

# Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Volume 4, Number 1

August 31, 1991



## FLAT OUT FUN

Nine dollars and four cents a day. It's all I thought about when the apartment was empty. That's how much I was losing daily from the vacancy. I wasn't having any fun and I felt like a failure. Then one day I realized that I was the only one bothered by all this. I had no boss and only my taxman would yell at me, but who cared? I was doing all I could to attract good tenants.

That was years ago and since then my wife and I have truly enjoyed owning some of the classic flats of Tower Grove Heights. I started wondering if anyone else actually enjoyed the impressive and spacious two-family flats they owned. Since Tower Grove Heights has many quality owners, I asked several about the fun and attraction of it all.

I asked Diane what stood out when she bought her two-family flat in the 3600 block of Arsenal. She said, "Let's see, the fireplace mantels, the original woodwork, the pocket doors, stained glass, the two-story garage and the carved cherubs on all the built-in cabinetry." Although Diane

works on her home daily, I wondered how she could stand living amid the remaining work. "I ignore it," she said. "I plant flowers to make it look pretty." Why would she do all this to herself, I asked? Diane summed it up by saying, "To bring back a grand building. Just owning and living in it is fun."

The lives of flat owners become instantly more colorful. Once you lift your pen from the contract, the destiny of an eighty-year-old structure that has heard talk of the Titanic, Depression and two world wars drops right in your lap. Where I work, the guys do one of two things every weekend - cut the grass or wash the car (sometimes both !!). Compare that to finding the builder's signature and date on the back of an obscure piece of your molding or getting a call from a tenant who tells you he has just seen an apparition in his living room.

When Tom's friends saw his recently acquired two-family flat in the 3600 block of Connecticut, one of them got real nervous. "Don't tell my wife what you paid,"

he said, "We just paid twice the price for half the house." Tom wasn't looking for investment property when he bought his flat. "I wanted something I could convert into a house. I ended up with size, value, beautiful architecture and great neighbors." He wondered why more people don't consider conversions. "Everything is easier to work on because the utilities are split," Tom adds, "and you automatically end up with two full bathrooms." Tom now has over 2400 sq. ft. of magnificent living. A southsider all his life, Tom looked surprised when I asked why he bought here. "I've lived in this area all my life. I wouldn't even consider anywhere else."

Then there's the neighbors. Owning a flat in our neighborhood is a social thing, too. When you open the doors to air out the place, people walk right in. Normally, the block sends over somebody to check you out. Word spreads like satin oil if you're painting over wallpaper or remov-

*Continued on Page 13*

## FROM THE EDITOR

I'm a child of the suburbs. Webster Groves, in fact. When I returned to St. Louis after a 14-year absence, I asked friends and acquaintances about places to live. One coworker suggested the area south of Tower Grove Park. My mother and I drove over one day (my husband, Jay, was still overseas), and were impressed by the beautiful houses and well-kept lawns. I rented a flat, and a couple of weeks later, Jay and I moved in.

People were amazed that we chose to live in the City. I tell them about the large rooms, big trees, and pleasant neighbors, and then I tell them a story that sums up my feeling about Tower Grove Heights.

It was Memorial Day, and very hot. I

walked down to Gustine Market (I love having those little markets in the neighborhood!) to get some cheese. Chris, the owner, was gone, and his brother, Arthur, was behind the counter. An elderly woman was there, buying some groceries. She didn't speak English very well, and Arthur was having a hard time understanding her.

Eventually, she made it clear that she needed some meat to cook for dinner. Arthur said that all he had was some ham from the deli, and she said she wanted that. Her bill was over \$20, and when she reached for her wallet, she discovered that she had no money with her.

By this time, several other customers had come in, and all were waiting pa-

tiently in the heat. The lady was very embarrassed, and asked if she could bring the money the next day. Arthur, without hesitation, said yes. Two of the customers asked the lady if she needed help getting the groceries home.

She hasn't been back to pay her bill. But that's not the point. The kindness and generosity that Arthur showed, the patience of the customers as they waited, and the thoughtfulness of those who asked if they could help are indicative of the characteristics that I love about our neighborhood.

And that's why I live here.

*Elizabeth Braznell*  
Elizabeth Braznell

## The Tower Grove Heights Gazette

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St. Louis MO 63163

## ON GRAND

In each issue of the Gazette, this column will include information about current events on Grand South Grand and a highlight of one of the businesses.

Check out the construction under way at the corner of Grand and Connecticut. The King and I restaurant is moving to this new totally renovated and expanded location.

On August 7th, Streetside Records opened its 12th store in the greater St. Louis area. The new store is the first business at the Square On Grand Development at 3100 South Grand (Grand and Arsenal).

I spoke with the president of Streetside Records, John Mandelker, who told me that this will be the 22nd store to open in the four-state-wide chain. The company, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, has other stores located in Kansas, Illinois, and Indiana.

The store on Grand South Grand is one of the largest Streetside outlets in the St. Louis area, with approximately 4200 square feet of floor space. Tapes, records, videos, and, of course, CDs are the main attractions. Associated music accessories fill out the bill. Carrying cases, cleaners, batteries, storage units, in short, anything you might need to add to your listening pleasure is offered.

These days, one can't talk of music without saying a few words about the musical phenomena of the decade ... CDs. If you have not yet listened to classical, folk, rock, any kind of music with the startling realism that CDs offer, then you have a musical treat in store. Streetside, recognizing the popularity of CDs, offers all CDs at 20% off every Tuesday.

Come join the fun at Streetside Records and welcome the manager, Steve Boston, to Grand South Grand.

Operating hours are 9:30 am to 9:30 pm Monday through Saturday and 12:00 to 5:00 pm Sunday.

*Don Hardin*



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Regular admission to the Garden is \$2 for visitors aged 13-64, \$1 for adults 65 and older, and free for children 12 and younger. Garden members are admitted free. Admission is free to everyone Wednesdays and Saturdays until noon.

# ASSOCIATION TARGETS BLOCK

At the general meeting July 21, residents of the 3800 block of Wyoming voiced concerns about the graffiti that has been appearing in the neighborhood. Groups of youth have been seen in the area, and seem to concentrate on this particular block. It was decided that the Association would target the 3800 block of Wyoming for special attention to stop the problem before it escalates and spreads.

