



The 18th Annual St. Louis Hills Christmas Tree was lit on November 26, drawing a crowd of nearly 1,000.

# Christmas Comes to St. Louis Hills

by Lisa Clark, Rob Curtin, Chip Kastner

It isn't every day that you see a camel at the corner of Eichelberger and Donovan, but in the community dubbed "Christmas Town," just about anything is possible during the month of December.

It's just that reputation, given to the St. Louis Hills neighborhood, which inspired Ascension Lutheran Church members to find a way to contribute to an important part of the community's culture. So in 2016, they started hosting a free Live Nativity event for visitors coming from both near and far.

"Ascension's Live Nativity provides a unique way for our congregation to share Jesus' birth and contribute to the St. Louis Hills neighborhood's Christmas celebration," said Pastor Matt Clark, who has been the pastor of Ascension for a little over four years.

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The St. Louis Hills neighborhood responded with enthusiasm. Streets such as Candy Cane Lane

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# 2017 Brought New Developments to St. Louis Hills



by Tom Oldenberg, Alderman, Ward 16

With a year of new opportunities already underway, I wanted to reflect briefly on what our neighborhood accomplished during the second half of 2017:

**Enhancing Francis Park:** New pedestrian crossing signs were installed at each of the four mid-block crosswalks leading into Francis Park, which made it safer to walk to and from our neighborhood's favorite attraction. Construction on new and renovated bathrooms near Lanai Coffee and

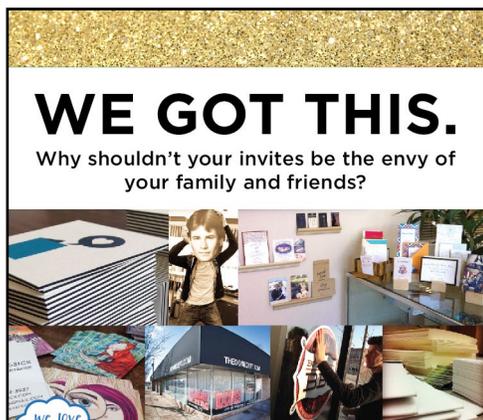
the park's playground is underway and slated for completion by the fall.

**Attracting commercial development:** The neighborhoods in Ward 16 continue to be sought after by expanding businesses. A new International House of Pancakes opened in September, barbecue restaurant Salt + Smoke joined St. Louis Hills in October, and beer purveyor Craft Beer Cellar is slated to open a Southampton location in 2018. A \$2 million commercial investment is also planned for the former Conoco site on Chippewa.

**Increasing resident involvement:** We established two new groups to help residents engage more directly with their communities. A Commercial Property Committee, chaired by Mark Naeger, will help shape the future of real estate development in our neighborhood's commercial corridors. A Public Safety Committee, led by Jamie Frisella and the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association, will consider how private funds could be used to bring security cameras and private security officers to our streets.

**Championing citywide issues:** In the November 7 special election, Ward 16 boasted both the highest voter turnout in St. Louis City and the highest rate of approval for Proposition P. Thanks to your support, the City is now on track to raise an additional \$19.5 million annually for the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the St. Louis Fire Department, and prosecutors in the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office.

With your help, I look forward to helping St. Louis Hills and the rest of Ward 16 accomplish even more in 2018. In a neighborhood that is as engaged and invested in its community as this one, anything is possible.



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## St. Louis Hills Presidents Address

by Chris Murphey

Happy New Year!

I trust everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holidays. It was another great time in St. Louis Hills over the past few months. The Christmas Tree lighting, led by Rob Curtin, was again a huge success. We had a large crowd and the weather was some of the best in recent years. I did a poll of the audience and it appeared that 25% of the crowd was new to the event. It is exciting to see new faces in the crowd amidst those of our fellow neighbors we all know and love.

The Holiday Party, led by Molly Spowal, filled us with the spirit of Christmas, friendship and cheer. If you haven't been to this event, I encourage you to block off your calendars in 2018 so you can join in the fun. The food was fantastic, thanks to Edibles & Essentials, and the many raffle baskets were full of great prizes and experiences.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone that donated their time throughout the year to organize, lead and run the events, committees and processes that bring us all closer together. Near the end of the year during a general meeting, the neighborhood voted to keep the current board members in place. Since then, we have some new members of the association board and various committees, but we also have opportunities for neighbors to get involved. Stand by for communication later this month that will outline the organization, its committees and the opportunities to get involved.

