

# Tower Grove Heights Gazette

GRAND TO GUSTINE

ARSENAL TO UTAH PLACE

Volume 33 No. 4

Winter 2022

## 100 Neediest Cases – 2022

By Ellen Wilson, Chair

Welcome to both new and “old” participants!



This is the 19th year of TGHNA supporting families through the 100 Neediest Cases Program. While many have participated in this project every year, there are a lot of new neighbors who I hope will jump in and contribute this year. Our neighborhood has always been very generous and willing to help, and I want to extend a welcome to the new people or those who might be new to this neighborhood initiative.

If you would like to contribute to a family to help them with the holiday season, either donate a new, unwrapped gift that fits one of the family members or general needs listed below or donate cash (PayPal or check – made out to TGHNA) which will be used to buy gifts and help our adopted families pay for expenses such as rent/mortgage, utilities, and/or other family needs. Drop your donations at the drop point and we take care of the rest. **Please be sure to include your full name with your donation to be sure I can acknowledge your generosity or identify if you wish to remain anonymous.** All gifts will be wrapped and distributed to the families.

We are able to accept donations through PayPal through our website [www.towergroveheights.com](http://www.towergroveheights.com). Follow the prompts for the 100 Neediest Cases Program to the donation link specific to this project.

Choose one (or more) of the following:

### Family 1:

Pregnant single mother on a fixed income hoping to give her children a special holiday this year.

**Mother** (40): Size (XL-14); shoes (W-9)

**Adult Son** (22): Size (XL 36); shoes (M-9)

**Daughter** (13): Size (M-10); Shoes (W-10)

**Son** (12): Size (M-12/14); Shoes (M-9)

**Son** (6): Size (Child 6/7/8); Shoes (Child-11)

**Daughter** (5): Size (Child 6/7/8/9); Shoes (Child-11)

**Newborn** (due soon; unknown gender)

**Special Requests:** Tablets for 12- and 13-year-olds; Remote control vehicles for 5- and 6-year-olds; Cell phone for 22-year-old; newborn items: blankets, bottles, clothing, diapers; winter clothing and shoes for everyone; books, toys, puzzles, coloring books and crayons; gift cards, and help to catch up on bills.

**Family 2:** Grandmother caring for six of her grandchildren since their parents lost their jobs and one had heart surgery and several strokes. She is disabled, unable to work, has two autoimmune diseases, sleeping disorder, and chronic pain so badly she can barely walk.

**Grandmother** (64): Size (XXL); Shoes (W-8.5)

**Grandson** (15): Size (L); Shoes (M-11)

**Granddaughter** (14): Size (14/16); Shoes (W-6.5)

**Granddaughter** (14-twin): Size (2/S); Shoes (W-7.5)

**Granddaughter** (14-twin): Size (4/6/S); Shoes (W-7)

**Granddaughter** (11): Size (Girls-14); Shoes (W-6.5)

**Granddaughter** (10): Size (Girls-12/14); Shoes (W-5.5)

**Special Requests:** Vehicle repairs; home repairs; walker; bath towels (grey); queen bed and

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# Tower Grove Heights

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## THE GAZETTE

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## MEETINGS

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our meetings  
will be conducted via Zoom and live on the TGH  
Facebook page. Everyone is welcome to tune in.

A Zoom invitation will be sent though  
MailChimp and posted to the Tower Grove  
Heights Neighborhood Assn.

Facebook page and Tower Grove Heights  
Facebook Community Group or contact  
[info@towergroveheights.com](mailto:info@towergroveheights.com)

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# Letter from the President

By Jennifer Florida

I am feeling so grateful! I have so much appreciation for the awesome **Halloween** our neighborhood just experienced. My block, 3800 Hartford, always gets a permit to close the block for Halloween. This really does increase safety. All are welcome:) Many other blocks do the same. Such a treat to experience the sense of community and the energy of our children and their grownups having so much fun.

