

## ARSENAL TO UTAH PLACE

**Fall 2017**



## *Tower Grove Heights Gazette*

is brought to you quarterly by:

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**TOWER GROVE HEIGHTS  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

### **MEETINGS**

are held at the

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on the 4th Tuesday of every month  
(except December)

**SEPT. 26TH 2017**

**OCT. 24TH 2017**

**NOV. 28TH 2017**

*Everyone is Welcome to Attend!*

# A Two-Part Love Story

*continued from page 1*

They seemed pretty sure about each other right off, and Mary had to tell the man who proposed to her regularly that she was interested in someone else. Her new beau, Roy, also had a decision to make. He had returned from the Marine Corps nine days before they met that Saturday night. His plans were to re-enlist the following Monday. But, like Mary, he suddenly knew what he wanted was right here in St. Louis. Six months later, on Valentine's Day, they became engaged. The following May they were married and looking for a place to live. St. Louis had experienced a large influx of people, partly due to the war effort, and finding housing was difficult. Mary's father suggested they find something for the newlyweds that would also accommodate his other two daughters. In 1948 they bought a two-family on Wyoming. The second floor had renters and because housing was tight, renters were given one year to find alternate housing. So Mary and Roy took the first floor and made the dining room their bedroom. Her sisters stayed with them until the second floor apartment became available. The couple became accustomed to their bedroom and were intent on furnishing the rest of their apartment. So they decided to continue renting the other bedroom with kitchen privileges to someone outside the family. The extra money bought a couch and coffee table that Mary is still using to this day. The couch has been reupholstered twice but is still serving her well. Had she raised four boys instead of four girls in that home, the couch might not have survived.


Mary has excellent memories of living on Wyoming and at 91, she treasures them all. She speaks fondly of the various tenants they had over the years. She speaks of how some residents slept in the park when it was really hot and how they never locked their doors in those early days. She remembers the horse-drawn carriage that delivered milk in glass bottles to the homes on her block. Sadly, her husband passed away in 2011 but she is grateful she was able to care for him the last year of his life in the home they both loved. And that is part two of this love story.

**She speaks of how some  
residents slept in the park  
when it was really hot and  
how they never locked their  
doors in those early days.**

Over 70 years, a lot of things changed but the important things to Mary did not. She kept her positive attitude and her gratitude for a wonderful life. She admits she has seen the neighborhood rise and fall and rise again. But she never wavered about the love she had for the people in her life and for her home in the city.

When the neighborhood association was started in 1987, it was a time when many of her neighbors were moving away. According to Mary, one third of the residents moved out in one summer. The pioneers of Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association quickly identified 3800 Wyoming as the street that needed the most attention. Many multifamily units and poor landlords made this block especially

*continued on page 4*

 <p><b>Tower Grove Homes</b></p> <p><i>In the Business of Neighborhood Building</i></p>	<p><b>For more information on homes for sale or lease, call Susie Gudermuth (314) 771-7097</b></p>	<p><b>Urban living with a small town feel.</b></p>
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# WYOMING STREET NEWS

by *Lilley Halloran*

Writing has always been a normal part of my life. I love to write, because of the freedom and excitement it provides. It isn't something I picked up over time; it's something I've always been doing. For as long as I can remember, my desk has been filled with unfinished stories.

When I moved to Wyoming Street in 2013, I was looking for something new to write about. I already had a lifelong supply of fictional stories. I wanted to do something new; I was ready for an adventure. About that time, I started going to the Gelateria Del Leone, the coffee shop next to my new apartment. I remember thinking, "What if my neighbors wanted to hear about the Gelateria's gelato flavors?"



Not long after that, I started Wyoming Street News. This version of the paper featured Jokey Jokey columns, Gelateria Updates, Recipe of the Day, articles about my cat, among others. I wrote and published sporadically for a couple years, printing at FedEx, and then delivering to the few subscribers we had. The only people who knew about WSN were family, close friends, and the staff at Gelateria Del Leone.

In December of 2015, my friend, Esme, found out about Wyoming Street News and asked me if she could help publish an issue. Of course, I said yes. We published a seven-page, printed paper.

