

Letter from the President

by Erica Westbrooks
2023 Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association President

ello Everyone,

I can't believe my term as your president is coming to an end. It really flew by and I'm left with feeling that I wish I could have done more. However, I had some goals when I came into office and I have met all three of them. My first goal was to have good attendance at our meetings and Heights Nights as we transitioned back to in-person meetings and events. We have had great turn-out. We have been able to welcome and meet new neighbors while reconnecting with old ones. We had wonderful guest speakers bring their knowledge and work to our residents. Thank you to those who have taken the time out of your busy schedules to join us, learn with us, and socialize with neighbors. For those of you who haven't joined us yet, please attend when you can. We can't wait to chat with you.


Another goal of mine was to get more people involved in the association. We have filled some spots and had to say goodbye to others. Thanks to Jean Iezzi for all her hard work as Membership Chair and contributions to our neighborhood over many, many years. We have a new communications chair, Shannon Heffernan, and Membership Chair, Ann Stanley. Welcome! The TGHNA Gazette has a whole team behind it now! We are still looking to fill some roles, but my term isn't over until December 31, 2023 so I still have time! If you are interested in serving as President-Elect, Safety Committee Chair, Block Captain Chair or Social Committee Chair, please let me or another officer know. Thank you to our current officers and those officers who have filled multiple vacant roles – Jennifer Florida (Safety, Communications, Block Captains), Rick Stein (Treasurer), Sharon Angle (Recording Secretary, Safety), Chris Fields (Social) and Joyce Reese (President-Elect).

My final goal was to raise money for the association. We had not had any formal fundraising since 2019, as many of you know. My goal was to raise \$4000.00. We did this with raffles at Heights Night and our fundraising campaign. As I am writing this, we are still counting donations. I know we have exceeded our goal! I can't thank you enough for your generosity and answering our call. We are all sleeping a little better at night. You will, if you have not already, receive a thank-you note and a small token of our appreciation. You all are who keep TGHNA going and running. Thank you, again.

As my time with is ending, I want to extend my thanks for letting me learn and grow in this position. It has been a pleasure serving a neighborhood I love so much. I hope some of you are considering joining us next year in this work. I wish you all a beautiful holiday season, however you and your family celebrate, that has tons of love and fun along with peace and relaxation.

Sincerely,


Erica Westbrooks
2022-2023 TGHNA President



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Tower Grove Heights
Neighborhood Association

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Note from the Editor

by Patrick Weber

How is it another year has past?!? It seems like just a couple weeks ago I was packing up the holiday decorations and lugging them down to the basement (the layers of dust on the bins has since corrected my timeline).

Amid the craziness of the season, this time of year gives us an opportunity to slow down and reflect on the past year and look forward to what's next.

The *Gazette's* contributors this issue have taken this theme and run with it: Erica Westbrook reflects on her time and goals as the TGHNA's 2023 President, Tricia Heliker brings us a recap of the 3800 block of Hartford's annual Fall Block Party, Anita Barker describes how a new family member led to experiencing our neighborhood and City from a new perspective, Rich Iezzi recounts a harrowing encounter over the Summer and Pat Edwards illustrates how we can make loved ones feel at home in a new and strange place.

In case you need any last-minute gift ideas, Jason Best provided his list (and checked it twice!) of the best of our neighborhood's shopping treasures and Tonnya Joy brings us upcoming events to look forward to at the St. Louis Public Library's Carpenter Branch. And just for fun meet the new 'Voice' of Tower Grove Heights, Larry Oliver, in Shannon Heffernan's Neighbor Spotlight.

One thing I have always admired about Tower Grove Heights is our spirit of generosity. This year the neighborhood celebrates its **20th year** supporting the **100 Neediest Cases**. I would encourage you to take a look at the enclosed flyer highlighting this year's adopted families and donate however you can. You can also view the flyer digitally and donate online on TGHNA's website, www.towergroveheights.com.

Still looking for a way to give back? Consider supporting your neighborhood association in a leadership role or by serving on a committee. The TGHNA is always looking for new members to get involved in making Tower Grove Heights the best neighborhood in St. Louis.

