

Christmas attractions draw crowds to St. Louis Hills

by Chip Kastner and Caitlin Kremer

The Christmas season in St. Louis Hills kicked off on December 1, with the annual Tree Lighting in Francis Park. The event was sponsored by the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association and Friends of Francis Park. A crowd gathered to witness the unveiling of the tree lights provided by Gilmore Electric; in attendance were colorful characters such as Santa, Fredbird and Louie. Festive music, hot chocolate and carriage rides completed the evening.

The following Saturday, December 7, Kim Heitert and Jennifer Bettag coordinated the annual St. Louis Hills Holiday Party. With a theme of "Winter Wonderland," the party in St. Raphael's gymnasium featured food and drink, music and dancing, and raffles.

With Thanksgiving falling so late in the year, many residents had a later-than-usual start to decorating their homes this year. However, before long, the extravagant holiday decorations for which St. Louis Hills is famous began popping up around the neighborhood. The well-known themed streets of Candy Cane Lane, Angel Avenue and Snowflake Street began drawing lines of cars that stretched well onto Jamieson Avenue on many evenings.

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Above right: Volunteers hand out candy and collect donations on Candy Cane Lane. Photo provided by Bob Klasek. Below: The Christmas tree lighting in Francis Park drew a crowd from throughout the neighborhood. Photo by J. Ryne Danielson.



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From the president: Thank you

by Nan Vordtriede, President, SLHNA



Holiday Season Thank You

What gorgeous, warm, and competitive holiday light displays this past season! A lot of fun had by all whether visiting displays on foot or by vehicle. Thank you to our neighbors who lit their homes with joy and the patience of everyone while visitors toured and learned what a fantastic neighborhood St. Louis Hills is like, "country living in the city."

Once again Rob Curtin kicked off the season with a spectacular Tree Lighting sponsored by the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association (SLHNA) and Friends of Francis Park, the lights brought to us by Gilmore Electric with hot chocolate, carriage rides, Santa, Fredbird, Louie, etc. and my personal favorite: music to ring in the season!

Continuing the spirit and tradition, Kim Heitert and Jennifer Bettag set the stage and dance floor with "Winter Wonderland," our annual St. Louis Hills Holiday Party, coordinating fun music, dance, food, 50/50 raffle, and raffle baskets in St. Raphael's gymnasium.

How about awakening to a lighting award on your lawn, block or business window front? The judging elves coordinated by Caitlin and Michael Kremer were out and about. Thank you all who volunteered and participated in these events!

SLHNA Membership 2020

In late December, membership cards (which have a new look by the way) were mailed to our residents, inviting you to join or renew your membership for 2020. Dues are \$30.00 per year, with membership being valid for the calendar year when the dues were paid. Join online which is swift and easy or via mail.

Membership is a fantastic way to stay current on the many activities, events and issues that face our neighborhood as well as contribute to the neighborhood's well-being. The SLHNA sponsors events and committees, provides information to the community and often acts as the liaison to city government. We are your neighborhood association and ready to serve.

All SLHNA dues go directly into the neighborhood helping to support or sponsor both our events and our committees who provide investment, foster a sense of community, and keep it vibrant. This includes Francis Park improvements (sharing projects with Friends of Francis Park), sponsoring events like the scholarships for neighborhood children, Gateway Cup, House Tour, Lawn & Garden Awards, Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Tree Lighting, Holiday Party, and Lighting Awards. In terms of committee involvement this includes for example, the Safety Committee, Block Captains, History, Marketing, Senior Liaison, Streets & Property, and Welcome.

Please consider joining or renewing.

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Christmas (Cont'd from Page 1)

Candy Cane Lane has used the crowds to raise money for several charities over the years; in 2019, funds raised on the block were distributed to charities that included the St. Vincent de Paul Society, 100 Neediest Cases, St. Louis Food Bank, and St. Patrick's Center.

Caitlin and Michael Kremer, chairs of the Christmas Lighting Awards Committee, led a team in identifying the three best-decorated blocks and ten best-decorated homes.

This year's block award winners included Candy Cane Lane (6500 Murdoch), Angel Avenue (4700 Prague), and Snowflake Street (6500 Neosho). The committee also noted the strong street decorations on the 5900 block of Crane Circle, and were quite impressed with the cul-de-sac at the end of the 6000 block of Guilford Place.