On July 29, Alderman Gerry Osborn and ConServe Officer Patti Boyer met with interested residents to determine the extent of the problem and identify possible solutions. Pete Fick led a spirited discussion, and it was decided that owners of problem buildings would be called when their tenants created a disturbance. These calls are to alert absentee landlords to the situation and to inform them that the neighborhood residents consider the issue serious. Absentee landlords will be made aware of the Association's Tenant/Buyer Referral Service, which can help landlords with effective tenant screening procedures, leases, etc.

Residents are encouraged to call the police at 231-1212 whenever they see

youth loitering, evidence of criminal activity, or are disturbed by excessive noise. When you call this number, your call is not traced, and you need not give your name, address, or telephone number. Your calls not only tell the police of a problem, but let them know that Tower Grove Heights is serious about crime prevention.

Preventative measures you can take:

Turn on your front and back porch lights. It's the cheapest crime prevention available!

Sit on your front porch in the evenings. Criminals will go elsewhere if they see residents are watching.

Take a walk—especially on 3800 Wyoming. Get some exercise and meet your neighbors. Take a trash bag and pick up some litter.

If we want our streets safe, we have to make them that way. While it's tempting to sit in our living rooms with the drapes closed, this is exactly what criminals want. If we all put in a little effort, we can keep our neighborhood safe.

*Elizabeth Braznell*

## RESIDENT PROFILE

For Janis Bello, living on Utah Place in Tower Grove Heights is the fulfillment of a childhood dream. Born and raised in the Resurrection parish of St. Louis (Grand and Meramec area), Janis often visited her Uncle Ray and Aunt Kitty Wingbermuehle, longtime residents of the 3600 block of Utah Place.

"All the big, elegant homes - I always fantasized about living here," she recalls, "even when I was little."

It was through her Aunt Kitty and Uncle Ray that Janis and her husband Dennis found out about the house they bought fourteen years ago. Her childhood fantasy became a reality on the very day of their wedding. "People thought we spent the morning of our wedding feeling nervous about getting married, when actually we were busy signing papers for the house!" she laughs.

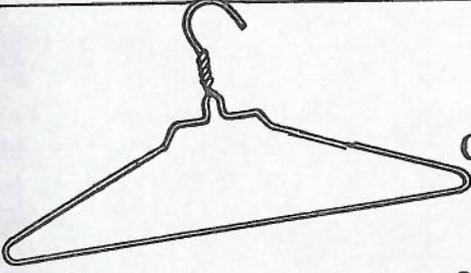
The busy parents of four children, aged 7-13, Janis and Dennis, a foreman for Kirberg Roofing, are also active in the neighborhood.

As a block captain for the past three years, Janis has helped strengthen her block's participation in the Association, which she feels has done a lot to improve the neighborhood, especially because of the networking.

"It has brought a lot of people together from different blocks who would never have had a reason to meet," she believes. "People are not only more aware of what's going on in the neighborhood, but also of what other people are doing to their houses. This motivates them to fix up their own."

Though the Bellos occasionally consider the possibility of living in the country some day (they love to fish and be outdoors), for Janis, Tower Grove Heights has everything City living has to offer, such as excellent restaurants, good parochial schools, the park and nearby Botanical Garden, the library, and the ten-minute proximity to any other part of the City. "Add to those pluses the fact that it is also a social, family-oriented community," she says, "it's just a great place to live."

*Anita Barker*



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# ELECTION OF OFFICERS



Elections of officers of the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association are scheduled for the November meeting, so it's time to start working on getting candidates. If you are interested in having more impact on what the Association does in the future, this is the time to step forward and be an officer! All who have been paid members for at least 60 days before the election are eligible to vote. This will be the third round of elections since the organization was founded.

The Board of Directors of the Association includes 5 elected officers, 6 appointed at-large advisory directors, and the 4 committee chairpersons. The elected officers are the President, President-elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Secretary. The advisory members are the State Representative, the Alderman, the past president of the Association, a representative of the Grand Business District, a member of the Tower Grove South Housing Corporation, and a lawyer. The committees whose chairs are on the board are block captains, fun and fundraising, promotion and marketing, and publications.

The advisory members are elected by other organizations or appointed, the committee chairmen are elected by their committees, and the officers are elected by the dues-paying members of the Association.

There are two ways a candidate can be put on the ballot for the election: either be nominated by the nominating committee or be proposed at the September general meeting. The candidates proposed by the nominating committee will be presented at the September meeting and all nominees from both sources will be listed in the October Gazette.

There are four offices up for election: the current President-elect automatically assumes the office of President and we elect a new President-elect. The candidate receiving a majority of votes wins the office.

The President-elect plans meeting agendas, announces meetings by making flyers to distribute to all residents and attends Association meetings and certain city functions and hearings.

The Treasurer is responsible for the funds of the Association, maintains complete financial records, disburses all payments, files income tax returns, and submits monthly financial reports at the Executive Committee meetings.

The Secretary records minutes of meetings of the Association and of the meetings of the Executive Committee. The Secretary also maintains the minutes of the meetings of all of the standing committees of the Association.

The Assistant Secretary fills in for the Secretary when the Secretary is absent and also maintains an up-to-date membership list for the Association.

All elected officers must be able to attend the monthly board meetings and the bi-monthly association general meetings. To be qualified for office, a person must have been a member of the Association for the last year. Terms for all offices are one year; the President-elect serves one year and the next year as President.

The nominating committee is seeking qualified and interested persons who would like to serve in one of the four elected offices.

They hope to have a least one candidate for each office; more than one candidate would be ideal.

It takes many interested and involved residents to keep the Association going. There are many different roles you could fill which require different amounts of involvement and responsibility. If you are interested in becoming an officer or want to nominate someone, please contact a member of the nominating committee. The members of the nominating committee this year are: Pete Fick (771-9183), Tricia Heliker (773-7130), Bruce Hinterleitner (773-5874), Veda Lynn (771-2928), and Jay Rosloff (773-1773).

Remember, if you are not a TGHNA member and you want to vote, IT'S NOT TOOLATE. Join before or at the September meeting and you will be eligible to vote at the November election.

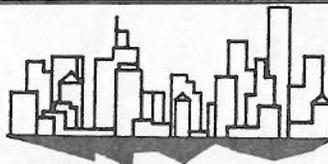
Mike Kriz



## SEPTEMBER MEETING

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association will meet September 15 at 7 p.m. at the First Divine Science Church, 3617 Wyoming.

The candidates for the November election will be introduced. Pete Fick will update us on the efforts to curb noise, loitering, and trash problems on Wyoming. Afterwards, there will be a discussion on residents' concerns. This is your night to tell the Board what you think! Come and speak out!



