

# Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Volume 15, No. 2

Grand to Gustine

Arsenal to Utah Place

Spring 2004



## Countdown to Absolutely Grand

### *A homeowner's perspective on the 2004 House Tour*



*Suzanne and Daryl Brach welcomed house tour guests in their newly renovated kitchen.*

By Suzanne Brach

There are many reasons to live in Tower Grove Heights, but one we probably all have in common is a love of historical architecture. The annual house tour is a great way to meet neighbors and appreciate the beautiful homes in our neighborhood. Daryl and I moved into the Heights last year around the time of the tour. The trees and flowers were in bloom, and it was an absolutely gorgeous weekend—a perfect welcome for us winter-weary northerners.

I recall yearning to take the tour but being overwhelmed with moving activities. Unbeknownst to us at the

time, our house would be on the tour a year later. What an enriching experience it turned out to be—and a great reason to do all that decorating we had planned to do “eventually.” The following journal entries offer a glimpse into our lives during the weeks and days leading up to the big event...

*Mid February, 2004*

Today fellow Utah Place neighbor and house tour committee member Diane Hurwitz asked us to participate on the Grand South Grand House Tour. My first thought was, “What a wonderful inspiration for redoing the kitchen.” Then panic sets in—we have just two months to finish the project, so I got into project-management mode and made my “to do” list, which basically means I started telling Daryl what to do. Fortunately, I know exactly the kitchen I want. Home Depot, here I come.

*Late February*

I ran into Utah Place neighbor Norm Henenberg today who informs me he’s in need of cabinets and appliances for his weekend place. How fortuitous. We make arrangements to follow up. Sounds like a win-win to me.

*Saturday, February 28*

The house tour program writer came by today to see the house and interview us. It was easy to detail all the reasons why we choose to live in the city, particularly Tower Grove Heights. You won’t find better architecture, neighbors or urban pioneer

spirit anywhere else. Plus, all those great restaurants and shops are just down the street. And did I mention Tower Grove Park, that Victorian gem that anchors our lovely neighborhood?  
*Saturday, March 12*

Norm came this weekend to rip out the old cabinets and remove the appliances to make way for the new. Unfortunately, I had to be in Tampa on “business”, but Daryl was happy to manage the project. I came home Sunday to an empty kitchen and nothing to eat. In its empty state, the kitchen looks so small and forlorn. Our house feels soulless without it.

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TGHNA General Meetings are held at  
7:15PM on the 4th Tuesday of each  
month (except December) at the First  
Church of Divine Science, 3617 Wyo-  
ming. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**E-mail Group Keeps  
Residents Informed**

By Tom Reitenbach

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## Whole Family Involved in Operation Bright Side



*Hannah, Katie, Maggie, and Michael Sullivan work with their father, Brian Sullivan to clean up the alley between Hartford and Arsenal. Thanks to all who worked to make our neighborhood a more enjoyable place to live!*



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# The Tattler

By Sara Langan

How many people heard the helicopters buzzing around on May 2, early on a Saturday morning—and wondered what was happening in Tower Grove Heights? Presidential hopeful, John Kerry, was eating breakfast at South City Diner! He was in St. Louis Friday night for a fundraiser at the Chase Park Plaza and headed south for a bite to eat. Is it because Peter Spoto, the South City Diner host, recently got an award from Mayor Slay in recognition of the expansion Spoto and his wife, Jeanne, did on their diner?

Not only did we attract Kerry, but Terry Harrison, who runs Salon St. Louis on South Grand with his wife Marie, is in an article in the May issue of Glamour magazine on how to deal with fine hair.

Other Grand Avenue news: Lemon Grass Restaurant owners have purchased the building occupied by St. Louis Wok at the corner of Juniata and Grand. Lemon Grass will have a sidewalk café at their new location. Siete Mares has closed. A Persian market is scheduled to open at 3242 S. Grand. Grand Habitat has a new owner. Thudo Hair Design will move into the first floor of 3220 S. Grand (Grand and Humphrey). The second two floors will remain residential.