After December, we published the paper every month, with rare exception, throughout 2016. By the end of 2016, we were becoming more known in the Tower Grove/South Grand community. With around

25 subscribers and an estimated 60 readers monthly, we decided to expand and hire more staff. By the beginning of 2017, Wyoming Street News was officially a seven-

*continued on page 4*



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## WYOMING STREET NEWS

*continued from page 3*

person newspaper, with multiple monthly writers, a contributing writer, an editor, and some comic artists. Our staff, Esme Marshall (Managing Editor, Reporter), Sifa Wangia (Staff Writer), Cecelia Anderson (Staff Writer), Audrey Steele (Contributing Writer), Bella Mohler (Comic Artist), Jude Marshall (Contributing Comic Artist), and myself (CEO, Editor-In-Chief, Reporter) are all an array of devoted writers, close friends, and relatives.

For me, the biggest accomplishments for Wyoming Street News came in Spring of 2017, when we changed from seven pages to eight, received 373 votes in our Best of South Grand Vote, had our own event at the Ritz Park, were interviewed for an article in St. Louis Magazine, went into the radio station, 106.5 The Arch, to record a spot about WSN, and hit 80 subscribers and over 100 readers, all in short succession.

As Wyoming Street News expanded, I learned so much about how supportive this close community is to small businesses like WSN. It is a huge blessing to have people interested in WSN and ready to help. From this amazing experience, I've learned so much about writing (journalism in particular), running a business, and having a secure dream for the future.

Later this year, I will start eighth grade at South City Community School, where I will have many school projects to satisfy my writing needs. I'm so excited for the future of Wyoming Street News in 2018, WSN's development throughout my hometown, Saint Louis, the growth of my love of writing, and the many people who support Wyoming Street News and writing, in general.

## A TWO-PART LOVE STORY

*continued from page 2*

vulnerable. Mary described it as lots of trash, noise, drugs, horn honking, and fireworks thrown at your heels. On her way home from mass at St. Pius each day, Mary walked along the block and prayed for the occupants of each house she passed. She prayed for peace to be restored to her block.

So when some of the early members of the association started making her block part of a weekly evening walk, she was hopeful. As they walked they picked up trash. Then came the recording of license plates of the drug customers and the enforcing of codes for occupancy. Mary said Barb Potts, the Neighborhood Stabilization Officer at the time, was extremely dedicated. She would come by in the evening and sit on the porch steps to check out where the worst problems were occurring. "She stuck by us and we took back one house at a time." Property values had plummeted but the silver lining was that the lower prices had prompted some rehabbers to take a chance on this block.

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Conversions from two-family to single were made, and landlords were educated on screening tenants and maintaining

their properties. Neighborhood pioneers, Rich and Jean Iezzi, provided tenant referrals and a porch light campaign was implemented. Another neighborhood founder, Susie Gudermuth, was meeting with homeowners to determine a plan for improvement and provide encouragement for those trying to make a difference. The difference today is phenomenal. The 3800 block of Wyoming is thriving. Mary recently attended a block party and was thrilled to meet many of the young families who have moved onto the block. She asked them why they chose to move into this neighborhood and the universal answer was, DIVERSITY. That was music to Mary's ears. Her prayers have been answered. The street is once again what it was when she and Roy started a family in the home she calls her mansion.



# Hallo-GANZA

Scheduled for Saturday, October 28th from 5-8pm. Residents of Heights, East, South, and Shaw are invited in our second annual neighborhood collaboration event.

Costume contest with a kids category and a group category.

Our resident architect, Patrick Weber, will have his fire pits available again- one pit geared toward s'mores for all ages, and the other pit deemed the "boozy" pit for adults. Marshmallow roasters will be treated to local ghost stories.

Giant yard games- connect four and jenga will make their appearance.

BYOB, though we hope to have local beer provided.



*The Alley Kats display their 'Happy 30th Anniversary TGHNA' sign*



## STREET TREES – TREASURES OF TOWER GROVE



by *Betty Greenjeans*

It's hard to say what a visitor to our neighborhood might notice first: our distinctive architecture or the wealth of mature trees that line our streets.

Trees make our lives more liveable by capturing carbon dioxide, filtering pollutants, shading our homes and feeding our spirits. Mature trees have been proven to increase a home's value. For all they provide, it's surprising to note that upon closer examination Tower Grove Heights may be failing to appreciate the importance of its street trees.

Trees planted in the grassy strip between sidewalk and street (tree lawn) may do surprising well, as evidenced by some of the enormous sycamores and pin oaks that dot the neighborhood. But in many cases, you'll notice trees suffering from disease, damaged trunks, broken limbs and creeping vines.

