

Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Volume 1, Number 4

February 28, 1989



VICTORIAN GEM NEEDS POLISH Tower Grove Park

Over 100 years ago Henry Shaw gave St. Louis a park. Today that legacy lives on. In 1868, Shaw gave the City of St. Louis the land that is now Tower Grove Park. He served on the Board of Commissioners and worked with many talented people to create this park with funds provided by a special bond issue. Tower Grove Heights residents are privileged to live in such close proximity to the finest Victorian park in the United States. But a park with ornate gazebos, bronze statues, gate houses, stately entrances of stone and wrought iron, and over 8,000 trees does not maintain itself. The maintenance of the park has always been the responsibility of the people of St. Louis. City administrations along with private benefactors have managed to meet the basic maintenance requirements, but restoration is necessary and the city budget cannot be stretched to cover the repairs.

The time has come for Tower Grove Park to turn to its friends; those friends who strolled through the park as young lovers or were married there

and now watch their grandchildren splash in the wading pool or gather round the lily ponds to watch the ducks. The park needs those friends who "get serious" about a game of touch football on a crisp autumn morn

or who brave the humidity for little league practice. It needs those friends who bicycle or jog the paths and delight in the everchanging array of color as Spring bursts forth decorating the landscape. Tower Grove Park is reaching out to us for help.

John Karel, director of Tower Grove
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ELECTION: Exercise Your Right

In the coming months we will have two opportunities to exercise our right to vote. The city-wide primary will be held on March 7, 1989, and the general election will on April 4, 1989.

In the primary election we will select the candidates for Mayor, City Comptroller, and Alderman for the 15th Ward. We will also vote on the lateral sewer line bill. This bill would authorize a small fee to be added to the current residential sewer bill to cover repair costs of lines in public right-of-ways. These costs are currently the responsibility of the property owner.

In the April general election, we will elect our Mayor, Comptroller, and Alderman. Additional bills may be

added prior to the election.

It is our duty, privilege, and right to vote. You can obtain a Voter's Guide from the League of Women Voters (727-8683). This publication will provide you with a list of all candidates and their positions. In addition, it will also include a synopsis of any amendments or propositions on the ballot.

Polls will be open from 6am to 7pm on both days. If you are not currently registered to vote, you can register at the Board of Election Commissioners or at any St. Louis Public Library

-Paul Lazzari

FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to a new year. In this issue of the Gazette we'll be instituting the practice of identifying stories by the writer who worked on them. We hope that doing so will help you get to know our staff a little better, and hopefully will give them some recognition for the time and effort they put into the Gazette.

Our "On Grand" column features a staple of the neighborhood, Pearl & Rays Restaurant. Also, we have a reminder of what it used to be like in the "Historic Heights". Other stories focus on more serious topics: the Conservation District, police foot pa-

trols, and what you can do to improve Tower Grove Park.

On the lighter side, we highlight neighborhood activities that have taken place since our last issue: Christmas caroling and progressive dining.

With our "Good Neighbors" story, we give a well-earned pat on the back to two residents who are continually looking for ways to help the area. Also, if you've ever wondered what it's like being a block captain, find out, by reading about two that might live near you.

We think we have a diverse collection

of topics you'll find worth reading in this issue, but we're always looking for more. So if you have any information about people or subjects that would be of interest to the neighborhood, your suggestions would be appreciated.

We hope you enjoy the issue.

Janice Nesser

Janice Nesser

Tom Booth

Tom Booth

**The Tower Grove Heights
Gazette**

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Letters and comments should be
mailed to:

The Gazette
TGHNA
P.O. Box 22174

ON GRAND

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

All the trees have been planted on Grand South Grand. They seem to be quietly waiting for spring, so they can come to life. It will be a sight worth waiting for. Forty years ago, Pearl and Ray opened a cheese shop at 3141 South Grand. Tables were added so customers could eat in the shop. Sandwiches were added to the menu, and later homemade soups. From these beginnings, sprang Pearl and Ray's Restaurant, a South St. Louis tradition. During its history, Pearl and Ray's has had three owners. I talked with one of the present owners, Jim Collier. He and his wife, Marie, purchased the restaurant 1 1/2 years ago. Some thought was given, at the time, to changing the name of the restaurant, but it was decided that no matter what they called it, it would always be thought of as Pearl and Ray's. Since good food is what has made Pearl and Ray's what it is, it was decided not to change the style and methods of food preparation. All food is made from basic, no preprocessed or prepackaged, items. It's this dedication to homemade quality food that has made Pearl and Ray's legendary. Daily specials are offered, and breakfast is always very special. The atmosphere is casual, comfortable and friendly. Counter, table and booth seating is available. Sundays find the restaurant filled with customers enjoying a leisurely breakfast, perhaps reading the newspaper, a true Southside tradition within a Southside tradition. Operating hours are: Sunday 8am to 2pm, Mondays closed, Tuesday through Friday 7am to 6:30pm, Saturday 7am to 3pm.