On a personal note, this holiday season will be bittersweet for me as it will be my last (for now!) in Tower Grove Heights. I moved to this neighborhood eight years ago not knowing anyone, and felt like the neighborhood adopted me and my nascent business. I have never lived anywhere as welcoming or supportive or its residents and businesses as the Heights.

It has been an honor to give back to the neighborhood I came to love on the TGHNA Board and finally as the Editor of the *Gazette*. With our Editorial Board and dedicated contributors I know I am leaving it in very capable hands. I cannot wait to see what they will accomplish next!

Wishing you and yours a safe and happy Holiday season and all the best for 2024 -

- patrick

REAL ESTATE NEWS

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3820 Hartford	\$475,000	3	\$500,000
3807 Utah Pl	\$480,000	7	\$540,000
3661 S Utah Pl	\$550,000	6	\$545,000
3734 Hartford	\$539,000	5	\$572,000
3882 Humphrey	\$589,000	4	\$590,000
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Your **Hyper-Local** Guide to Last-Minute Holiday Gift Giving

by Jason Best

photos by Ralph Groom

You've made your list and checked it twice – but uh-oh, looks like you forgot a couple folks this year who were extra nice. Well, aren't you lucky to live in the Heights. You're just a stone's throw from some of the city's coolest independent retailers, which means you can cross those last-minute gifts off your hectic holiday to-do list faster than you can say Amazon Prime. And with gifts this unique, no one's ever going to think you picked out any of these on the fly. So, what to get . . .



. . . **your kid's bibliophile piano teacher.** You don't know him very well, but you've sure spent enough time scanning the bookshelves in his living room listening as he patiently guides your seventh grader through another plinking rendition of Für Elise. He deserves a medal, but how about a first-edition hardcover of one of his favorite authors? Dunaway Books* has an impressively wide selection, and they're happy to help find the one you're looking for. 3111 S. Grand

. . . **your faithful cat sitter.** Vacations are so much more relaxing when you know that not only is your precious pair of calicos getting their litterboxes changed, but their substitute human is also spoiling them with belly rubs and chin scratches to boot. Keep her cozy all winter long with a potpourri of aromatically to-die-for looseleaf teas from **Garden District STL***, complimented with a classic teapot and delicious locally sourced honey. 3203 S. Grand



. . . **your epicurean nephew and his husband.** Every year they invite you to a Thanksgiving extravaganza that would put Martha Stewart to shame. Their kitchen may be stocked with top-of-the-line WiFi-compatible gadgets, but serious gourmets know nothing beats a hefty set of heirloom cast-iron cookware, cleaned, re-seasoned, and ready to use. **The Bricoleur*** has got you covered, in addition to a delightful treasure trove of vintage kitchenware. 3400 Cherokee St.

. . . **your new neighbors.** Get on their good side early on, because you never know when you'll need to borrow a cup of sugar (or ask to check out the security footage from their alley cam). It's a good bet that one of the things that lured them to the Heights is its proximity to Tower Grove Park, and **Urban Matter** has all manner of swag celebrating our pastoral gem, from Aaron Brookhart's elegant prints of the park's historic pavilions to Amanda Doyle's chronicle of its storied history. 3179 S. Grand



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... **your eco-conscious daughter-in-law.** Her produce is all organic, her eggs from pasture-roaming hens, and every spring she gifts you a bag of compost. You're all for her brand of environmentalism – just maybe sans the look of subtle disdain when she sees you toting a plastic shopping bag. Give her a set of reusable glass containers from **The Social Goods Marketplace** that can be filled in-store with everything from tangerine-clove hand soap to lavender-lemon laundry detergent. 3189 S. Grand

... **your Cardinals Nation coworker.** It's no coincidence that your sweet cubicle-mate Sally always seems to get a 24-hour bug sometime toward the beginning of April that just happens to coincide with opening day at Busch Stadium. Tickle her red(bird) with out-of-the-ordinary cardinal-themed fare – handmade and fair trade – from **Zee Bee Market** (we love the earrings, ornaments, and nightlight). 3211 S. Grand