A common problem for young trees is damage from vandals, dog leashes and animals. Rodents love to chew young trees, especially in winter. Protect tender bark with trunk wrap, winding it all the way to soil level.

Trunk wrap can also prevent the serious issue of southwest injury. In winter as sun strikes the tree trunk, tissues can warm enough to begin sap flow. At night when temperatures plummet, the liquid in the tissues freezes and expands, cracking young bark. It splits open, sometimes quite seriously. Any compromise to a tree's bark can lead to decline in the future.

It should be noted that you should never paint over any kind of bark injury or cut with any type of application. Arborists now know it can do more harm than good. A tree will heal on

its own in time. Any kind of coating may trap insects, disease or moisture leading to more problems down the road.

Climbing plants like wintercreeper (*Euonymus*) and ivy do real damage to trees. They should never be allowed to climb a trunk. Vines place weight pressure on a tree and weaken it by shading out its leaves. Keep vines surrounding trees trimmed annually. If you have a situation that's already out of hand, resist the urge to pull it off the bark. Instead, make two cuts through the vine about an inch apart. This creates a gap and is more effective at curtailing the vine. Cut off from its roots, the ivy will die and the tree will be free to grow.

We've all noticed problem or even dead trees in the neighborhood. They become a danger to people and property and need to be addressed. Unfortunately, St. Louis City has a forestry department that is underfunded and understaffed. The department relies on the complaint-based system of the Citizens' Service Bureau to identify problem trees. Residents must notify the forestry department whether by phone at 314-622-4800 or online: [www.stlouis-mo.gov/csb](http://www.stlouis-mo.gov/csb).

If you find yourself in the position of replacing a tree that was removed, or perhaps you're ready to contribute a new tree to St. Louis's urban forest, there are some things to know. The city will plant a tree in the public space between sidewalk and street free of charge. You are permitted to plant a tree on your own, with provisions. The tree must be a species on the city approved list. It must be placed within the parameters outlined by the Forestry Department. The safest way to proceed is by requesting a permit. All this information can be found online.

Our trees are precious and require everyone's care and attention. For our neighborhood to keep its stately canopy we cannot sit idly by and assume our city government will look out for things. Working together we can ensure that Tower Grove Heights retains its crowning glory.



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## Tower Grove Heights 30 Years Ago

by *Rich  
Iezzi*

In 1987, our Tower Grove Heights was much different than it is now. While we enjoy a vibrant neighborhood today, the same area was sound asleep 30 years ago. Our South Grand business district was about 35% occupied and commercial space in the district was renting for \$3 to \$5 per square foot.

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA) was formed by a group of residents who believed in our area and wanted to share the story with others. But it was an uphill climb. With no outside marketing resources available, TGHNA printed brochures to do their own promotions, created the TGH Gazette newsletter and met with realtors.

But those were tough days. We take Tower Grove Park, the South Grand business district and our well-kept properties for granted today but all three of these assets were struggling to stay alive in the early days. In an interview with John Karel, former Director of Tower Grove Park, he told me that in 1987 the park mirrored our neighborhood. "At the time, we didn't know if either one would survive."

Speaking of Tower Grove Park, it wasn't much of an asset in 1987. John Karel had just arrived as the park's new director when attendance was a low 500,000 yearly visitors compared with over 2 ½ million today. There were no Food Truck Fridays, no Farmers' Market, no walking paths, no kickball leagues – and no street lights. Looking into the unlit park from Arsenal was like looking into outer space – pitch black.

We begged realtors to market our area but when they arrived, they were too scared to leave their cars. Home prices were a bargain. In the 1980s, you could buy a solid home for \$30,000 – \$35,000 (or less) but there were no buyers. It seemed like almost everyone wanted out of the area but no one wanted to take their place.

And who could blame them? None of the commercial buildings on Spring had been developed and they continued to drag down the neighborhood. Kurt Comminsky's law office building at Spring and Connecticut was a rooming house with rotting plywood covering the lower windows. Even worse, the tenants in the old "Hartford Arms" building were so bad that we'd cross the street to avoid them.

So what happened to make it all work? It was the synergism from the South Grand business district, Tower Grove Park and the newly-formed TGH neighborhood association all working together. Eventually, we were able to market our homes and the new buyers told their friends.