-Don Hardin



Missouri Botanical Garden

Everyday is special at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Floral displays, concerts, films, lectures, festivals, exhibits, performances and more are planned for your education and enjoyment. Call 577-5125 for information and schedules.

Tower Grove Park

cont. from page 1

Park since 1987, is currently involved in an administrative review to guarantee the efficiency of operations. Renovation of park buildings is on Karel's priority list. By building the park's constituency, Karel hopes to ensure its future. There are several things TGH residents might do to help accomplish these goals. The most obvious is a monetary contribution, but support can be offered in various ways. Be aware of volunteer park improvement projects. Then, give your time and abilities to make these programs successful. An appeal is also being made for antique furnishings for the Gurney House located on Magnolia at Tower Grove. If you would like to donate furniture or accessory items dating from 1860-1900 please call the park office at 771-2679. This is a lovely way to preserve that special piece in a place where it will be forever appreciated.

-Tricia Heliker

**CITY
KITCHENS
AND
BATHS**
by
John Noecker
664-8814

THE HISTORIC HEIGHTS Streets and Their Names

Tholozan Street, intersecting Gustine near Gravois Plaza, presented a remarkable view (when looking south and west) of hills falling into lovely little valleys. This was prime land in the late 1700's. It had spectacular ridge lines and very fertile soil.

This street takes its name from Adele Sanquinet Tholozan, daughter of Marie Anne Conde and Charles Sanquinet.

Conde was the daughter of Laclede's first post surgeon, Andre Conde. He was a highly educated, respected surgeon who brought a remarkable library to the little village.

Adele's father, Charles Sanquinet, was the son of a Royal Actuary in Quebec. Upon coming to the village, he entered the fur trade. He became a partner first with the flamboyant Jacques Clamorgan, and later with Manuel Lisa in the Missouri Fur Company.

Charles Sanquinet (a French Canadian) obtained Spanish Land Grant 2340 in 1798. It was the largest land grant in the Tower Grove Heights/Grand Oak Hill area. It

contained about 390 acres (11.5 arpents wide and 1.4 miles long). This land laid immediately south of the Widow Charleville's tract. Sanquinet also owned a 577.5 ft. square piece of land on the east side of present day Grand that included a lake. (This area was later purchased by John McDonald, namesake of McDonald Street.) The Sanquinet tract was bounded by present day Grand, Arsenal, Kingshighway and Chippewa Streets.

Adele Sanquinet Tholozan owned two land grants of her own (tracts 2997 and 2998) which comprised slightly over 128 acres. Since this land fell within the original Sanquinet tract, it can be assumed that it was deeded to her by her father. These two tracts had as their boundaries Tholozan, Grand and Kingshighway.

The old Tholozan burial grounds were located at present-day Chippewa at Gravois. This valley was heavily forested; and to the north and west lay James Russell's 45 acre grove of oak trees. It was in this connection that Oak Hill takes its name.

-Kathryn Kilker

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A MESSAGE FROM ALDERMAN GERALDINE OSBORN

I have been deeply concerned for some time by the fact that homeowners have been forced to pay thousands of dollars for the repair or replacement of leaking or broken lateral sewer lines between their homes and the main trunk line. Often, these leaks or breaks occur within the public right-of-way (such as alleys or streets) but the homeowner is legally responsible for the cost of such repairs.

On March 7 we have an opportunity to vote for a proposition which would correct this situation. This proposal calls for a maximum charge of \$28 per year on all residential property having six or fewer units. The money collected would go into a special fund to pay the cost of repairing leaking or broken lateral sewer lines within the public right of way.

This proposition is like an insurance policy. The relatively small charge which each homeowner would pay could prevent him or her from having to pay thousands of dollars to repair a leaking lateral sewer line. Many of the sewers in our neighborhood are from 60 to 80 years old. If your sewer hasn't broken yet, it may be only a matter of time. This measure would not cover the cost of sewer repairs on your private property but would cover repairs in the public right-of-way and this is where problems occur most frequently.