Please sign up for our email list on the home page of our website. You can also email us at SLHNAMembership@gmail.com to check the status of memberships, submit thoughts and recommendations on neighborhood events and developments, and express an interest to get engaged in the association. Also, be sure to like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and check out our website (www.stlhills.com) so you can stay informed and engaged in the conversation.

Looking forward to all that we will achieve and do together in 2018.




The St. Louis Hills holiday party, held at St. Raphael's gymnasium, was catered by Edibles & Essentials.



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# St. Louis Hills Block Captain Program Needs You

The St. Louis Hills Block Captain Program provides an excellent opportunity for residents to become involved in the neighborhood. Block Captains partner with neighbors and the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association to maintain the community's spirit, safety, and vitality.

The Block Captain Program wants your help in reaching its goal of a block captain on every block of our neighborhood. Block Captains serve as a vital communication link with neighbors on their block and to and from the SLHNA.

A Block Captain has paid their membership dues and serves as a resource person and conduit for their block, relaying resident ideas, concerns, improvements, and nuisances to the SLHNA Board. They welcome new residents, and provide and gather new membership information from them. They engage their neighbors in our meetings, activities, safety benefits and communications. They attend and engage in scheduled meetings, work with the neighborhood for overall community betterment and safety, and engage their block in a Block Party.

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain, contact Helen Abbott at [blockcaptains@stlhills.com](mailto:blockcaptains@stlhills.com).

## Consider A Visit To See Your Legislature In Action

by Donna M.C. Baringer, State Representative



As your State Representative, I look forward to returning to Jefferson City in January to serve you. The legislature meets Mondays through Thursdays from the first week in January through the end of May. While I am diligent about attending community events and meetings, my legislative schedule prevents me from being at many such events. I apologize in advance for any meetings I will be unable to attend during this timeframe.

You might consider coming to see your legislators in action. The best days to visit during session are Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and the Jefferson City Amtrak station is within walking distance of our Missouri State Capitol. Trains arrive from St. Louis in the morning, with a return ride in the evening.

To be kept up to date on legislation as it progresses, please sign up for the 82nd District email blast at [donna.baringer@house.mo.gov](mailto:donna.baringer@house.mo.gov) so that you may receive all correspondence electronically. In order to better serve you, I will be doing an in-depth survey on legislative topics. Because the state publications department is not able to mail hard copies until February, we are creating an online version to be available mid-January. Anyone over the age of 60 that is a registered voter will receive a hard copy in the mail, but all others can receive a hard copy by contacting my office:

Representative Donna M. C. Baringer

District 82

State Capitol, Room 109-1

201 W. Capitol Avenue

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Phone: (573) 751-4220

[Donna.Baringer@house.mo.gov](mailto:Donna.Baringer@house.mo.gov)



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# Consider the Benefits of Being a Member of the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood

by Chip Kastner

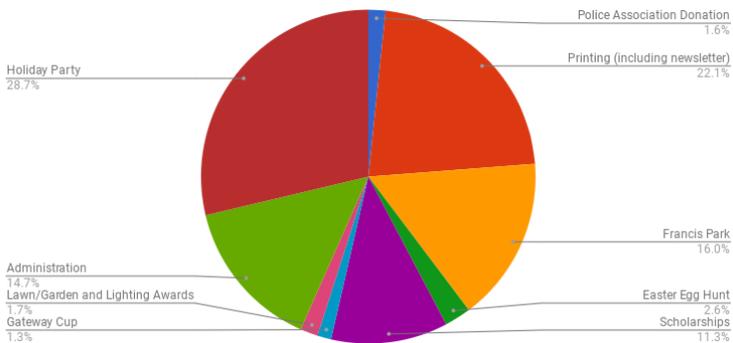
I'll admit it. The first year I moved to St. Louis Hills, I signed up for the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association (SLHNA). Since then, like many other residents, I forgot to renew my membership. It's easy to forget about among all of the other things we have going on.

Flipping through old newsletter articles a few months ago, I found occasional appeals for people to join the association. I got to thinking, "That's great and all, but what does the SLHNA really do?"

So, I asked the board if I could see last year's budget, and the answer turns out to be "a lot."

I did the math myself, and just around 85 cents of every dollar that the SLHNA spent last year went right back into programs and activities that benefit and promote the neighborhood. This includes activities like the Easter Egg Hunt, the Gateway Cup, and the Holiday Party; recognition for St. Louis Hills residents, like the annual scholarships, the lawn and garden awards, and the lighting awards; the annual Christmas tree lighting and improvements to Francis Park; and even the printing of this newsletter.