**"..the tenants in  
the old "Hartford  
Arms" building  
were so bad that  
we'd cross the street  
to avoid them.**

*continued on page 10*



# Presidents Message - continued from page 1

On September 23, we will spend the afternoon celebrating the 30th anniversary year of the formation of the TGHNA by

**Those of us who were not here  
in the 1980s and early 1990s may  
be surprised to learn that TGH  
had many homes and buildings  
in serious disrepair and that  
open prostitution and drug  
dealing was occurring**

The very first Gazette was published on August 30, 1988; about one year after the Association was formed. The issue begins by quoting James M. Rollins (3702 Juniata), president of

holding a neighborhood-wide block party on Spring Ave., between Juniata and Wyoming Streets. There will be food, music, kid's activities, including a bike parade, and a display of photos and documents about the history of our neighborhood.

the Tower Grove Heights Improvement Association who wrote on July 2, 1908:

*Tower Grove Heights: The magic city within a city, built up, as it was, within a period of less than four years. St. Louis can justly be proud of the achievements wrought. In our midst is beautiful Tower Grove Park with its chirping birds, sunken garden, beautiful foliage and world of flowers.*

The article goes on to say "Eighty years have passed, and today, the newly formed Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association continues the celebration of pride in our neighborhood." Now, thirty more years have passed and we continue the legacy of celebrating with pride in our neighborhood.

Answers: There are at least three businesses that have advertised in the Gazette since late 1988: The Black Thorn, Mangia Italiano, and CBGB. The "Hartford Arms" is the building on the north-west corner of Spring and Juniata.

## AN ODE TO COFFEE

by *Marilyn Browning*

In a previous article I referred to our coffee maker as the Dispenser of Life-Giving Nectar, and some may think I was given to exaggeration. On the contrary, no words can possibly describe the affection I have for our coffee maker, and, let it be said, coffee itself.

I started out, as many did in the age before Starbucks, drinking

regular old American roast (or City roast) out of a can perked up in a percolator. Whole worlds of coffee enjoyment opened up to me in my twenties, when I discovered Medaglia d'Oro espresso at a local grocery. Using a stovetop espresso maker I found at an import store, I brewed this into an eye-opening sludge that I diluted with half and half and sugar, and tossed down before work every day.

I saw a bright future ahead when I met the man from Louisiana

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# Travel Trivia / Channeling "Our Own Oddities"

BY JOHN PAPA

1. Where is the world's largest ketchup bottle?
2. What town is populated by white squirrels?
3. How many steps lead to the gallows platform?
4. Where are Beer Nuts made?
5. Where is the greatest collection of covered bridges in America?
6. What is the hometown of the Superman
7. What is the hometown of Popeye?

As a sequel to my last article about nearby excursions to points east with inspiration from a weekly Thursday night trivia contest at the Purple Martin bar/restaurant on California Avenue in Fox Park (\$20.00 first prize), and fond memories of "Our Own Oddities" of newspapers past, this travel log continues my offering of inexpensive destination/activities perhaps a bit farther northeast or southeast.

1. Largest ketchup bottle? Collinsville, Illinois. It was the industrial water tower for the Brooks Ketchup Co. (now defunct) about a 25-minute drive from the neighborhood.
2. White squirrels? The quiet farming village of Olney, Illinois, is about 70 miles from St. Louis. The animals have resided there since 1902. A visit to the Olney City Park will likely result in an albino squirrel sighting.
3. Steps to the gallows platform? Thirteen, of course. An unlucky number on an unlucky day. The proud city of Benton, Illinois (110 miles from St. Louis) has built a replica of the gallows used in one of the last public executions by hanging in Illinois (1928). While the replica is off limits to the public, you can stand very close and peer through a chain-link fence. The car thief hung in Benton (Shachna Itzik "Charlie Birger" in 1928 was from St. Louis. He is buried in University City. His biography lists him as a "soldier, cowboy, miner, saloon keeper, businessman, bootlegger, and criminal gang leader," but his first job was as a newsboy with the Post-Dispatch.

It would be an easy trip to visit Olney and Benton in the same day.

4. Beer Nuts? The quintessential American bar snack is made only in Bloomington, Illinois (also home to State Farm Insurance, Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University). Call in advance to inquire

about plant tours, but there is a gift shop open most days where you can find everything Beer Nutty. Within one-half mile is the restored home of David Davis, Abraham Lincoln's personal lawyer. If you like history and antiques, set aside some time for a tour of his mansion. About 2.5 hours from St. Louis on I-55, the road to Chicago.