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# HORTICULTURAL CORNER

## Pruning



To many gardeners, the art of pruning trees is mysterious and misunderstood. However, next to watering, pruning may very well be one of the most important plant maintenance tasks.

Pruning is the removal of part of a plant, alive or dead, for the benefit of the whole plant. Proper tools are essential. The best tools are a sturdy pair of bypass pruners and a saw that cuts when pulled. Proper pruning tools will prevent torn or ragged cuts. Torn cuts will not heal properly and will leave an area exposed for decay.

Good pruning cuts should be made just forward of the branch bark ridge, found between the tree trunk and the point at which the branch originates from the trunk. Stubs left by improper pruning cuts eventually will rot and spread rot to the main tree trunk.

When pruning a tree, the first priority is to remove diseased, dying or dead parts. This initial step is important in preventing disease from spreading and infecting healthy branches.

Many flowering trees produce two types of vigorous shoots from latent buds. Latent buds that develop in the trunk or lateral branches are called "water sprouts." These can quickly overpower a tree and rob it of valuable nutrients. Water sprouts can be identified by their vertical growth habit and should be removed at the point of origin.

Suckers, latent buds that develop from the roots, are also detrimental to the health and vigor of the tree. These should be removed at or below ground level.

Trees that have not been pruned on a regular basis often will develop branches that compete or rub against each other. These must be removed to prevent other branches from being damaged and ultimately dying back.

Trees that have not been properly pruned often develop weak or narrow crotches. The crotch of the tree is any place where two branches come together. A wide crotch, about a 30 to 70 degree angle, should be promoted if at all possible. A weak crotch can result in severe damage during high winds.

Selective removal of branches in a mature tree's crown will allow greater air and light penetration. Many insects and diseases thrive in a stagnant air environment. Improving air circulation through a plant's crown can prevent many of these problems without spraying. If, however, insects and diseases do become a problem, a more open crown will allow for greater spray penetration.

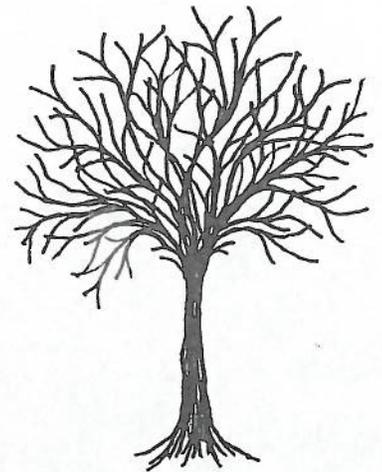
Air and light penetration are important factors in a tree's flower and fruit development. Without adequate air and light, the flowering and fruit production will be greatly diminished.

Correct pruning is important in maintaining a plant's size and form. Thinning will reduce a tree's density, but will not affect its overall size. Without reduction pruning, a plant will quickly grow out of proportion to the surrounding landscape. It is important to be familiar with a tree's natural form so that its appropriate shape can be maintained.

Prune your tree in the winter if you want to develop the tree's structure, but be careful not to overprune during this dormant period. Overpruning will result in an excess of new spring growth. Prune in the summer to inhibit growth; summer is a good time to control a plant's shape and size.

Pruning is an art and a science that requires practice and years of observing plant reaction. Patience is critical. It is always better to remove too little than to remove too much. These pruning guidelines will not only produce a well shaped tree, but one that will remain healthy and vigorous for many years.

*Benjamin Chu*  
Superintendent and Curator of the  
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# RECIPE

## SPAGHETTI PIE

**Crust:** 6 oz. spaghetti  
2 tbsp butter  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup parmesan cheese

Cook spaghetti, drain, stir in butter, eggs, cheese.  
Line greased pie pan with spaghetti.

**Filling:** 1 lb. hamburger  
1/2 cup onions (optional)  
1/4 cup green pepper (optional)  
8 oz. can of tomato sauce  
6 oz. can of tomato paste  
1 tsp. sugar  
1 tsp. oregano  
1/4 tsp garlic salt

Brown and drain hamburger, mix in ingredients, pour into crust, top with 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese, bake at 350 for 20 min. or until crust is brown and sauce is bubbling.

*Don Hardin*



# CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Tower Grove Park rocked this summer with Friday noontime concerts sponsored by City Property Company and Commerce Bank. The concerts, aimed at the workers on Grand, drew crowds from the surrounding area and beyond. On June 28, the Stupp Memorial Garden resounded with the big band sound of The Jazz Edge. July 19, Ptah Williams and his band thrilled the crowd with jazz, and the St. Louis Stompers played Dixieland jazz to an appreciative audience on August 2.

In addition to the music, Commerce Bank held drawings for attendance prizes and purchased hot dogs, potato chips, and cold sodas, and supplied the barbecue grill, charcoal, ice, cups, napkins and condiments. For the first concert, Tower Grove East Neighborhood Association manned the booth, and Commerce Bank donated the proceeds to the Association. The South Grand Business Association benefitted from the concession sales at the second concert. Not to be outdone, our own Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association volunteered to man the concession for the third concert.

Jim Lynn and Dave Difani grilled hot dogs to perfection, while Becky Staup, Veda Lynn, Sally Difani and Dana Winter sold dogs, chips, and sodas to the crowd. These energetic people brought \$177 into the Association's coffers.

Joe Curtis, Vice Chairman, Commerce Bank, says, "There are lots of folks in our community who are unaware of the jewel we have in Tower Grove Park.

Stupp seemed like a natural setting for a cultural offering that would introduce folks to the park."

Tim Boyle, President of City Property Company and developer of South Grand Square, says, "One of our purposes was to acquaint people from outside the area with Tower Grove Park and the Grand business district. Hopefully, some will stay for lunch and discover the shops on Grand."

Mr. Boyle went on to say, "If we do it again next year, it will be earlier in the spring and later in the fall to take advantage of the cooler weather. Also, there will be no electronic music."

If surveys show that there is enough interest in the concerts, the Bank and City Property Company will consider sponsoring another series next year. Mr. Curtis said they may consider an "on-your-way-home-from-work" series, such as the one in Clayton.

Many thanks to Commerce Bank and City Property Company, and to Dana, Sally, Veda, Becky, Dave and Jim for their hard work.

*Elizabeth Braznell*



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# JULY GENERAL MEETING

Mr. James Hauser, Collections Manager at the St. Louis Science Center, was the featured speaker at the general meeting of the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association held July 21. Mr. Hauser presented a very informative talk on the recent additions to the Science Center.