The winning houses were 5220 Tamm, 4716 Prague, 62 Willmore, 4721 Prague, 6402 Murdoch, 6488 Murdoch, 5833 Holly Hills, 5815 Walsh, 6262 Walsh, and 5845 Itaska.

All neighborhood residents are eligible for the award. Winning residents who were paid members of the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association received a \$50 gift card to Edibles & Essentials; those who were not members received a free year of membership, valued at \$30.

Newly awarded this year was a Best Decorated Business Award. St. Louis Pizza and Wings on Hampton was a clear choice for this award, with their great effort. Southside Wine and Spirits also received an honorable mention for their spirited holiday

windows and decor.

One of the more unique Christmas decorations in the neighborhood is the nativity mural at the intersection of Prague and Devonshire, one block north of Angel Avenue.

According to information posted by the homeowners, the house was built in 1939 and included brickwork on the Prague side of the home that resembled a picture frame. When the Burke family purchased the house in 1961, they felt that the empty "frame" wasn't particularly attractive.

Mrs. Burke hired Ted Wood, a friend of her son who was studying fine arts at St. Louis University, to depict a nativity scene in the style of her famous Christmas card. The mural was unveiled in 1972 and displayed annually.

When the current homeowners purchased the house in 2007, they intended to continue hanging the mural; however, inclement weather and inexperience prevented them from displaying the ten foot tall, one hundred pound mural that year. In subsequent years, they hired help to mount the mural.

However, by this point, the original oil painting was showing its age. In 2016, the homeowners worked with several local businesses to digitally replicate the original painting, brightening the colors, printing on a weather-resistant medium and mounting in a lighter frame that they hope will allow the mural to be displayed for another 45 years.

Left: The house at 4716 Prague, with its music-synchronized lights, is a perennial draw to "Angel Avenue" and a winner of the 2019 best-decorated house award. Photo by Chip Kastner. Below left: The annual St. Louis Hills holiday party attracted a crowd of neighborhood residents. Photo provided by Nan Vordtriede. Below: The mural at 6300 Devonshire has existed in some form since 1972. Photo by Priscilla Buehrlen.



Why we moved to St. Louis Hills

by Jeff Snodgrass

We are the Snodgrass family of six, and we moved to the 6500 block of Delor this past August. My wife, Melissa, and I have 4 children: Maria, Celine, Ruth, and Joe. Our move here fulfilled a dream of ours that first came up in the fall of 2016 while living in North Hampton and pondering what might come next for us.

I was lucky to spend my pre-school days in my parents' retail embroidery shop next door to Ted Drewes, but—because we lived in the county and I was so young—I didn't leave with a lasting impression of the neighborhood. The most I remember from those days is the easy access to frozen custard and my time spent hanging out in the barber shop in the same building. Melissa, who grew up 90 miles away in Du Quoin, IL, was the first to push for St. Louis Hills as our next and final move. Her time as a speech-language pathologist in several different Saint Louis Public Schools drove her interest in the city and its many unique neighborhoods to the point that she quickly became the family expert on St. Louis.

We liked all the obvious stuff about St. Louis Hills: it contains some of our favorite architecture, an excellent park and playground, and thriving churches & schools. We also knew that there is a high concentration of great restaurants nearby. We hoped all of that meant we'd find a warm and inviting community in the people here, but we didn't worry much about that yet.

Since moving in, we've fallen in love with the community even more than we could have anticipated. The  **Cont'd on page 6**



The Snodgrass family moved to St. Louis Hills with their children in 2016. Photo by Jeff Snodgrass.

President's address (Cont'd from Page 2)

Volunteers Needed and Thank You

At the bottom of your new membership card is the option to VOLUNTEER. "Volunteers Needed" is the short phrase. Listed are the opportunities in which to volunteer. Please consider volunteering. This is truly the most rewarding experience, giving back to your community. Our volunteers are the spokes of the mighty wheel. I can't write it any better than two term past president and current advisory board member, Carol Wilson, who wrote - "Organizations, like people, need to find ways to remain flexible as they age. If they don't, they become lethargic. They need to keep expanding membership, recruiting new volunteers and finding new projects that are relevant to the community."