On a sadder note, SLPS's **Central Visual Performing Arts High School** is heavy on our hearts. It is difficult to know what to say or what to do for those who have endured such a traumatic event. The loss of a teacher, Jean Kuczka, who gave her life to protect her students, and Alexandria Bell, a beautiful bright star of a student whose life abruptly ended... Loss of a daughter, a mother, a friend, students injured, recovering, and students, teachers and our community left with the trauma and loss of that feeling of safety in a place of learning. Yes, it happened here. I am thankful for the swift actions of teachers and students. I am especially grateful to St. Louis Metropolitan Police department for their swift, decisive response to this crisis, saving so many lives without any hesitation.

The winter season is upon us. Hard to believe. This is the time of year, the season of giving. We have selected two families from the **100 Neediest Cases** to sponsor this year. Soon we will circulate information about the families and how to make their season extra special but you can get an early start by reading the 100 Neediest Cases article by Chair Ellen Wilson in this issue of the *Gazette*.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our **holiday event** on December 18 at Blackthorn Pizza, 3735 Wyoming. Ordering is on your own and starts at 5 p.m. [blackthornstl.com](http://blackthornstl.com).

We hope to **LIGHT UP THE HEIGHTS** with luminarias on the same evening, so put out a luminaria in front of your house before heading over to Blackthorn! (The next MailChimp notification will include details.)

The new year is upon us—we plan to resume in-person meetings starting in January 2023. Until then, please consider checking in and letting us know how we can better serve you or better yet, get involved. We need you! Please join us on fourth Tuesdays (January - November) at 7:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Looking forward to seeing you all real soon!

# Editor's Note

By Barbara Gilchrist



The holiday season is upon us with all its hustle and bustle. Let's hope this year's events and celebrations will be closer to our traditions pre-COVID. Please remember to "shop small" on South Grand. We have many wonderful stores offering unique items. Restaurant gift cards are also a great way to show someone you care.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association is, as we have for many, many years, participating in the 100 Neediest Cases campaign. Our neighborhood is filled with very generous people, and I am confident we will show this again this year. Please review Ellen Wilson's article for the specifics on how to contribute.

\*\*\*\*\*

Many of us will receive gifts or items we have ordered and porch pirates are well aware of that. Please make arrangements with family or neighbors to retrieve these packages quickly or have them delivered to safer locations. In this same vein, the TGHNA Safety Committee continues its effort to register exterior security cameras in TGH so that, in the event a crime is committed, camera locations can be quickly determined. Be assured that your information is kept private and only shared with the police when needed. Contact the Safety Committee Chair at [safety@towergroveheights.com](mailto:safety@towergroveheights.com) for more information or to register your security camera(s).

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy New Year from the editors of the *Gazette*. We look forward to in-person TGHNA meetings starting in January and another year of *Gazette* issues. If you are not already involved with TGHNA, please consider adding this to your new year's resolutions.

# 100 Neediest cases - 2022

*Continued from Page 1*

linen/comforter; winter clothing and coats; shoes for everyone; gift cards for video games; hair products for Afro-textured hair; science-y stuff and/or kits (robotics, geology); dancing; track and field; ethnic dolls; books; cool clothes; and help to catch up on bills.

**All families need the following:**

**Gift cards for any of the following:** medicine; gas/bus fare; food; cleaning supplies; personal hygiene products; or baby care products if appropriate. Consider: Walgreens; Target; Walmart; Schnucks; Aldi; BP; or other related store.

**Educational Items:** age-appropriate books; family games; school supplies...

**Cash:** for gifts, utility bills, rent/mortgage, or other family expenses which are paid directly by 100 Neediest Cases or the sponsoring center (checks TGHNA or PayPal through website) An alternative is to make a cash donation at Gustine Market. The store will generously match up to \$250.