The Omnisphere (the silver domed building on the south side of Highway 40), the Causeway (the section built over the highway), and the underground tunnel linking the Causeway and the Planetarium are expected to be ready for the opening on the "new" Center on November 3.

Mr. Hauser says the philosophy of the Science Center is that both children and adults learn best by doing. Thus, most of the exhibits you will see at the Center are interactive. The ultimate goal of the Center is to get kids interested in science and in pursuing scientific careers. Surveys show that only about 21% of 8th-grade students have a serious interest in the sciences as careers. We in the U.S. are in desperate need of scientifically trained persons to compete with the rest of the work and, more importantly, live with our

environment. Mr. Hauser hopes the new exhibits awaiting us at the Center will stimulate interest in science.

The new domed building, in addition to exhibits, will house the Omnimax Theater, the world's largest four-story overhead motion-picture theater showing films on science, technology, and the world around us.

The Discovery Room provides hands-on exhibits for preschool through third-grade children and their families. Exhibits include a doctor's office, a cave, and a woodland native-American home.

The underground tunnel will show Civil-War era Missouri sewers with rats (in cages!), modern and historical mines, and a modern utilities tunnel.

The Hall of Ecology and the Environment will contain, among other exhibits, a life-like moving tyrannosaurus rex and a triceratops. Also featured are a momentum machine, a hot-air balloon, an 8-foot tall tornado, a genetics exhibit, and robots.

The Center also houses the world's most accurate flat map that locates earthquakes

and hurricanes right before your eyes.

There is no admission charge to the Science Center; however, there is a small entrance fee to some areas, such as the Discovery Room.

A total of \$34 million is needed to complete the additions to the Center. Approximately \$29 million has been raised, primarily through donations from local industry. To become a member of the Science Center or to make a donation, please call 289-4400.

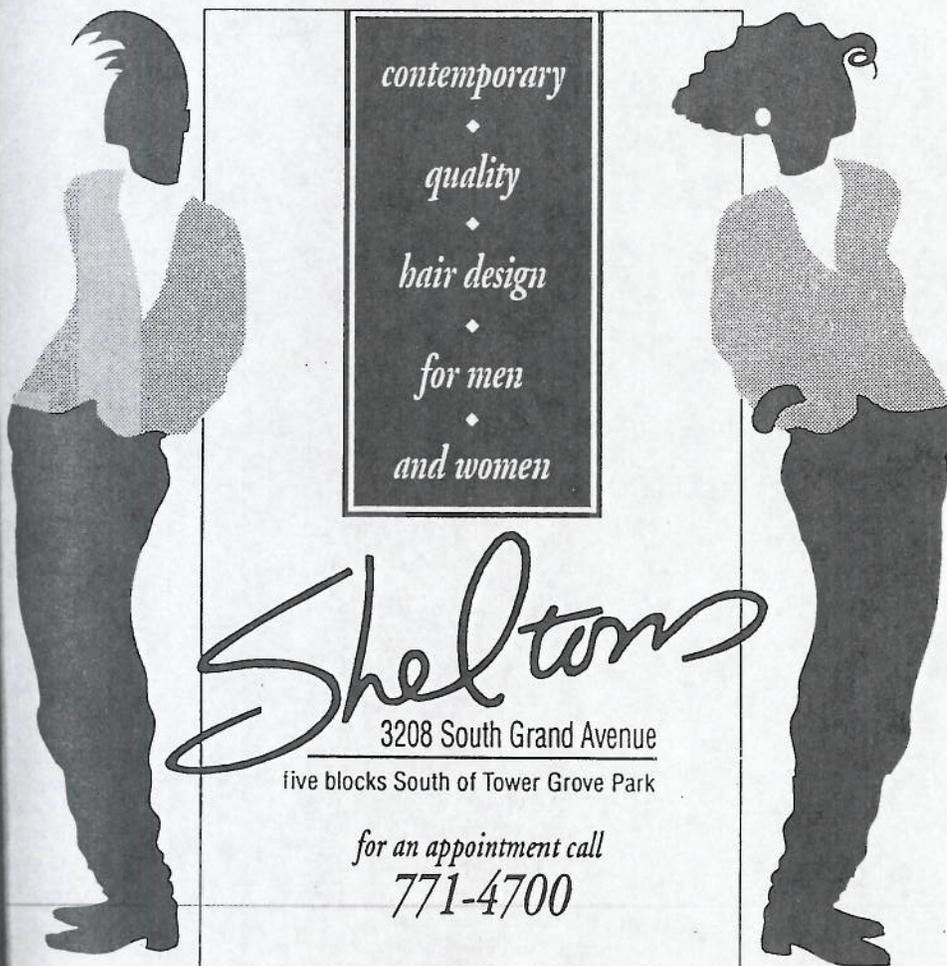
During the business portion of the meeting, two important issues were discussed with much emotion. The first was the recent appearance of graffiti on some of the buildings and sidewalks in the area. Patti Boyer, ConServ Officer, assured us that the police are working to identify the type of graffiti and those responsible. Operation Brightside has been removing the graffiti when they are notified.

We must remove the graffiti as quickly as possible in order to preserve the appearance of our neighborhood and to deter the individuals responsible. Please report any graffiti sighting to the police as quickly as possible.

The second discussion centered on combating the problems of absentee landlords, trash in the streets, and youth loitering on Wyoming. A committee was formed to help the residents on Wyoming with clean-ups. A phone list was formed for calling both the police and absentee landlords when the problems arise.

Everyone in the neighborhood is encouraged to walk, drive or cycle around our neighborhood, especially on Wyoming. This is a very effective method of deterring crime, as is keeping our porch lights on. And isn't that in the best interest of us all!

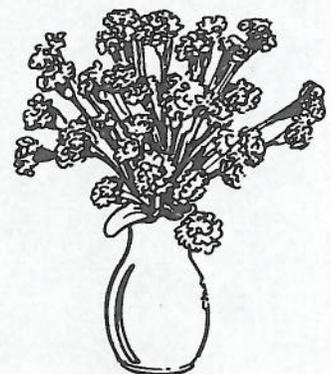
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# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT-BRINGS OUT THE BEST

Residents of a number of blocks within Tower Grove Heights exhibited their community spirit on August 6, by turning out to celebrate the night and their neighborhood.