Adam Pashea, a resident of the Heights and a wine columnist for the Gazette, is opening Erato Wine Bar at the site of the former Futon Express store. This is Adam's second site—the first being in Edwardsville, IL. Commerce Bank is nearly complete with an opening of their new building scheduled for June. AND there may be some development in the old Woolworth's store—a.k.a. the Comp'n' Soft Space!

Rumor has it that the medians are going back in on Grand Ave....lots of work is taking place currently. I recently visited Janine's Totes, Tots &

  
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Toile. Janine and her husband have lived in Tower Grove East for 9 years and have had SIX houses. House number six used to be a doctor's office and residence on Grand near Messiah Lutheran, 2838 S. Grand. Janine dreamed of opening a shop and this building seemed the perfect location. They closed on the house at the end of August, moved their family into the upstairs in September, and opened the lower level for business in October. She searches for merchandise that is fun, unique and affordable from the Chicago Gift Mart and local vendors. She also rents out "The Pink Room" for events. It's a great location for a baby or bridal shower. You might have seen the children's room Janine decorated for the Grand South Grand House Tour.

Another shopping stop is THE SHOP at SPRING at 3801 Wyoming,

773-4249. Tricia Heliker, Bee Clare, Christy Andrews and Susie Gudermuth teamed together to create a venue for local artists to sell their work. Everything is on consignment, and features include ceramics, photography, watercolors, oil paintings, furniture, yarn creations and jewelry. The idea sprung out of the knowledge that there are many artists who live in our area, and wanting to find a way to showcase their work. The shop is currently open on Wednesdays and Saturdays and by appointment. Additional artists and customers are welcome!

Have you noticed all the coed kickball games in Tower Grove Park? I hear there is a waiting list for the teams organized through the American Softball Association. The Park is hopping with activity! Happy Spring!



*Bed, hand-painted by TGH resident Tricia Heliker, is one of the many beautiful items for sale at The Shop at Spring and Wyoming.*



*Architectural detail is one of the things that residents of TGH love about their homes.*

**Countdown: Continued from page 1**

*Monday, March 15*

The cabinet installation project began today. In a few days we'll have cabinets again. But will we have appliances and countertops before the tour?! If all goes according to plan, we should be fine. But nothing goes according to plan!

*Wednesday, March 24*

We went to the house tour party tonight to receive instructions for the big weekend. Our lovely hosts were Cam and Rob, and they had a beautiful home. We had so much fun meeting the other homeowners while feasting on gourmet treats and wine. City people really are so interesting. Some, like us, have moved here from large urban centers like New York and Chicago and greatly appreciate all the benefits of living in St. Louis—fabulous architecture, low cost of living and the cultural attractions which are so accessible by comparison. And then there's the Cardinals, Rams and Blues. We really are lucky.

*Wednesday, April 7*

The countertops and sink were installed today, so the kitchen project is finally complete. I absolutely love it. It's so great to have our kitchen back, and as much as I enjoy our neighborhood restaurants, it's good to have a home-cooked meal again (except I have to cook them now).

*Friday, April 16*

The cleaning crew didn't show up today as planned. After a frantic phone call, they promise to be here at 7:30 a.m. sharp tomorrow morning.

Nothing like last-minute preparations. Hope it doesn't rain!

*Saturday, April 17*

It is a beautiful, sunny, albeit overly warm day. We were up at 6 a.m. finishing the house. I decided we had to have some flowers for our porch, so we dashed out to pick some up. Tour goers arrived by shuttle a little before 11 a.m., and I watched as they lined up (we were stop #1). Daryl and I decided this was a good time to run some errands.



*Beautiful stained glass window in Daryl and Suzanne Brach's home at 3832 Utah.*

We returned to more lines at the shift change at 2 p.m. Seems like a record turnout. We meet new neighbors and then decide to visit Susie Gudermuth's new shop at Spring and Wyoming. The store is filled with charming consignment art work and furniture. It's really quite lovely. Of course we run into more neighbors who provide an informal tour of their home. This is really such a community-driven neighborhood.

That evening, we shared dinner with other homeowners and volunteers. We reacquainted ourselves with neighbors and made some new friends as well. It was an exhausting but fun day.