There is always a need for volunteers to help wrap the gifts as well as wrapping materials such as paper, tape, ribbon, name tags, and bows. If you want to help wrap or just stop by to see the process, contact Ellen.

**Due Date for Donations:** December 16

Wrapping Party: December 17 at 10:00 a.m. at Ellen's house. Although, I realize this can be a touchy subject I will only allow fully vaccinated people into my home to protect both you and my family.

**Drop Point and Contact:**

Ellen Wilson, 3617 Juniata St.

314-221-8418 [efwilson6@hotmail.com](mailto:efwilson6@hotmail.com)

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# Chris Bethel and Liz Chiarello's Yearlong Wedding

By Jason Best

A yearlong wedding sounds insane—until you stop and think about it. In fact, it proved such a genius idea that it landed Tower Grove Heights couple Chris Bethel and Liz Chiarello a feature article in the *Post-Dispatch* for what they describe as their “deconstructed wedding.” Like countless other innovations these past couple years (dining sheds, to-go cocktails), this one was born of the pandemic. Bethel and Chiarello officially got engaged on New Year's Day...



Wedding photo by Monkia Farmer

2020. Needless to say, the 200-person wedding they initially envisioned wasn't going to happen anytime soon. So instead, the couple decided to split up “the Big Day” into five separate events, spread out over a year.

Here's how it all breaks down: Bethel and Chiarello tied the knot at a smallish ceremony in Tower Grove Park in May, exchanging vows at the Music Stand with their border-collie mix Doc as ringbearer and about 30 family and friends in attendance—except, sadly, Chiarello's own parents, who had contracted COVID less than a week prior. In early June, the couple hosted a week of kid-friendly fun in St. Louis for friends with children (think City Museum, zoo), followed at the end of the month with a week of fun for adult friends (Treehouse brunch, art museum). Then in early October, Bethel's family convened for a celebration-slash-reunion barbecue at his parent's house in Moscow Mills. Chiarello's Texas-based folks will host a similar event for her side next spring.

As Chiarello told the *Post-Dispatch*: “We get to show people around St. Louis, our favorite city, and most importantly, we get to spend a lot of time with people we love that COVID has prevented us from seeing—far more than a traditional wedding would allow.”

The story of Chiarello's own love for St. Louis is inextricably entwined with her romance with Bethel. Indeed, the two met but a month after Chiarello moved to the city in 2013. By then, the academic career that would ultimately land her the job of associate professor in sociology and anthropology at Saint Louis University had taken her from Texas to Oregon to Southern California to Princeton, as well as a four-month stint in what was her then-raging urban obsession. “I was in a passionate love affair with San Francisco,” she confesses.

But in Bethel, she found a guy who could hardly have deeper Gateway city roots. Never mind that his paternal lineage traces back to a land grant secured just after the Louisiana Purchase, or that McCluer High School is named after a great-grandfather. What perhaps seals his St. Louis bona fides is the fact that a great aunt is credited as the inspiration for the Cardinals' iconic “birds on a bat” logo. A Mizzou grad who works as an investment analyst at BioGenerator in the Cortex, Bethel had lived for several years in Tower Grove South, and after a brief flirtation on Chiarello's part with Lafayette Square (*sacré bleu!*), the couple decided to buy their converted two-family flat on Humphrey in 2015. “St. Louis is just such a beautiful old city,” Chiarello says. “And there's a ton of stuff to do.”

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# City Meeting Addresses Traffic Calming

By Barbara Gilchrist

**T**raffic deaths and injuries have become part of the environment in St. Louis as well as the rest of the country. According to an article in the *Post-Dispatch* (Oct. 4, 2022), at least 13 people have been killed in traffic accidents so far this year. Speeding, pulling into turn lanes to drive around cars, and running stop signs and fully red stop lights are a common observation whether you are a pedestrian, cyclist or vehicle driver.

