

The Holly Hills *Neighborhood News Newsletter*

May, 2001

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Up, Up With People

The People Project is a great fun public art project produced by Art St. Louis and the Regional Arts Commission. Roughly 400 designs were submitted in September of 2000. A sponsor chose the design created by our member Tim Bolt at a cost of \$5000. The Artistic agent (Tim) received a \$1500 honorarium to construct the People figure. Following a huge Gala opening at Windows on Washington on March 31, the figures were placed on public display all over the metro area. These works of FUN art will be up for auction in Oct. Half of the proceeds to go to art programs in the St. Louis area the other half to go to the charity of the buyers chose. Tim's people/person is titled "one touch of nature make all the world kin". (Very appropriate title since most of recognize Tim from his work around the neighborhood plantings. See related article later in this newsletter.) It is now on display near the St. Louis Government Center at the intersection of South Central and Carondelet in the heart of Clayton. The figures will be on the move though, rotating from place to place about every 2 weeks. You can also visit the people on the web at www.thepeopleproject.com". Tim's design has been shown as a proposed design on the web site. Hopefully all will get out and take a look at the wide variety and imaginative "PEOPLE" we have in St. Louis.

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HHIA May General Meeting

HHIA General Meeting
Monday, May 21, 7:30 pm
Southern Commercial Bank
5515 South Grand

Our next meeting will be shared with the Landlord's Association on May 21, 7:30 p.m. in the basement of Southern Commercial Bank. Tom Villa will be present to update us on some recent law changes regarding landlord related issues. Two of our neighborhood stabilization officers (NSO), Bridgett Pidduck (772-3484) and Kathy Savage (773-0536) and have been invited to attend and help answer some our your questions and help with some of your concerns. You can also call the citizen complaint bureau at 622-4800.

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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Metropolitan Park and Recreation Commission

Recently, member Tim Bolt was asked to be one of the 3 commissioners to represent the City of St. Louis Gateway Parks and Trails 2004. Last November an initiative was passed in the City of St. Louis and five counties, creating a structure for developing parks and trails and a process for protecting and improving the quality of urban and suburban streams.

Metropolitan Park and Recreation District consists of the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and St. Charles County at this time. It will be responsible for creating a series of trails and parks to enhance the quality of life in the St. Louis region. This is a governmental body that is funded by 1/10 of a cent sales tax overwhelmingly passed last Nov. by the voters. Metro East Park and Recreation district/IL consists of St. Clair and Madison Counties in Ill. Its purposes are similar to those in Missouri. Each district will rebate to local government 50% of their tax for park purposes.

The goal of this project is to connect numerous parks and green spaces together with a system of trails and recreation areas. This is already well underway, with Grant Trail and Katy trail as two examples. Trailnet has also established a Great River Trail from the Gateway Arch up along the river to the Old Chain of Rock Bridge, crossing the bridge over to Ill. This trail will soon continue north along the river to Alton, Ill to join up with the Great River River Road/Vadalabene Bikeway. It will then travel back over the Missouri River in Alton to connect up with the Katy Trail and on out to St. Charles. This Park and Trail system includes the use of Moscenthen Island, Chouteau Island, Gabaret Island and the Columbia Bottom Conservation Area. These areas are all near the confluence of the Mississippi and the Missouri Rivers (were the two rivers come together). There are thousands of acres of natural lands that you can get out there and enjoy by use of these trails and natural recreation area.

Tim Bolt comments, "I am very pleased to serve on this commission. I encourage all the Holly Hills Neighborhood to get off the couch and take a hike or bike. It is truly amazing what is out there just for your enjoyment."

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Everything's Coming Up Roses -- Or Petunias, Dahlias ...

A Grand Project is being planned for Grand Ave. from Bates Ave. to the Holly Hills Bridge on a date to be determined. 70 large terra cotta flower pots will be placed and planted to beautify and enhance this section of south Grand Ave. This is a cooperative effort with the Holly Hills Improvement Association, Gateway Greening, 4C (Churches Committed to Community Concerns) and YOU. Your help is needed for this project in your neighborhood. If you have any sources for plants to be donated or at little cost, (i.e. nurseries of friendly gardeners who like to share) please give a call. We look forward to hearing from you. We realize not everyone is able to join in on the 2001/02 Beautification Committee projects. But we still need you, and want your participation. After all, this is your neighborhood. So please consider a donation of any size. Please make check payable to: Holly Hills Neighborhood Improvement Assoc. Mail to: Tim Bolt 6220 Arendes, St. Louis, MO 63116. These funds are used only for the purchase of plants and would be greatly appreciated.

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Softball (or Soccer)Anyone?

The Lindenwood Neighborhood Association Board recently had an event honoring a 50 year veteran of the LNA. In his speech he reflected on inter-neighborhood softball and soccer teams that used to flood the parks every summer and fall. Is there any interest out there in creating a neighborhood softball league or other sport?