*Sunday, April 18*



*Michael Martin and Sharon Derry's kitchen at 3845 Hartford.*

Up early again to prepare for Tour Day 2. We fortify ourselves with coffee and scones from Hartford Coffee Company and mentally gear up for the day ahead. This time it was a little easier since we knew the routine. It's another beautiful day, and, again, people are lined up to get in the house. We decide to take the tour ourselves.

The tour featured some amazing houses of many different sizes and styles—from charming, sun-filled cottages to grand homes with a large "wow" factor. I enjoyed the many decorating styles and took notes on what I could apply to my home. Many homeowners are artisans, their houses filled with original artwork, photo-

**Continued on page 7**



*Jody Heliker's third floor bedroom at 3635 Connecticut.*

# Restaurant Review: The Hartford Coffee Company

By Ben A. Stiebel

The Hartford Coffee Company, located on the southeast corner of Hartford and Roger, offers the standard amenities of a St. Louis coffee shop along with its own charming, kid-friendly twist.

Hartford Coffee offers the usual selection of deli sandwiches and snacks as well as sodas, coffee, and coffee drinks. It also offers a colorful décor including artwork on several walls, hieroglyphics on one wall, wrought iron patio furniture, and huge windows that give a great view of the charming, rehabbed neighborhood in which the café sits.

You might almost think you were walking into a very colorful art gallery. This is the case, in a way; Hartford Coffee showcased the artwork of members of the community in an exhibit titled "Art of Peace" that ran through the end of April. James Fox, co-owner, says that more exhibits are on the way, and that

pieces from members of the community are welcome.

The feeling changes from art gallery to playroom as you pass the counter and find an entire area set aside for children's toys and games. These include basic puzzles and blocks as well as a strange, computerized game involving train cars and tracks that I and every adult I've talked to find incomprehensible, but that children seem to understand and enjoy thoroughly.

One Saturday night visit found a nearly packed house enjoying the music of a singer/guitarist playing tunes from the Muppets and other songs appropriate for a young and sensitive audience, while tactfully avoiding such material as Barney the Dinosaur and Teletubbies that make older audiences grind their teeth. These acoustic performances occur every Saturday night, except the third Saturday of the month when members of the community are invited to come and showcase



their musical talent for an evening. Fox says that all music is welcome provided that it is family-friendly.

Fox says that the emphasis of his café is "community, not only on a local, but on a global level." This is easy to see in the many recycling bins throughout the shop, and in the jar of coffee grounds at the counter, free to anyone who wants to use them for fertilizer. The food goes with this organic theme with pastries baked and coffee roasted on site.

As lovely as the place is, Fox and his partner Shannon McGinn aren't done yet. They are in the process of installing a new patio on the south side of the building and a garden that will go around the south and west sides. Hartford Coffee also offers a catering service that Fox says can be specialized to almost any need ranging from children's birthday parties to events such as the campaign fundraiser for Alderwoman Jennifer Florida which was held Wednesday, April 21.

Whether looking for a place to take the kids, a place to sit and read, or just somewhere to go and meet your neighbors, Hartford Coffee Company offers a welcome alternative to the normal, smoke-filled café environment.

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# Resident Profile: *Robin Vannoy*

By Erin O'Reilly

Robin Vannoy and her husband, Rick, moved to the TGH neighborhood in 1998 and live in a house they have been renovating on Juniata Street. They have completed the rehab of the inside of the house and are now going to start on the outside. They got the house for a good price and, although they have put quite a bit of money into it, they feel like they have gotten it just the way they want it with their own style!

Robin is from North St. Louis, the Fairground Park area, and feels dedicated to living in the City. Other than living in New Jersey for undergraduate school at Rutgers University and Columbia, Missouri for Law school until her graduation in 1991, she has been a St. Louis City Gal. She is the youngest child of four siblings, and have parents who expected their children to get at least 2 years of college. Her parents are both still alive and have been married for 48 years. They are very involved grandparents to Robin's and Rick's son, Alex, who will soon be 4 years old. Her father, who has two Masters Degrees, Public Administration and Human Relations, retired from the Fire Department and then worked for DFS before his second retirement. Her mother is retired from the Police Department.

