunication@stlouisco.org). You can also view the fraud alerts on our website at [www.circuitattorney.org](http://www.circuitattorney.org).

The Fraud Prevention Taskforce Coordinator is available to answer fraud and scam-related questions on an individual basis as well. If you have a question or concern, you can call the Fraud Hotline free of charge at 314-612-1412. The Fraud Prevention Taskforce is a service provided by the Circuit Attorney's Office.

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

identity theft. Other topics include Identity Theft, Financial Advisor and Investment Fraud, Home Improvement Fraud, Imposter Burglaries, and Predatory Lending Scams.

If your group or neighborhood is interested in hosting a seminar, you can contact the Fraud Prevention Taskforce at 314-612-1411. Seminars, including all published materials that come with them, are free. However, your group must be within the limits of the City of St. Louis.

Another service that the Fraud Prevention Taskforce provides is fraud alerts and fraud bulletins.

**Seminars, including all published materials that come with them, are free.**

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WALK FOR BLADDER CANCER

Sunday, May 6 in St. Louis, MO at Carondelet Park. Meet at the entrance to the park at Holly Hills and Grand Ave.

Registration begins at 1:00 p.m.  
Walk begins at 1:30 p.m.

For more information about walking or donating to BCAN contact Katha Dionne at 314-353-1224 or by email at [kathadionne@charter.net](mailto:kathadionne@charter.net).

To make a donation to BCAN visit [www.kathadionne.stayclassy.org](http://www.kathadionne.stayclassy.org).

To learn more about bladder cancer or BCAN visit [www.bcan.org](http://www.bcan.org).




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*Lucky Ducks continued from pg 1*

"The Pekin duck can fly but usually does not," said Michael Macek, curator of birds at the St. Louis Zoo. "The Pekin duck is normally bred for its meat. They become very heavy and they don't have strong breast muscles therefore making it very difficult to fly. It is unusual to see one fly".

The ducks are also sold as pets, which Macek discourages. Celebrity Pekin ducks include Donald Duck and the Aflac duck.

Unlucky Pekin ducks are dumped in the park, usually shortly after Easter every year when the fluffy

chicks have grown too big and bothersome to take care of. Stader said last year a total of 22 were left in the park - 7 in Horseshoe Lake and 15 in Boathouse Lake.

"The problem," she said, "is that if the chicks are taken away from their mothers too soon they have not been taught to swim yet and because they can't fly either, they are vulnerable to predators such as dogs and raccoons. In addition, if they can't swim, they are unable to forage for food in the lake. The other ducks won't teach them how to swim so they can end up in danger and drown."

This is where the volunteers come

in. Once involved with the ducks herself, Stader was quickly joined by her friends and fellow Holly Hills residents Ken and Shirley Pfadenhaur and more recently sisters Dorothy Dick and Marion Bender.

The group has taken ducks home and taught them to swim in anything that holds water including bath tubs, kitchen sinks, and pools. Ken Pfadenhaur even built a pond in his backyard to accommodate the ducks. Occasionally, they would keep ducks in cages in their basements when the ducks got infections or injuries and had to stay out of the water.

*continued on pg 13*



**Being there is why I'm here.**

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*Minutes continued from pg 5*

Funeral Home; then to Cultural Resources. (Editor's note: An appeal of the denial of the required rezoning was heard by the Board of Adjustment on Feb. 29. The appeal was denied.)

The Developer is R.S. Smith and Associates.

Nini Harris, historian: We want to keep the building as is until we can find a better use for it using the architecture of the neighborhood and existing building. Proposal is unacceptable to us. We will object to this all the way through. The architecture is the primary reason for this. No one in the room is in favor of this development. We live in this community for the architecture.

11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa: has lived in the neighborhood 66 years. Southern Funeral Home for sale for a long time. This is going to be a process. He has not interfaced at all with anyone in charge of this transaction. They did not show to the Board of Adjustment meeting.

Closing date of the real estate

transaction was supposed to be this Wednesday. There is a lengthy procedure to get this complete. Villa assumes the company will come to the next Board of Adjustment meeting next month. Foodland officially out of business.

Why is the developer not here??? Villa has doubts that they will purchase by Wednesday without knowing what they can do there.

Lindsay Lewis, Carondelet Rec Plex, Historic YMCA on Loughborough not available for development - is used for the non-traditional YMCA programs.

**President Lewis Reed, Board of Aldermen** Discussion points: Sustainability and Budget Issues Sustainability: putting us in a better place for the future. We lower our costs- we use the money in better places and work for efficiently. It should be important to all of us. Not just about cars - largest loss of energy is from homes (thru windows). People need to think about this to lower the cost - insulate and energy efficient windows.

Biking in the city is really promoted.

Lots of back paths. Bike commuter station downtown.

We are expected to be better with the budget this year - winning baseball season. The expected budget amount has been lowered. Hotter summer than what was expected. Community used more air conditioning (generated utility taxes).

**Officer Christopher Rumpsa** Last year crime up 2.3 %, person crime down 48%. Scrap Bill has been passed, hoping this will help. Dec, 2011 crime down 75% from Dec, 2010. Things are looking good. The rise in crimes were burglary.

Speeding: Shell Car just purchased as well as a radar cart. Things that can be implemented if need be. Low staffing right now for neighborhood police. Concordia and Morganford- idea for speed trap.