Similar measures have been submitted to the voters twice before. Both of these proposals were approved in the 15th Ward even though they were narrowly defeated City-wide. I recommend favorable consideration of this third effort.

Geraldine (Gerry) Osborn
773-8416 (Home) 622-3287 (Work)

CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESERVES QUALITY

Tower Grove Heights became part of a Housing Conservation District on April 1, 1988. At the present time, Wards 7, 17, and 15, which Tower Grove Heights is a part of, are in Housing Conservation Districts. Other wards have bills pending to become one. At some point, it is hoped that the entire city may be involved in this program.

The objective of this ordinance is to preserve quality housing and maintain minimum housing requirements. Under this ordinance, a Certificate of Inspection is required when selling a residence or when renting a unit. After the Certificate of Inspection has been issued, a Certificate of Residency is required before the building can be occupied. This certificate states the number of persons that will be occupying the dwelling and the principal's names.

It is the property owner's responsibility to apply for the certificate. A new certificate must be obtained when renting a unit if one has not been issued in the past year. Applications are made through the Housing Conservation District Section at City Hall.

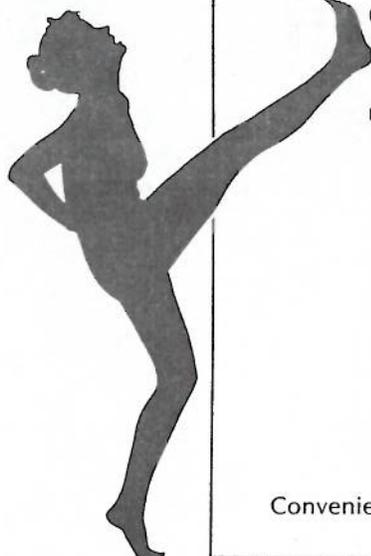
Upon applying, a date for inspection is set. An inspector will then walk through the dwelling. There are 41 potential exterior and interior violations. If a permit has been issued without violations, the Certificate of Residency can then be applied for. Permits can also be issued with minor violations and the dwelling occupied, but a specified time period is set for repairs to be done.

Permits can also be denied because of too many violations. A two-family dwelling is given six months to comply, a larger dwelling 30 days. An inspector will work with the owner during this time to see how they are progressing on the repair of the violations.

The Housing Conservation District also reviews utility lists provided by Union Electric to find out about changes in tenancy. If they find that a Certificate of Inspection has not been applied for, they will first send a letter to the owner requesting that they file for the Certificate of Inspection. If they do not comply within 7 days, a follow-up letter will be sent. If no application occurs, the inspector will then visit the residence to try to contact

cont. on page 7

If you wear out your body . . . Where are you going to live?



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NEIGHBORHOOD ILLS EASILY RECTIFIED

Have you ever come home at night and noticed that a street or alley light had gone out? When you went to take out your trash the next day, were any of the dumpsters missing their lids or in need of repair? Sometimes these little aggravations become tiresome and we wonder when things will be fixed.

Most of these type of maintenance problems are as easy to eliminate as picking up the telephone. The TGHNA has found that City Hall responds quickly when the correct department is reached and the problem

is reported. Street lights can be replaced by calling the Citizens' Service Bureau at 622-4800. Alley lights can be reported to Union Electric at 342-1000. Remember to give them the location number from the metal tag attached to the pole.

When you see situations that could be improved but are not maintenance related, contact your block captain. There are many avenues for help including Geraldine Osborn's assistance.

-Rich Iezzi

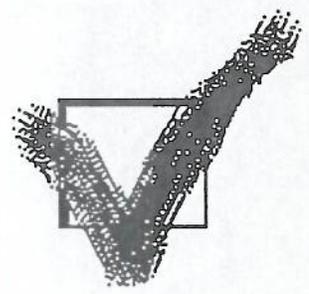
Operation Brightside will take place on Saturday, April 15, 1989. On this day residents join together in an effort to brighten their neighborhood by cleaning the streets and alleys. Bags are provided by the city for the collection of trash. In addition, a special Saturday pick-up of trash will take place.

Block captains will be contacting all neighborhood residents in the coming month to enlist your help in this project. Consider giving of your time to help sweep your alley or pick up trash on the streets. If you have any ideas for your block, contact your block captain.