Robin's first job as a lawyer was as a Public Defender. It was in this role that she met her intended, Rick, who was from New Jersey and was also a Public Defender. Although their paths may have crossed before when she was a student at Rutgers University where his father worked, they had not met until they worked together. Robin then went on to a job as a Prosecuting Attorney for St. Louis County in 1995, and in 1996 she became a Legal Officer for St. Louis

County Juvenile Court. In 2003 she was appointed as Commissioner for Family Court Juvenile Division in St. Louis City. There are only three people doing this work, and their dockets are full. She hears cases involving juvenile crime, neglect and abuse, termination



of parental rights, adoptions and guardianships—anything to do with juvenile legal issues, misdemeanor or felony crimes. She said approximately 80% of her cases are car thefts or car tamperings, and a lot of them happen in the 63116 and 63118 zip codes.

She also is a Truancy Court Judge at Vashon High School. She states that working with kids “is what I was meant to do,” and she feels good about her work because she cares about children. She thought that becoming a mother would make her job harder, but feels that it makes her a better listener and enhances her judgment.

For relaxation, Robin bowls and is “pretty good.” She also teaches Sunday School classes at her church that she has attended since her childhood. She and Rick just got back from the New Orleans Jazz Fest, and enjoy various types of music. For over a year, Robin was a block captain in our neighborhood, and then was president of the TGHNA last year. She and Rick and Alex became pet owners when they rescued a stray dog, whom they

named Bailey. When I asked her about her run for the St. Louis School Board, she replied that it was a blessing that she didn't succeed! I wonder how things would have been if she did get elected to the school board?!!

## Countdown: Cont'd from page 5

graphs and hand-made wood furniture and architectural detail. One homeowner showcased his talent in his backyard, performing in a swing band as visitors toured his home.

We make it back home by 4 p.m. and enjoy time visiting with neighbors and tour goers. It's definitely been a social weekend. I hear that we had at least 1000 people over the two-day period.

*Sunday, post-tour*

It's Sunday night, and I'm enjoying a glass of wine as I reflect on the weekend events. It was a

whirlwind of activity, a great excuse for a party, a perfect way to see other homes and satisfy the voyeur within, and a wonderful way to support the neighborhood we love. And I do so enjoy my new kitchen. However, I think it may need some paint. In fact, the entire first floor needs some color. And what about that bathroom upstairs?! We should really add that retractable awning to the balcony as well. So many projects, so little inspiration. We'll just have to be on the tour next year. I'll just make my “to do” list now...Daryl, where are you?!

# Bathrooms, Air Conditioning and the American Way

By Rich Iezzi

When Brian and Carol Sullivan bought their home at 3730 Arsenal in 1984, the neighborhood was still asleep and their house had only one bathroom. “We were the fourth owners of the house but the first family with kids,” Carol told me. With five children, they seem to be making up for it.

With the kids came the need for more space, specifically bathroom access. Years ago they did a major project on their third floor which added a second bathroom. But as any parent of teenagers knows, you almost need a one-to-one ratio of bathrooms to kids.

Plans were drawn last year for a major addition that added a new kitchen, breakfast room, master bedroom and two bathrooms. Rising home values in the area made the project viable. The addition is 18 by 21 feet on the first and second floors, with an east bay window in the first floor breakfast room. They also expanded the basement under the addition requiring the removal of 140 tons of dirt. I stood in the hole looking up at the back of the house, and it seemed to soar 40 feet to the roof

ridge.

With any major project, stuff happens. While excavating for the basement, the sewer line was hit and Carol and the kids moved out until it was repaired. Brian stayed on—men don’t need bathrooms.

The scale of the project also enabled major improvements to be made while the house was opened up.

names for their shovels and the boulders that were unearthed. Carol told me they moved 40 tons of rock and 35 tons of soil themselves. The kids used 5-gallon buckets and gained a sense of ownership as they hauled rock, signed their names to the basement joists, and made a time capsule. Only the kids know where it’s hidden.

As I sat in their new breakfast

room preparing for this article, I kept glancing back through the old part of the house. I’d been in their home dozens of times, but this time the perspective was way off. Now their house is BIG. The new rooms are bright, airy and open with that yellow-gold color of new lumber.