13th Ward Aldermen Fred Wessels Bates, Morganford, Holly Hills and Grand- Gateway to Holly Hills Neighborhood. Wessels goal to make the entries look better. Radar *continued on pg 12*



**Details**

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*Minutes continued from pg 10*

signs on Morganford, Gravios and Kingshighway. Hoping to minimize speeding. Trees planted on the east side of Morganford. Trees already on the West side. Hoping for a nice appearance in about 5 years. Wessels at Foodland for the last 13 years. Now going to try Schnucks- will see how this works. 8:30-9:30 every Friday morning.

Popular spaces on Gravois - lots of young people: Peppers, Lemmons, Nelly Glens, Walkers. Wessels will visit to see what is going on in the neighborhood.

Auto detail space across from Lemons, Gravois and Milentz - auto repair store and care sales. New building will go up. BBQ spot at 5713 Gravois- people from Jeff Co opening one up here.

Music Pavilion is going up now.

Electrical work on ball field. It is underground. It works.

Avalon is being torn down.

**11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa** Bandana's Restaurant proposed for Loughborough Commons: deal fell apart due to construction costs.

Spring and Delor- not in Villa's ward, but he is across the street. Huge improvement on apartments currently there. Affordable housing, not section 8.

Delor and Ulena- Apartments burnt down. They are working on them but not sure what is happening.

Question from Audience: Real Estate Developer- ? About cost for garbage disposal. Why is this so? Board of Aldermen passed a bill for \$11/month/unit. Used to balance the budget. Do you still have to pay if the unit is vacant? Villa believes you may be able to get the unit taken off. Villa will look into this.

Questions from Audience: Is there a way to force Dollar General to match the architecture of the community? Villa believes that the Dollar General will not be coming into the neighborhood.

Audience: Will we be getting

replacement dumpsters any time soon? Let Villa know the address and he will try to replace.

State Representative Jake Hummel is in session in Jeff City

**11th Ward NSO Brian Kolde** Programs being held at Long school. He provided a handout of classes that they are having. There is not a citywide mailing this year. Did not have the money. They are also posted online.

**Announcements**

Please pay 2011 dues! Also pay 2012 dues. We can send electronic newsletter. Let Tara know if you would like to receive it electronically.

Need writers or ideas for the newsletter. Increased add sizes are available. Flags and Boathouse tiles for sale.

Park cleanup- watch for announcement of another winter cleanup. They will be more frequent in spring and summer.

Meeting adjourned.

*Lucky Ducks continued from pg 9*

"We would put baby socks on their feet to keep them from pulling the bandages off," Stader said.

After being rehabilitated, the ducks would be adopted out after the prospective "parents" passed an interview and proved that they had a pond or lake on their property and could provide night shelter.

The volunteers have also taken many ducks over the years to veterinarians after they had been injured by predators or gotten into trouble with fishing lines or hooks. In years past, the Pekin Duck Fund would pay for the veterinarian visits. That fund is now depleted and volunteers pay for the care out of their own pockets, Stader said. The Missouri Department of Conservation still calls on them to rescue ducks, said Dorene Olson, one of the two remaining volunteers in the original Pekin Duck Fund.

The Pfadenhaur's health no longer allows them to help, so it's now up to just Stader, Dick and Bender to take turns feeding shelled corn to the Pekin ducks in Carondelet Park as often as twice a day during the winter. In the summer they don't have to feed them as much because the ducks can find enough to eat on their own. As the volunteers feed the ducks they walk around the lakes picking up fishing line, hooks and plastic bags which can all cause great harm to the ducks.

ducks, Stader said they are used to bread – preferably whole grain – which should be torn into small pieces. Large pieces or loaves of bread and bagels are not good for them because they don't have teeth.

Several years ago when she had knee problems Stader said, she was afraid to walk on the icy ground to feed the ducks so she would drive up near the lakes, honk twice and the ducks would waddle over to her car to get fed. "They are smart ducks" Stader said.

Stader, Dick and Bender have named a lot of the ducks in Carondelet Park over the years.

"General Sherman" is the boss. There is Grandma, Ike, Paul and Pearl, and Bonnie and Clyde, and the now deceased Mamie, to name a few.

Stader suggests that anyone who sees ducks with injuries such as fishing line wrapped around them or predator bites call the Parks Department at 314-298-5300. If anyone has property and would like to adopt ducks they can contact Olson at 314-956-1310.

A big Holly Hills THANKS to all five volunteers that have taken such good care of the ducks in our park for years!

~ Barb Russell



Shirley Pfadenhaur (left) and Helen Stader feed ducks on Carondelet Park several years ago. photo courtesy of Helen Stader




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CALLING ALL WRITERS

Do you know a talented middle or high school student who would be interested in writing articles about their neighborhood?

Holly Hills Happenings would like to showcase budding writers and

reporters of all ages by publishing their work in this newsletter.

Articles could profile neighborhood residents or institutions, provide perspective on how citywide issues are affecting our neighborhood,

report on community events or any of a number of topics.

For more information, contact newsletter editor Stacy Ross at [stacy@hollyhills.info](mailto:stacy@hollyhills.info).

Join your neighbors for a Carondelet Park cleanup event  
Saturday, April 28 · 8:30 am · Starting at the playground  
Contact Stacy Ross at [stacy@hollyhills.info](mailto:stacy@hollyhills.info)  
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**Daylight Savings Time started — it's time to check the batteries in your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.**



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