5. Covered bridges? If you are thinking a New England state, you are way off. Located in Parke County, Indiana, (30 miles North of Terre Haute) about 2.5 hours from St. Louis, are 31 authentic covered bridges. While the annual Covered Bridge Festival (October 13 through October 22, 2017) would take you back in time, my suggestion is to visit a week or two before or after because of the crowds attending the Festival. The county seat is Rockville and it would be a perfect base from which to explore this picturesque slice of Americana.

6. Superman? Any superhero fan in your home would enjoy visiting Metropolis in far southern Illinois.

7. Popeye? For the vintage cartoon lover, make time to visit Chester, Illinois, just across the Mississippi River from St. Genevieve.)

Safe travels – no matter where the wanderlust takes you.



*Long-time and new residents of Tower Grove Heights socialize during August's National Night Out.*





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## Tower Grove Heights 30 Years Ago

*continued from page 6*

And like Tower Grove East, we made the new buyers feel welcome. At the same time, our business district was attracting commercial developers and Tower Grove Park was getting street lights.

It was fun to see the new residents discover our area just like previous buyers have done for the past 100 years. After all this time, Tower Grove Heights is still the “Magic City within the City.”

## The Cooper's Hawks of Utah Place

by *Marilyn Browning*

It started with a text from a bird watcher—Cooper's Hawks nesting on Utah. When I arrived early one Thursday morning in mid-June I found an avid bird watcher already present and setting up his camera. The young hawks were in the process of fledging, leaving the nest for short jaunts to other trees but circling back for meal times. The brood was hard to miss, since there were six of them in various poses in and out of the nest. Over the next hour or so, we were joined by other picture takers, and a number of interested passers-by.

This brood started with a cautious courtship between the male hawk and his much larger female counterpart. Since the female Cooper's Hawk specializes in eating medium-sized birds about the size of the male, he probably waited for reassuring call notes the female makes when she's willing to be approached. (Good thinking!)

Once they mated, the male built the stick nest over a period of two weeks, probably with just a little help from the larger female. He lined the middle with bark flakes and green twigs. The female then laid the eggs and incubated them over the next month or so. During that time, the male brought food to her, and incubated the eggs for a few minutes while she ate.

When the little hawks hatched, they weighed only an ounce or so and were covered

with down. Mom tended the little hatchlings over the next two weeks, while dad continued to hunt for her and the kids. He brought the food to her at a perch near the nest, and she then tore it apart and fed it to the young.

After two weeks

the young were large enough and strong enough to start tearing and eating the food brought to the nest, and both mom and dad hunted the better part of the day to keep the young hawks growing. The young started climbing about in the nest tree after about 4 weeks, which is



Utah residents Ray Marklin, Duncan McArthur, and Daniel Frazier. Photo courtesy of Ray Marklin.

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*continued to page 13*

# AN ODE TO COFFEE

*continued from page 7*

who would be my husband and he introduced me to café au lait, laced with chicory and served up with beignets at Café du Monde. Variations on this theme, as I came to understand, abound, as in café con leche and cappuccino. I also discovered Turkish coffee and all its Middle Eastern brethren, served in tiny cups and benefitting greatly in my view from a little (or a lot of) added sugar.

At the peak of our collective coffee madness, my husband was given a coffee bean roaster, and many pleasant hours were spent on the ultimate coffee bean site, Sweet Maria's, which sells unroasted coffee beans from growers around the world. This little coffee roaster worked like a hot-air popcorn popper, and simultaneously roasted the beans and separated them from their chaff. Even more basic equipment can be used for home roasting, including rotary popcorn poppers (manual and electric) and the most basic, a pan on the stove. This last is only recommended if you have previously disabled the smoke detectors in your house, because the roasting



process produces not only roasted beans and a delicious smell, but vast quantities of smoke.

These freshly roasted beans can be ground in a regular electric grinder or (for the more fanatical) a manual coffee grinder which produces less heat to taint those beans.

