

Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Volume 10, No. 4

Grand to Gustine

Arsenal to Utah Place

March 1999

Spring House Tour

By Susie Gudermuth and Julie Mudd

The sixth annual Grand South Grand House and Garden Tour is scheduled for April 17-18. This popular event, drawing thousands of visitors to our area, showcases five neighborhoods bordering Tower Grove Park and the Grand South Grand Business District: Tower Grove Heights, Tower Grove East, Shaw, Compton Hill Reservoir Square and Compton Heights.

While the obvious benefit of the tour is to show off our beautiful neighborhoods and lift decorating ideas from one another, the house tour is a charitable event that each year donates its proceeds to a public edifice or organization serving all five neighborhoods. Proceeds from the 1999 house tour will be a special contribution to the South Side YMCA, located at 2232 South Grand Boulevard. The YMCA, which features newly upgraded equipment and expanded social and community programs, is also a "house" on the tour.

The 1999 tour titled "*The Grand Century*" will feature a designer showcase at each home with the theme of an afternoon tea. A different interior designer for each of the 12 homes on tour will create a tea setting that best exemplifies his or her design talents and coordinates with the homeowner's décor.

The house tour weekend coincides with the grand reopening of the Compton Hill Water Tower, celebrating its 100-year anniversary in 1999. Mayor Clarence Harmon, the Symphony Music School and Circus Flora will be on hand to aid in the grand reopening festivities. Restaurants from

the Grand South Grand Business District will sell food and refreshments.

Houses on tour in Tower Grove Heights are 3735 Juniata, the home of Dan Hill and Rodney Dillon; 3849 Hartford, the home of Kim Caldwell and Ron Leible; and 3734 Utah Place, owned by Susie Gudermuth and Tim Hays. Susie Gudermuth and Sara Langan represent Tower Grove Heights on the house tour committee, which is composed of representatives from the five neighborhoods.

Tour houses are selected via recommendations from neighborhood residents, requests by homeowners who would



3734 Utah Place featured in this years house tour, April 17-18

like to be on the tour, and some arm twisting by committee representatives when everyone approached replies, "My house is not ready this year, ask me next year."

The tour is open 11 AM to 5 PM Sat. and Sun., and begins at Compton Hill Reservoir Park, corner of Grand and Russell. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance, \$12.00 the weekend of the tour. Call 773-4844 for advance tickets or inquire at Botanicals on the Park or Vintage Haberdashery in the Grand South Grand Business District. Day of tour tickets can be purchased at the ticket booth at the Compton Hill Reservoir Park. Free parking is available at the Anheuser-Busch Eye Institute, across Grand Boulevard from Reservoir Park, as well as inside the reservoir. Free shuttle buses will be available both days to transport guests between homes on the tour.

The Compton Hill Water Tower will be open for touring during its grand reopening event. Tickets for a tour up inside the water tower are \$5.00, on sale April 17-18 at Compton Hill Reservoir Park. Discounts are available to guests purchasing tickets for both the house tour and the water tower tour.

Your help is needed. It takes the whole neighborhood to make this event a success. The house tour gives us not only a chance to show off a few of our lovely houses but our neighborhood as well. We all are on tour April 17 and 18. Make sure your lawn is mowed, the front of your house looks spiffy, and be ready to greet visitors and welcome them to the neighborhood. Anyone willing to serve as a host or hostess at one of the houses two hours or more on either Saturday or Sunday, or be a house captain should contact Susie Gudermuth at 771-7097 or Sara Langan at 776-3506.



3849 Hartford is featured in this years house tour.

The Tower Grove Heights Gazette

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The Gazette is a non-profit publication that is published bi-monthly by the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association. For information concerning advertising call Colleen Santino at 773-5772.

Your letters and comments are always welcome at the Gazette. Mail them to:

The Gazette/TGHNA
3735 Connecticut
St. Louis, MO 63116

Dining on Grand South Grand

By Jacob Langan

Having spent the last several years living on the East Coast, I have developed pretty high standards when it comes to deli's. So I was anxious to compare Humphrey's Market and Deli, located at the corner of Grand and Wyoming, with what I had grown accustomed to.

And I was happily impressed. I would describe it as 'New York deli meets country store', an odd mix which works well. The family of owner Elzie Humphrey has been in the grocery store/deli business for 75 years in Springfield, Ill. He moved into the neighborhood, and saw the opportunity to start his own business. The market includes fresh fruits, milk, eggs, and other convenience items. There are also fresh, locally baked breads, and a wealth of preserves, jams, etc. made by the Amish. But the sandwiches are how I judge the quality of a deli, and this one passed with flying colors. They claim the pastrami is the best this side of New York. I can't verify that, but I wouldn't



Humphrey's Market and Deli features great sandwiches as well as groceries.

argue. It was delicious. The tuna salad was also excellent, and I'm told is a secret family recipe (as are all of the salad sandwiches). I've sampled several other sandwiches, and they all compare favorably to those at the best deli's, New York or otherwise. The service, while not as fast as in New York, is certainly much more friendly and helpful. Overall, I give my highest recommendation to the deli. It is open from 10am to 5:30pm daily, but closed on Sundays. I am told that these somewhat limited hours will be expanded during the spring and summer.