Over three-quarters of the SLHNA's revenue comes from annual membership dues, but only about fifteen percent of area households paid dues last year. I urge you to head over to the SLHNA website at [www.stlhills.com](http://www.stlhills.com) and becoming a member through the "Membership & Benefits" link at the top of the page. I just did it myself!



A breakdown of the SLHNA's expenditures in 2017.

St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association invites you to add value to your neighborhood by renewing or joining for the 2018 membership year.

You can join or renew by remitting \$30 using one of these methods:

- PayPal -- <http://stlhills.com/slhna-membership>
- Cash/Check by Mail -- Mail in payment along with this card to:  
**SLHNA, P.O. Box 190314, St. Louis, MO 63119-6314**

NEW MEMBER

NAME:

ADDRESS:  APT.#:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

We are a neighborhood organization promoting community spirit and value through our many activities. We need volunteers for each activity to continue. Please check off which activity or activities you would be willing to assist with or participate in.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ambassadors               | <input type="checkbox"/> House Tour                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art in the Park           | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn/Garden Awards             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain Program     | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Newsletters/Mailings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Lighting Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Tree Lighting   | <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Tennis Tournament     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt           | <input type="checkbox"/> Run for the Hills              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Francis Park Landscaping  | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Committee               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grub & Groove             | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee              |



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## Christmas Comes to St. Louis Hills (Cont'd from Page 1)

welcomed opportunities to spread the word, and LeGrand's Market has sponsored hot chocolate for the past two years. Passersby can drive past, listening to a low-frequency radio station, or park near the southwest corner of Francis Park to see the action up close. The event includes live animals as well as volunteers who dress as Mary, Joseph, and other key persons in the account of Jesus' birth. Choirs of Ascension and the community take turns singing carols, and church members offer cookies, hot chocolate, and tours of the church.

"Listening to the wonderful choirs and seeing the story of Jesus' birth was a great reminder of the true reason for the season," said Laura Lane, a live nativity volunteer. "I look forward to it every year!"

Although it's difficult to count how many came to visit the 2017 event, the hospitality tent gave away more than nine hundred cups of hot chocolate. With such a great community response, the members of Ascension will no doubt keep this new tradition going for many years to come. The event is typically held the Saturday before Christmas, depending on when the holiday falls within the week.



A crowd gathers to watch Ascension Lutheran's live nativity scene

Just four blocks north, an elaborate light display adorns the 6500 block of Neosho, known to residents and visitors as Snowflake Street. The exhibit grew from four neighbors who have been decorating the trees in their adjacent yards for the last 15 years. Six years ago, longtime residents Beth Sharpe and Janice Starbuck decided that with no houses across the street, the fence surrounding Nottingham CAJT High School would be a prime location to add additional decorations.

It began with red rope lights and the three-foot snowflakes that give the street its nickname. Over the next few years, they added more lights and decorations, and recruited their neighbors to adorn their own trees with lights and stars.

In 2015, Janice's husband Tom purchased equipment online to create a synchronized light show. The lights on the fence pulse to music that is broadcast over a short-range radio station, with Tom working to add a new song to the display every year.

"The reason I wanted to significantly augment our display two years ago was to support Candy Cane Lane," Janice said. "At that time, they were collecting for different charities on the weekends. My thought was that they might get even more



## The Amazing Aunt Rosie

by Wayne Myrick

We certainly weren't ready for this. The news that our friend Rosemary Spitler passed away early this February froze residents of St. Louis Hills in our tracks. Just a few days before she died, she had called Alderman Oldenburg to let him know about some community grant money she had just discovered we may be eligible for in St. Louis Hills. In typical Rosemary fashion, even as she was suddenly struck with illness, she was still looking for ways to help her neighborhood. And now Rosemary, everyone's friend, was suddenly gone.

God didn't make 'em any better than Rosemary! Anytime I hear her name, I think of all my favorite things about this really wonderful lady. She was fun, funny, kind, selfless, a bridge builder and loyal to her friends and her neighborhood. She loved her family, always wore a smile and was full of ideas and the energy to put those ideas into place. She was a tireless leader and servant in our neighborhood. She didn't just talk about getting to work, she showed up and outworked all of us. Over the last 20 years, I've never seen anyone lead people to volunteer and serve like

Rosemary did. Did you ever try to say no when she asked you to help with a park or neighborhood project? Good luck with that! You might have thought you were going to say no until Rosie called you with that sweet voice.