Carol and Brian want to stay in the neighbor-

hood and have enough room for their kids to bring friends over. When I asked the ‘would you do it again’ question, they both said yes, but they learned a lot. When I complimented Carol for having an aura of peace about her throughout the entire project, she gave the credit to a good shot of whiskey now and then. I’m sure she was kidding (was she? Carol?).



*The new breakfast room includes a french door to a back deck and a bay window on the side of the house.*

After living with window unit air conditioners for years, Brian seized the opportunity to “bring on the Central Air.” A new heating plant was added, several soft ceilings were dry walled, and plumbing, wiring and floors were brought up to speed.

This is a hybrid project with contractors doing the major building while the Sullivan family will complete the drywall, painting and flooring. The kids are into it too, coming up with

# MANY SOUTH GRAND BUSINESSES REPRESENTED IN RFT 2004 READERS CHOICE POLL

By Susan Anderson

The results of the Annual Riverfront Times Readers Poll for best restaurants are in! Many South Grand Restaurants won and are represented in this year's list of winners.

There were seventy-three categories—first through fifth place for three hundred sixty-five total awards this year. South Grand businesses were named for thirty-four of the awards, or nine percent. That's an amazing feat for a six-block area to rate so high against the entire Metro St. Louis area. Congratulations to all!

The list shows both winners and/or runner-ups for each category.

## 2004 RFT's Readers Choice Poll

Best Breakfast: *South City Diner*  
Best Coffee: *MoKaBe's and St. Louis Bread Company*  
Best Bagel, Breads and Pastries: *St. Louis Bread Company*  
Best Brunch: *MoKaBe's*  
Best Upscale Fast Food: *St. Louis Bread Company*  
Best Diner: *South City Diner*  
Best Sandwiches, Salad and Soups: *St. Louis Bread Company*  
Best Grilled Cheese: *South City Diner*  
Best Happy Hour: *Absolutli Goosed*  
Best Bloody Mary: *Absolutli Goosed*  
Best Martini: *Absolutli Goosed*  
Best Vegetarian Cuisine: *Pho Grand and MoKaBe's*

Best Low Fat Menu: *Pho Grand and St. Louis Bread Co.*  
Best Seafood: *Gulf Coast Café*  
Best Pasta: *Mangia Italiano*  
Best Value: *Pho Grand*  
Best French Restaurant: *La Petit Paris*  
Best Middle Eastern Food: *Kabob International and Café Natasha*  
Best Thai Restaurant: *King and I*  
Best Vietnamese: *Lemon Grass and MeKong*  
Best Late Night Food: *South City Diner*  
Best Milk Shake: *South City Diner*  
Best Place to Take a First Date: *Pho Grand*

## Tenth Annual

### Cornerstone Round-Up

On Saturday, June 12, from 6-9 p.m., Cornerstone Center for Early Learning will hold its tenth annual *Cornerstone Round-Up*. The *Round-Up* is a fund raiser with a western theme held on-site at 3901 Russell Blvd. The Center is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community.

Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$35 for those wishing to be Anniversary Sponsors; tables of 8 may be reserved for \$200, or \$280 for those wishing to be Anniversary Sponsors.

Tickets are all inclusive; guests enjoy a barbeque buffet, beer and wine, and live entertainment, with "extras" for Anniversary Sponsors. The evening will also feature live and silent auctions, and a special tribute to Founding Director Wanda Diedrich.

Proceeds will support *The Preschool Playground Project*, an initiative to make the outdoor play space accessible to children of all abilities.

Cornerstone Center is a nonprofit United Way agency providing early care and education for children six weeks to six years of age.

For more information, call 314-865-5244.

## TGH Resident Survey

**We would like your input!** Please take a minute to fill this survey out and return it to the TGHNA office (Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association, 3735 Connecticut, St. Louis, MO 63116), or fill it out online at our website, [www.towergroveheights.com](http://www.towergroveheights.com).

1. Do you attend the TGHNA monthly meetings (the 4th Tuesday evening of the month)?
  - a. I've never attended.
  - b. I attend the meetings occasionally.
  - c. I attend the meetings regularly.
2. Why do you (or don't you) attend the meetings?
3. What would you like to see happen at the monthly meetings?
4. The value of a neighborhood organization is through improving communication and collectively achieving what would be difficult to do alone. What specific recommendations do you have for improving communication in the neighborhood and what efforts would you like to see TGHNA undertake?