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The Roving Reporter

“What do you wish for our neighborhood in 1999?”



The raccoon living in the alley between Utah and Humphrey and running through my house would be caught.

Doug Harding, 36-3700 Utah



We will serve as an inspiration and model for other city neighborhoods.

Cheryl Jones, 36-3700 Arsenal



People would pick up trash in front of their houses.

Sue Clavin, 36-3700 Humphrey



All the storefronts on Grand would have tenants.

Andrew Haberern,
36-3700 Arsenal

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

By Sarah Bridges

This year the South Grand Business District is supporting a grass roots effort to expand the Grand South Grand Festival of Nations into a regional celebration of urban life. An Executive Committee, comprised of local residents as well as community and business leaders, has formed to highlight the City's rich cultural heritage. Marti Frumhoff and Sarah Bridges, both residents of Tower Grove South are chairing the event.

The 1999 Festival of Nations will be held August 14 and 15th and open with Around the World in 5K a foot race, sponsored by the South City YMCAs. The Festival will feature two stages of ongoing entertainment, the International Marketplace, the Children's Village, the Promenade of Cultural Cuisine and the Neighbor Support Center along six blocks of South Grand between Arsenal and Utah. Event planners are anticipating attendance of over 30,000 visitors from throughout the region.

Residents who are interested in helping to organize the Festival are invited to attend Executive Committee meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at Mekong, or call Sarah Bridges at 664-0844 or Marti Frumhoff at 826-3206. Opportunities are available with entertainment, operations, fundraising, youth, and marketing committees.

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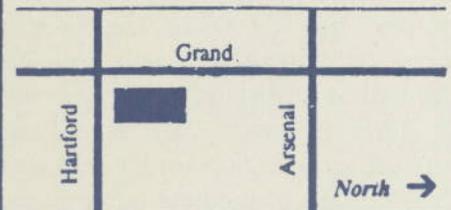
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THE HISTORIAN'S CORNER

by Mark Abbott

"SWITZERVILLE" AND THE URBAN FRONTIER

When we last left our story of the Heights (I know, I know-I missed an issue) we were back on the Prairie des Noyers (the field of walnut trees), the "common field" in which Tower Grove Heights would eventually be situated. Unlike the English, the French still farmed in the late eighteenth century using the medieval practice of dividing farm land into individually owned strips, but working the land as a collective. So the mile and a half strips of land that Prairie des Noyers was divided into—roughly corresponding to present day Grand and Kingshighway—merely represented a percentage of the crop that these early St. Louisans were to receive.

But Prairie des Noyers and the other common fields that the French created were not in French territory. Because of the secret treaty of Fontainebleau in 1762 between the Spanish and Louis XV at the end of the French and Indian War, St. Louis, and what would eventually become Tower Grove Heights, was actually held by the Spanish even before Laclede and his stepson, Auguste Chouteau, laid out the town. This fact really did not seem to impress the early St. Louisans. They more or less ignored the Spanish until a good Spaniard by the name of Count Alejandro O'Reilly imposed Spanish authority on the French in 1769, executing a number of St. Louisans in the process. However, St. Louis continued to be "French." Most of the inhabitants were of French descent and the original French land claims were more or less honored by the Spanish.

Things did not change much in St. Louis for the rest of the century. While the town had opened up the fur trade in the Missouri valley, it had a population of just over 1,000 by 1800. A number of satellite towns were born during these years like Carondelet and San Carlos de Misuri (St. Charles), but the land around St. Louis existed pretty much as it had in the 1760's. The common fields and the commons (the grazing area) were still more or less intact.

But all of this changed in 1800. This was the year that Napoleon cajoled the Spanish to give Louisiana back to the French. Napoleon had dreams of recreating a North American French empire. Those dreams, however, soured quickly when the French lost Haiti—its prize possession—in a slave revolution. Needing cash, Napoleon sold all of Louisiana to Thomas Jefferson for \$15 million in 1803. Now in American hands, St. Louis and the surrounding region underwent a rapid transition.

The main immediate consequence of the land transfer was a steady stream of new immigrants from east of the Mississippi into Missouri and St. Louis. While the French saw the Americans or the "Virginians" as boisterous and crude, the Americans quickly made an impact on the

area. Missouri's population swelled so fast that it was made a territory in 1812 and was ready for statehood by 1820.