There is only one Rosemary Spitler, or Aunt Rosie, and we should all be filled with gratitude that she was our friend. Let's reflect on just a couple of ways she brightened our neighborhood with her life.

Rosemary started the St. Louis Hills Christmas Tree Lighting 18 years ago. She created happy memories for a generation of neighborhood kids. The tree lighting was Rosemary's gift to the families of our neighborhood. Although she and her husband Joe didn't have children of their own, she loved kids and masterminded this event to make St. Louis Hills the place to be for all of our children on the Sunday night after Thanksgiving each year. With a little

help from her friends, she lined up the horse-drawn carriage rides, the St. Raphael choir, Fredbird, the games, the petting zoo, the hot chocolate and cookies, and our city leaders as we counted down each year to see our beautiful Christmas tree lit up like the sky full of stars. And because of Rosemary, our children will have the Christmas tree lighting as a sweet Christmas memory for their lifetimes.

Run for the Hills - Rosemary had been the

volunteer coordinator for the Run since it started 26 years ago. That sounds like a modest job until you think about the fact that our neighborhood 5k race requires the help of more than 100 volunteers every year! Rosemary tried to resign from this position the last couple years, and we would laugh every time she brought up the subject because we both knew I wouldn't accept her resignation. The Run couldn't go on without Rosemary and she loved



the event and all the fun people on the committee.

Rosemary never wanted to lead the neighborhood association or Friends of Francis Park as president. But everyone on those boards knew that Rosemary was truly the leader. We always joked that whatever Rosemary wants, Rosemary gets! This was never more true than when we would vote for a special project to improve the neighborhood. She would propose a park beautification project to the neighborhood board along with the estimate of costs and the board would vote in favor of her proposal 100% of the time. Again, you couldn't say no to Rosemary.

The beautiful lily pond - Does anyone remember what the lily pond looked like before Rosemary became its champion? I would describe it as an old, forgotten basin which leaked dirty-looking water. Here comes Rosemary and her friends to the rescue. She learned how to become a lily pond gardener and brought many volunteers with her to bring the basin to life and make it a park attraction we are proud to show off to visitors, especially during our annual Art in the Park, which is centered around the picturesque pond.

Park clean ups - Francis Park is a beautiful park because of our generous volunteers who work to improve it each year. Rosemary coordinated every park clean up and was the smiling face volunteers met when they would show up to help on a Saturday morning. The park corners, the creek bed, the interior gardens, and the playground were scrubbed at each park clean-up. When I would miss one, if I were driving by the park that morning, I would glance over and see Rosemary greeting volunteers at her table and I knew everything was right in the world.

Advent calendars - I can't begin to imagine how many Advent calendars Rosie delivered to neighborhood children throughout the years, but I know those hundreds of kids will always remember their special calendars building up to Christmas each year.

What do we do now, St. Louis Hills? I think the answer is clear from what we learned from Rosemary's life. We can't replace her, but many of us might have a calling to serve in our own special way. Service is not a burden to us or our families. It is a way of life that fills us up with much more than we could ever give.

Think of all the ways you can use your gifts and talents and get involved. Friends of Francis Park and the St Louis

Hills Neighborhood Association boards are always looking for new members and leaders. We have many special events which we would love your help with - do you love art (Art in the Park), cycling (Gateway Cup), running (Run for the Hills), great music and food (Grub & Groove), our parks (park clean-up, lily pond gardening), cars (car show), architecture (house tour), and Christmas (Christmas Tree Lighting, SLHNA Holiday Party)? Perhaps you have ideas for new events in St Louis Hills. We would love for you to become involved in the neighborhood, so please consider this an invitation from Rosemary and your community to get involved this year. Remember, you can't say no to Rosemary!

Aunt Rosie - you were truly an amazing blessing in our lives and in our community. We will often feel the pain of our loss as your smiling face and loving attitude are missing from our lives. As Fr. Bob reminded us at your send-off Mass at St. Raphael, our loss is the Lord's gain. We are thankful for the time we had with you and we will continue the work you did on earth. We were watching and inspired by you, Rosie, and we will not let you down. We will continue the work to which you dedicated your life.

Godspeed Rosemary, our beloved friend.

