

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

September, 1997

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A HARMONIC BIRTHDAY BASH

You'll definitely want to leave time in your September schedule to attend the upcoming general meeting of the Holly Hills Improvement Association (HHIA).

Mayor Harmon to Visit Holly Hills

We are delighted that Mayor Clarence Harmon has accepted our invitation to be guest speaker at this meeting, giving you a chance to meet and speak with him in a personalized setting.

Happy 70th Holly Hills Improvement Association!

We should all be proud that the HHIA is celebrating 70 continuous years as a neighborhood organization. With our charter established in September 1927, we are likely one of the longest-running neighborhood organizations in St. Louis. Come join us (and Mayor Harmon) at our General Meeting Birthday Bash.

**HHIA General Meeting
Monday, September 22, 7:30 p.m.
Southern Commercial Bank, 5515 S. Grand**

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REPORTS FROM HHIA COMMITTEES

- [Welcoming Committee](#)
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WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Since we started the Holly Hills Welcoming Committee this spring, we have visited more than 40 new residents in all parts of the neighborhood, currently averaging about 10 visits each month. We share with each new resident a packet containing information about Holly Hills and general St. Louis city living.

You Can Help!

Keep calling when you see new neighbors move in. Such referrals is the main way we learn about new residents, especially those moving into rental units. Also, if you are interested in joining the Welcoming Committee we could use new members. We make visits monthly, and take turns in groups of two, so each member need only make visits a few times each year. Its fun, and can make a big difference to the quality of our neighborhood. Remember, our phone number is 569-5708.

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MAINTENANCE/IMPROVEMENTS

The Maintenance/Improvements committee continues to serve as a liaison between appropriate city representatives and residents with concerns about potential trouble spots in our neighborhood. Recently of note, we would like to thank management of the **Walgreens store** at the corner of Grand and Bates for committing to increasing clean-up efforts for the property surrounding their store.

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EVENTS/FUNDRAISING

Taking a well-deserved break following the very successful Holly Hills Community Fair, our Events/Fundraising committee currently has no new projects to report upon. We are reviewing proposals for future events and will provide updates in upcoming issues on what is in store for the future. If you have ideas for a neighborhood event, or would like to volunteer to participate, now is the time to give us a call.

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BEAUTIFICATION

Planting Projects Update

We accomplished a lot in terms of neighborhood beautification over the summer developing and maintaining more than 30 planting beds throughout Holly Hills. So we can continue to grow next year, we have applied for grants from the Growing St. Louis program for two new projects. One will enable us to place numerous terracotta flower pots around the perimeters of the neighborhood, to define Holly Hills in an attractive manner. The other project is to continue working on beautification at one of the main entrances to our neighborhood the intersections at Interstate 55 and Loughborough. Look for updates in future editions of Neighborhood News.

You Can Help!

The more we plant, the more we water! If you live near one of our planting projects, would you be willing to adopt the spot and keep it watered during the summer? Your assistance would help a lot, and you and your neighbors would directly enjoy the results of your contribution. Give us a call (569-5708) to find out more.

Bates Street Beautification Continues

We are nearing completion of our Bates Street project to upgrade the metal storage building and surrounding property near Bates and Arendes. We finished painting primer on the building in early

August. A decorative mural currently is being painted on large wooden panels that will be affixed to the sides of the building, and a cornerstone plaque will commemorate the many generous donors who have helped make this project possible. (Special thanks goes to **The Regional Arts Commission** which has supported the project with a \$500 grant. Finally, we are making plans to provide additional landscaping and plantings around the building to spruce up the entire corner. Keep an eye on our progress we think youll like what you see!

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WEB SITE UPDATE

Theres often new resources to look at on our Web page, so dont forget to bookmark us at <http://stlouis.missouri.org/hollyhills>. Most recent additions to the page include:

- A fun message board on which you can leave your public comments about Holly Hills
- A Whats Hot in Holly Hills link, to report any late-breaking news about our neighborhood We also are working on several new pages of information (important neighborhood contacts and a safety page, for example), plus we are investigating ways to automatically notifying electronically those who would like to know when we make updates.

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REPORTS FROM OUR REPS.