... **your high-spirited boss.** Forget the standard bottle of Bordeaux with a staid picture of a random chateau on the label. **Grand Spirits** specializes in small-batch libations from small-scale producers that you're unlikely to find anywhere else, like the Cinco Sertidos mezcal made by master distillers in Mexico and available in the Midwest only here. Whether you opt for the artisanal spirits or organic wines, your chances of a promotion just doubled. 3194 S. Grand

... **your accountant who collects – donkeys?** Or ceramic Westies? Glass sea turtles? Vintage cameras? Japonisme vases? Whoever is on your list with a fetish for certain collectables, no doubt you'll hit the jackpot at **The Bricoleur***, which has an eye-poppingly expansive array of well-curated antiques and bric-a-brac. The only risk is that it's so much fun to browse, you might end up whiling away the entire afternoon. 3400 Cherokee



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... **your adorable two-year-old great-niece.** Your family has hit that point where the next generation of little ones is starting to arrive – aww! If it's been a while since you

shopped the toy aisle, you can't go wrong with a set of precious Bunnies by the Bay board books from **Garden District STL***, complete with plush stuffed versions of the books' animal characters that tots can cuddle during story time. 3203 S. Grand

... **when you have absolutely no idea what to get.** The scented candle as desperate, last-minute go-to gift is such a holiday trope, *SNL* once devoted an entire sketch to it ("It's the candle / that same peach candle / regifted 'round the world in just one day . . ."). But when all else fails, there's nothing bah-humbug about giving a scented



candle from **Urban Matter**, including clean-burning, long-lasting candles from local maker Haze in dreamy scents like cranberry & pine or orange peel & clove, complete with wicks made from sustainably certified wood that actually crackle for some extra-cozy holiday cheer. 3179 S. Grand
Jason Best is a regular contributor and a member of the Gazette Editorial Board.

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THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS



Tower Grove Heights always goes all out on Halloween, and 2023 was no exception. Here are some of the fun and spooky scenes that greeted trick-or-treaters this year. Images courtesy of Tricia Heliker.



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The *Lightning* Strike

by Rich Iezzi

On July 14 this summer, a lot of us in Tower Grove Heights experienced an enormous bolt of lightning. It was an absolute simultaneous crash and flash. Many people claimed that the lightning strike had to be 'right outside our house'.

My daughter Carolyn, who lives on Arsenal only seven houses from us, claimed the strike made their hair stand up. I went outside in the rain to see if our house had been hit.

While our brick 'pile' was unharmed, the strike took out our computer, landline, TV, porchlight circuit and fried our central air unit. When I picked up my wife, Jean, from working at the Stadium that night, she asked when 'they' would be restoring service. I said that we were the 'they'-we were on our own.

Like other storm victims, we hated the inconvenience. The thought of having to round up and install window air conditioners and deal with our service providers wasn't pleasant. However, we slept peacefully that night with fans, still enjoying the unpierced bubble of cool, dry air the house contained.

The next day was full of action as son-in-law, Chris, helped me install three window ACs and guided me through the process to obtain a new MODEM and check email from another device. Then, oddly, there was calm.

We were somewhat restored but without the annoying robo-calls we got on the landline. I enjoyed hearing the thrumming of the window units and felt assured having three systems to rely on instead of just one. I announced to the neighbors that we were back in the 1950s. "We've got no TV or central air!" I claimed.

Then I realized what we still had. Hot and cold running water, electricity, working cars and an operating garage door opener, a cold refrigerator and a 42-year-old Maytag washer and dryer set still hammering away.

Was I wrong not to miss frantically checking my email all the time or feeling compelled to watch TV or read the goofy stuff people send on the internet? I don't think so. Our house seems strangely quiet and I'm chiding myself for feeling so reliant on external forces. We'll eventually trade the window units in for central air and it will be convenient to be connected to the internet again. But for now, we're back in the 1950s.

Rich Iezzi is a long-time resident and regular Gazette contributor.