My sincere thank you to the following volunteers who, due to other commitments, resigned in 2019. We cherish their many years and time with us helping in their various capacities. We are blessed to have your service and thankful for your agreeing to transition in new volunteers. Thank you to Terry North for handling our Newsletter Advertising (which requires a special salesman) and our Lawn and Garden Awards, the expert plant and grass articles too. Carol Pariani for her many years as the Secretary of the Board, then Vice President, who provided tremendous knowledge and expertise. John M. Scheller,

although new to the Board as Treasurer, handled the finances quickly and all the emails and texts too! Please see the Board listing on page 2 for the transitioned members.

Last but not least, our General Meetings are planned for 2020. Bishop DuBourg High School is once again hosting the SLHNA. All meetings are at 7:00 p.m. doors open at 6:30 p.m. Topics to be announced via website, Facebook, and email blast. If you are not on an email blast or have any questions at all, please email me directly at president@stlhills.com. Dates are March 26, June 25, and October 22.



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Aging and staying in St. Louis Hills

by Sal Easterley

As baby boomers reach age 65 at the rate of 10,000 per day, we must make new life decisions that impact ourselves, family, and our daily life. Aging in place for boomers has become an industry and is no longer an idea that crept upon you like arthritis and replacement knees.

Aging in place leads us to many questions that require us to tackle decisions like social security, Medicare options, annuities, adult diaper sizing, walk-in tubs and reverse mortgages.

With these options, it is possible to stay in your family home and St. Louis Hills offers housing options that are better for your health, emotional state and free up time from raking leaves in front of your beautiful brick home and dragging them to a full container in the alley.

Our families' personal journey began on family vacations to Destin, Gulf Shores, and Myrtle Beach with condo stays of many designs. As we enjoyed coffee and adult beverages on the balcony, my wife and I discussed our future plans and pondered whether we can live in basically 5 rooms. Spoiler Alert: Yes we can, and so can you.

Before we move on to our final resting place, we will cover the options that are available in the St. Louis Hills neighborhood that you see but may have never considered. Next time you walk to church, to the tennis courts, or to LeGrand's, start paying attention and options will pop out at you like never before.

The options are apartments, duplexes, ranch homes, and condo living that may work better for a new lifestyle that is not chore free but can reduce your stress and workload.

Apartments in our neighborhood are as beautiful as any home. Apartment living will be less expensive, but less stressful as well. No raking, water bills, cutting grass, or taxes; less insurance, and an apartment can bring you full circle to younger times when children weren't in the picture and having fun was important.

There are many upscale apartments to choose from that would fit your lifestyle of leisure and fitness and still keep you in your church and circle of friends.

Duplexes are a great option, and bring income potential as well. However, they do not absolve you of yard responsibilities but many of those chores can be farmed out to professionals. Duplexes also allow for a yard, BBQ area and a damp basement for storage.

Downsides include the extra stress of being a landlord; taking on the responsibility of two homes is something that must be weighed. Still, this is an opportunity to downsize your expenses and overall living footprint.

Ranch houses can alleviate stairs by placing the laundry in a spare bedroom and hiring a professional to get your dream closet in the same room. Chores such as

 Cont'd on page 6

The St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association invites you to add value to the community with your 2020 membership dues and volunteer efforts.

Join or renew now by remitting \$30 using one of these methods:

- Online via PayPal -



Scan the QR Code with your smart phone or navigate to the membership page at stlhills.com

- Check by Mail -

Mail payment along with this card to:

**SLHNA
P.O. Box 190314
St. Louis, MO 63119-6314**

NEW RESIDENT? The first year of membership is FREE.
Contact membership@stlhills.com for questions.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT.# _____

PHONE: _____

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We rely on volunteers for the following events and committees. Please check any which you are able to assist:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Tree Lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captains/Neighborhood Watch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Francis Park Cleanup Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gateway Cup Bike Races | <input type="checkbox"/> History Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Decoration Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Party | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> House Tour (Biennial event) | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn and Garden Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Liaison Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Run For the Hills | <input type="checkbox"/> Streets & Property |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee |

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Aging in Place (Cont'd from Page 5)

raking, mowing, and shoveling can be hired out and if you have ever walked during the weekday, you can chase down many lawn services to free up your days and reduce your energy expenditure.

Other positives include your own BBQ reclus, privacy, basement and less wood floors to swifter. This option also appeals to the lovers of musty south city basements.

Condo living was our choice. Allow me to list the pros and cons (and must haves) for you as we discovered.

The pros are easy to list as above. Freedom of stairs, same floor laundry, less taxes, less insurance, less bills, no yard work and less floors to Swiffer. In our case we actually traded up from plaster walls and one-outlet rooms to drywall and 2 outlets per wall.