A meeting called by Mayor Tishaura Jones on Oct. 3, 2022, at the Carpenter Branch Library was part of her response to this reality. Three representatives from different departments of city government and a city police lieutenant made up the panel of speakers. The topic was traffic issues in general with a focus on South Grand Boulevard. This meeting came on the heels of the tragic hit-and-run death of a cyclist on South Grand near Magnolia on Sept. 9. Sadly, shortly after this meeting, a pedestrian was killed in a hit-and-run incident on Gravois near Spring. A similar meeting was held on Oct. 17 that focused on North Grand.

Lt. Paul Lauer reported on a traffic enforcement effort in Sept. on South Grand between I-44 and Gravois. Two hundred forty-nine traffic stops were made during that month and 124 citations were issued. He also reported that 16 crashes were reported in September; six vehicles fled the scene.

The study cost \$45,000 and was paid for equally by Wards 15's and 20's capital funds.

John Kohler from the Board of Public Service reported on a traffic study done on South Grand from Utah to Chippewa. The study cost \$45,000 and was paid for equally by Wards 15's and 20's capital funds. The list of recommendations from this study are similar to what was done in 2010 in the South Grand Business District (Arsenal to Utah) – one travel lane each direction with a shared center turn lane, mid-block crosswalks at Cherokee and Winnebago, sidewalk and bus stop improvements and bike lanes from Chippewa to Gravois.

Betherny Williams from the Streets Department focused on Magnolia to Arsenal. She reported that the city is refreshing striping and pavement markings, trimming trees and bushes to improve site lines, and is considering a reduction in the current 35 mph speed limit. She suggested that a medium-term change could be swapping the location of bike and parking lanes. She also said that the city will be looking into other longer-term solutions.

...one person said "No one drives 25 miles per hour, including myself."

The 100+ person audience was invited to make comments or ask questions after the presentations. Many people talked about being afraid to walk or bike on South Grand. Some questioned whether all streets can accommodate all forms of transportation.

Others suggested narrowing the lanes, raising crosswalks to be more like speed humps and utilizing newer automatic traffic enforcement mechanisms. One person talked about the need to change drivers' behaviors since the traffic calming measures already in place on South Grand have not eliminated dangerous driving. The comment about lowering the speed limit on South Grand brought chuckles from the audience when one person said, "No one drives 25 miles per hour, including myself."

These meetings are only a part of the city's efforts. Mayor Jones announced in a *Riverfront Times* article on October 5, that she will propose at least \$40 million of the American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the city be used to "transform our streets in key phases while we work towards a long-term comprehensive citywide plan." And, as reported by Austin Huguelet in the *Post-Dispatch* on October 5, some of the ARPA funds have already been allocated by the Board of Aldermen for improvements on Kingshighway, Grand, Jefferson, Union, Goodfellow, and Riverview Boulevard.



## 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 your 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

### Membership level choices:

- ☐ **INDIVIDUAL** (1 vote) \$10/year
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## Meet the Neighbors

By Lisa Merrill

We've got some pretty spectacular people living in our neighborhood. I'd like to introduce some talented neighbors with particularly spooky Halloween decorations. Meet Jason, Blythe, Susan, and Sarah and Chad.

*Jason, 38XX Wyoming, Home Exterior Contractor, has lived in TGH for four years*

**What is your favorite piece?** I'd have to say the skeleton flying off the balcony riding on the big wheel. My boys don't ride the big wheel much anymore, and that is part of the reason that I turned it into a prop. They (his boys) are fans of the decoration, but don't help put it up.



**What do you like best about fall in our neighborhood?**

Fall is my favorite time of year—I like that the temperatures are starting to cool, changing of the leaves, football season.

*Blythe, 37XX Utah, Occupation: Attorney for a University, has lived in TGH for 15 years*

**What's your inspiration?** I grew up loving Halloween. After moving to this neighborhood, I got really inspired by the husband of our former daycare provider who lived on Wyoming and is a local haunted house character celebrity known as "Scary Gary." My Halloween decoration collection definitely grew after meeting Gary.