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SPOTLIGHT ON...

THE VOICE OF LARRY OLIVER



by Shannon Whitney Heffernan

Many neighbors know about the delicious pizza at Blackthorn and the kombucha on tap at Gustine Market, but the studio where tracks for audiobooks, short film narration, video game characters, and commercials are recorded could be our neighborhood's best-kept secret – mainly because it is located in Larry Oliver's apartment.

As a kid in Kansas City, he'd stay up listening to workers on the graveyard shift call into Dave Andrews' radio show, and dream of hosting his own one day. "My dad would open the door of my room and say, 'What the hell are you doing up? You have school tomorrow, it's 12:20. Turn the radio off.'"

That dream lay in wait until Oliver was in his mid-50s. After 25 years in the corporate world, he found himself with time to pursue his passions. He knew he needed a following or sponsors for a radio show – and that couldn't be built overnight. His friend suggested he check out voiceover work. In 2012, Oliver spent a weekend at a sound studio in Los Angeles taking a class for audiobook narrators, and he fell in love.

Over coffee at Hartford's, he lit up explaining the nuances of great voice work, "When you stop and think about voiceover today, even commercial voiceover, it's all about sounding like 'the guy next door' in conversation. It's not," and here he changed to a big, boisterous delivery, "The announcer! The least important thing in voiceover or voice acting is your voice. If you have a voice, the big deal is what you do with it. It's acting chops."

Whether he's voicing a documentary about famous musicians, explaining estate planning, or trying to keep e-learners awake for corporate training, Oliver must sound like an expert. His smooth, likable baritone and talented delivery make him a

Continued on next page

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chameleon behind the microphone. Still, he is careful to turn down projects that don't align with his interests and beliefs. "There's this thing that's really important in acting and voice acting, and life in general, called authenticity," he said. "It shines through. Everything has to be congruent."

After spending some time with him, it's no surprise his favorite projects require characters. He's the voice of 60 audiobooks, bringing stories to life and voicing entire ensembles. His work in a short horror film called *The Bellman* is being recognized this year in Paris at the Giallo International Film Festival. Oliver has also voiced video game characters, perfecting all kinds of grunts and other noises. Lately, he's dipped his toes into the court reporting scene.

While stenographers are in short supply, and pure AI (artificial intelligence) recording leaves room for errors, Oliver, as the digital court reporter, paints a full picture of court proceedings. He brings his sophisticated audio equipment to court and directs the recordings. He corrects errors in the AI transcripts in real-time, adds descriptions of evidence, and ensures everything is accurately documented. His work alongside AI offers the legal system accurate records without a stenographer.

While in voiceover work and voice acting, AI threatens to replace human talent with cheap solutions for small projects, Oliver is not yet worried about the major implications for his work. He said, "The one thing AI hasn't figured out how to do and the major difference between a computer and you and me and everyone else: we breathe. They're getting good with it, but it doesn't breathe." He often depends on editors to remove distracting breaths from his work, but ultimately, it's the secret sauce that makes his work sound realistic and pleasant to the ear. "If they delete it, it starts sounding like a robot, because we all breathe," he said, explaining how natural breath sets him apart from an automated product.

For the past two years, he's lived on Juniata and recorded for a wide range of projects from his home studio. He said he's able to work around the lively sounds of the neighborhood, but occasionally must pause for a trash truck or an excited dog. When asked about his favorite things in our community, the list was long, including Gustine Market, fresh produce at Jay's, and easy access to Tower Grove Park. "The people here are nice, and it's a very doggy neighborhood."

Check out Larry Oliver's work on his website: larryoliver.net and try to drive quietly when near the corner of Juniata and Gustine to avoid being featured in his latest work.

This is Shannon Whitney Heffernan's first contribution to the Gazette. She is the incoming Communications chair for the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association.