The cons are that communal living is not for everyone. Rules are rules and there are many to review, and some are non-verbal that only become enlightened over time. However, with the must-haves, we think we hit most of them. There are 24 others in our building, but to be honest we go days and sometimes weeks without seeing our neighbors.

Must-haves are to be on the top floor for less noise and less spent on heating in the winter. Elevators and garages make those wintery days a bit less dreary and make for safety as well.

Decks or balconies reduce the claustrophobia, allow you to garden, and BBQ is still an easy dinner for summertime—as is practicing “exterior illumination” for holidays. Same floor laundry is great even though you may have to use the dining room table for folding, but no one needs to know. Last, you need to make sure there is money in the reserve accounts or you may be hit with an unexpected special assessment.

So, look around and take notice of options if your house becomes empty or is just too big to care for. Taking care of yourself is more important than taking care of a house. Daily decisions should no longer hinge on whether or not to work on a project or do something fun. For us, the big decisions are “do we go left or right on Hampton for dinner?”

Sal and Carol Easterley were born and raised in St. Louis and both attended Southwest High School. They raised their family while attending St. Ambrose, DuBourg and Notre Dame on the 6500 block of Itaska St. and moved 9/10 of a mile to live on Sunshine Drive.

Why we moved to STL Hills (Cont'd from Page 4)

immediate welcome from new neighbors and friends is unlike anything we’ve experienced. Our days here bring greetings from neighbors, run-ins with friends at Francis Park, and knocks at the door from classmates to see if the kids want to play outside in the backyard or jump on a bike for a ride. We’re contented to have had such an amazing few months here; so much that we can only faintly remember what our great life was like before August.

So although we knew it would be a good move for us, we can only take a little credit for having the patience to find the right home here. To you, our new neighbors and friends, thank you for making it all come together. Our collective village here really is the best, and you’re the reason why.



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Items will be donated to Savers on Watson.
Items not accepted: Large Furniture, text books, mattresses, large appliances.

QUESTIONS? Barb Shaffer - 314-638-1517
Debbie Hofmann - 314-849-1207

Lindenwood Drug still going strong after 67 years

by Teresa Turin-Lis

Butter pecan ice cream. Strawberry milkshake. Chocolate phosphate. In the 1950s, if you got a craving for ice cream, you went to the soda fountain at the neighborhood drug store, because back then, pharmacies were financed by dairies.

Lindenwood Drug got its start that way in 1955. Now the pharmacy is owned by Tom Hunt, registered pharmacist; Fellow of the American College of Apothecaries; adjunct faculty member; veterinary pharmacist; small business owner; husband, father, PawPaw; Santa's helper; mentor; trusted advisor. Tom and his wife bought Lindenwood Drug in September 1990.

"I started working here in high school in the early 1970s," Tom said. "I remember there were a few Walgreens, but none of the grocery stores had pharmacies and there were no Targets or Wal-Marts. When you needed a prescription filled, you had a neighborhood pharmacy."

Lucky for us, we still do.

You can't get ice cream at Lindenwood Drug any more—after remodeling in 2004, the soda fountain was donated to the Missouri Historical Society. However, you always get personal service that runs the gamut from advice on your insurance plan's formulary to compounding medications to prescription delivery. All with Tom's expertise, concern for your health, and good humor. At competitive prices.

Tom graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 1980 and got his MBA while working and attending night school. He continuously hones his skills: attending conferences, studying online, training at and sitting on the board of institutions like St. Louis College of Pharmacy and American College of Veterinary Pharmacists, and teaching pharmacy students.

Tom's an adjunct faculty member for many colleges of pharmacy.

Left: Tom Hunt, the current owner of Lindenwood Drug, purchased the pharmacy in 1990. Right: Customers approach the prescription drop-off and consulting area. Photos by Teresa Turin-Lis.

Lindenwood Drug usually has 12 to 14 pharmacy students on staff—the last full year of their seven-year program is spent doing rotations.

"It's important to me to be involved with the students because they don't see the business side of pharmacy, the independent side of it in school," Tom said. "My purpose is to let them see there are alternatives to the big box stores."

There are a few independent pharmacies in St. Louis, "but it's getting harder," Tom said. "Especially when insurance companies pay you below your invoice cost. I won't do that. It's taken me many years to get comfortable saying 'no' to business." To make that reality less painful, Tom has expanded his work in creative ways.

