

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

November, 2000

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Community Devp. Agency to Speak

At the next meeting of the Holly Hills Improvement Association, a representative of the Community Development Agency will speak about various city, state and federal programs intended to assist new home buyers and current homeowners seeking to repair, improve or expand their property. If you are unable to attend, you may want to contact the Community Development Agency at 622-3400 for more information about the programs available.

Some of the programs available include the following:

The Missouri Neighborhood Preservation Act is designed to help revitalize older neighborhoods by providing tax credits for home rehabilitation and construction of in-fill housing. All owner-occupied property in the City of St. Louis is eligible for the program. The income of the taxpayer is not a factor. The program provides a 25% tax credit on a minimum expenditure of \$5,000 for rehabilitation of a St. Louis City home that is at least 40 years old. If a homeowner is planning a more substantial rehabilitation a 35% tax credit is available on a minimum expenditure of 50% of the base value of the property, which must be in the City of St. Louis and be 50 years old. Applications are typically due the fall proceeding the year the work is done. More information is available online at www.ecodev.state.mo.us/cd, or contact the Missouri Department of Economic Development at (573) 751-7542.

The Missouri Housing Development Commission provides first time homebuyers that meet MHDC's income limit may qualify for a below market rate first mortgage with as little as a one percent down payment. For more information, call (816) 759-6810.

Under the City Homebuyers Incentive Program (CHIP), city homebuyers may qualify for up to five percent, not to exceed \$10,000, for down payment and closing cost assistance. There are no income or purchase price limits. For more information, call the CHIP Hotline at 352-4111 ext. 777.

The CDA also administers the City of St. Louis Homeownership Program which allows a homeowner to pay as little as three percent down and then borrow up to \$3,500 from the city to pay the remaining two percent for the down payment or closing costs. CDA also administers a forgivable loan program for low-income first time buyers. Call CDA at 622-3400 for more information.

**HHIA General Meeting
Monday, November 27, 7:30 pm
Southern Commercial Bank, 5515 S. Grand**

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Family Health Care Center Update

Family Health Care Center As you may recall if you attended our May meeting, The Family Care Health Center is building a new health care center at the northwest corner of Michigan and Holly Hills. The Health Center will service the entire area and the plans for the new center are beautiful. As part of the capital campaign for the new center, the Family Care Health Centers are offering the opportunity for interested citizens to donate money of engraved bricks or pavers. For further information, call 481-1615 ext. 306.

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House and Garden Tour Biggest Ever!

Of course the question that's been on everyone's mind since October 1 is, "How did the house tour go?" We are delighted to report that it was successful beyond any of our grandest expectations, resulting in our highest-attended event ever. During the six hours of the tour:

- Approximately 2,000 people visited our neighborhood, and the homes and gardens of the ten families who so graciously opened their doors.
- NiNi Harris delivered her historical presentation to several hundred individuals in the Lyle House.
- Our own Holly Hills house tour posters and St. Stephens' stained glass posters were popular items.
- Our many sponsors were able to inform folks about the services available within our neighborhood.
- Stan Kann received several offers for free vacuum cleaners to add to his collection.
- The Sims were able to find homes for all of the kittens that their adopted stray had delivered.
- We were able to raise significant resources to fund future neighborhood projects as well as ongoing association expenses (such as this newsletter that you're reading).

Perhaps even more gratifying than the monetary proceeds was the incredibly positive message we delivered to all attendees. Thanks to our house hosts, volunteers, sponsors and everyone in the neighborhood who spruced up their homes and streets for this special day, we were able to provide all participants with a first-rate, first-hand experience of the many benefits of city living in general and Holly Hills living in particular. As a direct result of so much enthusiastic participation, we will be welcoming new neighbors to Holly Hills and sustaining existing residents. We commend and thank everyone warmly for their assistance.

We would like to give special recognition to our house hosts, volunteers and sponsors, without whom the event would not have even been possible, let alone so successful:

Our House and Garden Hosts and Hostesses

- Hank and Sharon Brannan
- Cheryl & Roger Furman
- Dennis & Michelle Jenkerson
- Norman Delaney and Stan Kann
- Joan and Mike Lawder
- Michael and Julie Lohff
- Ron & Marilyn Lunnemann
- Ray McCollum
- Birgit Spears and Kevin Pasnik
- Martin and Dorothy Sims

Our Sponsors

- ABPS
- Always in Bloom
- Le Beau Florist
- Botanicals on the Park
- Bremen Bank and Trust Co.
- Companion Bread
- Creative Art Gallery & Framing
- Denise Dowd-RealtyNET
- Equality Savings Bank
- The Flower Box
- G.B. Windler Co.
- Gundaker Realty
- Jill Halpin
- Loughborough Auto Care
- Nettie's Flower Garden
- Plumbing Engineers, Inc.
- Plus Communications
- Lawrence John Rosenhoffer
- Russell Florist, Inc.
- Schaller Realty
- Southern Commercial Bank
- Southern Floral Shop
- Surprise Florists and Gifts
- Walter Knoll Florist

Volunteers

Plus nearly 100 volunteers who generously donated their time and talents to our House and Garden Tour. We thank each of you for your efforts!

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House and Garden Tour Keepsakes

Whether or not you were able to attend the 2000 House and Garden Tour, it's not too late to purchase a copy of our poster commemorating the event. The poster is an elegant art-deco style rendering of the bridge at Grand and Holly Hills, illustrated by local artist Lawrence John Rosenhoffer and designed by Holly Hills resident Jill Halpin. With its warm, rich colors, it is an attractive addition to any home in addition to being a great keepsake from the event. Purchase several and give them away as holiday gifts! Posters are available for \$10 each. For more information, contact our hotline at 314-569-5708, or attend one of our upcoming general meetings.

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Holiday Lighting Contest

It's that time of year to pull out all the stops and put in a plug!! The annual lighting/decorating contest will be held again this year, with judging taking place on **Sunday, December 17**. Winners will be announced in the January newsletter. Good luck!

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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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