

Pasadena Hills

January 2012 CITY HALL NEWSLETTER

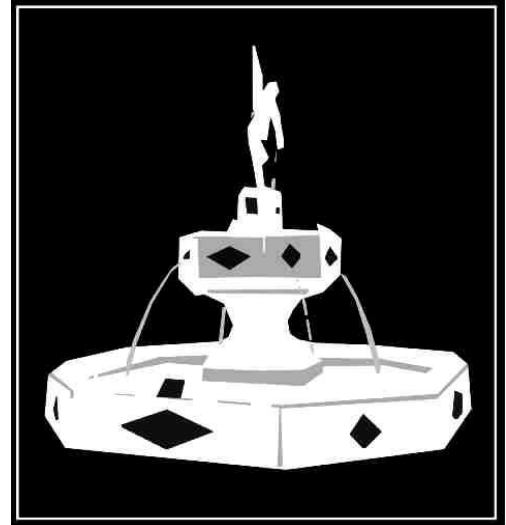
HAPPY NEW YEAR

We want to extend a belated "Happy New Year" to all of our residents. We trust everyone had a joyous holiday season, and that 2012 offers rewarding and promising possibilities for you all. With the exception of our brief flirtation with snow earlier in the month, it's hard to accept that we're actually in the depths of winter, as weird and warm as it has been. The silver lining, of course, is that our heating bills are down, and that the city has needed to use our new snow removal service just twice. This time last year we all had several inches of ice beneath several inches of snow to deal with, and springtime was a torturous distant fantasy. So count your blessings, neighbors The New Year bodes well.

We concluded the Christmas season by taking down all the big beautiful wreaths that graced so many of the light poles and gates throughout the neighborhood. Thanks to both garden clubs, with a special note of appreciation to the indefatigable **David Hoffman** who created every bow and hung the 52 new wreaths contributed by Flowers in the Hills, and to the Pasadena Hills Garden Club for the wreaths they have provided up and down Roland for many years.

SHOEPENDOUS RESULTS

The HOLIDAY SHOE DRIVE for **Shoeman Water Projects**, organized by **Marjorie Pingel**, brought in 934 pairs of used and new shoes – so thanks to all the generous 'soles' – get it? – who contributed. Your contributions helped Shoeman Water Projects reach a goal of one million pairs of shoes in 2011 – your closets have more space, and proceeds from the sale of these shoes help bring clean drinking water to people in remote areas of Haiti and Kenya where safe water is unavailable. Keep them in mind throughout the year. The **North Oaks Beauty Salon**, located at 125 North Oaks Plaza, at Lucas and Hunt and Natural Bridge (63121) is a drop off location Tues-Sat, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



CITY OF PASADENA HILLS

City Hall
3915 Roland Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121
314-382-4453

Elected Officials

Scott Livingston – Mayor
Gerri Clifton – Alderman Ward 1a
Jeff Lindhorst – Alderman Ward 1b
Bob Bahan – Alderman Ward 2a
Susan Press – Alderman Ward 2b

City Office Manager

Kathy Runge

Appointed Officials

Ken Kelly – Bldg. Commissioner
Jeff Blume – City Treasurer
Craig Lucas – Street Commissioner

City Hall Hours

Monday – Thursday – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday – 4- 6 p.m.

Board of Trustees

Rich Eveld – Section I
Herman Nebel- Section I

Bill Knowles – Section II
Erich Press – Section II

Mike Britt – Section III
Bettye Thomas – Section III
Steve Diekmann – Section III
Allen Penkake – Section III

www.pasadenahills.com

SPEAKING OF SNOW

The city has signed a one-year snow removal contract with J.L. Contracting. They salted the night of our half-hearted snowfall in Jan., and we hope to never see nor hear from them again this winter, knock on wood. And since we're dismissing winter before it actually kicks in, we'll be ready for mosquito season this summer with 4 refurbished mosquito traps.

CITY STICKERS

We've gone from a one to a two-year sticker, which will be \$ 10.00, and you are now required to provide proof of registration and a personal property tax receipt. You can mail in copies with your form & check, email copies or do it all at City Hall. It's a bit more involved, but cheaper, and will help us cut down on the number of derelict and unregistered cars in the community.

BIG GREEN TRUCKS

At the upcoming meeting on February 15th at 7 p.m., board will vote on a new trash collection contract to take effect June 1, 2012. The program that we have is outlined below. If you disagree with this you still have time to call city hall, or come to the February meeting. We will open a short comment period before taking the vote.

Here is what does NOT change: 1) Contractor, primary driver (Damon). 2) Rear of driveway trash pickup, recyclables and yard waste at curb.

Here is what DOES change: 1) The bill – COSTS GO DOWN. For example, a single family household whose current bill is \$108/quarter will see their charge reduced to under \$70/quarter. 2) Trash is picked up once a week, not twice as in the past. 3) Billing will be direct from the hauler – The City will no longer be a middleman.* 4) Owners of unoccupied structures (which do not generate any trash or yard waste), with city approval, may temporarily discontinue service and pay only a small administrative charge.