To alleviate one of his greatest challenges as a small business owner—the fact that Lindenwood Drug has been in the same spot for 67 years, "yet people still drive by and don't know who we are or what we do"—Lindenwood Drug became a UPS Access Point to create traffic in the store. And about six years ago, Tom joined the Good Neighbor Pharmacy network, a buying group that helps independent pharmacies with volume, pricing and contract negotiations.

For many years, Tom was the only pharmacist on staff. However, with expansion in so many areas, including compounding, medication therapy management, diabetes education, medication synchronization and more, Tom has brought three other pharmacists on board. Griffin McNamara, Connor Jones and Kelly Collora now round out Lindenwood Drug's professional team.

Tom also has a thriving business helping animals. "We work with the zoo, Grant's Farm, emergency clinics, ■ Cont'd on page 8



St. Louis Hills House Tour returns October 11

by Rick Palank

The St. Louis Hills House Tour will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020. The House Tour is held every other year; and while it is an excellent source of revenue for our Association, the primary purpose of the House Tour is to draw people who are not familiar with St. Louis Hills.

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. No home is too big or too small to be included on the Tour.

If you might be interested, please email Rick Palank at rpalank@gmail.com; or call 314-352-9399.



The house at 6516 Eichelberger was a participant in the 2018 St. Louis Hills House Tour. Photo provided by Rick Palank.

SLHNA annual scholarship applications due April 10

by Michelle Cheli

Along with the New Year come new opportunities for growth, continued learning, and advancement. Grade school graduations will soon be here, and the next few months will be the time to apply for the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association's Annual Scholarships. Three one-time \$600 scholarships will be awarded to eighth grade graduates. Information will be placed in church bulletins, school newsletters, and on the website.

Do you have younger children? Now is the time to consider membership in the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association!

The scholarships are just some of the many wonderful benefits supported by the SLHNA, and a history of membership is required for scholarship applications to be considered.

The application deadline is Friday, April 10, 2020, and requires submission of a third quarter or second trimester report card. The applicant must be an eighth-grade

■ Cont'd on page 9

Lindenwood Drug (Cont'd from Page 7)

and veterinarians," he said. "We want the animals that aren't being treated because no one can get the medicine in. We put it in a form the owner or handler can give instead of trying to jam a pill down the animal's throat: liquids, nebulized medicines, transdermal patches, salmon-flavored cheese for cats... we're able to help the veterinarians help their patients. And if we can help them do that, it helps their business, too."

As for retirement? "I'll be 65 in May but have no plans to retire as long as I'm relevant," Tom said. "I like what I do. I like my customers. I like the students. I like the challenge of keeping up with innovations in medications. I want to keep helping people."

"We've been fortunate. The neighborhood has always been very supportive; some of the customers we have in the store were customers 40 years ago, generations of the same family. People have moved away but keep coming back here because they trust us. You treat people with respect. You treat them the way you want to be treated."

Lindenwood Drug is your neighborhood pharmacy. Why not give them a call the next time you have to get a prescription filled?

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH'S QUARTER AUCTION SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020

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beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic).**

**QUESTIONS? BARB SHAFFER - 314-638-1517
DEBBIE HOFMANN - 314-849-1207**

An “egg”citing volunteer opportunity in St. Louis Hills

by Kristen Miller

Why is St. Louis Hills thought to be one of the most desirable neighborhoods in the city? Many would argue because of the neighborhood’s beauty, great location, and most importantly the fabulous folks that live here!

Are you looking for an chance to get more involved in our community? The St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association has a volunteer opportunity for you! On Saturday, April 11, 2020, we will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt in Francis Park and are currently seeking an event co-chair.

The role involves preparing supplies prior to the event (stuff eggs, stock prize booth, etc.); communicating event details to local schools/churches; organizing the volunteer schedule;

helping set up/break down and work the event.

This is a great chance to give back to our amazing neighborhood, and an opportunity to meet and work with new neighbors. Last but not least, the kids LOVE it!

The position requires a couple of hours a week for a month or two before the event (prep time is flexible and most tasks can be done as your schedule permits). You must be available from set-up to break down on the day of the egg hunt.

We are seeking someone well organized, reliable, and creative. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Kristen Miller at 314-497-3796 or kristeneickman@yahoo.com.