-Cindy Lazzari

Re-Elect

Geraldine "Gerry" Osborn Alderman 15th Ward



An Active, Working Member of Our
Community.

Primary Election
March 7

General Election
April 4

Paid for by Citizens for Osborn. Nells C. Moss Jr., Treasurer. 3862 Humphrey

NEWS & NOTES

Hartford Progressive Dinner

Friends and neighbors of 3800 block of Hartford held their third annual progressive dinner on February 11th. Appetizers and drinks were offered at the first home, soup and salad at the second home. To add interest and managability, the attendees (twenty-five in all) were divided into three separate groups and directed to three separate homes for the main course. Everyone reunited for deserts and after dinner drinks at the last home. As in the past, a good time was had by all. Good friends and good food, two of the best things life has to offer.

Gazette Needs Artist

The TGH Gazette is looking for a Graphic Artist to help design and illustrate advertisements, and possibly do occasional paste-ups. The position, of course, is volunteer but you'll have the opportunity to work with a talented, professional design staff...plus, have a great time at bi-monthly get-togethers and staff holiday

parties. Interested persons should contact Jan at 776-5780.

Good Neighbors

Remember the saying, every litter bit hurts? Conversely, anything we can do to eliminate litter helps. Two residents of Utah have been helping. For the past eight years, Susie Gudermuth and Lenita Moore have donated a little time each week to improve their neighborhood. Each weekend finds them, trash bags in hand, clearing the alley and streets in their neighborhood of litter. Hats off to these "good neighbors".

CLASSIFIED

The classifieds are open to all TGH residents at a cost of \$1.25 for two lines, \$.50 every line thereafter. If you would like to place a classified call Janice 776-5780 or Tom 776-6270.

Wanted - A babysitter to watch 2 girls (ages 2 & 4) while parents enjoy evenings out. Must be 13 yrs. old and have references. Call Jean 772-4987.

CLASSIFIED

Happy Birthday, Daddy!
Love, Carolyn & Christa



It's Time For A Change



David M. Heimos

Democrat for Alderman, 15th Ward

PRIMARY ELECTION, MARCH 7

David M. Heimos . . . will work
to improve the neighborhood and property values.

Paid for by Citizens to Elect David M. Heimos for Alderman

CO-CAPTAINS ADOPT 3800 JUNIATA

The 3800 block of Juniata now boasts two block captains. Susan Barrington covers the south side of the street where she has been a resident since she was 1-1/2 years old. Susan has remained active since here retirement in 1976 and accepted the position of block captain for the dual purpose of complying with doctor's orders to walk and to contribute to the success of TGHNA. Susan taught English for 13 years at Cleveland High School and feels that we are never too old to learn something new. She hopes that by becoming involved she will be learning and also contributing to the success of TGHNA for the benefit of all residents.

The north side of the street is being covered by Martha Cleer, mother of three daughters and a new resident as of last July. Martha is also a busy woman. Working as a nurse's anesthetist, she can't always make the neighborhood meetings, but she wants to contribute in this way, and hopes that by doing so she will meet her neighbors and make new friends. Martha would like to see the youth in the area become involved and, thereby, develop pride in their neighborhood.

Both woman have similar goals for Juniata.

-Tricia Heliker

Conservation District

cont. from page 4

the owner in person. Under this ordinance, the Housing Conservation District has the right to take court action against an owner that does not comply and the property can be condemned.

The Housing Conservation District does not always know of changes in residency if the landlord pays the utilities. If you know of a situation such as this, you can contact them to inform them of the change in tenancy. They will take the proper steps to make sure a Certificate of Inspection is obtained and ultimately a Certificate of Residency.

If you need or would like to obtain more information about the Housing Conservation District, you can contact them at 622-3352 from 8:30 to 4:30.

-Cindy Lazzari

REPORT FROM REP. PAT DOUGHERTY

The most common cause of cancer related deaths is breast cancer. It is known that early detection improves the likelihood of surviving but only a small number of women who should get annual screening are doing so. For example, only 15-20% of American women over 50 have ever had a mammogram, and even fewer get them regularly.

Cost is a high consideration. Insurance companies do not generally over the cost of prediagnostic mammograms.

I have introduced legislation to require insurance companies to cover these tests. House Bill 534 would require coverage, at a minimum, of an annual screening mammography for any woman who is at least 35 years of age.