*Rosemary's family asks that any donations in her name be made to Friends of Francis Park. Donations can be sent to 5330 Tamm Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109 or online at [friendsoffrancispark.org](http://friendsoffrancispark.org).*

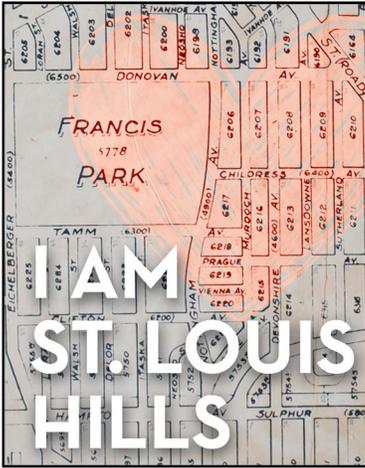


  
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## Featured Residents: **Isabella & Mark Naeger**

We thought we had everything figured out. We moved from our first house in St. Louis Hills in search of a bigger yard and another bedroom. Oh, little did we know what the future held. Our middle child is only 4 years old and the house in which we now live is her third home. That says it all.

In 2014, we sold our house on Crane Circle the day it went on the market. We were excited to buy our dream house. After months of disappointment and slim pickings, we fell in love with a turnkey house on an acre of land in the highly desirable Fox Meadows neighborhood in Sunset Hills. With vaulted ceilings, a finished basement, and a beautiful kitchen, we thought we had it all.

Shortly after moving, we found out I was pregnant with our third child. At 13 weeks, there was a big surprise: we found out we were having twins! Beyond the panic and disbelief, the feelings of excitement and gratitude filled us up. The fact that we were once again a bedroom short for the six of us meant nothing at the time. The next year was a blur. We had four kids under the age of 5 and our priority was survival.

Around the time the twins reached their first birthday, we sat down to exhale and relished what we saw. But it was what we heard that kept us up at night: complete silence. The sounds of children playing, cars passing by, and neighbors shouting were gone. We had to drive to a get to a park! The restaurants were chains and more chains. Nobody did the “drop by.” It was a beautiful place to live, but we realized we left our hearts in the neighborhood in which we both grew up. We had to move back.

I grew up directly across the street from St. Raphael’s and my husband, Mark, a few houses down from St. Gabriel’s. We are back home in St. Louis Hills, now and always. In the county, it felt more like you live next to people that live next to you. In the city, you live next to your neighbors and friends. We were blessed to have amazing next door neighbors in Sunset Hills, but the overall sense of community, cohesion, and unity of 63109 cannot be beaten. Once we were back, we felt there was nowhere else we belonged.

### Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Francis Park by Cori Sallaberry

The St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 31. Children up to 3rd grade can gather eggs filled with candy and prize coupons. Children in 4th - 8th grade will search an extended area to find four gold eggs with a \$25 prize in each. The Easter Bunny’s helpers will be on hand to help the little ones and for photo opportunities.

The event will be held in Francis Park near the playground area at 11:00 am. Registration is not required, but adults are welcome to come at 9:30 am to help set up. Many volunteers are needed!

In addition, representatives from St. Louis Children’s Hospital will be on hand from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm to sell and fit bicycle helmets. Adults and children may bring their own helmet to be fitted for free, or children may purchase new ones for \$11 each. The child must be present to purchase a helmet.

We hope to see you all there! For any questions, please email Cori Sallaberry at coricastellano@gmail.com



# St. Louis Hills House Tour

**“A Home For Everyone” by Rick Palank**



The former home of St. Louis Cardinals legend Stan Musial was a stop on a previous house tour.

The biennial St. Louis Hills House Tour will be held on Sunday, October 14. While the house tour is an excellent source of revenue for the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association, the primary purpose of the tour is to draw people who are not familiar with St. Louis Hills into the area. The increased awareness of St. Louis Hills results in people wanting to move into our neighborhood, thus increasing the demand for homes, condos, and apartments.

The House Tour Committee still needs a few more homes or condos for the Tour. If you might be interested, please email Rick Palank at [rpalank@gmail.com](mailto:rpalank@gmail.com); or call 314-352-9399.

# The Value of Living in St. Louis Hills

**by Gary Wells**

We have just concluded a really special year for our little corner of St. Louis. Grub n’ Groove, bicycle races and soccer tournaments, Art In the Park, marathon trick-or-treat adventures, neighborhood meetings on current events, and Christmas lights all around. All of this provides a great deal of value in each of our lives. You can’t assign a price to such things, but they definitely enhance the experience of living in St. Louis Hills.

There is one thing that you can put a very specific price on, and it is something which just adds to the overall benefit of living in St. Louis Hills: Property values.