**What is your favorite piece?** It is a life-size mummy that has a little motion-activated sensor on the belly that triggers it to grunt or moan and move its eyes back and forth. We put it out on the porch during trick-or-treating, and it's so much fun to see the kids' reactions. You can tell some of the kids remember it from previous years and realize "Oh, it's the mummy!" and they'll come back to activate it. And then there are

other kids who get scared of it, can't take their eyes off it and have to work up the courage to come get their candy.

*Susan, 38XX Humphrey, Occupation: Philosophy Professor, has lived in TGH for 11 years*

**What's your inspiration?** When our kids came along (they're twins and their birthday is Halloween), that's when we really



started to get into Halloween. We ended up hosting parties and that kind of started me buying a lot of decorations for the occasion. As the kids got older and they saw what the neighbors were doing, they wanted the decorations to be scarier and more elaborate.



**What is your favorite piece?** I collect cat-themed decorations, so there's lots of cats all over the place and while they are just made of rubber, they're kind of expensive. So I add just one a year.

**How many cats do you have?** Well, there's some in the house but outside there are five of the rubber ones. And then there are three metal ones that are staked in the ground. So, that's ten.

**For dog owners, that's quite a lot of cats.** Yeah. Well, for us, cats are creepy and spooky (because we're dog people).

*Chad and Sarah, 38XX Connecticut, Occupations: National Commercial Manager and High School Teacher/Block Captain, have lived in TGH for seven years*



**What's your inspiration?** Halloween is my very favorite holiday. Always has been, right? (Her son asks, "When can we go to Johnnie Brock's?") There you go.

**What's your favorite piece?** There are these little ghouls that



live down in the front garden. When we were first together, I saw a picture in a catalog, and I thought I could make them. So, I bought cloth to cover the base shapes, and Chad drilled holes through the eyes to insert lights. We put them on stakes, clothed them, tacked them down and they

light up on the inside. Everybody asks us where we got them and we say, "We made them!"

**Can you share a memorable Halloween experience?** Our first Halloween on this street for sure. The weather was perfect. There was mist in the air. A fog, not really mist. We had heard to expect a lot of trick-or-treaters, but we had no idea! It looked like how they would set it up in Hollywood on Halloween night, where you might think, that's not what Halloween looks like... but it does.



# TGHNA Board Elections Held for 2023

By Tricia Heliker

Three board members of the Tower Grove Heights Association have been re-elected to their current positions. Rick Stein has kept the finances in order since 2012 and will continue as Treasurer. Sharon Angle has accepted a fourth term as Secretary. Jean Iezzi will continue as Membership Secretary, making this her seventh year of recruiting new members, managing renewal dues and producing the Buzz Book. President Jennifer Florida will move into the Past-President slot; Erica Westbrooks, President-Elect, will take over as President; and Joyce Reese will serve as President-Elect. Patrick Weber completes his three years on the board after serving as President-Elect, President, and Past-President. However, Patrick is not yet ready to take a break from serving the neighborhood. He has volunteered to become the Editor of the *Gazette*.

The neighborhood is fortunate to have these dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and expertise to keeping the association running smoothly. Anyone who is interested in serving on the board, please contact [info@towergroveheights.com](mailto:info@towergroveheights.com). The next voting cycle rolls around quickly, and it is always good to have volunteers in the wings. In the meantime, there are various committees (Safety, Social, Block Captain) that welcome new members and the *Gazette* is open to new writers even on a one-issue, one-time basis.