The larger long-term consequence of the Americanization of Louisiana was its economic effect on St. Louis. With Americanization came Lewis and Clark and later Zebulon Pike who made known the tremendous possibilities of the west. Also with Americanization came the political unification of the entire continent that literally made St. Louis the center of a huge market that was served by an amazing river system. While Robert Fulton introduced the steamboat on the Hudson in 1809, its real potential was not seen until the Zebulon Pike sailed from Louisville to St. Louis in 1817. The steamboat made St. Louis the focal point of an emerging urban network held together by the Mississippi, the Missouri, and the Ohio. Thousands of steamboats with millions of pounds of cargo made their way to St. Louis every year from points as far away as Montana, Pittsburgh, and New Orleans. St. Louis's population mushroomed from 4.5 thousand in 1820 to 160 thousand by 1860. By the Civil War, St. Louis stretched from the bustling riverfront to Jefferson with scattered estates and farms beyond.

The biggest impact, however, that Americanization had on what would become the Heights was the configuration and ownership of the land. Even before Amos Stoddard took control in 1804, the influx of Americans had undermined the commonfield system. The colonial experience had shown that individual fields were more productive and the new Americans pushed for the break up of the commonfields. The partition of Prairie des Noyers probably began in 1810 and was more or less complete by the 1820's. John McDonald assembled the land that was destined to become Tower Grove Heights sometime before the 1840's. I am still not quite sure when the elder McDonald died, but most of the Heights was inherited by his son William in the early 1850's. The section between Wyoming and Arsenal (which at the time was called Susquehana) was part of the McDonald Block, and Carr Subdivision that was platted in the 1850's (although most of the planned streets were never built).

For some reason, William and his wife Sallie, sold the Heights and some other properties nearby to William Switzer in 1863 in a very complicated purchase. But Switzer used his land as collateral to get a loan from the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1868. When he died in 1874, the loan had yet to be paid and so the land on which the Heights now exists became part of his estate. The estate was settled in 1878 whereby the insurance company acquired the property and made plans to develop it (but that's a story for next time). So instead of being called Tower Grove Heights maybe the neighborhood should be called "McDonald Heights" or "Switzer Heights."

The Tattler

What do you think of the new look of the Gazette? We're hoping to bring you more neighborhood news combined with lots of pictures. Also we're bringing back an opportunity to place Classified Ads-send your copy (100 characters or less) and \$10 to the Gazette by the 2nd of April to be included in the April 23 Gazette. If you have something to rent or sell or some-one special to honor-put it in the Gazette!

People in the News:

Jeff and Janet Blunt did a great job of coordinating TGH Holiday in the Heights! We sure will miss Gazette Staffers Bridget Moss and Patrick Murphy who are moving to Kansas City as result of Patrick's new job. Bridget has been a long time resident of the Heights. In fact, her father is Nels Moss who has just retired from the St. Louis Circuit Attorney office. You might remember his race against Dee Joyce Hayes? Nels has joined the St. Charles Prosecutor's Offices but he's staying right here in the Heights.

Cheryl Jones is engaged to John Bratkowski with plans for a fall wedding. Ask Jay Rosloff and wife Elizabeth about

their vacation to Huahine, an island off of Tahiti. Did you know that Jay was an under-water archeologist in his past life?

A six month old, beautiful, rosy-cheeked girl, Rosa Hu, arrived from China on Dec 19. Her proud parents are Michelle and Michael Hu. Michelle was a teacher at St. Pius V grade school and Mike is currently doing a fellowship at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Afterwards, they plan to return to their home state of Minnesota.

The Tower Grove South Management Corporation was awarded the "Sold on St. Louis" award by the St. Louis Association of Realtors. The award is part of the Regional Commerce and Growth Association's "Campaign for a Greater St. Louis" and is sponsored by the Post Dispatch. TGSMC provides fullservice property management, including tenant screening, property main-tenance and rehabilitation. Since March 1998, it has stabilized 46 rental units in 14 buildings with \$75,000 in building renovations. TGSMC also serves as a neighborhood resource for information and referrals. Stop by and visit Executive Director, Elizabeth

Braznell and Director of Community Resources, Sarah Bridges and new Bookkeeper/Office Assistant Erica Dougherty.

The St. Louis Police Department has reactivated its non-emergency number. Call them at 231-1212 to report anything that is not life threatening.

Be ready this spring for the building inspectors. This is the Heights' year for exterior inspections, which provides an additional incentive to "spruce up". If you need helpful hints on home renovation, 4259 Juniata has been declared the "Home Depot" house. There are plans to offer individual and package rehab classes. Check the sign out in front of the house for details.