A little about your neighborhood Safety Committee

by Pat Talley, Crime & Safety Education

In 2018, Tom Scheifler and Janice Starbuck became co-chairs of the Safety Committee based on the Neighborhood Ownership Model, a program endorsed by the SLMPD, Circuit Attorney’s office and Office of the Mayor. Tom and Janice have worked very hard to put together an active and effective committee.

The Safety Committee has the following sub-committees: Business Security (ensure local businesses are working to deter theft); Crime & Safety Education (to create and distribute safety information); Neighborhood Impact Statements (communicate to judges the negative impact of specific crimes in the neighborhood); Neighborhood Watch (revitalize the Block Captain program); Security Cameras (support fundraising and

implementation of security cameras around the neighborhood).

Collectively the sub-committees have brought you the Ring Buying Program, held a Chili Cook-off fundraiser that raised \$10,000 for the intersection cameras, initiated meetings with Target to discuss the impact of their security measures on the neighborhood, revived the Block Captain program, communicated with judges on sentencing of people who committed crimes in the neighborhood, and provided newsletter updates and helpful information pieces handed out at general meetings and local events.

There is still much work to be done. Your participation is important and does have an impact on crime in the neighborhood. The Safety Committee meets monthly on Thursdays at Buder Library.

For additional information email: safety_committee@stlhills.com. Or check the SLHNA website: <https://stlhills.com/about-slhna/committees/>.

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Scholarship (Cont'd from Page 8)

student, the legal dependent of a SLHNA member living within the boundaries of St. Louis Hills. The applicant’s family must have a current history of membership in SLHNA including 2020.

The scholarship award is for the freshman year of high school only; it is non-renewable. For more information and an application, go to <https://stlhills.com/membership-benefits/scholarship/>.

It's back! Block captain program seeking volunteers

by Mary Jo Gabel

The goal of the block captain volunteer program is to foster and encourage a strong sense of community within the St. Louis Hills neighborhoods. The structure of a successful program is to encourage one person to represent his or her city block. This person is referred to as the "Block Captain".

The Block Captain is responsible for keeping the residents of their block informed. Duties would include compiling a communication system e.g. phone chain, a printed directory, distribute information of neighborhood events and encourage participation, crime prevention and awareness efforts, organizing a night out, popsicle night, block party, national night out, possibilities are endless and not mandatory.

Just a way to involve your residents on your block.

Block Captains will be encouraged to attend scheduled short

meetings (not more than four per year) sharing concerns and introduce solutions to neighborhood problems. In short, the duty of a Block Captain is to keep the people living on their block informed.

We are currently trying to resurrect this program. Our goal is to have every block in St. Louis Hills represented.

If you already have an assigned Block Captain, please email your current contact info and the address of the block you represent to mojogabe@sbcglobal.net. Or if you are interested in representing your block as a Block Captain, please email your information. This program can also be shared if you would like to consider co-captains.

Looking forward to hearing from you and remember, "Be Safe Out There".

New Year address to St. Louis Hills

by Tom Oldenburg,
Ward 16 Alderman



Happy New Year, St. Louis Hills Residents!

I hope that this note finds you well-rested from a holiday season filled with memorable neighborhood events. Whether you strolled down Candy Cane Lane, attended the annual Christmas tree lighting, celebrated at the St. Louis Hills holiday party or simply decorated the exterior of your own home - you helped show St.

Louisians how much our neighborhood embodies the holiday spirit.

Looking ahead to 2020, my work continues to be comprised of two main areas: tackling citywide issues through the Board of Aldermen, and assisting Ward 16 residents with their day-to-day problems.

On the citywide front, my work on the Housing, Urban Development and Zoning (HUDZ) and Ways and Means committees keeps me very busy. I continue to work closely on the financing package for a proposed Major  Cont'd on page 11

Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Francis Park!

Children up to 3rd grade can gather eggs filled with candy and prize coupons. Children in 4th - 8th grades will search an extended area to find FOUR GOLD EGGS with a \$25 prize in each egg. The Easter Bunny's helpers will be on hand to help the little ones and for photo opportunities.

In addition, representatives from St. Louis Children's Hospital will be on hand to sell and fit bicycle helmets. Adults and children may bring their own helmet to be fitted for free, or children may purchase a new one for \$11 per helmet. The child must be present to purchase a helmet.

We hope to see you all there!