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# The MidCity La Leche League Group

By Erin O'Reilly

*La Leche League's mission is to help parents, families, and communities to breastfeed through parent-to-parent support. LLL encourages, informs, educates, supports, and promotes the use of human milk, in whatever manner is it given, and the intimate relationship, optimum development, and health that comes from breastfeeding a child.*

Did you know that our neighborhood has one of the oldest La Leche League (LLL) groups in the St. Louis metro area? It's called the MidCity Group and has been holding monthly meetings at the Oak Hill Presbyterian Church since 1984! The first meeting was held on January 18, 1984 (I have all the old records in my basement!). There were four Leaders and eight moms with their babies at that meeting. Over the years the meetings grew, attracting as many as 23 moms at a meeting with all their babies and young children. It got quite noisy at meetings as you can imagine! The meetings are held in the church's nursery rooms which are very suitable and have toys for the children. We are very grateful to Oak Hill Presbyterian Church for this meeting place over so many years!

I became a Leader in 1999. We currently have a total of five volunteer Leaders certified to serve our community. Did I mention that the meetings are free? Yes, qualified free help from certified Leaders who not only hold group meetings but also provide one-on-one breastfeeding support, whenever it is needed. During the pandemic, LLL accommodated moms via Zoom meetings, but we

are now back to in-person meetings. Our in-person meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Oak Hill Church nursery. We also hold a Zoom meeting on the first Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. You may contact one of the Leaders to get the Zoom link to join the meeting.

Breastfeeding is natural, but it does not always come naturally. LLL offers breastfeeding support to all who want to breastfeed. LLL can help parents reach their breastfeeding goals with trained and certified Leaders who hold group support meetings, give phone and email support, do outreach through social media and events, and when needed, do home visits. This year in October, LLL will be 66 years old—that is 66 years of volunteer work by thousands of certified Leaders throughout the world! LLL is represented in over 70 countries around the world. What an accomplishment by the seven founders who were women who just wanted to help other mothers breastfeed at a time when formula feeding was the norm. Two of the founders, Marian Thompson and Mary Ann Kerwin, are still alive and are well into their 90s. They deserve recognition! They started a volunteer organization that has helped so many, over so many years, and in so many countries to enjoy the better health that comes from breastfeeding!

Breastfeeding is such a potent health promoter for both mom and child yet, the lack of state or federal requirements in the workplace such as paid leave or facilities for expressing milk makes it harder for moms to breastfeed for as long as they desire. MidCity LLL Group and Leaders are here to help with breastfeeding, so give us a call, ideally during your pregnancy, so we can help support you to be successful with breastfeeding!



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# News from the Carpenter Branch of SLPL

By Tonnya Joy, Regional Library Manager

With winter weather approaching, the season of staying inside with a good book or movie is just around the corner. Not sure what to read, watch or listen to? Try Your Next Favorite and get a personalized list of suggestions. We also provide custom collections of up to 25 items. To learn more about these services, visit [www.slpl.org/next-favorite/](http://www.slpl.org/next-favorite/).

Local, award-winning naturalist Mark H.X. Glenshaw will be presenting a two-part lecture series at Carpenter on his work documenting the lives of Great Horned Owls in Forest Park since December 2005.

• **Forest Park Owls: Hiding in Plain Sight** | Nov. 30 | 6:00-7:30 p.m.

• **Forest Park Owls: Mating, Nesting, and Owlets** | Jan. 5, 2023 | 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The Central Library is hosting two amazing exhibits right now!

• **Dangerous Women** features the true-life stories of Mary Harris "Mother" Jones and Frances "Fannie" Sellins. Now through January 7, 2023. Exhibit hours are 9-6 M-Th, 9-5 Fri & Sat. | Carnegie Room, 3rd Floor

• **America's Monsters, Superheroes, and Villains: Our Culture at Play** explores how iconic characters both influence and reflect American culture from the 1960s to the 1990s. The exhibit features more than 350 exceptional objects, including vintage toys, posters, packaging, TV commercials, and movie trailers. Now through January 15, 2023. Exhibit hours are 9-8 M-Th, 9-5 Fri & Sat, 1-5 Sunday. | Great Hall, 2nd Floor

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## Holiday Whirlwind

By Pat Edwards

**Hectic...** it's just that time of year. We pour a multitude of activities and expectations into a thimble worth of space. Our intentions are worthy. Let's thank those who make our lives easier or let's lend a hand to someone in need. In the month of December, projects can snowball quickly, and before you know it, we have, once again, become our own worst enemy. Let's try spreading the goodwill over 12 months instead of overloading December. Here are a few ideas on how to show your appreciation or brighten someone's day without taxing your autonomic nervous system.