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We are fortunate enough to live in an area where architecture still mattered as houses were being built. From ornamental brick arrangements on the front of houses to the large beautiful windows that let in natural light, there are many things that make homes here so desirable - even from the curbside. The proximity of local stores, pleasant family restaurants, community treasures like the library and two wonderful parks add to the market value of each property in our neighborhood.

St. Louis Hills homes have averaged a 6% increase in sale value from 2016 to 2017. Back in 2016 a three-bedroom house in our neighborhood sold for an average of \$285,000. In 2017, that average went up to \$299,000. Properties in the St. Louis Hills Estates section have seen greater peaks, with at least one home cracking the \$500,000 line. It should be noted that property values are dictated by the market (i.e. available and interested buyers) and that nothing in this newsletter should be construed as a guarantee of any certain value for any particular property. There are many great realtors who live in our neighborhood who are available for you to consult on the current market value of your property.

As you can see, living in the St. Louis Hills neighborhood provides value on many levels. We who serve on the SLHNA board are grateful for having each of you as our neighbor. See you around!

## Cold Weather Brings Carbon Monoxide Hazards

By Vince Stehlin, St. Louis Hills Liaison Officer

I hope all of you are enjoying the holiday season. In recent entries, I have provided a crime attention/prevention letter. This year, as colder weather approaches, I wanted to share some information that I recently read on the dangers of carbon monoxide while we warm up our vehicles.

**How dangerous is it to operate an engine in a closed building?** So dangerous that it must NEVER be done, even for a short time. The extremely high levels of carbon monoxide produced by an engine may cause a person to collapse before they even realize there's a problem. Carbon monoxide reduces the level of oxygen in the brain, which can distort your sense of reasoning.

**Is it safe to briefly warm up your car in an open garage?** No. In a recent study, warming up your car for only two minutes with the overhead door open raised carbon monoxide levels in the garage to 500 ppm. Ten hours

after the car had been backed out of the garage, there were still measurable amounts of carbon monoxide in the garage. Persons working in the garage for a long period of time would breathe dangerous amounts of carbon monoxide.

**How do attached garages increase carbon monoxide problems in the home?** In the typical house during the winter, air flows from attached garages into the house. The amount of this flow can vary from house to house. A recent study found that anywhere from 5% to 85% of air leaking into the house came from the garage, carrying carbon monoxide and other contaminants into the house.

**What happens when carbon monoxide from the garage enters the house?** The garage serves as a large source of carbon monoxide. As this leak enters the house it is diluted,



so concentrations are less than those in the garage. It can take several hours for concentrations in the home to reach dangerous levels. Often, detectors may alarm several hours after the vehicle has left the garage. Persons in the house, especially those indoors all day, might experience typical carbon monoxide symptoms such as headache or flu-like symptoms.

**Why is the problem of carbon monoxide from attached garages worse in the winter?** In winter, houses are closed up, keeping more carbon monoxide in the house for longer periods of time. Often, a larger portion of airflow into the house comes through the garage in winter than in summer. In cold weather, more vehicles are warmed in the garage and they are warmed up for longer periods of time. Lastly, in cold weather, cold engines produce higher concentrations of carbon monoxide and produce it for longer periods of time.

Stay safe,

P.O. Vince Stehlin  
St. Louis Hills Liaison Officer  
District Two



## SLHNA To Offer Scholarships To Neighborhood Students

SLHNA will again offer three one-year \$600 scholarships to eighth graders entering high school in the Fall of 2018. The scholarships will be awarded based on scholarship and service. Information concerning how students may apply will be announced via the SLHNA website, in school newsletters, and in church bulletins during March of 2018.

by Joyce Bytnar, Scholarship Chair



# Don't Panic - Krause Key & Lock Can Come to the Rescue

by Terry North 

"Hey honey, you got the keys?"

"Nope, I gave them to you."

"You sure? I don't have them."

"Did you look in your pockets, I know how you look?"

"I've looked everywhere, must have lost them at the park."

This is not a conversation any of us wants to have! Fortunately, Krause Key & Lock can come to the rescue.

Perhaps the longest consecutive family ownership in the Hills is this unique lock specialist located at 4525 Hampton. You've driven by the former Phillips 66 station a hundred times and perhaps never had to call them, but if you did, there is no chance Ron and his team of locksmiths were not able to unlock your door. Ron Krause and his son Eric have been at the corner of Landsdowne and Hampton since 1977. It's hard to imagine, but Ron's father started the business in 1947, beginning in a 4'x6' outbuilding on the northeast corner of the original parking lot of Hampton Village.