Saturday, April 11, 2020

Francis Park near the playground area
Bicycle helmet sale and fitting 10:30am-12:30pm
Easter Egg Hunt begins at 11am

Registration for the event is not required.

PS - Adults are welcome to come at 9:30am to help set up.
Many volunteers are needed!

Any questions, please email Kristen Miller at kristeneickman@yahoo.com.



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Missouri State Legislature now in session

by Donna Baringer,
District 82 State
Representative



As your State Representative, I look forward to returning to Jefferson City in January to serve you. The legislature meets on 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 a lot of neighborhood events and meetings. 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 to 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 e-mail blast, at donna.baringer@house.mo.gov so you may receive all correspondence electronically. In order to better serve you, I will be doing a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, January 23rd at 7 p.m. in the Bishop DuBourg High School cafeteria. The meeting will be to inform residents of what upcoming legislation this session may affect them as well as the legislation I am sponsoring. If you are unable to attend, we will have the handouts and the survey available on-line. Anyone who does not use or have a computer may contact my office to receive a hard copy in the mail. Our goal is to have the results of the survey available by mid-February.

Tom Oldenburg (Cont'd from Page 10)

League Soccer (MLS) stadium downtown, and the City's annual budget planning process is already underway. I will continue to ensure that the City maximizes revenues and spends wisely as we work to approve a new budget by July.

Back in our neighborhood, quality of life and safety continues to be my top priority. I am pleased to report that in 2019, my office helped facilitate:

- Raising private funds to install 15 new security cameras along Hampton, Chippewa and other key neighborhood intersections
- 786 visits from the City's Forestry Division to handle branch removal, tree trimming and weeding
- 93 pothole repairs by the Streets Department in our streets and alleyways
- 809 responses from the City's Refuse Division to address overflowing dumpsters, illegal dumping and bulk item disposal

- 369 responses to property maintenance issues throughout our neighborhoods.

Careful planning and coordination resulted in the completion of more than \$600,000 in improvements to Francis Park, including a brand-new bathroom. A few more projects, including new pickle ball courts and additional drinking fountains, are just around the corner. I want to thank the Friends of Francis Park for their continued support and oversight of these efforts - and the residents of St. Louis Hills for their patience throughout the process.

Lastly, if you have an issue that you want to discuss, please contact me at (314) 896-0204 or oldenburgt@stlouis-mo.gov. You can also follow me on Facebook or Twitter (just search for @OldenburgSTL to get started) or sign up for my e-newsletter at www.ward16stl.com.

No matter what your preferred method of communication is, please know that I look forward to hearing from you soon.

The History Committee, chaired by Rick Palank, is pleased to welcome two new members: Joan Chadwick and Darcy Hunter.

If you would like to be a History Committee member or have photographs, stories or memorabilia to share, please email president@stlhills.com or call 314-616-6468.



M-F 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
S 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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To view all past newsletters, and
for information on upcoming events,
visit www.stlhills.com.

Visit the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association
on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stlhills

**DON'T BE A
VICTIM!**

Lock your doors

Leave outside
lights on at night

Call 9-1-1 if you
see anything
suspicious

Do you want to submit
an article about your
event in St. Louis Hills?

Do you have an idea for
an article?

Do you want to
write articles for us?

Do you want to
advertise in this
newsletter?

Do you have any
corrections, complaints
or suggestions?

Email us at
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NOTABLE DATES

February 8, 5:30 p.m.

St. Raphael the Archangel Black and Gold Dinner Auction

March 14, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ascension Lutheran Spring Cleaning Charity Donation

March 21, 7:00 p.m. (doors at 6:00 p.m.)

Ascension Lutheran Quarter Auction

March 26, 7:00 p.m. (doors at 6:30 p.m.)

Bishop DuBourg Cafeteria

St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association General
Meeting

March 28, 6:30 p.m.

St. Raphael the Archangel Mouse Races

April 11, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Francis Park

Bike helmet sale and fitting

April 11, 11:00 a.m.

Francis Park, near playground area

St. Louis Hills Easter Egg Hunt

April 25, 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Word of Life Lutheran School

Ascension Lutheran Plant Sale

June 25, 7:00 p.m. (doors at 6:30 p.m.)

Bishop DuBourg Cafeteria

St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association General
Meeting

October 22, 7:00 p.m. (doors at 6:30 p.m.)

Bishop DuBourg Cafeteria

St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association General
Meeting

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