True coffee lovers may wish to accompany their brewing with appropriate music. Some of my favorites include 40 Cups of Coffee by Ella Mae Morse, and Black Coffee, sung by Ella Fitzgerald. Wired on coffee, my little sister and I used to belt out Java Jive,

with her on the main melody and me on descant. For those of you with a classical bent, tossing and turning late at night (from too much coffee) you can always listen to Schweigt stille, plaudert nicht, also known as the Coffee Cantata, by none other than Johann Sebastian Bach. This piece, really an operetta, includes these memorable lines sung by the coffee-deprived maiden:

Coffee, I must have coffee,

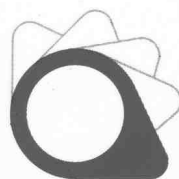
And if anyone wants to give me a treat,

Ah! Just give me some coffee!

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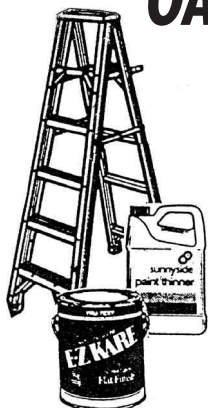
## MOST NEIGHBORHOOD MEMBERS AWARD

For the second year in a row, Hartford Street has captured the 'most members' award with 72. Nipping at Hartford's heels is Utah Place with 68 and Juniata is third with 57 members. Thanks to such an active neighborhood, our 14 square block area has over 300 members.

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# The Cooper's Hawks of Utah Place

*continued from page 10*

when the picture of the hawks in the nest was taken. (You can see all six of the young hawks if you look carefully.) They fledged a couple of weeks after that, which is when I first saw them.



Cooper's Hawks mainly eat birds and some rodents. Starlings, mourning doves, and those pesky pigeons are all on the menu, as are robins, jays, squirrels, rabbits and mice. In turn, these hawks are prey to their larger cousin the Red-tailed Hawk.

By the time you read this article the young hawks may be long gone. With luck, all six of the young will survive and do their part to reduce the pigeon population around the neighborhood. There's a pin oak on our street perfect for the next generation in the spring!



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# Tower Grove Heights

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### MONTHLY MEETINGS – EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Fourth Tuesdays (Jan-Nov), 7:15 p.m.  
Center for Divine Love (First Church of Divine Science)  
3617 Wyoming (near S. Grand)

#### 2016 OFFICERS

President

Barbara Gilchrist (president@towergroveheights.com)

President-Elect

Vicky Dean (president-elect@towergroveheights.com)

Past President

Stephen Gregali (past-president@towergroveheights.com)

Secretary

Debra Knox Deiermann (secretary@towergroveheights.com)

Treasurer

Rick Stein (treasurer@towergroveheights.com)

Membership Secretary

Jean Iezzi (membership@towergroveheights.com)

For the latest neighborhood news and events; receive a Welcome Packet; contact your Block Captain; join TGHNA; nominate a neighbor for the Matt-the-Cat Award; read our bylaws, meeting minutes or past issues of the Gazette; and much more, please visit: [www.towergroveheights.com](http://www.towergroveheights.com)

Stay connected: Tower Grove Heights notification list via MailChimp - contact: [secretary@towergroveheights.com](mailto:secretary@towergroveheights.com) | Nextdoor Tower Grove: <https://towergrovememo.nextdoor.com> | Tower Grove Heights - Community Group: [www.facebook.com/groups/380836771957085](http://www.facebook.com/groups/380836771957085) | Tower Grove Heights Twitter - @TowerGroveHts



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- Playgroups & Meetups
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- Prenatal and Baby & Me Yoga
- Products for Mom & Baby
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#### Early Parenting

Supporting Your Journey

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## REAL ESTATE NEWS

Email me your real estate questions at: [DeborahErvin@att.net](mailto:DeborahErvin@att.net)

### Homes Sold in Tower Grove Heights during this quarter

Type	Address	Sold Price	Age
Resident	3882 Humphrey	\$417,750	105
Resident	3880 Humphrey	\$158,000	109
Resident	3706 Connecticut	\$437,500	112
Resident	3814 Connecticut	\$373,000	112
Resident	3664 Connecticut	\$250,000	112
Resident	3735 Utah Place	\$525,000	106
Resident	3873 Utah Place	\$499,000	109
Resident	3810 Utah Place	\$495,000	108
Resident	3837 Utah Place	\$477,000	107
Resident	3871 Utah Place	\$414,500	110
Resident	3703 Utah Place	\$370,000	95
Resident	3884 Wyoming	\$348,597	110
Resident	3888 Wyoming	\$290,000	107
Resident	3860 Wyoming	\$261,000	109
Resident	3709 Juniata	\$350,000	113
Resident	3654 Juniata	\$310,100	113
Resident	3883 Juniata	\$222,000	115
Resident	3846 Hartford	\$270,000	118

## Weird Sights in the 'Heights

When you look at Yemisrach Derebe's house at 3655 Wyoming, what sticks out to you? Actually, the whole house sticks out by 6 feet.