**Use additional paper if needed. Thanks for your time, TGHNA Exec. Board**

## Fun Ideas Abound For National Night Out- Tuesday, August 3, 2004

By Erin O'Reilly

National Night Out is always on the first Tuesday of August, which will be **August 3** this year.

The idea behind National Night Out is for neighbors to get to know one another and to become more aware of community safety, thus deterring crime. It's what is called in the health care business as "primary care," but for communities instead of bodies. Also it's "primary care" in its most pleasant form—a fun party!

Your block captain is the person to call for specifics about what your block will be doing to celebrate National Night Out. If there is no block captain for your block, anyone can volunteer to take on this particular function by calling 622-4628, and speaking with Chris Howard (who is also a TGH neighbor) at the Neighborhood Stabilization Office. He will

send you registration material and ideas on how to plan for your party.

Some ideas for activities for National Night Out are to get out the grill and have a potluck (Schnucks donates some sodas and chips), close off the street for bicycling, skating, and sports, do crafts, play games, play music, have the police or firemen come and give a talk, and just socialize.

Note on your registration if you want to close off the street, and you need to call the fire or police departments to request them to speak to your block, if desired. Of course it is also necessary to inform all the households on your block of the date and plans so they can participate. Most block captains do this by distributing or posting flyers.

However simple or involved your plans are doesn't matter. What does matter is that you have fun and meet your neighbors!

## 2nd Annual TGH Trivia Night Exceeds Expectations

By Tom Rhodenbaugh and Sara Langan

The second annual Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Trivia Night, held on Saturday March 13, 2004, was a success! This annual event brought together neighbors, friends and the extended Tower Grove Heights family for an evening of fun, great prizes and community building.

As our premier fundraising event for the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association, the 2004 Trivia Night exceeded our expectations. The event raised over \$2,400.00 that will support TGHNA activities including the publication of this newsletter.

Participants included residents from nearly every block in the neighborhood. All who participated found the event to be a great way to connect with their neighbors, make new friends, and test their memories. Everyone brought along their favorite foods and snacks.

St. Elizabeth's Academy was a great facility, providing set up and clean up—especially appreciated by volunteers who worked the 1<sup>st</sup> trivia night on their own. Thank you Joe Ogier and his team of volunteers and contributors who made the night enjoyable.

PRIZES were awarded to the first, second and third place tables and for the last place table. Everyone in attendance was eligible for door prizes that included donated prizes such as theater and sports tickets and gift certificates, all thanks to the generous support from area merchants and businesses (listed on p. 11).

Based on the comments and feedback from participants, we are encouraged to continue this new neighborhood tradition in future years. REMEMBER...it's never too early to volunteer, so look for announcements about next year's event.



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- St. Louis Bread Company
- South City Diner
- Kinko's
- Wyoming Barber Shop
- Commerce Bank



*Thanks so much for your  
contributions!*



# Safeguard Yourself From Identity Theft and Fraud

By Susan Anderson, Executive Director South Grand and Grand Center Community Improvement Districts

Identity theft and fraud is the fastest growing crime in the United States. Ten million people were victimized last year. Here are some useful tips that can help prevent thieves from targeting you.

The next time you order checks, have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your checkbook, they will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name, but your bank will know how you sign your checks.

When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.

Put your work phone number on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a P.O. Box, use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a P.O. Box, use your work address.

Never have your social security number printed on your checks. You can add it if it is necessary. If you have it printed, anyone can get it.

Photocopy all items you carry in your wallet. Copy both sides of each license, credit card etc. You will know what you had in your wallet, and will have a copy of all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place.