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NEWS

from the **Carpenter Branch**
of the Saint Louis Public Library

by *Tonnya Joy, Regional Library Manager*

www.slpl.org

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Upcoming program highlights:

All About Eagles | December 9, 1:00-1:45 p.m. All Ages

Join us for "All About Eagles," presented by the World Bird Sanctuary and featuring three live eagles! Explore the natural history of eagles and learn about the principles of conservation biology. Registration is recommended but not required.

Family History Fridays | 3rd Fridays through March 15, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Adults
Getting started is one of the hardest parts of researching your family history. Drop-in to our Family History Fridays at your local branch to gain one-on-one assistance from a Genealogy Room librarian. The Genealogy Librarian will be available to help you discover more of your ancestry by troubleshooting brick walls and utilizing our many different genealogical resources.

Carpenter Crafts | 5:30-7:30 p.m. Adults

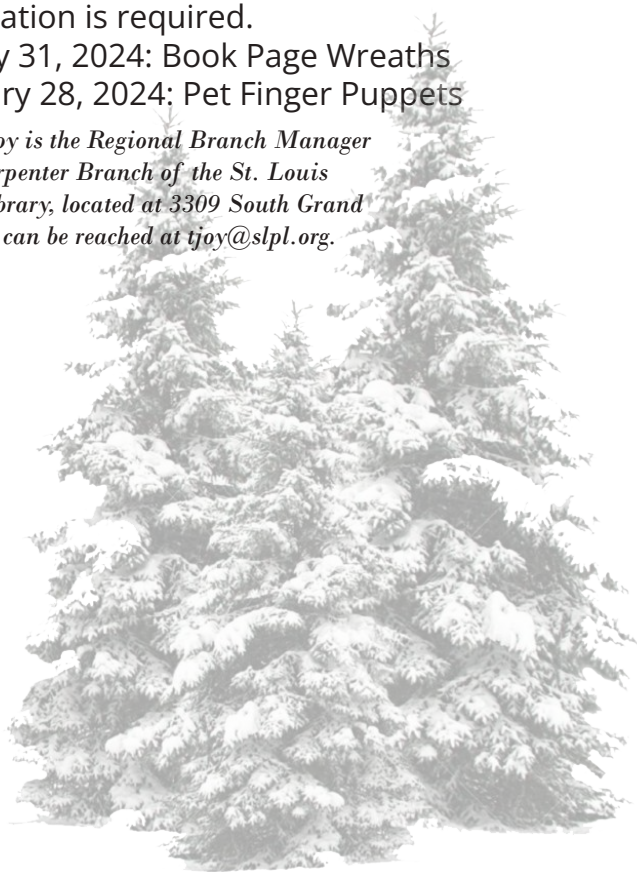
Join Carpenter staff for an evening of crafting and chatting. All materials are provided.

Registration is required.

January 31, 2024: Book Page Wreaths

February 28, 2024: Pet Finger Puppets

Tonnya Joy is the Regional Branch Manager for the Carpenter Branch of the St. Louis Public Library, located at 3309 South Grand Blvd. She can be reached at tjoy@slpl.org.



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3800 Hartford block party!

by *Tricia Heliker*

Jackets were the recommended attire on Oct 14 at 8:30 a.m. for the donut and coffee kickoff to the annual Hartford block party.

By the time the street closed to traffic at 3 p.m. it had warmed a bit but was still cool enough to make a hot bowl of chili appealing. The chili cookoff presented attendees with a wide variety of honed recipes to taste, vote for favorites, and then circle back for a larger helping of their choice. The most votes went to Brent Waskow for his Prairie Fire Chili.

The dessert table offered another chance to vote and enjoy some sweet treats. This category was a tight race. The Rice Krispie Bars made by Noel N. (age 8) and Violet K. (age 7) with supervision by Noel's mom, Ella, took first place. If you missed out, the recipe can be found here: <https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/rice-krispie-treats/> Second, by only one less vote, were the Double-Layer Pumpkin Cheesecake Bars. They were a group baking effort by Alicia Konstantinovich and her two children, Anna and Eddie. I must admit I went back



Noel and Violet had just the right mix, with help from Noel's Mom, Ella.

for seconds on these and held back on tasting any of the other entries. However, I will be checking out the link for the winning recipe.