**Use technology!** Even a luddite won't argue the merits of receiving a picture or video from a loved one. I have a friend I haven't been able to see for well over a year, but because she sends both picture and video texts to me, it doesn't feel like we haven't been able to get together. What a gift to watch her children grow, see their changing hairstyles, clothing and places they've visited! All thanks to her thoughtfulness and a cell phone.

**Use your imagination!** Try to find time in the next few months to put the screens down and sit down to a table of art supplies. We all have something that can be fiddled with to make a wonderful work of art. Meander into your basement, kitchen cupboards, sewing supplies stash or lawn and collect items that are interesting to you. Then get your glue, glue gun or tape nearby and create something on a material that you have (paper bags, wood, scraps of any kind) that pleases your eyes. Add a school picture to the artwork and you'll have a lifelong treasure for family or friends.

**Use the kitchen!** The following is a recipe my mother received from the mother of a young girl who shared a hospital room with my then-young sister. It was close to 50 years ago. The girl's mom would bring this delicious chocolate covered toffee for all to eat. She was kind enough to share the recipe with us and we've been making it ever since.

### Chocolate Covered Toffee from the kitchen of Pat Allen

1 c. granulated sugar	1 ½ c. chopped pecans
½ t. salt	12 oz. semi-sweet
¼ c. water	chocolate chips
½ c. butter (one 4 oz. stick)	

Combine sugar, salt, water and butter in a saucepan. Stir and heat to boiling. Cook without stirring until the mixture reaches 285 degrees on a candy thermometer. Add ½ cup of the chopped pecans. Pour onto a greased cookie sheet. Let cool. Melt chocolate over a double boiler just until it is almost melted. Take it off the heat and let it finish melting. Spread half of the chocolate on cooled candy; sprinkle with ½ cup pecans. Let cool thoroughly. Turn candy over and spread with the remaining chocolate and sprinkle with the rest of the nuts. Cool; break into serving pieces.

Here's hoping 2023 is kind to you and your family! Wishing all of Tower Grove Heights health and happiness.

## REAL ESTATE NEWS

### Homes Sold in Tower Grove Heights this quarter

Street	Listed Price	Days on Market	Sold Price
3835 Juniata	\$199,999	2	\$220,000
3665 Humphrey	\$285,000	7	\$300,000
3825 Hartford	\$310,000	6	\$300,000
3722 Connecticut	\$350,000	0	\$342,000
3830 Arsenal	\$300,000	6	\$355,000
3884 Connecticut	\$439,900	6	\$440,000
3824 Juniata	\$465,000	6	\$500,000

3 Single Families, 1 condo, and 1 Multifamily Sale Pending  
E-mail questions to [JFloridaSTL@gmail.com](mailto:JFloridaSTL@gmail.com)











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Twitter: @TowerGroveHts

# Winter Tropicals

By: Dan Waeltermann, Horticulturist, owner of Grand Garden Services, LLC



y now, you may be realizing those tropicals that you loved outdoors are turning into inconsiderate roommates. If you're like me, you probably bought more this past summer, not thinking of the amount of space needed to co-exist happily indoors. If you had to move furniture around in order to make space for them—it's you I'm talking to.

We haven't even gotten to January yet—how can we keep the peace?... Don't fret! With a little effort, you can have space, happy plants and happy people.