Grand happenings-What do you think of the iron arches proclaiming St. Louis University? The Shoney's has been fenced in awaiting the development of a 2-story office building. The Board of Aldermen has approved a redevelopment plan for the Sears site. It will be torn down to make way for some light commercial property and 20-25 new houses. Nations Bank and the City of St. Louis has provided the seed money to establish a new city living program. Shirley Marvin has been hired as its leader. The South Side YMCA is considering staying in its current location if it can get enough neighborhood support. So join and exercise with your neighbors!

Grand Oak Hill Community Corporation holiday decoration winners include these Heights residences: Best Overall-Joe and Janet Klitzing at 3716 Hartford, Most Whimsical-Diston and Jane Nelson at 3882 Hartford, Best Use of Color-Brian Cochran at 3819 Connecticut, Best Motion Lights-Brian Stefanick at 3649 Humphrey, Best Large Multi-Family-Virgil and Lorraine Tucker at 3635 Humphrey. Honorable Mention-Ben Chu and Janice Nesser at 3822 Connecticut, Lauri Adams at 3852 Hartford and residents at 3656 Connecticut.

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DON HARDIN: MR. GAZETTE

By Matthew Fernandes



The Tower Grove Heights Gazette, like many other neighborhood newspapers, is always looking for new reporters. As an editor, rounding up enough charitable souls to plan, write and edit the stories to fill these pages every other month can seem about as easy as eliminating the Y2K computer bug.

But when Don Hardin offered his services as a reporter recently, he could have easily been given a lifetime reprieve from all Gazette-related duties. To use an under-stated phrase, he's put in his time.

Hardin knows the intricacies of neighborhood newspapering like no other. Having just passed the torch as editor to Sara Langan, Hardin couldn't pry himself away from the paper he has nurtured for nearly six years.

"I really enjoy (working for the Gazette) a lot. It is the most important tool for the neighborhood" to communicate and strengthen, said Hardin.

Hardin mercifully took on the time-consuming job of editor in 1993. His orders: to sculpt an orderly operation out of a chaotic mix of writers, database coordinators and artists - in short, perform a monthly miracle, given his other priorities. On top of this, he has had to deal with the Gazette's ever-tardy reporters. (Your humble reporter admits extreme guilt on this count.) Longtime Gazette volunteer Tom Booth, who moved onto Hartford about the same time as Hardin, recalled his days working with Hardin.

"Over the years he's been the one ... to step in" when a gap needed to be filled, said Booth.

"Don works well with everybody. He tries to coax people to get their articles in on time. Nobody ever does - but he gives them a gentle nudge."

Sara Langan said her tenure, as editor has been smooth thus far, thanks to Hardin's well-oiled system.

"Don had it really well organized," said Langan. "He did it seemingly effortlessly. I'm kind of nervous ... I can only hope my first issue will be as good as Don's."

The Gazette allowed Hardin to use his creative writing skills like never before. He had worked as a technical writer at McDonnell Douglas, which he could only remember as being "pretty boring!"

In addition to giving Tower Grove Heights a voice, Hardin was instrumental in the formation of the neighborhood association itself in the late 1980s.

While Hardin and neighbors Rich and Jean Iezzi were having one of their frequent front porch chats, they started bouncing ideas off each other on how to improve the neighborhood.

"I know," one of them said. "We need a neighborhood association!"

Enthusiasm and interest mounted and a vibrant association was formed. The founders received permission from the Grand-Oak Hill association to "secede" and establish the current neighborhood boundaries. After much consideration, the name "Tower Grove Heights" was chosen for the new neighborhood.

Calling it a "mad coincidence," Hardin later discovered that the new association was not the first to be established in the neighborhood. Around the turn of the century, a homeowners association existed whose name was eerily familiar: The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association.

Native South Sider

Hardin was reared just a stone's throw from here near Grand and Delor. When Hardin recalls his childhood, the image of towering elm trees comes forth.

"Someone once told me that Hartford used to be a dome of trees," said Hardin. "You could see no light. The Elm blight changed everything."

"When I was ten, my parents joined the great flight to the suburbs," Hardin recalled. He lived in North County until 1983 when he decided to abandon the world of munchkin ceilings, housebroken garages and earth-choking office parks.

"It's so different" in the county, said Hardin. "You have to drive everywhere. .. I lived there for twelve years and I barely knew my neighbors. I came here and had to readjust."

The re-entry into urban civilization was exhilarating, according to Hardin.

"When (my ex-wife and I) moved onto Hartford, people were always friendly," said Hardin. "People actually spoke to each other - communicated!"

His new neighborhood was far from being an urban playground, though. Landlord absenteeism was rampant on some streets and stagnancy permeated the vacant entryways of many storefronts along South Grand.