In all of Tower Grove Heights, no other building dares to extend beyond the time honored 'building line'---except Yemi's, as I call her. From the satellite view you can literally put a ruler on every block and see that the front of all the houses neatly line up except---3655 Wyoming.

Why did this particular building break ranks and extend 6 feet toward the sidewalk? No one knows except the people involved in its construction back in 1905.

It's a mystery buried in time and one of the 'weird sights in the 'Heights'.



# HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY TO OUR TGHNA AND KDHX COMMUNITY MEDIA (88.1)

BY **ANDREA  
DUNN**  
AS TOLD TO  
**RICH IEZZI**

While we're celebrating the 30th anniversary of our neighborhood association, KDHX Community Media is also celebrating 30 years on the air. We both have a lot in common. TGHNA and

KDHX were both started by volunteers and continue to focus on community to be successful. The Tower Grove South area contains a large number of KDHX supporters, many of whom have been involved with the station since it first began.

A Gazette staffer asked Andrea Dunn, KDHX radio host for the popular "Radio Rio" show, to share her on air experiences. Here's her story:

My husband and I moved here in 2001 and had to start from scratch in making friends, so I gravitated toward what looked to be a promising community at KDHX. We lived around the corner from the old station on Magnolia in Tower Grove East.



I immediately applied for a show without having any experience at all—never did college radio. There was a spot open, there was no show dedicated to just Brazilian music and they were looking for more female voices, so it was perfect timing and a good fit. My first volunteer experience at KDHX was answering

the phones for the Fall 2001 Drive and then Radio Rio started soon after that in October of 2001.

Music has always been a huge part of my life and has definitely

been how I have shaped my "identity" over the years. The "DJ instinct" has always been with me—from making mix tapes and CDs—always wanted to share (force!) music I thought was important on others. I had a great Brazilian music education from my record store days in Chicago and felt very strongly that people needed to hear more music from Brazil!

To prepare for 'Radio Rio', I put my iPod on shuffle in the Brazilian genre several days before the show to remind myself of songs that I've forgotten about and start listening for musical themes. Then I spend about 2 hours over the weekend to get a tight playlist together that flows well.

Multi-tasking is a big part of being a DJ at KDHX. The air room still has a tape player, CD players and turntables but you can also play your music from your computer or an iPod or you can use the KDHX music library. The phones ring, you might be updating your Facebook or Twitter feed for your show while on the air. You need to enter your playlist and make sure the scheduled announcements run on time as well. For maximum voice projection, DJ's are expected to stand while broadcasting.

When Andrea was asked about any fun things that go on behind the scenes during the show, she smiled, "If you drive by the radio station and look at the second floor studio window during my show, you might see me dancing."

KDHX DJ's are known for playing wax records but Andrea said, "I used to play a lot more records but not as much anymore (hard to bring records when riding a bike to the station!). There are many KDHX DJs who bring in a ton of "real records" every week. I've got a collection from my younger life—don't really collect LPs anymore."

**"If you drive by the radio station and look at the second floor studio window during my show, you might see me dancing."**

Concerning the volunteer aspect of KDHX, Andrea confirmed, "We do have a hardworking group of paid staff but the volunteer DJ force is truly remarkable. There are definitely stations like KDHX in the country but not many that have the amount of volunteer DJs that we have that host the amount of shows we offer. We DJs are super fans of the music we play and we are all truly dedicated to the cause of creating community through the station. This includes making sure local artists are heard and artists who otherwise don't get radio play are featured. Labor of love, I guess?"

Finally, she spoke about the importance of community radio. "The idea of the community that KDHX forms and sustains is huge for me. And it is truly important to keep these independent sources of media going strong."

Congratulations to KDHX for 30 years and thanks for your service, Andrea. Keep dancing.

## *Tower Grove Heights NEEDS YOU!*

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association can only be YOUR association if you join. With your participation, TGHNA will be a reflection of what YOU want the Heights to become. So please don't delay in joining or rejoining.

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 better protect our property values  
To make TGH a more interesting, fun place to live

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