If you have any questions or comments on this bill, or any legislation, write to me, Rep. Pat Dougherty, State Capitol Bldg., Jefferson City, MO 65101

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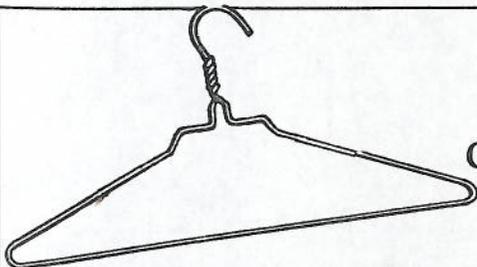
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TGHNA - STRIVING FOR YOU

"The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association has "for sale" signs to thank for its creations," said Jean Iezzi, TGHNA President. "We were seeing too many of them in the Summer of 1987 and were wondering why so many of our neighbors were moving." Further investigation into the proliferation of the for sale signs revealed a general lack of confidence that our area would continue to be an attractive place to live. So with neighborhood improvement as its primary goal, the TGHNA was born on November 9, 1987.

"During our first year, we've accomplished a lot!" said Iezzi. "The basic framework of our organization has been put into place with the installment of officers, the granting of our state charter, our application for federal non-profit status, and with a growing membership. We have been recognized in the city as a concerned and conscientious community force."

Outstanding accomplishments of the past year include the publishing of the Gazette, which has received wide acclaim for both its quality and as a medium for information distribution;

general meetings have attracted interested and concerned residents; block parties have been held and enthusiastically received as the re-establishment of a neighborhood tradition; and monthly clean-up blitzes have made the area shine.

Iezzi explains, "Our goals in the future include expansion of our membership and increasing involvement of members in the organization's committees. We can't do it all. We need more help!" She cited as an example the workload of the Newsletter Committee and Neighborhood Improvement Committee. The Improvement Committee is charged with the maintenance of several beautification projects as well as identifying areas for clean-up. Anyone interested in volunteering for a committee should contact the committee chairperson or Jean Iezzi at 772-4987.

Ultimately, we would like to see our residents exude pride in this neighborhood and become involved in its maintenance," said Iezzi. This neighborhood can be a friendly, social, and beautiful area to live and raise children.

-Steve Telford

BARTERING COMMITTEE

SEEKS REFERRALS

The Bartering and Referral Committee is compiling a booklet of reputable contractors, service people and individuals with special skills and/or talents. Each listing will be accompanied by a reference from the TGH neighborhood.

The committee needs your assistance to complete this booklet. Please refer anyone who has done satisfactory work for you. This may be done by calling 772-9151 between 8am and 4pm weekdays and leaving a recorded message. Please leave your name and number; and the name, address, and number of the company that you are recommending. You can also mail your referrals to: Bartering Committee, TGHNA, PO Box 22174, St. Louis, MO 63116.

You are encouraged to get your referrals in as soon as possible. Remember, anyone qualifies for this booklet from artist to zipper fixer.

-Tricia Heliker



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COOKIES FROM CAROLERS

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association earned some good citizenship points over the Christmas holidays by contributing over thirty dozen cookies to area shut-ins. The cookies were collected by Christmas carolers on December 19th on the 3600 through 3800 blocks of Hartford.

Residents were notified in advance that the carolers would be collecting cookies in lieu of cash or canned goods.

The outstanding response was greatly appreciated by the Grand-Oak Hill Community Center which distributed

the cookies to shut-ins served through their organization.

The caroling on Hartford was part of that evening's Christmas light competition with the 4500 and 4600 blocks of Tower Grove Place.

The official judges of the competition were the Post-Dispatch's Elaine Viets, Laura Gilbert of Commerce Bank, and Mary Mulroy of the Carpenter Branch Library.

Hartford won the overall competition and four homes received honorable mention.

Two houses were singled out for

having "particularly lovely" displays in each of their respective areas: 3664 Hartford and 4626 Tower Grove Place. Likewise, one house from each area was highlighted for an awe-inspiring abundance of lights: 4656 Tower Grove Place and 3805 Hartford.

The light competition attracted some unexpected media attention to the area the same evening. Shots of two houses on 3800 Hartford were seen on the Channel 5 5pm and 10pm newscasts. Organizers of the competition hope to expand the caroling and Christmas lights activities next year.