"All the changes on Grand are mind-boggling," said Hardin. One of the few businesses he could remember was a bridal wear shop. "Nobody was ever in there. Now (the business district) is very eclectic."

Hardin's view of the neighborhood's future is one of optimism.

"I see (neighborhood improvements) going on forever," said Hardin. "One hundred years from now, Tower Grove Heights will still be thriving. We're doing something right ... we just have to keep doing it."

March 1999

TGHNA Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Botanical Garden: Don't miss the camillia display in the Linnean House	2	3 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Orchid show thru 3/14	4	5	6 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon
7 Tower Grove Park: Lecture - "Henry Shaw's Palm House" 2pm, Stupp Center by John Karel	8	9 Block Rep Meeting 7 pm Conn/Spring	10 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon	11	12	13 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon St. Patrick's Parade Noon Downtown
14 Tower Grove Park: St. Louis Symphony Chamber Concert series, Palm House 3 pm FREE	15 Bulk Trash Pickup Carpenter Library: Book discussion "CaveDweller" by Dorothy Allison 7 pm	16	17 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Carpenter Library: "Green, green, green" wear green and find a treasure! St. Patricks Day	18	19	20 Botanical Garden: "Earth Friends Day" Botanical Garden: Admissi- on free until Noon Carpenter Library: Paint and decorate a flower pot - 3rd grade and up 2-3:30 pm
21 First day of Spring	22	23 General Meeting 7:15 pm 3617 Wyoming	24 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon	25	26	27 Botanical Garden: Admissi- on free until Noon Botanical Garden: Lily Society spring bulb sale March 27 and 28
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31 Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon			

February

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April

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April 1999

TGHNA Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>Daylight saving begins Easter</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Langston Hughes Black Poetry Festival 11 thru 18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>Election Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Carpenter Library: Preschool Storytime 10-1045 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Carpenter Library: Preschool Storytime 10-1045 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>Botanical Garden: "Arbor Day Event" Kemper Center Good Friday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>Tower Grove Park lecture "Coming in from the cold" 5 pm, Palm House by Billie Blitz</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Langston Hughes Black Poetry Festival 11 thru 18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Carpenter Library: Preschool Storytime 10-1045 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admiss- ion free until Noon Carpenter Library: Preschool Storytime 10-1045 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Spring Plant sale Starts Income taxes due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>Tower Grove Park - Fringe trees should be in bloom!!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>Botanical Garden: "Garden Expo" Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Carpenter Library: Read around the world party Grade 2 and up HOUSE TOUR</p>
***** National Library Week *****						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>Botanical Garden: "Garden Expo" HOUSE TOUR</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>Bulk Trash Pickup Carpenter Library: Book discussion "I want to buy a vowel"; by John Welter 7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>Botanical Garden Plant Sale Ends</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon Secretary's Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>Botanical Garden: "Garden Expo" Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>Botanical Garden: "Garden Expo" Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<p>Botanical Garden: "Garden Expo"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>General Meeting 7:15 pm 3617 Wyoming</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>Arbor Day Gazette Folding!!!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31</p> <p>Botanical Garden: Admission free until Noon St. Louis Daffodil Society show 9 am - 5 pm</p>

March

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Legislative Update

By Erin O'Reilly

Our illustrious State Representative, Patrick Dougherty, has sponsored House Bill No. 31, which relates to the rights of mothers who are breast-feeding their infants. This legislation is of great importance because it addresses some of the barriers to breast-feeding and will make it easier for Missouri families to breast-feed their children.

The first barrier to breast-feeding is the lack of knowledge and expertise. Many Missouri families have been without any breast-feeding experience for two generations and so this knowledge and expertise has not been passed down. This legislation addresses this problem by providing breast-feeding information and expertise through a woman's maternity care providers.

Another significant barrier to breast-feeding is the cultural taboo against breast-feeding in public. Breast-feeding women will undoubtedly need to breast-feed in public and should not have to feel

reluctant to meet their baby's needs for fear of shame and discrimination! It is true that some Missouri women and infants who breast-feed have been provoked into stopping or leaving a public place while those who bottle-feed have not been bothered—this is discrimination! This legislation clarifies that breast-feeding in public is legal.

Another barrier to breast-feeding is a woman's return to employment and the lack of support or provision for breast-feeding at her workplace. This legislation does not address that problem but I hope that future legislation will, as over half of Missouri's workforce are women!

This legislation and any other that promotes breast-feeding is a most important legislative tool. It is more important than legislation concerning immunization of Missouri children as breast-feeding is the first and best way to immunize! It is more important than any other educational legislation because breast-feeding allows for optimal nourishment, and growth and development resulting in children who are easier

to educate. It is more important than any other health care legislation because it prevents disease and morbidity and is primary health care at its best.