The reputation of Krause Key & Lock remains a key component and has allowed the business to grow beyond residential locks. Today, the majority of their business is commercial, even being on call for a higher calling...from the St. Louis Archdiocese, the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, and of course our own St. Gabriel's. Krause has 8 trucks running through the city!

But back home, as one can imagine with all of the different lock assemblies out there, the right key is key. Krause has over 100,000 key blanks in stock. They are also masters at hand making & hand fitting locks, as well as repairing the antique door locks in our precious oak front doors.

If you need new locks put in the house, Krause is the one to call. Krause can also handle drawers, interior doors, safes, padlocks, buildings and even cars, new and old. Recently I called on them to make a key for my '88 Alfa Romeo. I had been running around with only one key for several years when it dawned on me it might be a good idea to have a spare (see above conversation). Surprise, Krause had the key blank on the hook and proceeded to make a couple for me... Magnifici!

If the need arises, give Krause Key & Lock a chance to come to the rescue. They also take pride in being quick -- which is a great thing when you're standing outside, it's snowing and you have no idea where the keys are!

"No worries Honey, I called Krause Key & Lock!"

Krause Key & Lock is open from 8 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday and 9am - 1pm Saturday. They can be reached at 314-752-3311 or at [www.krausekey.com](http://www.krausekey.com)



Krause Key & Lock has been located at its present location since 1977, but has been in the neighborhood for over 70 years.



Key cutting equipment fills the shop at 4525 Hampton.



From left to right: Ron Krause, Tim Deachan, Eric Krause, Brett Curtze



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# St. Louis Hills Business Committee Update

By Mark Naeger

As usual, there have been some pretty exciting occurrences in our business community since the last newsletter. Salon Fleur De Lis was named a top 200 salon in the country by Salon Today magazine. Salt & Smoke opened its doors and has brought a steady stream of new visitors to our neighborhood. Edibles & Essentials debuted its food truck, Essentially Fries, which will feature a fish and chips special throughout Lent. Abigail's Gift Boutique reopened after completing repairs to its building due to damages from a wayward vehicle and looks better than ever. Pueblo Solis celebrated its 20th year in business. We look forward to Steve and Ronnie's margaritas for many years to come! Lastly, Five Guys & Smoothie King will be breaking ground this spring for their new location at the Chippewa curve.

It amazes me how much of my life is associated with St. Louis Hills businesses and businesspeople. The following are some of the businesses and organizations in St. Louis Hills that our family has utilized just in the past two months: Dunham's (Christmas tree), Southside Hardware,

Krause Key, Mass Mutual (Phil Miceli), Abigail's, Southwest Pediatrics, Edibles & Essentials, Salt & Smoke, Sandy's Tailor, Total Access Urgent Care, St. Louis Pizza & Wings, Pueblo Solis, Dado's Cafe, St. Raphael's School, Christy Park Montessori, Ted Drewes, Target, Salon Fleur De Lis, Buder Library, and The Done Dept. I am certain I have missed others, but the point is that you can get a lot done, help your neighbors, and save gas money by keeping it local.

Not to be overlooked, we have many residents with businesses or services outside of our area. I will highlight those folks in our next newsletter. In the meantime, please make it a point to patronize not only our neighborhood businesses, but also consider the city first when buying goods or services. If you need a recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at [naegerm@danielandhenry.com](mailto:naegerm@danielandhenry.com) or any of our neighborhood board members.

Lastly, If you have any news or information that you would like us to highlight in future issues, please feel free to reach out to me.

## Record Cold Snap Bursts Water Mains

by Chip Kastner



A water main break at the northeast intersection of Walsh and Clifton was one of several around the 16th Ward.

Bitter winter cold froze water pipes all around the St. Louis area, and St. Louis Hills was no exception. At least half a dozen water mains burst around the 16th Ward, which includes St. Louis Hills, Southampton, Lindenwood Park, and Princeton Heights.

While there's nothing residents can do to prevent issues with old water mains, residents who spot a water main break should call the Citizen's Service Bureau (CSB) at 314-622-4800. When the issue is reported, the bureau should provide a service request number that should be mentioned in any subsequent communication with the CSB.

While work crews are dispatched to repair issues as quickly as possible, this year's near-record cold snap caused delays as many water mains throughout the city required repair. If leaking water continues through freezing temperatures, residents can

follow up with the CSB to ensure the streets and other affected pavement are salted in order to prevent the formation of dangerous ice.