To limit the damage of credit

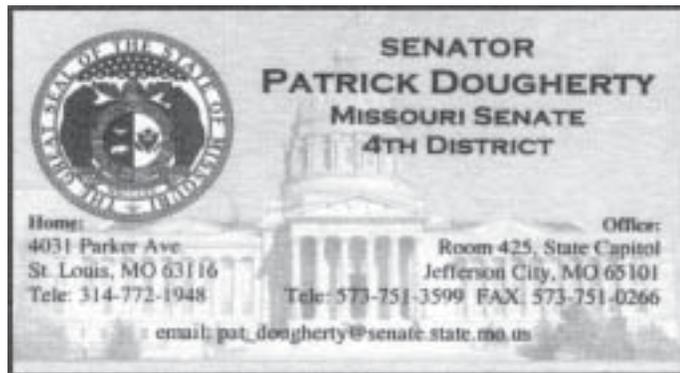
card theft we have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately if stolen. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep that information in a place where you can quickly find it.

Make sure you file a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

***One of the most important things you can do is call the three national credit reporting organiza-***

***tions immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number.*** The alert notifies companies checking on your credit that your information was stolen and requires them to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. The phone numbers to the Credit Bureaus are numbers are:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285;  
Experian: (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742; Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289.  
The Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271.



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# South Grand Business Update

By Susan Anderson

What's new on South Grand? Lots! Listed below is an update on the progress of several South Grand New and Expanding Businesses.

**3117 S. Grand — Erato Wine Bar** has leased the former Futon Express space. Adam Pashea is co-owner of Erato and is a Tower Grove Heights resident! No opening date as yet. (This will be Erato's second site, their first site is in Edwardsville.)

**3121 S. Grand** – (Former Comp 'n' Soft space) – The prospective tenant is working through all the processes of financing and City approvals. No announcement on the name or type of business until the deal is finalized. It will be a first class addition that will enhance both the commercial and residential areas.

**3134 S. Grand – Commerce Bank** Construction is progressing and is on track for early summer grand opening. Demolition is needed on a section of the north side of the existing facility to allow for construction of plaza.

**3190 S. Grand** – The former South Grand Optical space tentatively has been leased to a women's and children clothing and accessories retail shop. No opening date yet!

**3201 S. Grand** – Several prospects... but no one has signed.

**3204 S. Grand** – Siete Mares has closed and the site is currently being vacated. Some prospective businesses have shown interest in the site.

**3206 S. Grand – Grand Habitat** has been sold! It will remain an antique/vintage shop. The new owner, Connie Starcyk, completed the permit process and opened April 29th.

**3216 S. Grand – Lemon Grass Restaurant** owners have purchased the building now occupied by St. Louis Wok at Grand and Juniata. LG will have a sidewalk café at their new location. Their current lease expires next year.

**3220 S. Grand** – Look for **ThuDo Hair Design** to move into the first floor of the building at Grand and Humphrey sometime next year. The upper two floors will remain residential.

**3238 S. Grand** – 250 square feet to be occupied by retail. No opening date as yet.

**3242 S. Grand** – Plans are almost in place for a new facade. A Persian market is scheduled to open shortly.

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# TOWER GROVE HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION CONTACT LIST

Monthly meetings 7:15 PM on 4th Tuesday  
(except December), First Church of Divine  
Science, 3617 Wyoming Street  
President: Daryl Brach  
President Elect: Recruiting!  
Past President: Robin Vannoy  
Secretary: Diane Hurwitz  
Treasurer: Tom Rhodenbaugh  
Asst. Secretary/Membership: Pauline Ashton  
NSO: Joe Thele, 773-0664,  
email: thelej@stlouiscity.com

## *Committee Chairs*

Block Representatives: Tom Reitenbach  
Fun & Fundraising: Cheryl Jones  
Gazette: Carrie Samsel  
Telephone Inquiry Service for TGH Rental  
info: Jean Iezzi (314)772-5982  
Webmaster: LeAnne Lis  
[www.towergroveheights.com](http://www.towergroveheights.com)

## *Block Representatives*

**3600/3700 Arsenal:** Dennis Fortna  
**3800 Arsenal:** Charles Khan  
**3600/3700 Hartford:** Bobbie Ohmer/  
Sue Stefanski  
**3800 Hartford:** Ross Hammond/ Joe Thele  
**3600/3700 Juniata:** Lynne Casey  
**3800 Juniata:** Kim Cole  
**3600/3700 Connecticut:** Don Clark  
**3800 Connecticut:** Virlene Reichert  
**3600/3700 Wyoming:** Creston Ragan  
**3800 Wyoming:** Pat Strawhun  
**3600/3700 Humphrey:** Sue Freedman  
**3800 Humphrey:** Erin L. O'Reilly/  
Cathy Vanderheyden  
**3600/3700 Utah Place:** Kristy Andrews  
**3800 Utah Place:** Susie Gudermuth

