

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

March, 2001

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Jennifer Joyce Featured Speaker

HHIA General Meeting
Monday, March 26, 7:30 pm
Southern Commercial Bank
5515 South Grand

The next meeting of the Holly Hills Improvement Association will feature Holly Hills resident and newly elected St. Louis Circuit Attorney, Jennifer Joyce. The meeting is Monday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. at Southern Commercial Bank, 5515 S. Grand . Ms. Joyce recently defeated independent candidate Rufus Tate and Democratic candidate Jeryl Christmas to win the office of Circuit Attorney.

Ms. Joyce is a lifelong city resident. Prior to her election, she served as an Assistant Circuit Attorney for over six years. As a prosecutor, she had a 96 percent conviction rate in felony trials. She worked in all areas of the office, prosecuting all types of crimes including child abuse, rape, robbery, fraud, drug and homicide. One of the more high profile cases she handled was the South Side Rapist case. In that case, serial rapist Dennis Rabbitt pled guilty and was sentenced to five consecutive life sentences.

Ms. Joyce will discuss the work of the Circuit Attorney's Office and her plans for the future of the office. During her campaign, she said that as circuit attorney, she would seek more money for victim services and set up specialized legal units to combat gangs, elder abuse, drug dealers and consumer fraud. She said she also might put prosecutors in satellite offices in neighborhoods. She also plans to work aggressively to make sure that St. Louis gets its fair share of crime-fighting tax dollars from Washington, D.C. and Jefferson City.

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Foodland Acquires The Market Place

When Joe Koppeis opened The Market Place of Holly Hills a couple of years ago, he envisioned a location that would serve as both a grocery store and a gathering place for the community. Fortunately, these plans did not change when Barney Miller, owner of Foodland, purchased The Market Place this fall.

While the signage will change, Miller plans to leave the general layout of the store similar to the way it was designed. At the same time, he is making improvements that he hopes will enable a thriving, profitable business. Most notably, Miller is focusing on lowering prices and ensuring stock on the shelves is current and available.

Referring to himself as "the grocery guy," Miller has a long-standing background in grocery store management, beginning with the former Kroger stores. He reports that his two other Foodland locations -- one in Illinois and another on Jefferson just north of I-44 -- are operating profitably.

Miller will be attending our upcoming Monday, March 26 general meeting to introduce himself and to answer any questions you may have. We encourage Holly Hills residents to patronize our neighborhood businesses whenever possible. When they grow, we all grow.

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Operation Brightside

The date for Blitz Saturday is March 31st. This is the day neighbors can really turn out in force to show that they care about their neighborhood (and if you are reading this, chances are you do too!). You can borrow tools for cleaning up alleys, streets, parkways, etc. from the city. There are also flowers available for planting in public places. This year there is an opportunity to reward your "crew" for your efforts. A block party kit (24 hot dogs, buns, chips, soda) will be available to groups of 15 or more that help on Blitz day. For more information, contact your block captain, or call Operation Brightside at 772-4646.

A little litter goes a long way in either direction. One piece of trash can ruin your whole view. On the other hand, one piece of litter picked up and deposited in the proper place is not an awesome task to be undertaken, but it makes a huge difference!

There will be a 2.5 mile walk on May 19, 2001 to help support the efforts of Operation Brightside. There are great prizes and opportunities to meet others that care about their community. Call 772-4646 for more information.

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From the Desk of Mayor Harmon

As everyone in the St. Louis area is aware, this winter season has been particularly harsh. As a result, our home heating bills have soared compared to last year's costs. Additional financial help to pay heating bills is now available for income-eligible households. The city has received approximately \$3.5 million in grant money from a Federal Contingency Fund for low-income assistance and utility crisis intervention. These funds are available now through Human Development Corporation's (HDC) St. Louis Energy Crisis

Energy Intervention Program. Services include financial assistance for homes heated with gas, electricity, oil and kerosene. Eligibility for financial grants is based on household size and household monthly income.

Any individual seeking assistance for paying their utility bills must first contact the STATE Low-Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) at (314) 340-7600.

After applying for LIHEAP services, you must then contact the Human Development Corporation Energy Crisis Intervention Program (HDC-ECIP) at (314) 535-7607 or (314) 535-7609 for additional assistance IF your service is disconnected, threatened to be disconnected, or you have a heating bill that you are still unable to pay.

During the period beginning October 1 through May 31, energy assistance grants will be available up to a maximum of \$600 per household. During the period beginning June 1 through September 30, energy assistance grants will be available up to a maximum of \$300 per household.

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Metropolis Is All About Us

If we've heard it once, we've heard it a thousand times: "We should do what we can to attract and retain active individuals who want to live in the City of St. Louis." Fortunately for us all, an organization called Metropolis already has been doing just that since it was founded by 45 charter members in 1997. Today, it boasts a membership of 1,200 individuals from all walks of life, and sponsors scores of programs (all of which are member initiated) within these main categories:

- Building community leadership
- Improving our living environment
- Promoting city living
- Affecting our government's policies
- Building social bridges

Metropolis is truly a grassroots organization. The best way to find out more about their many offerings or to join their ranks is to visit their Web site at www.mstl.org. As Metropolis' slogan says, "The city is back. Back the city."

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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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