

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

July, 2002

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Metropolis Program Featured

HHIA General Meeting
Monday, July 22, 7:30 pm
Southern Commercial Bank
5515 South Grand

Debbie Irwin, FTP@theHam coordinator and Metropolis St. Louis member will be the featured speaker at our next general meeting. Her question to you, "Do you have technology skills to share?"

What is FTP@theHam? FTP@theHam is the Family Technology Project at the Hamilton Community Education Center, located at 5819 Westminster Place.

FTP @theHAM is an exciting new Metropolis technology collaborative sponsored by the Education Subcommittee. We will conduct an 8-week basic computer course for St. Louis Public School children and their families through the Community Education program. Families who successfully complete the course will receive a renovated computer to take home.

Class will meet on Tuesdays from 6 to 8pm beginning on September 24, 2002.

Metropolitians are needed to be teachers and technology tutors. If you have technology skills to share or want to find out more about this project come to our next meeting or contact [Debbie Irwin](#).

Note: The FTP @ the HAM collaborative includes representatives from Metropolis, the St. Louis Public School Community Education Centers, Computer Village (non-profit computer education group) and BDPA, the Black Data Processors Association (professional educational organization). Please join us.

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Barking Mad

Among the most frequent questions we receive on the Holly Hills Improvement Association (HHIA) hotline goes something like this:

"I get along well with my neighbors and find them to be pleasant and caring people. But, for some time, they have been allowing their dog(s) to remain unsupervised in their yard. The dogs are frequently barking, making it unpleasant for the rest of us to relax in our own yards. I'm afraid if I confront my neighbors directly, I will risk ruining our otherwise harmonious relationship. What can be done?"

Of course if a pet is being abused -- for example, if a dog is barking because it does not have access to adequate food, water or shelter -- we strongly urge you to contact the Humane Society immediately for follow up. Thankfully, it is far more often an issue of helping otherwise well-meaning neighbors become aware of how their best-intentioned actions are affecting others.

As a first step to address such issues, it is often best to discuss your concerns with your neighbor directly, as painful a course as that may seem to be. Well-meaning neighbors should appreciate knowing of your concerns, provided you can share them in a good-spirited manner. Here is some sample wording you may wish to use in either a letter or conversation with your neighbor:

Dear Neighbor:

You probably agree with me that there are many advantages to city living such as ours. At the same time, the very proximity to events and neighbors that is inherent to fine city living has a flip side that must sometimes be addressed. That is why I am contacting you at this time. I am hoping that you will appreciate my letting you know that at least one (and possibly several) of your neighbors are concerned about the level of noise that your dog(s) have been making, particularly during spring/summer months when we enjoy having our windows open on nice days.

You have always been an otherwise lovely neighbor, so I would like to enlist your assistance in enabling us to more fully enjoy our homes and yards by keeping a closer eye on your dog's outdoor barking activities. As much as we enjoy living in a city where neighbors are close by if assistance is needed, the closeness also requires that we perhaps be more sensitive to how our own or our pets' behaviors may be negatively impacting the lives of those around us, and make modest adjustments to our lifestyles to accommodate.

Thanks in advance for your understanding and assistance in this important matter. I'd be happy to discuss the matter with you further if you feel I am being unfair.

As an organization, HHIA feels its role in these and other neighbor dispute cases is to provide accurate information on who to contact within the city services for additional assistance (such as your alderman, neighborhood stabilization officer, citizen's service bureau, etc.). If you would like more information about how to contact such services, please give us a call on our hotline at 314-569-5708 or send e-mail to hollyhil@stlouis.missouri.org.

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Holly Hills Resident to Host Radio Special

Michelle Ratcliff, a Holly Hills neighbor and member of HHIA, is the host of a new radio series entitled Herstory, which can be heard on 90.7 KWMU, the public radio station affiliated with National Public Radio (NPR) and Public Radio International (PRI). Michelle also works as host and producer of St. Louis Woman, a television show on City 16, the City of St. Louis' Government Access Channel.

Herstory is a locally produced program that will air at 5:35 and 7:35 a.m. every Thursday in July during Morning Edition. It can also be heard on the web site www.kwmu.org. The series features conversations with St. Louis Women of Power such as Betty Van Uum, the first county councilwoman and member of the Bi-State Board of Commissioners, Cheryl Walker, attorney at Bryan Cave, and Harriett Woods, former Lt. Gov. of Missouri and former president of the National Women's Political Caucus. The final conversation is with June Fowler, Director of Corporate Communications with Mallinckrodt and member of the YWCA Board of Directors and the Girl Scout Council of Greater St. Louis.

In the words of Harriet Woods, "Women hold many powerful positions in St. Louis and in the nation. The stories they share about their lives will prompt both laughter and tears, best of all, these stories may inspire a new generation of leaders."

The Holly Hills neighborhood is proud to have its own "woman of power" hosting this interesting series. Congratulations Michelle!

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Summer 2002 Music Schedule

July

- 7 Jazz Legacy
- 14 Marcel Strong
- 21 Trilogy
- 28 Die Spitzbaum

August

- 4 Jules Blattner
- 11 King of Hearts
- 18 Air National Guard Band of the Central States
- 25 Starlifters

Capt. Filla of the First District has assigned a police officer to the park on Sundays during the concert hours. This is in an effort to encourage people to enjoy the park and the concerts without an apprehensions about crime. Enjoy the music and introduce yourself to the officer while you're in the park. Establishing relationships with the police department is a good step toward preventing and reducing crime

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Chameleon's Update

True to their name, Chameleon's has changed their catering offerings to include brunch on Sundays at their South Grand Location. Sunday brunch is served from 10AM to 2PM and cost is \$10.95. Foods include a full omelet bar and a wide range of other delectables. Stop by and try out the newest breakfast place in the neighborhood.

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Carondolet Park Master Plan

The next Carondolet Park Master Plan planning meeting is set for July 13th at the Windsor Community Center from 10AM to 12AM. Please come and be a part of this exciting and important phase of the future of Carondolet Park.

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Holly Hills House Flags Debut!

We're delighted to announce that our NEW Holly Hills House Flags are currently at the printer and will be available to distribute sometime within the next month. Constructed of highly durable forest green canvas with eye-catching artwork on both sides, the house flag sports a tasteful "Welcome to Holly Hills" message that will make a statement about your pride as a Holly Hills resident as well as serve as an attractive decorative addition to your front porch (or wherever you may choose to fly it).

Be the first on your block to own this limited edition flag! The cost is only \$25 each (pole is to be purchased separately.) Below is a rough-draft image of the flag artwork. Samples and order forms will be available at future general meetings, or use the handy order form below to place your order today. Delivery is anticipated for late July/early August.

HOLLY HILLS HOUSE FLAGS

Please print or type legibly!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please deliver _____ flags to me for \$25 each (pole purchased separately) as soon as the flags are available!

Enclosed is an additional donation of \$_____ to support other HHIA neighborhood projects.

Mail along with payment to : HHIA, PO Box 22144, St. Louis, MO 63116. Call or e-mail with questions to 314-569-5708 or [HHIA Webmaster](#).

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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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