If residents feel that a break is not being addressed in a timely fashion, they can follow up with the CSB or by contacting Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Christian Saller at 314-657-1375.

## Neighborhood Improvement Specialists Tackle Nuisance Properties And Code Violations by Christian Saller

As Neighborhood Improvement Specialist (“NIS”) for Ward 16, I serve as a liaison between residents and a variety of city departments and officials. Nuisance properties and code enforcement are the two general areas of my responsibility. I strive to be “hands on” in my personal approach to resolving issues, and I especially enjoy communicating with neighborhood residents who take an active interest in community affairs. I find that direct contact via telephone or an old-fashioned letter can often go a long way toward addressing some day-to-day neighborhood concerns.

Good news happens every day in Ward 16, and its reputation as one of the most desirable areas of the city to live or have a business in is well-deserved. Impressive new residential construction near Francis Park, substantial renovations in neighborhoods throughout the ward, and strong property values all reflect neighborhood pride and strength.

Amid positive news, there is also understandable concern about crime and neighborhood security, as illustrated by the large turnout at a recent St. Louis Hills safety meeting at Bishop DuBourg High School on December 12. The meeting was an informational forum with police leadership, including South Patrol Commander Major Daniel Howard and District 2 Captain Angela Coonce, Alderman Thomas Oldenburg, and other invited guests fielding questions and some strongly-worded comments about crime. Carjacking cases in St. Louis are now subject to federal investigation and guidelines, which will result in more substantial sentences for convicted offenders. As was mentioned by Major Howard and others, carjacking is up in cities all over the country, not uniquely in our region or the City of St. Louis.

Any advice I would offer to city residents on staying safe would echo that of the police: Be alert at all times, especially while parking your vehicle anywhere, and when leaving or returning home. Be aware of your surroundings. If you notice strangers lingering on your block (on foot or in a vehicle) and/or acting suspiciously, notify police by dialing 911 or the non-emergency line at 314-231-1212. Turn on porch lights after dark. Please let me know if street or alley lights are out. Consider networking with trusted neighbors to let them know when you will return home so that they can watch for and see you in. Watching out for each other is something good neighbors do routinely. Formalizing the practice using texts or calls shortly before arriving home will increase neighborhood security.

I want to wish all ward residents the best in 2018. Please contact me anytime via email (SallerC@stlouis-mo.gov) or directly at 314-657-1375 with any neighborhood concerns you may have. I am in the ward for part of each day, Monday through Friday, so if I miss your call I will get back to you as soon as possible. With a view to enhancing public safety, please let me know specifically about possible problem properties that adversely affect the quality of life in your community. We have an effective nuisance process to address problem properties, but it requires collaboration of residents. Challenges are best met when we work together.

## David R. Francis Memorial Statue **UPDATE** by Rick Palank

The statue is finished! The dedication is expected to be this summer.

The David R. Francis Committee has raised over \$140,000. Donations are still encouraged to cover the cost of installation, landscaping, and upkeep. Please consider making a donation. A donation of only \$250 will memorialize you, your children, or another family member with an engraved clay brick.

For more information about donating, David R. Francis, the world-famous sculptor Harry Weber, or Memories of Francis Park, please visit our website.

[www.drfrmemorial.org](http://www.drfrmemorial.org).

## Now Recruiting Lawn & Garden Judges by Terry North

I am looking for Lawn & Garden Judges to round out our team for the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association 2018 Lawn & Garden Awards. It is a simple process and it gets you out and about in the neighborhood! If you have an interest please contact me, Terry North, via email at [tcnorthdesignlines@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tcnorthdesignlines@sbcglobal.net). You don't need a degree in Landscape Architecture or Horticulture Studies; the only requirement is an enthusiasm for a well-landscaped lawn and appreciation for a beautiful garden. Please reply by May 1st. I also can be reached by phone at 314-353-4949.





# St. Louis Metro Area REAL ESTATE VIDEO BLOG

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## NOTABLE DATES

- General Meeting**  
(Held at Bishop DuBourg)  
22 Mar 2018
- Easter Egg Hunt**  
31 Mar 2018
- Grub & Groove**  
11 Aug 2018
- Tour de Francis Park**  
1 Sep 2018
- Run for the Hills**  
15 Sep 2018
- Art in the Park**  
30 Sep 2018
- House Tour**  
14 Oct 2018
- Christmas Tree Lighting**  
25 Nov 2018
- Holiday Party**  
1 Dec 2018

## St. Louis Hills News and Views



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