This legislation should be easy to pass—it is not costly or punitive and it is in agreement with our state and national health goals to promote breast-feeding. Nineteen other states have already enacted breast-feeding legislation. Let's not be the last state to enact this important legislation which will be of great economic benefit to Missouri as it promotes breast-feeding. Then we will reap the rewards of healthier, smarter, happier, and even better looking citizens!

Missouri families who breast-feed deserve this legislative support and protection so they can give their "best" to our Missouri children! Please call or write Pat Dougherty in support of this important legislation—House Bill No. 31. You can reach him at Room 205, Capitol Building, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101, or by calling 573-751-3599.

**Barbara Potts,
Neighborhood
Stabilization Officer**

By Donna Branca

Barbara Potts always has something positive to say about Tower Grove Heights. This month she was even more positive. Perhaps the Papal visit was an influence. Barb commented on the "Letters to the Editor" she's noted in the Post Dispatch from TGH residents. This correspondence affirms her belief that we are a politically and socially active neighborhood that is ready for reform in the new millennium.

Tower Grove Heights, as part of Tower Grove South, has been awarded a grant from the State Department of Economic Development for a strategic plan for the neighborhood. This grant, operational January 1999, calls for a core group to develop a community based plan for the neighborhood. Barb's own request is for a group of highly energetic, visionary people to create and implement a civic plan representing all lifestyles, interests and ideas. For more information contact Barb at her office in City Hall at 773-0531.

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The ReHaber

By Jay Rosloff

My last article dealt with wall repair. If it was a big job, you may have had to use several buckets of drywall "mud". If so, you probably used pre-mixed mud rather than dry mix. That was good, the difference in cost is pennies and you got a bonus in the packaging. The packaging is a vinyl bucket with a handle and a really tight lid. The question of disposal of the plastic bucket shouldn't even enter your mind. They are so versatile that you can even go to one of the "big box" hardware stores and pay good money to buy one. So why would you throw out that which others pay for? Perhaps because you don't know what to do with them? So, here are my favorite uses:

Trash bucket: Pure function for the basement or workroom.

Demolition bucket: Half filled with plaster and lathe, one weighs about 20-25 lbs. Which is all anyone should try to carry on a regular basis.

Tool bucket: Just drop 'em in or buy (or make) hang on pouches and dividers that add compartments.

Seat: Actually, except for being better than standing, they aren't great seats unless you buy or make a padded lid.

Flowerpot: Poke holes in the bottom for drainage and sit the bucket on the lid if run off is a concern. If esthetics is a concern, a little sandpaper will remove the printing and graphics.

Transplanting pot: Moving a rose or a clump of ornamental grass - the bucket will hold the plant for a few days.

Mixing bucket: Concrete, planting materials, birdseed, Halloween candy, you name it. A friend bought four odd gallons of mis-tinted paint for a couple of bucks each, mixed well, and had enough for the whole apartment at bargain rates. (Reseal lid to keep fresh.)

Street drum: Hey, you've seen them in the movies and TV ads. If St. Louis ever gets its "street life" back we'll see them here, too. Little known fact: One bucket = four "notes"!

Mulch and compost haulers:

Instead of shoveling the city's free mulch and compost into bags or the back of the pick-up or car trunk, just scoop by the bucketful and carry the buckets around.

Extension cord holder: Tired of tangling with a 100-foot cord? Just feed it hand-over-hand into the bucket and it will pull out tangle free. No need to be neat, either, it just works.

Mop bucket: Alternatively a car or window wash bucket.

Junior-league washer-toss to keep the kids busy: Caution! All buckets are potential drowning hazards, keep your eyes on little ones at all times!

Storage bucket: Kid's toys or odd lengths of PVC piping. Or, add a few drops of bleach to a nearly full bucket of water, seal lid tightly and you're set for the Y2K collapse or the New Madrid "Big One" (or just being able to flush if a water main breaks).

Well, there's my favorite baker's dozen. I'm sure you can come up with fifty of your own and someone is undoubtedly out there designing bucket "crafts". One thing you may notice is that I didn't mention using them for step stools or scaffolding supports. The fact is, they are just too short for most uses. Also, unless you turn them upside down they are kind of unstable and then the bottoms tend to crack. So what if they're not perfect, you can't complain about the price.

THE TREASURES OF TOWER GROVE PARK

THE CHINESE PAVILION



By Don Hardin

This beautiful pavilion is patterned after the Anglo-Chinese temple houses of England and France. Hand carved wooden dragons decorate the roof corners. The perfect setting is created by a surrounding grove of Chinese Ginkgo trees. The Friends of Tower Grove Park lovingly restored this remarkable pavilion in 1992.