-Tom Booth

WALKING THE BEAT

During the summer of 1988 we were all pleased to see patrolmen from the 3rd District "walking the beat" in Tower Grove Heights. The goal of the program was to reduce crime and to improve community relations.

The foot patrols continued until November of 1988, and we had hoped to see them start up again this spring as outdoor activity picks up and the weather becomes milder. However, we learned recently that due to a lack of



funds there is no immediate plan to continue the much needed (and appreciated) patrols.

According to Bill Vincente of the 3rd District, the patrols were a success and he is hopeful that they will be instituted again sometime during the coming year. If you want to see the foot patrols continued this year, write a letter indicating your support of the program to: Capt. Gary Perkins, 3rd District Police Station, 2727 S. 12th Street, St. Louis, MO 63118. Be sure to send a copy to the Mayor's office. It's important to let him know that we appreciate the efforts of our police!

-Mike Johnson

Sam Hawatmeh
M.D.

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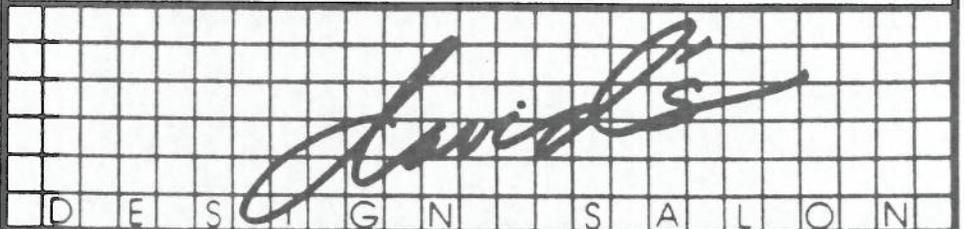
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CALENDAR MARCH AND APRIL 1989

March 4 - April 2

Fields of Grass exhibit at Missouri Botanical Garden. Display focuses on grasses through drawings, prints, and watercolors.

March 6 - May 15

Plant clinics will be held from 9am to noon daily the first and third Mondays of each month at Missouri Botanical Garden. Features include on-the-spot diagnosis of insects, disease and cultural problems.

March 7

Primary Election

March 11 - April 9

An Old-Fashioned Garden will be on display at Missouri Botanical Garden. The exhibit features flowering plants, complete with gazebo and white picket fence.

March 11 and April 15

State Representative, Patrick Dougherty, 67 District will hold Town Meetings March 11 at Resurrection School at 11am and again on April 15 at Compton Heights Christian Church at 11am.

March 18

Ham shoot at VFW Hall at the corner of Spring and Wyoming beginning at 12pm.

March 20 - May 8

Critical Issues Forum at Missouri Botanical Garden. The destruction of tropical rainforests will be the subject of this eight week session. Register by calling 577-5140.

March 20

First day of Spring - Visit Tower Grove Park or Missouri Botanical Garden to view early flowering bulbs and trees.

March 26

Easter

April

Watch for information as it becomes available on the Spring Fling on Grand Ave.

April 2

TGHNA Open House and Membership Drive

April 4

General Election

April 15

Operation Brightside

April 25

Children's Bedtime Storyhour will be held at Carpenter Branch Library. For more details' contact the library at 772-6586.

ONGOING EVENTS

TGHNA - First Sunday of each month will feature a Clean-up Blitz of neighborhood blocks. Blocks to be named.

Carpenter Branch Library -

Great Books Discussion will be held on Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Children's Storyhour held every Wednesday at 10:30am

Travelogue is featured on Thursdays at 2pm

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association

President: Jean Iezzi

Vice-President: Rich Iezzi

Secretary: Leslie Coriell

Asst. Secretary: Jack Hurov

Treasurer: Steve Telford

Block Captains

3600 / 3700

UTAH

Theresa & Steve Telford

HUMPHREY

Dana & Jack Winter

WYOMING

Betsy Brielmaier & Barb Vanta

CONNECTICUT

Kay Lynn Firsching &

Ruth Schnurbusch

JUNIATA

Leslie Coriell

HARTFORD

Joyce & Ken Mellow

ARSENAL

Martha Raky

3800

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Susy Gudermuth

HUMPHREY

Needs a block captain

WYOMING

Cindy & Paul Lazzari

CONNECTICUT

Janice Nesser & Benjamin Chu

JUNIATA

Susan Barrington & Martha Cleer

HARTFORD

Jean Iezzi & Bill Wright

ARSENAL

Donna Heimos

The TGHNA Gazette

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