*All monies for trash pickup owed the City up until the changeover date are still owed the City. If you are currently delinquent, NOW is the time to catch up or come to city hall to discuss a payment plan. Trash service is a basic necessity for all and it is unfair to those who do pay their bill to subsidize those who don't

DOG ISSUES

Speaking of waste management, many residents have complained about dog owners who do not pick up behind their dogs. Not to get too graphic here, but dog poop is unsightly, smelly and unhealthy, especially during warm weather. The city will be installing 6 Poop Bag Dispensers around the neighborhood, so please use them if you forget your bag. We have also received complaints about dogs roaming free in the morning hours and in some cases attacking or threatening dogs on leash. For everyone's safety, the city ordinance that requires dogs to be leashed will be enforced with greater vigilance.

GRANTS NOW AND IN THE PIPELINE

City clerk **Kathy Runge** recently filed final paperwork with the county for a Community Development Block Grant. If you qualify, you may be eligible for up to \$5,000.00 toward necessary house repairs. To learn more, call City Hall for referral & application information.

We're also in the early stages of applying for a County Parks Grant, which could amount to \$100,000.00 or more. Ward 2 alderman, **Bob Bahan**, is leading this effort. At this stage, we're looking for a design group to help us define and articulate the projects we have in mind, and the County will pay up front approximately 4/5s of this cost, which will be around \$5000.00 – a win/win scenario. The County will evaluate this application & design, and we should know later in 2012 if we've been approved. We're extremely confident we'll qualify, and we welcome ideas and suggestions from you, our neighbors, as this process takes form.

CRIME

Time for some bad news, and some often-repeated advice:

- Two of our residents had their cars broken into late at night and had valuable items stolen. When this happens, not only do you feel violated, but you must immediately deal with the logistical nightmare of canceling credit cards, getting a new drivers license, etc. The police discourage us from ever leaving valuables in our cars – ever. If it's not in the car, it can't be stolen. Some people advocate leaving cars unlocked as well as empty, so thieves can enter and search without having to damage the car, but that's a personal judgment call.
- We also feel the need to report that a magnificent red-tailed hawk was found shot dead on North Roland, just off Overbrook, on Jan. 1. Not only is this reckless and indefensible, it's a federal crime. If you have any knowledge of this crime, please call City Hall.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts in North America and we are hoping you will join our neighborhood watch organization in Pasadena Hills that is under the direction of St. Louis County Police Officer **Kyle Jundt**, resident **Geno Salvati**, and resident **Ed Tyler**. For more information contact **Geno** at 382-4453.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Bi-State Wildlife Hotline

If you have issues with any wild animals in your yard or home, the volunteer-staffed **Bi-State Wildlife Hotline** at 636-492-1610 or (800) 482-7950 is available 24/7 to offer advice and direction. If you have problems with squirrels – that's why we need hawks – opossums, raccoons, skunks, chipmunks or birds, or any injured animals, they can help you find solutions and remedies. Also at www.wildlifehotline.com .

Senior Services

If you are a senior age 60 and better or age 50 and better with a disability and finding that paying the bills each month can be confusing and frustrating, the Volunteer Money Management Program is available to help. Provided by **Lutheran Senior Services in partnership with Jewish Family & Children's Service, VMMP** links volunteers with older or disabled adults who need assistance with maintaining their finances. LSS volunteers can help with balancing checkbooks, sorting, organizing, recording and paying monthly bills, all in the comfort of your own home under your supervision. The cost for this program is on a sliding scale based on income and the fee can be waived if needed. For more information on VMMP, call (314) 446-2523.

County Older Resident Programs (CORP)

The St. Louis County Dept. of Human Services provides a range of services and volunteer opportunities for older adults through **CORP**. To learn more, or find out how you can participate, visit the St. Louis County website at www.stlouisco.com/dhs .

TOWN HALL MEETING

We will be holding a Town Hall Meeting sometime in March, to discuss ideas for the radiator shop and other items of interest. You will be notified of the date by a robo-call.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PASADENA HILLS CALENDAR

Joan Parham is heading a design of a 2013 Pasadena Hills calendar. The last calendar was put together by **Bettye Thomas** in the year 2000 and featured pictures of our neighborhood. If you would like to help or have input on this, please call Joan at 383-6117.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Our fabulous Events Coordinator **Marie Penkake**, is stepping down. We thank her profusely for all she has brought to our community — her tireless energy, enthusiasm and professionalism that have produced Holiday Carriage Rides, Night Out events, Easter Egg Hunts, Ice Cream Socials, and most recently, the community wide Block Party. These events brought us closer together as neighbors and heightened our sense of community and friendship. She will be a hard act to follow but we're hoping to draw upon the untapped talents of residents who would like to get involved.

Currently, **we're looking for volunteers** to take on individual events in the coming year, including the **March Easter Egg Hunt**, a **community garage sale** in June, the annual **Ice Cream Social, Block Party**, and a possible **Holiday Event**. Please call **Kathy** at City Hall (382-4453) to let us know if you are interested. Don't be shy. Move to the front of the line.



Newsletter Editor and Designer - John Odell and Marjorie Pingel

"One of the many glamorous volunteer jobs in Pasadena Hills!"