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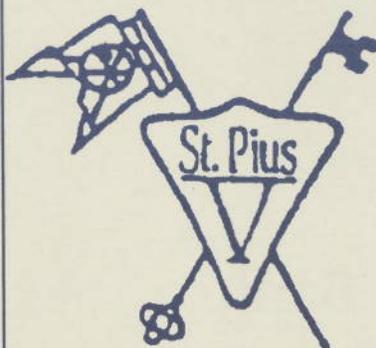
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TGH RECIPE CORNER

By Audrey Anderson

Veda and Jim Lynn met while living in Tower Grove Heights, they raised their children here, and are active in the neighborhood. Veda is the block captain for the 3800 block of Utah, and Jim was the treasurer for the neighborhood organization for several years. Veda has agreed to share one of her family's favorite recipes. Since she was a working mom, a pressure cooker was a shortcut or meal preparation. If you don't have one, a covered pot on top of the stove will do the trick in about 30-40 minutes.

Porcupine Meatballs

1 lb. ground chuck or sirloin
1/2 cup white rice
3/4 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup chopped green pepper
1/2 tsp. basil
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. black pepper
1 can tomato soup or 1 8-oz. can tomato sauce, plus 3/4 cup water



Put the meat in a large bowl and mix in the rice, onions, pepper, basil, salt and pepper. Form into 1 1/2" balls.

In 4-quart pressure cooker, combine soup or sauce and water. Heat to boiling. Add meatballs. Cover and cook at 15-lbs. pressure for ten minutes. Remove from heat and allow pressure to reduce gradually.

Veda got this recipe from her mother. The name porcupine describes the appearance of the meatballs as the rice pops out during cooking. Serve with a vegetable and salad. Yum!

CLEANING UP AROUND THE HEIGHTS

By Bridget Moss

Suburban Journals: If you don't read your Journal, too many Journals are delivered to your house, or the Journal is being delivered to a vacant house nearby, you can stop delivery of this paper. The number for the circulation department is 351-1903.

Grocery carts: With two supermarkets conveniently located near the Heights, grocery carts are bound to find their way into the neighborhood. If you see a grocery cart that was stolen from a store and left on the street, sidewalk or alleys call the store to have them retrieve it. Schnucks: 772-5500, National: 664-7240.

Trash: Remember to use the right dumpsters for the right purpose. Trash dumpsters for household trash, and yard waste dumpsters for grass clippings, leaves, small fallen branches, etc. Don't overstuff dumpsters. Place bulk trash items out a few days before the monthly deadline - the third Monday of the month. The items will be picked up sometime during that week. Further instructions are available from the Refuse Division, or are located on some dumpsters.

Recycling: In addition to the 26 recycling drop-off locations in the City of St. Louis, the city has begun a cost-sharing program to provide curbside recycling. The program costs residents \$24 a year. To find out more, call the Refuse Division at 353-8877 or Earth Circle Recycling at 664-1450. If you would like a list of the free drop-off locations, call 353-8877.

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TOWER GROVE SOUTH STRATEGIC PLANING

By Elizabeth Braznell

Tower Grove Heights, Grand Oak Hill and Parkside South are part of the largest and most populous City-defined neighborhood, Tower Grove South which is bounded by Grand, Arsenal, Kingshighway, and Chippewa.

Our neighborhood can point with pride to many wonderful assets: proximity to Tower Grove Park, diversity in population and housing stock, variety of businesses, and, most of all, dedication of our residents.

TGS is a huge neighborhood in area and population. Serving such a community will always provide challenges and opportunities. To meet these opportunities, a community-based strategic planning process has begun. It is hoped the resulting plan will guide development of Tower Grove South.

The initial meeting with Yalew Maherka, project facilitator from the Missouri Department of Economic Development decided:

- Planing must be based in the community-not come from the top down.
- We must start from our assets, not our needs.
- Communication is essential.

People from all areas of our neighborhood will be asked to participate.

There will be groups addressing different issues and seeking solutions (and their implementation). Town Hall meetings will be held to listen to ideas and to keep you informed. Teams from already established organizations and services will be asked to share information and achievements. Community leaders from every facet of our neighborhood will be able to offer feedback. In time, it is hoped that the entire Tower Grove South neighborhood will be able to set goals and develop a strategic plan to achieve them.

This is an ambitious project which needs everyone's support. If you receive a survey, please take a moment to fill it out and return it. If you're asked to a meeting, please come. You, as tenants, residents, and property owners, are the neighborhood. Your input is essential to the success of Tower Grove Heights and Tower Grove South.

CURVE OF THE EARTH

By Don Hardin

"Take care of the luxuries, and the necessities will take care of themselves." -*Frank Lloyd Wright*. As you enter Curve of the Earth at 3111 South Grand, you instantly understand the Frank Lloyd Wright quote above the door. Everywhere you look there are necessary luxuries and luxurious necessities.