"National Night Out," a national observance of community pride and neighborhood awareness has been observed in St. Louis for the last several years. Each year our area has expanded its participation in it. This year several blocks organized events for their residents.

The 3600 through 3800 blocks of Wyoming used the occasion to invite their neighbors to share watermelon and ideas. Sally Difani, block captain of 3600, said the American Legion post at the corner of Spring and Wyoming served as the focus as neighbors gathered to discuss what is going on on their block and what they can do to maintain the community.

The 3600 through 3800 blocks of Hartford used the occasion to hold their annual block party, bringing neighbors together for a potluck barbecue, volleyball, water balloon toss, and various games for kids and adults alike. Becky Staup and Jody Heliker organized the fun for their respective blocks.

The 3800 block of Juniata initiated a bike decorating competition for the first time; with cash prizes for the winners. Anita Barker says, "Everybody just has a good time having the block closed ... and having free reign with the whole block closed off."

Veda Lynn offered her back yard as the center of activity for 3800 Utah, offering soda, beer, and snacks as an enticement to bring her neighbors together.

Things were more subdued than at the annual block party on 3800 Connecticut, but with four block co-captains, the usual level of participation was in evidence. A cookie exchange and lemonade social served as a good way to bring the neighbors out.

For most in the area, the night served as a reminder of what they like about city living: that they belong to a community.

*Tom Booth*

# WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD



We would like to welcome recent newcomers to the neighborhood: Jim and Diane Sears at 3654 Wyoming; Tom Coriell and Michell Schultz, and their children Tom Coriell - 16 yrs., Magen Coriell - 13 yrs., Jon Coriell - 11 yrs., Larry Schultz - 8 yrs., Matt Coriell - 7 yrs., Danielle Schultz - 5 yrs., and Eric Coriell - 4 yrs. at 3618 Connecticut; Jack and

Dana Winter (again) at 3735 Hartford.

If you have recently moved to Tower Grove Heights or have not yet received your "welcome bag", please call me, Margie Meyer, at 776-8388. If my recorder answers, be sure to leave your name, phone number and address. WELCOME!!

*Margie Meyer*



## THUMBS UP

Do you find yourself driving along Utah Place more often than usual this summer? The parkway is a special treat to all who walk or drive the two blocks from Grand to Gustine.

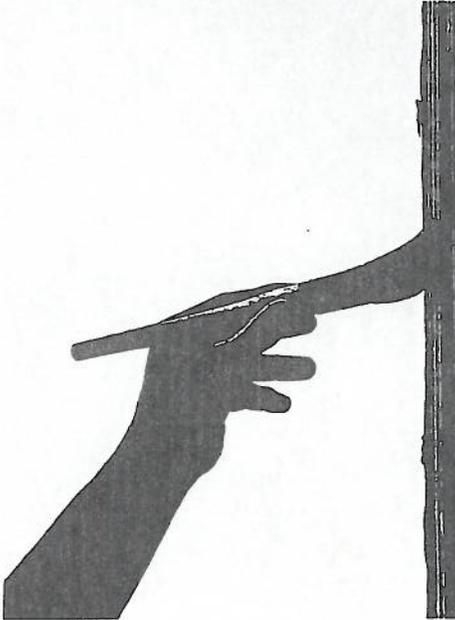
This didn't just happen and the residents who make it happen are to be commended. Several trees were purchased by a recycling program with newspapers and with private funds donated to the project. Other residents regularly water specific area of the parkway. Because litter is blown or dropped by thoughtless individuals, there must be a concentrated effort by residents to police the area one or twice a day. All

this TLC has paid big dividends and Utah Place residents have reason to be proud of their success. We all enjoy the beauty and refreshing atmosphere of the parkway and we thank the residents of Utah Place for their efforts in keeping the parkway an asset to the neighborhood.

*The Thumb*



THUMBS UP AWARD



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## BARKING OUR BRATS

If you missed the 'Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration' in Tower Grove Park and the Missouri Botanical Garden, you missed out on a great day filled with family fun and activities. Despite the soaring temperatures, thousands of people descended on the Park to listen to the various concerts; quadricycle around the pond; picnic under the large oak trees; and to chow down at the many food booths that lined the main drive.

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association was there in full force selling hot brats, TGHNA t-shirts... and having a great time! The Association grossed \$640 that day. After all the expenses were doled out, the profits broke down this way: \$247 on the brats, \$83 on t-shirts and \$4 on notecards.

Many thanks to all the hardworking volunteers who gave up part of their holiday weekend to do their part for the neighborhood: Diane Hurwitz, Ruth Schnurbusch, Betsy Vanderheyden, Veda and Jim Lynn, Dave Difani, Steve Telford, Gerry Stemmler, Don Hardin, Sande Vieira, Tom Booth, Jean Iezzi, Mary and Ed Schroeder, Tricia and Jody Heliker and Pat Linebach. Thanks to Ben Chu and Janice Nesser for organizing the event. A special thank you to our State Representative, Pat Dougherty, for barking our brats!

*Benjamin Chu*

## SO, WHAT'S A BLOCK CAPTAIN

Perhaps you have wondered: just what do block captains do? Besides handing out flyers and Gazettes, they serve many functions for you and the neighborhood. For instance, they act as a liaison between you and the Executive Board. They attend block captain meetings and report your concerns. The chair of the committee is a member of the Executive Committee, and relays these so they may be acted upon.

Block captains also help plan and implement many activities, such as the recent National Night Out parties, the upcoming "Welcome to the Neighborhood" get-together, and Holiday in the Heights. They also greet new residents through our welcome bag program, and try to get everyone involved in the neighborhood.

With this many jobs, you can see how having several block captains for each block is beneficial. While we are always looking for volunteers to help in any way, certain blocks could benefit from additional co-captains, especially Humphrey (both blocks), 3800 Wyoming, and 3600-3700 Juniata. If you would like to become more active in your neighborhood, whether for a specific event or project or by becoming a block captain, contact Diane Hurwitz at 776-7360. We hope to see some new faces soon!

*Diane Hurwitz*



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## MARKET FARE

Market Fare Food Service is being offered to you once again.

Enclosed in this issue is an order form. Please look it over carefully. You will find many items that are unavailable at the grocery stores. Most of the meats are individually wrapped and freezer ready - hassle free! Defrosting is easy. Just place wrapped meat in water and in 15 minutes your meat is ready to go. The chicken filets and turkey steaks are individually frozen flat - convenient to use and low fat, too. The cheese is smooth, creamy and delicious.