This could be a great way to get neighborhoods to interact more regularly and outside any organized meetings etc. If there is anyone interested, perhaps meeting on the subject, laying out some ground rules and basic format and presenting at our respective Association Board meetings to see what level of interest would be there.

Anyone interested in further pursuit please email Chris Zoellner at: chrisz@loftworks-stl.com.

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HHIA Board Holds Elections

At our May 21 General Meeting, the Holly Hills Improvement Association (HHIA) will hold its biannual board member election, as prescribed in the association's bylaws. Just as our neighborhood itself has become a healthy mix of long-time and newly arriving residents, so our board nominees reflect the energy of both seasoned and fresh members. We thank the following individuals who are looking forward to serving the neighborhood for the upcoming term:

Board Cabinet Positions

Mary Jo Gordon, President

Victoria Chechik, Vice President

Wendy Cook, Vice President

Dan Kriss, Vice President

Mark Smith, Immediate Past President

Joe Rusch, Past President

Beth Murphy, Treasurer
Monica Groth Farrar, Recording Secretary
Anne Borgmeyer, Financial Secretary
Marianne Powers, Marshall

Board Members at Large

Mark Groth
Dan Haag
Mary Lopinot
Ray McCollum
Lori Neidel
Lisa Roth

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New Membership

New members to the area are listed below.

A big welcome to:

Kathy Nystrom, Haven
James McClure, Bergen
Mary Ann Lambert, Concordia
Michael and Debbie Beardslee, Holly Hills
Lori Neidel and Gena Williams, Haven
Michael Reilly, Holly Hills
Dave Summers, Burgen

Want to Get More Involved?

Our bi-monthly meetings are only one fact of what the Holly Hills Improvement Association does. There are committees and events where you can volunteer and get more involved in your neighborhood. If you would like to get more involved in your neighborhood, Contact us at 569-5708; or write us at P.O. Box 22144, St. Louis, MO 63116 or email at hollyhil@stlouis.missouri.org.

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From Alderman Fred Wessels

A new restaurant recently opened at 3611 Street. El Burrito Loco specializes in authentic Mexican food. Carry out is available. The food is great and the owners are friendly. Give El Burrito Loco a try. You'll go back.

The 23 million dollar MSD sewer project running underneath Bates Street is scheduled to award a construction contract in November, 2001. MSD has purchased property at Bates and Arendes and at Bates near Tennessee to store equipment and serve surrounding areas. The project will take about 20 months to complete. The tunnel will run from Bates and Arendes to the Mississippi River and will lay 80 to 100 feet under Bates Street.

Hats off to Adam Koen, son of Jack and Joan of the Holly Hills area, for his recognition as the Outstanding Graduate of the St. Louis Police Academy class of February 2001. 26 men and 6 women graduated after completing 23 weeks of training.

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Carondelet Park Happenings

Playground Update

This past March, the Carondelet Park Playground Advisory Committee was formed to assist in the renovation of the existing playground (adjacent to Loughborough Avenue). As a result of efforts from our aldermen, Fred Wessels and Matt Villa; the Commissioner of Parks, Dan Skillman; and the committee itself, the Carondelet Park Playground is getting an important upgrade. Construction is slated to begin Fall 2001, with completion by Winter 2001. This schedule was developed to allow families complete access to the playground during the Summer months.

The Playground will feature a toddler play area, swings, as well as a play area for older children. The playground's surface (not including the swing area) will be rubberized a new advancement in park design and will be built to accommodate people with disabilities. In fact, the playground's general redesign will feature a number of new innovations in equipment, structure, and materials.

This is one of many, wonderful improvements being made to our park.

2001 Music in the Park Calendar-or-The Hills are Alive

6/3 Die Spitzbaum

6/10 Figgity Feet

6/17 33 Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band

6/24 Dasha Ray

7/1 Sentimental Journey

7/8 Waterloo Band

7/15 Marcel Strong and the Apostles

7/22 Michael Brooks Brass Band (CCBF 30 year anniversary and partial sponsorship from HHIA)

7/29 Buffalo Bob and the Bedroom Blues Band

8/5 Patti and the Hitmen

8/12 Crawdaddys

8/19 Air National Guard Band of the Central States

8/26 Starlifters

More Fun in the Park

July 1 -- The Carondelet Historical Society will celebrate Carondelet Park with a brief history presentation of the park at intermission. A plaque will be presented to Park Commissioner Dan Skillman and Park Director Gary Bess commemorating the 150th year of Carondelet Park.

July 22 -- Free sweets will be made available from Carondelet Bakery and free soda from Matt Villa. 20 attendance prizes will be given away at intermission. There will be a vendor selling hot dogs and snow cones.

Dinner in the Park

The River Des Peres Beautification Society will again sponsor a dinner in the park on June 19. Tickets will be \$30 dollars and include a full dinner, beer and rum punch and a whole lot of music. It's a great evening and a wonderful way to spend time with friends old and new. All proceeds go to the beautification efforts on River Des Peres. Watch for the signs popping up around the neighborhood in the days to come. See you there!

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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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