

# Join Us For a “Boo-tiful” Halloween Parade!

For years Holly Hills has served as a safe, fun “Halloween central” for trick-or-treaters throughout the region. To celebrate our community role (and to give you one more excuse to don those costumes), the spirits have moved us to inaugurate what we hope will become an annual event:

**The Holly Hills Halloween Parade**  
**Saturday, October 25\***  
**Begins at 3:00 pm**  
**Intersection of Holly Hills Blvd. and Arendes Drive**

We hope all of your family members will dress in their spookiest finest and join us for a short parade along Holly Hills Blvd., followed by a few treats . . . and, who knows, maybe even a trick or two. Feel free to also decorate a wagon, tricycle, family-friendly dog, etc. to be part of the procession.

Sponsored by the Holly Hills Improvement Association, the cost is free (although if you feel like contributing some packaged treats, feel free to bring 'em along)! Also, please help us spread the word to all of your neighbors. Call 569-5708 with any questions.

*\*Note: In the event of highly inclement weather, the event will be canceled.*

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Holly Hills Improvement Association  
P.O. Box 22144  
St. Louis, Missouri 63116





# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A publication of the Holly Hills Improvement Association  
P.O. Box 22144, St. Louis, Missouri 63116

September 2003

The Holly Hills Improvement Association (HHIA) was formed on September 10, 1927. Since its inception, we have held various activities and events to promote the well-being of Holly Hills. Our Web site is at <http://stlouis.missouri.org/hollyhills>.

**Boundaries:**

Grand on east, Bates on north, Morganford on west and Loughborough on south.

**Membership:**

Anyone can become an HHIA member. Annual dues (\$10 per family, \$25 per business), collected at the end of each calendar year, support projects and defray the cost of this newsletter.

**General Meetings:**

Bimonthly general meetings, are typically held the fourth Mondays of March, May, July, September and November, in the lower level of the Southern Commercial Bank, 5515 S. Grand, 7:30 p.m. A non-business January meeting is also held.

**Questions:**

Contact us at 569-5708; P.O. Box 22144, St. Louis, MO 63116 or [hollyhil@stlouis.missouri.org](mailto:hollyhil@stlouis.missouri.org).

## Gardening . . . a dirty topic!

Get ready for the First Annual HHIA Garden Contest! The September 22nd General Meeting Topic is Gardening! There will be handouts distributed that focuses on your garden and lawn. There will be information from local nurseries, community groups and educational institutions. We will discuss putting your garden to bed for the winter in preparation for a spectacular Spring.

As an organization, we are pleased to be announcing the new Garden Contest event that not only increases awareness of the beauty of our neighborhood, but also rewards those who work hard to provide it. Let the planting begin!

### HHIA General Meeting

Monday, September 22,

7:30 pm

Southern Commercial Bank,

5515 S. Grand

## Survey Says . . . We Like to Eat!

You may recall the neighborhood survey we included in a previous issue. At our last general meeting, our Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Brian Kolde (772-3484) brought us the tabulated results of that survey, in which 49 heads households participated. Following is a summary of some of its findings:

- **Demographics:** Of course there are residents of all ages living in the neighborhood who have lived here for anywhere from just a year to many decades. The majority of residents fell within ages 30-60 in almost equal sub-groups (22 who were 30-39 years old, 22 who were 40-49 years old and 21 who were 50-59 years old). The average number of years responding households had lived in the neighborhood was 20 years.
- **Work:** Most of the respondents worked in the city versus the county (47 versus 19), while none worked in Illinois. Most worked full time/salaried, with the next largest group being retired. Respondents also represented some individuals who worked part-time and/or hourly, or who were homemakers, in college, self-employed or unemployed.
- **Play:** As the title implies, we do seem to enjoy eating. Most of us shop for groceries and visit

convenient marts more than once a week. Most of us dine out at least once a week, many of us even more than that. In addition, the majority of the free-form suggestions we provided on our survey indicated that we would like to see more restaurants, bakeries and coffee shops in or near the neighborhood, particularly of the higher-end sit-down variety.

There were many other random comments about aspects of neighborhood life, including ideas to promote, add or control local businesses and services, housing, park improvements, neighborhood improvements and city services. While there is always ways we can improve, we saw no strong pattern emerge from the comments that would indicate any serious deficiencies in Holly Hills living. Our thanks go to those who took the time to participate in the survey, as well as to Ginny Nester for her tabulation of the survey results.

*(Please note that while the Holly Hills Improvement Association is happy to have included the survey in our newsletter and provide you with these summary results, we cannot take credit for creating or tabulating it; this was a City-sponsored project, and we are grateful for those who undertook the task.)*

## Companion Bread Bakery Outlet

You may already have spotted Companion Bread products in grocery stores throughout the region, but what you may not know is that this company's headquarters and main bakery is but a short distance north of the Holly Hills neighborhood. In addition, this city-located company also has a retail outlet open every Saturday morning at which you can stock up on all sorts of fresh-baked goods at

great prices – some of which you may never have seen in the grocery stores. The bakery and outlet are both located at 4555 Gustine – just to the south of Nordyne and across the street from JS Logistics. Look for the sign that says "Retail Counter" and a small parking lot on the north end of the Companion Bread building. But remember, the outlet is only open Saturday morning!

# Carondelet Park Master Plan Update

The City has officially approved the Master Plan, and the first phase of implementation has begun with the formation of the Carondelet Park Advisory Board. As spelled out in the Master Plan, the 18-member board consists of 12 citizen and 6 city representatives. The HHIA representative is Victoria Chechik. The first meeting of the Advisory Board was held August 12, 2003. At that meeting elections were held for the following positions: Chair, Ron Bolte (of the Carondelet Historical Society), Vice Chair, Victoria Chechik (of the HHIA), and Secretary, Pat Eby (of Carondelet Reads). The responsibilities of the Advisory Board include the following, as summarized from the Master Plan: (1) "Monitor implementation of . . . the Master Plan and provide ongoing community input regarding the restoration of Carondelet Park. (2) Review significant modifications to the Plan . . . (3) Constitute a part of the public review process for major park projects . . . (4) Keep the public informed and advised of matters relating to the Master Plan. (5) The Committee is not authorized . . . to amend or change the Master Plan, but may recommend changes . . . for consideration to the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry."

The next meeting for the Advisory Board is September 16, 2003 from 4:00-6:00 at the Lyle House in the park. Minutes from the meetings will be available, and the meetings are open to the public. The agenda for the September meeting includes establishing by-laws for the board and discussing priorities for the Master Plan implementation, including things such as: the Holly Hills Sinkholes, Horseshoe Lake, Reforestation Plan, and Management and Maintenance Plan for the park, to name a few. The public's involvement is crucial since volunteer partnerships and fundraising initiatives will be needed to implement the many projects aimed at maintaining and restoring our neighborhood's crown jewel and the City's 3rd largest park.

The Draft of the Carondelet Park Master Plan is available on-line at [stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/parks/parks\\_div/carondeletpark.html](http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/parks/parks_div/carondeletpark.html).

If you don't have access to the Internet, please contact the St. Louis Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry at 314.289.5300 to obtain a copy.

## Court Cases and History

The court cases from everyday people can offer much information about the history of our city and our neighborhoods. A Web site is now available to search and retrieve historical court documents at the following address:

<http://stlcourtrecords.wustl.edu>

This fascinating site is available thanks to the collaborative efforts of Washington University's American Culture Studies in Arts & Sciences, the Missouri State Archives, and the St. Louis Circuit Court Clerk's office.