I could go on and on, but why not order one or two items and see for yourself? Why not share a good thing and ask a friend to order? They'll be glad you did!

For each order placed, the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association gets 10%. You benefit by getting quality foods that are unique and often a bargain. Whether we continue offering the service depends on how many people order. So call Market Fare at 343-8070 so we can all enjoy these foods that are just a cut above! Thank you!

*Margie Meyer*



## CLASSIFIEDS

The Classifieds are open to all Tower Grove Heights residents at the cost of \$1.25 for the first two lines and 50 cents for every line thereafter. To place a classified call Elizabeth at 773-1773.

**FOR SALE** - Spacious, beautiful, 9 room home. Three stories. Living room, Dining room, Kitchen and Bath with shower on first floor. Two large and two small bedrooms and a Bath with a tub on the second floor. Two large rooms on the third floor. Air conditioned from basement to third floor. Wall-to-wall carpeting in all rooms except Kitchen and one room on the third floor. Ceiling fans throughout 1st and 2nd floors. Lots of closets and cabinets. Flowers all year round and 5 trees. 2-Car Garage with lots of shelves. Churches close by. Great neighbors. 3826 Connecticut. Call John at 772-3820 for appointment to see.

# NEWS AND NOTES

## BATTER UP!

June 24 was Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association night at Busch Stadium. We had such a good time that we've decided to do it again! The date is September 23, and we're playing the Montreal Expos. The regularly priced \$8.50 tickets are available from your block captain for ONLY \$7.00!! Or, call Jody Heliker at 773-7130. The Neighborhood Association receives \$1.50 for each ticket sold, so let's support the Association and the Cards!

## ALLEY BLITZ - October 19

Since this spring's Operation Brightside Blitz, some of Tower Grove Heights' alleys have become overgrown with weeds and littered with trash. The alleys are an integral part of our neighborhood and are used every day by residents, non-residents, and potential residents. Alley cleanliness is as important to maintain as is the upkeep of the front easement by the curb. Alleyside maintenance adds only a few extra minutes to the normal yardwork routine. So take a little extra time to pull the weeds and sweep the trash from the alley. This minimal effort will enhance the overall image of this wonderful neighborhood.

On Saturday October 19, at 10 AM, the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association will sponsor an alley cleanup similar to this spring's Brightside Blitz. We urge all residents to come out and help clean the alleys. If large items need to be disposed of, they can be placed in the alley

before Monday, October 21, our regularly scheduled bulk-trash pickup time. More information will be available from your block captain in the upcoming weeks.

Some other alley notes ... if dumpsters need repair or replacement, call your block captain or the Citizens Service Bureau at 622-4800 and report the address of the damaged dumpster. Big trash pickup is the third week of every month. Large items should be placed next to the dumpster, but no closer than 3 feet, on the third Monday before 8 A.M.

*Benjamin Chu*



## 3800 CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS

Plans are underway for the 3rd Annual Block Party and Pot Luck Dinner on 3800 Connecticut. Last year's event was a great success with over 100 residents turning out to visit with their neighbors, sample favorite foods and to take part in the volleyball tournament. If you would like to be on the planning committee for this year's event, contact Janice Nesser 776-5780, Keely Cook 776-6800, or Margie Meyer 776-8388.

The date for this year's party has been set for Saturday, September 21 from 4pm-8pm. Mark your calendars!

## WHITE ELEPHANTS

It's a little early yet, but we wanted to remind you not to throw out your old furniture, kitchen items, books, lamps, linens, etc.

Since the Summerfest Flea Market and Yard Sale was so successful, it will be repeated this spring. Hopefully, we will have a collection point before the next Gazette. Remember, your junk can help support our neighborhood!

## IT'S COMING! IT'S COMING!

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association members' pot luck dinner will be October 6 at First Divine Science Church. Your block captain will be in touch to tell you what to bring, according to the first letter of your last name. Meat, bread, and non-alcoholic beverages will be furnished. Meet the candidates for our November Association election, and join your neighbors for fun and fellowship.

## GRAFFITI REMOVER AVAILABLE

Because of the recent rash of graffiti in the area, the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association has purchased some graffiti remover. This is available to residents for a nominal charge. It is important to notify the police of graffiti as soon as it appears. Call the police at 231-1212, then clean the graffiti off quickly. The longer it sets, the more difficult it is to remove, especially on concrete. To purchase some remover, call Jim Lynn, 771-2928. You may also call Operation Brightside, and they will come out and remove your graffiti.

## THE BLACK THORN

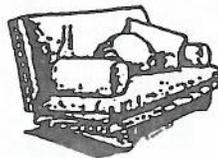
at Spring & Wyoming

"a neighborhood gathering place"

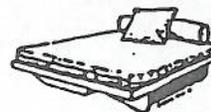


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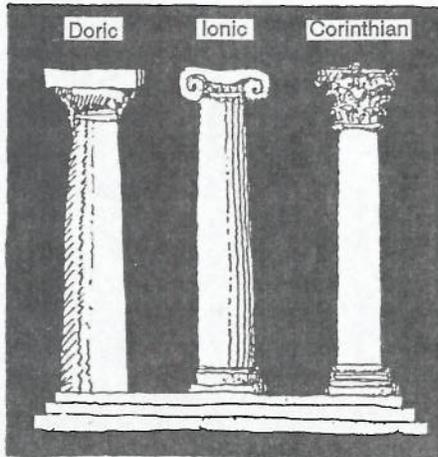
# COLUMN COLUMN



What? The summer vacation season is almost over and you still haven't taken that Mediterranean cruise? Another year has gone by without dinner next to that wine-dark sea and your photo taken in front of the Coliseum? Don't worry, much of what you missed can be enjoyed right here in the neighborhood. It's easy to find a ristorante as good as any in the old country and much of our architecture is similar to that of the classical world.

Classical architecture in Tower Grove Heights, you ask? True! And not just red-tiled roofs, either. Granted, you have to go elsewhere in St. Louis to view pretty good copies of famous Greek temples or the original Mausoleum of Halikarnassos, but some elements of ancient Greek and Roman decoration are as close as your front door stoop. The drawings accompanying this article illustrate the three classical orders of architecture established in the Greek-speaking parts of the ancient world over 2500 years ago. You recognize any of the capitals as being similar to ones on your home, or perhaps next door? That's because much of American architecture prior to WWII was heavily influenced by the neo-classical movement.