- [Congressman Dick Gephardt](#)
- [Alderman Fred Wessels, 13th District](#)
- [Alderman Matt Villa, 11th District](#)

A Message from Congressman Dick Gephardt

Responding to constituents needs and concerns is my highest priority as Congressman. To better assist residents, I maintain two offices in the Third Congressional District that help everyone, regardless of their political affiliation. The St. Louis office is located near the intersection of Interstate 55 and Lindbergh. The other is in Festus.

Staff caseworkers in my offices work on constituent problems with federal agencies. Consider contacting my staff if you have problems with Social Security, the Veterans Administration, the IRS, passports and visas, the military or other federal agencies. To obtain assistance, write me a brief letter, describing the situation. With your written request, I can assign a caseworker to work with you.

In addition, my mobile office visits locations such as senior centers, retirement homes, libraries and county courthouses. The mobile office is an opportunity to obtain useful literature about government services and to get help for problems with the federal government.

I hope you will contact me if you need assistance, or if you wish to offer your opinion on issues:

Rep. Gephardt's St. Louis District Office
11140 South Towne Square, Room 201
St. Louis, MO 63123
894-3400

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Alderman Fred Wessels, 13th District

Ald. Wessels reports continued Carondelet Park improvements. This spring/summer, the city resurfaced the bicycle trail, replaced sidewalks and planted 100 trees. Scheduled park maintenance for fall includes repair of pavilions and the boathouse; painting and repair of light fixtures; and reconstruction of the Union-Pacific bridge surface and adjacent roadway at the east end of the park.

Wessels also reported at our July meeting that some private projects in or near the neighborhood include:

- Plans to move a SLUCare office into the former Zenhoefer Fur site at 5411 Grand
- Addition of a car wash and convenience store at the Grand & Delor Phillips 66 station
- Possible leasing of the former Aldis location at Morganford and Holly Hills to an Auto Zone

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Alderman Matt Villa, 11th District

At our July general meeting, Ald. Villa provided an update on the former Schnucks location at Grand & Iron. As outlined in the July issue of Neighborhood News, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has granted Schnucks until approximately the end of the year to lease the building to a full-service grocery store, or else the state will find such a tenant. The city has halted the blighting process it began prior to the FTC decision, assuming that Schnucks and the FTC will find a suitable tenant in the near future. We look forward to a rapid resolution on this issue, and would like to see a grocery store opened by early 1998. We have waited long enough!

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BITS & PIECES

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- [Calling All Block Captains](#)
- [Don't "Waste" This Opportunity](#)

Welcome, New Members

Beginning with this issue of Neighborhood News, we are going to revive a former tradition of publicly welcoming those who have become HHIA members since the last printing of the newsletter. Please join us in a warm welcome to our newest HHIA members:

- Catherine Temares on Fillmore
- William and Adelaine DeGuire on Dewey

- Eugene Feicht, property owner at Wilmington & Livingston

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Calling All Block Captains

From time to time, HHIA representatives are asked by neighborhood residents, "Do you know who is the block captain on my block?"

- If you are a block captain in Holly Hills, please contact 569-5708 today and leave us your name, address and phone number. This will help us create a comprehensive list of Holly Hills block captains.
- If you are interested in becoming a block captain, also call 569-5708. We will put you in touch with the appropriate sources.

What are block captains? Essentially, they serve as contacts. Other block residents can bring questions or concerns to their captain. He or she, in turn, can use city contacts including our Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Brigitte Pidduck, Community Service Officer Mark Reichert, aldermen and others to resolve block concerns. For example, block captains have proved invaluable in resolving problems caused by individual property owners who are negatively impacting the rest of their block.

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Don't "Waste" This Opportunity

You can finally get rid of all that old paint, pesticide, cleaner and other hazardous waste clutter piling up in your basement, thanks to the Public/Private Partnership in Pollution Prevention (5-P):

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Fair

Saturday, October 4

9:30 am - 3:30 p.m.

MSD Lemay Wastewater Treatment Plant

201 Hoffmeister Avenue

Best of all, the collection costs you nothing. In late September, you should receive in the mail a Collection Ticket, which you must show when you take in your household waste (commercial waste is not accepted). If you do not receive your ticket, or you have additional questions, contact 5-P at 768-2727.

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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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