## 1st Annual South Grand Awards Reception A Huge Success!

By Susan Anderson

More than sixty business and property owners, employees, friends and patrons of South Grand attended the First Annual Awards Reception held April 20, 2004. Mayor Slay, 8th Ward Alderman Steve Conway, and 15th Ward Alderwoman Jennifer Florida were on hand to receive and distribute awards to the business award winners. Award categories and recipients were chosen by the South Grand Business Association.

Susan Anderson, Executive Director of the South Grand Commu-

nity Improvement District (SGCID) welcomed everyone to the reception and presented Mayor Slay with a special award for his support of South Grand.

SGCID Board President, Dave McCreery, presented Aldermen Conway and Florida, 3rd District Police Captain Tom Magnan, and Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Joe Thele with special recognition awards for their support and dedication to South Grand. Aldermen Conway and Florida then presented more than 30 awards to area residents, property and business owners, and employees.

Michelle Maple, Commercial District Manager for South Grand, also received a bouquet of flowers from Susan Anderson, in recognition for her efforts to assist new and existing businesses on South Grand.

After the ceremony, everyone enjoyed delicious appetizers prepared by The King and I Restaurant. The reception provided a wonderful opportunity for area business owners to network with each other, and discuss current and future business plans with political officials and police representatives.

**It's not too late to renew your membership!** Membership runs one calendar year--January to January, unless you are a "life" member. The TGHNA is the one thing that best illustrates the Heights' commitment to community. It is the place where we come together:

- To find out what is happening in the neighborhood.
- To make the Heights a cleaner and safer place.
- To have a liaison with City Hall and other agencies.
- To make the neighborhood a more interesting and fun place to live.
- To better protect our property values.

However, the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association can only be YOUR Association if you join. We need your participation if TGHNA is going to be a reflection of what YOU want the Heights to become. So please don't delay in joining or rejoining. **Tower Grove Heights NEEDS YOU!**

Please indicate your membership level choice:

\_\_\_ Individual (1 vote) \$10/yr      \_\_\_ Household (2 votes) \$15/yr  
 \_\_\_ Business (1 vote) \$25/yr (Includes 10% discount on Gazette Ads for 1 year)  
 \_\_\_ **\*\*NEW\*\*** Life Membership(1 vote) \$100 for LIFE

Please PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Your name & address will be listed in the buzz book. If you do not want your phone or email listed, write "NO" next to your information..*

Return this form and payment to your block representative or send to the **Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association, 3735 Connecticut, St. Louis, MO 63116**

*I have found  
that, among its  
other benefits,  
giving liberates  
the soul of the  
giver.*

*-Maya Angelou*

Please remember the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association when you are making donations this year. 100% of your donation to TGHNA is tax deductible and the money will be used to improve the neighborhood. If you would like to donate, send a check made out to "TGHNA" to Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association, 3735 Connecticut St., St. Louis, MO, 63116.



## Clip & Save Events Reminder

### Compton Heights Concert Band Free Summer Concerts

Music Stand in Tower Grove Park  
Call 776-2227 for more info.

Mondays:

- May 31, 3 p.m.
- June 28, 7:30 p.m.
- July 5, 7:30 p.m.
- July 12, 7:30 p.m.
- July 19, 7:30 p.m.
- July 26, 7:30 p.m.
- August 2, 7:30 p.m.

### Neighborhood Association Meetings

Tuesdays:

- June 22
- July 27
- August 24
- September 28

7:15 p.m.

**First Church of Divine Science**  
3617 Wyoming  
Everyone is welcome!

### Friends of Tower Grove Park Children's Concert Series

Free; Piper Palm House in Tower Grove Park

Call 865-2394 for more info.

Wednesdays:

- June 23, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- June 30, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- July 7, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- July 14, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- July 21, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- July 28, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

### Tuesday, August 3: National Night Out

Contact your Block Captain for more information about your block's plans