First things first, inspect all your tropicals for any sign of insects—scale, mealy bugs, slugs, spider mites. Anything that appears on the plant that's not part of the plant should be treated using insecticidal soap spray or neem oil if you have scale (any nursery or hardware store sells it ready to use). Move any infected plants away from uninfected ones. Soak the leaves on top AND underneath. You need to reapply a few times a week.

Most indoor plants will drop leaves as they adjust to their new surroundings. Keep those dropped leaves out of the pot as those can produce fungi. Place plants near windows with indirect light and make sure each tropical has its own saucer. Keep tropicals away from heat vents as they can easily dry out the plant.

Reduce watering in winter months. My best advice is to water once a week for cacti and succulents and twice a week for tropicals. This, of course, can vary depending on individual plants. Never water so much that the saucer stays full all the time. Allowing the plant to run dry a bit is okay.

Reduce fertilizing and use only water-soluble fertilizer. Increase fertilizer again as days become longer (mid-January on). Every few weeks, if possible, place plants in your shower and let the water run lukewarm for 5-10 minutes over your tropicals. This will not only help knock off any dying leaves but also remove insects that may still be hanging around. The plants will also love the humidity!

If you don't have any extra space OR you just need a little more room over the winter months for living, I recommend moving tropicals to the basement. I do this for most of my coffee table-sized sago palms.

Clear desired space. Place saucers under each tropical. Set two grow lights above, set up a box fan on low and plug all three into a timer that's set for 12 hours ON and 12 hours OFF. Have a five-gallon bucket nearby for watering weekly. The fan will help circulate air and the grow lights are designed for maximum photosynthesis of plants. All items are available at your local hardware store or online. Affordable and easy to set up.



# Party in the Heights 2022

By Patrick Weber

If anything sums up Tower Grove Heights residents collectively, it is that we love our block parties. Whether it is a spur-of-the-moment porch concert for a few neighbors, a street-closing gathering celebrating National Night Out or a neighborhood-wide outdoor street festival, the Heights loves to get outdoors, take advantage of the cooler weather and mingle and have fun with longtime (and brand new) friends and neighbors.

And this year's Party in the Heights was no exception. Held on Sunday, September 18 this year, the annual block party featured live performances from two exceptional musical acts – Erma and the Fellas (featuring the Heights' own Joe Miller) and



Committee chair, Patrick Weber, with two of the committee members, John Kennedy on his right and Ray Marklin on his left. (not pictured Kristy Carothers and Sharon Angle)



Hudson and the HooDoo Cats

highlighted the return of the always-popular neighborhood pot luck and ensured everyone was well fed. New for this year was the addition of the Wandering Side Car Bar Company's Mobile Bar, providing a variety of local brews, unique cocktails and even juice boxes for attendees.

Like every year, Party in the Heights could not have been successful



The Wandering Side Car Bar Company's Mobile Bar

without the help of our hard-working planning committee, including "Emcee" Ray Marklin, John Kennedy, Kristy Carothers and Sharon Angle, all of whom dedicated countless hours to the event from high-level planning to zeroing in on all the details required to pull off an event like this. A special thank you to all of the volunteers who took time out of their Sunday afternoon to help set up, take down and make the event run smoothly. And finally a word of recognition to our sponsors, in-kind contributors and local businesses

including Hodak's Restaurant and Bar, Aya Sofia Restaurant, Aesh Design and the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association.



The wooden blocks are always a favorite at a street party.



The kids easily find ways to play together and enjoy themselves.



Freshly popped popcorn was a popular treat.

Although fall weekends in St. Louis are packed with events, it is always encouraging to see so many neighbors come out, dance, mix and celebrate all that makes Tower Grove Heights such an amazing place to live. Did you miss this year's event and want to stay up-to-date? Do you have a great idea for next year or want to volunteer? Planning for next year's event will begin in the Spring, so be sure to sign up for email updates through MailChimp and follow Tower Grove Heights' socials via [www.towergroveheights.com](http://www.towergroveheights.com). And we will see you next year!





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