Eric Carmichael and Nathan Roberts are the creators of this unique store. Eric and Nathan, originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, are now urban based on the south side. "We complement each other well - Nathan is very creative, and I have the business skills," says Carmichael. Roberts says, however, that Carmichael is no slouch when it comes to good creative ideas. A fan of Frank Lloyd Wright, Roberts also designed the company's logo and business cards using a Wright-designed font. "We're targeting a lot of different groups, from families living in 100-year-old homes to loft dwellers," says Roberts, "so the price range will be such that there will always be something someone can afford, from a \$2.50 candle holder to a \$3,000 velvet couch."



Carmichael believes in supporting his local community. "Since moving here and buying a home" he says, "I've become very passionate about life here. I am taken by the fact that, although I do live in a big city, this neighborhood has a small town, Main Street feel. And that's what we would like to build on with our new store." His plans are to donate 10 percent of his personal profits to a youth program at the Tyler Place Presbyterian Church in the Shaw neighborhood. "I want to help make our neighborhood an even better place to live," he says.

In the future, the pair intends to add special departments featuring kitchen and bath collections. The partners are prepared for quick expansion as business grows. With an eye toward the future, they gutted the basement of the store, exposed the brick and poured a new concrete floor. The lower level will potentially add 3,000 square feet of showroom space to the main floor's 2700 square feet and the 300 square foot loft.

Store hours are 11:00 - 7:00 Monday through Friday and 10:00 - 6:00 on Saturday. Check out "The Curve"! It's another reason why Grand South Grand is THE place to shop.



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Nifty Plants For Both Sides Of The Street

By Richard R. Clinebell II

Tower Grove Heights is very interesting to a mad botanist, in part because of the North-South compartment of its streets. These two environments — the north side of a house and the south side of a house — are very different in the environments they present for the urban gardener.

Zee North Side. The first six or ten feet to the direct north of houses are a wonderful environment for shade-loving plants. My interests are strongly biased toward natives, and here, this tiny little zone is a perfect haven for the woodland flowers of the Midwest. If you are from a rural background, and went morel mushroom hunting when you were a kid, this is your chance to replicate in miniature that memory. Here I have introduced three species of trillium (red, snow and great), hepaticas, anemones, Dutchman's breeches, bellflowers, violets in white, blue, purple and yellow, bloodroot,

and even ginseng and goldenseal, as well as a diverse menu of some of Missouri's many splendid native ferns. Other non-natives which like this area include hostas, bleeding hearts and "elephant" ears. All of these fine plants would fry anywhere else in the neighborhood.

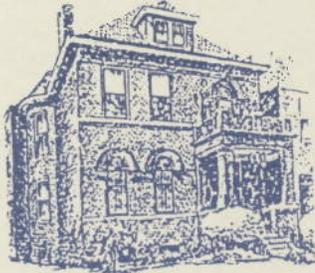
Zee South Side. The south sides of our brick homes are somewhere between the Black Hole of Calcutta and the thermal springs of Yellowstone without the water. They are very hot and challenging to most plants in the dog days of summer. Nevertheless, with occasional summer watering, you can grow just about anything on the south side of the house which is sun-loving. Such native prairie flowers as liatris, black-eyed susan, spiderwort and rattlesnake master are floral treasures which I have spotted in the yards of others here in the neighborhood. Non-natives that do

well include roses, tulips, daffodils, iris and so on across the gardener's palette, as long as you stay away from those shade-loving species that belong on zee north side.

In-between Zee Houses. This is a woodland scene, which should be treated exactly like zee north side.

Zee Back Yard. This is a combination of zee north side and zee south side of zee house, depending upon the placement of trees. We cook a bit in the summer, because of all that heat being soaked up by all those bricks, so all neighborhood plants are very grateful and appreciative for at least a little water through those dry summer hot spells.

Small is Beautiful. Though our yards are small, they present a diversity of habitats for all manner of tasty plants, both shade-loving, sun-loving and intermediates. Here at 3820 Hartford there are something like 200 species of native wildflowers from all parts of the moisture and amount-of-sun spectrum. Elsewhere in the neighborhood are many fine gardens. Like our restored architectural detail, a garden of flowers is a gift to all who see it. And the butterflies and other critters like them too.



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Return this form and your check to your block representative or mail to: Membership, TGHNA, 3735 Connecticut, St. Louis, MO 63116.

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meetings

Come to our meetings 7:15 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at The First Church of Divine Science, 3617 Wyoming. A bake off is planned for the March 23rd meeting. Bring your favorite homemade or bought baked goods for an informal judging and meet your neighbors! Stay tuned to details for "Rhythm and Roots" an upcoming plant sale tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 24.

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