The neo-classical movement was inspired largely by the fabulous excavations of Pompey and Herculaneum begun in the mid-eighteenth century. Thomas Jefferson, for one, based his architectural designs on the principles and proportions of classical works. His influence, and the ideals of democracy ascribed to ancient



Greece, created the Federal-Classical style of architecture so representative of governmental buildings throughout the nation. This romantic expression of style carried through the gingerbread years of the Victorian age and disappeared only in the modern era which no longer supports the extravagance such labor-intensive work requires.

Traditionally, and probably due to its simplicity, the Doric column is considered to be older in style than the Ionic (but the matter remains as hotly debated as anything archaeologists debate hotly). Unfortunately, the pillow at the top of the modern capital is rarely as graceful as the original interpretations. The Corinthian style is said to represent acanthus leaves growing through a basket. It is by far the most ornate, and the style that survived

the longest into the Medieval period. In fact, there are some tremendous Medieval-style wooden half-columns on a few front door assemblies in the neighborhood.

The fact that columns on your (or your neighbor's) home are "only" of wood and not marble is nothing to feel short changed over.

Indeed, marble columns were a late development in the ancient world. Originally, the capital was stone in order to protect the end-grain of the tree trunk from rotting in the rain! What is often missed by the contractor, however, is the curving taper of the column. The well-turned pillar should be neither straight sided nor a truncated cone, but should arc gently in profile. Again, walk down the street and look for the ideal examples in the area.

Other wooden elements of ancient temples were also duplicated in marble. The triglyph was probably the ends of roofing beams while the guttae and mutules were the plates and pegs that held the beams in place. These are more rarely duplicated architectural elements in our neck of the town, and spotting them will require some patience. Good luck, tourists.

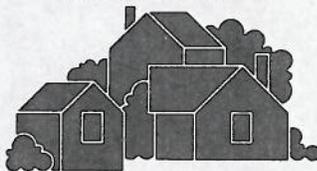
Next time: Window dressing.

Jay Rosloff



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## TENANTS, ANYONE?

Landlords, if you have an empty apartment, call the Tower Grove Heights Tenant Referral Service at 772-4987. We can help you find quality tenants, offer you hints on screening prospective tenants, and give you an example of a lease that will protect your rights and those of your tenants. All for free!

# ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT

This article is a hodge-podge of environmental information. I'm still recovering from my three-part rainforest epic! So, here are some answers to a few oft-asked questions.

1) Why can't we put all plastic containers on the same recycling bin?

**Answer:** Because it's not all the same type of plastic. If you check the bottom of your plastic container, you will see a number inside a triangle of arrows. That number specifies a particular blend of ingredients that make up that type of plastic.

There are a dozen different plastics out there. To get a good idea of this, look at a two-liter soda bottle and a plastic milk jug. Because milk jugs are always made of HDPE plastic and soda bottles are always made of PET plastic, these two containers are easily sortable and recyclable. But other plastic containers, usually cloudy or colored, could be any one of several different kinds. Since it would be costly to have workers at recycling centers sort the plastic, at this time it's best to buy items in glass containers rather than unrecyclable plastic.

2) What is xeriscaping?

**Answer:** Xeriscaping is landscaping with plants that require little water. To remember this term, think of Xerox copiers. They were so named because they use DRY (powdered) ink instead of liquid ink. "Xeros" is "dry" in Greek. Native plants are often used in xeriscap-

ing. People in the southwest often use cacti and yucca. In Missouri, we are fortunate to have a plethora of beautiful wildflowers to choose from. In our side-of-the-garage garden, we are gradually using more native perennials each year.

We have had luck with moonbeam coreopsis, black-eyed susans and hollyhocks. Purple cornflowers do well, too. For other ideas of what to plant, visit the prairie section of Shaw's Arboretum and Gilberg's Perennial farms. Buy plants or seeds from these places.

Never dig "wild" wildflowers. They usually die, and you would be taking something from a public place that belongs to everyone.

Xeriscaping is less work in the long run than conventional gardening, and you save water, too.

3) Why should I compost?

**Answer:** Lots of reasons! Twenty percent of our rapidly filling landfills are comprised of yard and vegetable waste. You create your own rich soil that you can use on your gardens and plants. And (here's the clincher!) as of January 1, we will be prohibited by law from putting yard waste in the dumpsters. City Hall is working on the problem of what to do with the waste, but I haven't heard much about this yet.

4) How do I get off mailing lists?

**Answer:** Aside from being annoying, junk mail produces tons of waste each year. Write to the address below and tell

them that you want off the main mailing list. I did this and have noticed some reduction in the amount of junk mail I receive. Keep in mind that if you give to certain causes or buy from catalogs, you may be on their private mailing lists. It's a good idea when donating or ordering to enclose a note requesting that your address not be "sold" to other companies. Write to: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, 6 East 43 Street, New York NY 10017-4646. Or, you can get a kit to stop junk mail by sending \$5.75 to Consumer Resource Institute, Dept. JM-12, P.O. Box 2180, Mill Valley CA 94942.

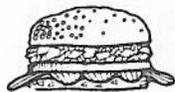
5) Where can I get information on bats and building bat house?

**Answer:** Bats are dynamite bug eaters, catching up to 600 pests, including mosquitoes, in one hour. Less than one-half of one percent of all bats have rabies, and you are far less likely to get bitten by a bat than by a dog. You can get information on bats by calling the Missouri Botanical Garden. They have bat houses in the gift shop. Check the Stupp Teacher Resource room of the Ridgway Center for more information. Or call the Zoo's Education Department at 781-0900. The Missouri Department of Conservation should be able to help you obtain plans to build the houses. Finally, an excellent book on bats is America's Neighborhood Bats by Tuttle.

As a last note, don't forget to buy recycled paper products for the upcoming school year!

Ruth Schnurbusch

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# THE RENOVATOR - Wallpapering

This is a continuation of a wallpapering article that appeared in the last edition of the Gazette. If you didn't read that issue, let me summarize by saying that the preparation of the surface to be papered is probably the most important step in the process. Without a stable base on which to adhere, your wallpaper is destined to peel.

When the wall is prepared, primed and sized, begin in the most inconspicuous corner. I prefer to start behind the entry door.

Measure the width of your paper and subtract one-half inch. With that measurement in mind, snap a plumb line with your chalk-line that distance from the corner. Next, measure the total height of the wall from baseboard to crown moulding and add three inches.

This is the length to cut your paper. This measurement can change, so remeasure after every third sheet or so. Care must be taken before cutting your paper that the measurements are correct. REMEMBER: measure twice, cut once.

Normally, pattern matches are best attempted at approximately eye level, or from waist to shoulder. A match over the entire sheet is asking a little much of both yourself and your paper!

The great debate over prepaste paper has been resolved. Feel free to paste your own if you're so disposed; everyone else will be done hours before those pastees are even close! Prepasted paper is not foolproof, however. There are some spe-

cific directions to be followed. If done properly, success is assured.

Finally, with prepasted, properly prepared paper in hand, you ascend the step ladder. Carefully unfold the top half of the "book" and stick the sheet to the wall, overlapping the crown moulding by about an inch. Position the edge of the paper along the chalk-line you snapped earlier. Smooth the paper with a damp sponge or dish towel, carefully removing all bumps, bubbles and wrinkles.

At any time during this process, the sheet can be moved and repositioned, either by lifting or sliding it.

When you feel that the paper has adhered sufficiently, unfold the remainder of the sheet and smooth it like before. The second sheet should be booked and then applied as above, butting it to the first sheet.

Butting vs. lapping is a constant debate among experts. Try both. Overlapping leaves small ridges; butting leaves small gaps.

The first piece hung on the next wall should be plumb and a chalk-line should be snapped because square and level changes from wall to wall. So does the height of the sheet. Keep measuring to avoid wasted material.

Cutting and patching your paper is easy if done while the paper is wet with a very sharp razor knife and a metal straight edge.

Once you've hung a few sheets, you'll

get a better idea of the durability and stretchability of your paper. Your speed and confidence will grow with each successive piece.

Steve Telford

## Flat Out Fun - Continued from Page 1

ing original mantels. A truly gifted neighborhood point person can suggest an idea and get you committed to doing it without your ever knowing why you liked his solution in the first place.

When Laura and Jim saw their flat in the 3800 block of Wyoming, it was a perfect fit. Not only did it have all the "goodies" (stained glass, pocket doors, natural woodwork, golden oak floors, etc.), but it also came with a long-time resident who wanted to remain downstairs while they worked upstairs. I had to write down eight things when I asked if there was any fun involved. Most centered around the personal satisfaction of watching their building evolve, seeing it "come alive" as Laura told me. But there's the people part, too. "You talk to people in the alley, at the fence and on the street. You can't help becoming involved in it all," said Jim. While their flat is considered an investment right now, "It gives more purpose to our lives and improves our mental attitude," they told me, "as well as fulfilling the basic need to be needed." What would they be doing without their "second home"? "Killing time," said Jim.

OK, you'll consider buying a flat, but what's the rush??? Well, right now, Tower Grove Heights has some truly magnificent properties for sale with miles of woodwork and other original features that would make lovely homes and absolutely mesmerize your friends. Most of our residences were built at just the right time, between 1890 and 1914, during the "Golden Age" of St. Louis.

The value of these architectural gems is just as impressive. Where else can you buy something for six cents a pound (typical weight = 350 tons) that gives so much back?

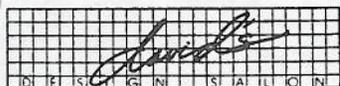
If you're still feeling timid, Tower Grove Heights has an excellent support group. We'll be there when your drywall tape bubbles up and can offer a list of recommended contractors to see you through. When it's done, we also have a free service to find tenants (or "housemates"). Pick up that phone and become more interesting. Call Jean at 772-4987 for a list of what Tower Grove Heights has to offer.

Rich Iezzi

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## The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association

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Asst. Secretary: Pat Linebach  
Treasurer: James Lynn  
Past-President: Don Hardin  
COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE  
Block Captains: Diane Hurwitz  
Fundraising: Needs Chairperson  
Promotion and Marketing: Jean Iezzi  
Publications: Elizabeth Braznell

### Block Captains

3600/3700

#### UTAH

Janis Bello (3661)

Randy Dirnberger (3626)

Dolores Queensen (3706)

#### HUMPHREY

Nik Moon (3619)

#### WYOMING

Betsy Vanderheyden (3656)

Sally Difani (3735)

#### CONNECTICUT

Ruth Schnuerbusch (3620)

Kay Lynn Firsching (3736)

(needs third captain)

#### JUNIATA

Connie Bender (3665)

(needs second captain)

#### HARTFORD

Becky Staup (3717)

Libby Kriz (3723)

#### ARSENAL

Diane Hurwitz (3640)

3800

#### UTAH

Susie Gudermuth (3834)

Veda Lynn (3855)

#### HUMPHREY

Sande Vieira

(needs second captain)

#### WYOMING

Linda & Pete Fick (3879)

(needs second captain)

#### CONNECTICUT

Margie Meyer (3860)

Monica Nawrocki (3842)

Janice Nesser (3822)

Keely Cook (3830)

#### JUNIATA

Dave Goodson (3885)

Jerry McGeehan (3885)

Anita Barker (3818)

#### HARTFORD

Pat Linebach (3814)

Bill Wright (3836)

Jody Heliker (3802)

#### ARSENAL

Jean Iezzi (3809 Hartford)

## A LETTER TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Dear Neighbors:

Some good things happen without any prodding from us. For example, the sun rises and sets, the tide flows in and out. But, if we want to make good things happen, and to have some control, it is important to join our Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association. A group of caring, hard-working members can move mountains of trash from our streets and alley, and get dumpsters painted and fitted with new lids. Beautiful trees and flower have been planted in our area. Address numbers appear on our garages to help police and firefighters keep us safe. New families can be led to just the "right homes" for them.

All these fine happenings can be under your control by joining TGHNA, and by offering your help. We can be the most exciting neighborhood in St. Louis if each one adds his or her help and enthusiasm. Join our group to keep these excellent improvements happening.

What do you want to happen in Tower Grove Heights?

Veda Lynn

The TGHNA Gazette  
P.O. Box 63046  
St. Louis, MO 63163

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Letters to the Editor are accepted for publication from neighborhood residents and other interested parties. The staff reserve the right to edit or refuse to publish letters deemed unfit. Send your letters to Editor, Tower Grove Heights Gazette, P. O. Box 63046, St. Louis, Missouri 63163*



### THANKS JAN!

The staff of the Tower Grove Heights Gazette thank Janice Nesser for her guidance and devotion to the Gazette during her three years as editor. Her skill and endless hours of hard work have made the Tower Grove Heights Gazette the finest neighborhood newspaper in the City.

You're a tough act to follow, Jan!