At 4 o'clock residents gathered for the tapping of the keg from Civil Life and live music by Rough Shop Band who played until it was time to set up for the outdoor movie. This year's feature was "Elemental" from Disney/Pixar.

Thanks to Matt and Abigail Miller for planning and orchestrating another successful 3800 Hartford event.

Tricia Heliker is a former Gazette Editor, regular contributor and frequent block party correspondent.



Resident Jean Iezzi samples the chili cookoff entries.

There's No Place Like *Home*

by Pat Edwards

Coming home from a vacation, business trip, or any time we leave where we normally rest our heads is usually a mixed blessing. We are sad the experience is over but happy to be able to climb into our own beds and reacclimate. Home is where we have the "right" kind of mayonnaise, pillows, water, books, smells, and countless other tangibles and non-tangibles. We customize where we live so our space will bring us comfort and joy.

In the United States just over two percent of the population live in homes they may not be prepared for or want to live in, namely, nursing homes. It can be a difficult but necessary solution for many people. Is there a way to make this living situation feel more like home? Can I help someone I know living in a nursing home? What's a good way to help when you have a loved one in a nursing home?

One constant in nursing homes is need. The need is pervasive. Like all of us, nursing home residents have their own needs that are specific to them. Some residents are ambulatory and are more self-sufficient whereas others may be immobile and unable to lift a utensil to feed themselves. It's probably safe to say all the residents have needs that cannot be met exclusively by the home. Here are a few ideas on how to make someone you know living in a nursing home feel more at home and maybe more established.

- Read something they would enjoy (poetry, fiction, non-fiction, letters you've exchanged through the years, sports statistics, recipes)
- Play music
- Hold hands
- Recount stories from your history together
- Watch a television show
- Bring pictures or artwork to leave in their room
- Make or buy a special blanket/quilt/afghan for their bed
- If appropriate, thank them for how they've helped you (or offer forgiveness)
- Bring their favorite treat or meal
- Help them do something they are unable to do on their own
- Take them on a walk
- Share news
- Let them know you know they still exist
- Remind them of what they accomplished that made the world better

"One constant in nursing homes is need. The need is pervasive. Like all of us, nursing home residents have their own needs specific to them".

There is constant demand for compassionate nursing care. Staffing nursing homes has become more difficult since the spread of the coronavirus. For people who dedicate their lives to helping others at the end of their lives, it's important to acknowledge their work and commitment to their work. How do we let nursing home employees know we appreciate their work?

- Acknowledge them
- Thank them and be appreciative
- Listen to their advice, they've been trained and have experience
- Ask them about their lives and families
- Gifts are always appreciated. (Cash may not be allowed but a gift card is a good substitute.)
- Supply individually wrapped treats for everyone on the floor

A nursing facility can be an uncomfortable setting for visitors. It's not easy seeing someone you care about experiencing failing health and the problems they face because of their failing health. Despite the initial emotional turmoil you may feel visiting a nursing home, it's just about guaranteed you will feel better for doing so!

Pat Edwards, a former long-time resident of Tower Grove Heights, is still a regular contributor to the Gazette.

POOCH NEED A STROLL?

by Anita Barker

I'll begin by saying that my husband Tim and I have never owned a dog. We didn't grow up with dogs as pets nor did we have one when we were raising our four children in beautiful Tower Grove Heights where we have lived since 1989. The closest we ever came to knowing the joys and challenges of dog ownership was when our third child Christopher Barker decided to start a dog-walking business when he was a teenager. Chris succeeded in attracting a lot of customers through an ad he posted in TGH businesses that had this clever phrase: "Pooch Need a Stroll...Who Better than a Barker?"

It wasn't until September 2022, when our youngest daughter Stephanie adopted a 12-year-old border collie named Sadie, that we began to experience falling in love with a dog and understanding the passion that people have for their dogs. Stephanie owns a home in Holly Hills about two miles from our house which makes it convenient for us to interact with Sadie on a regular basis: helping Stephanie out by giving Sadie walks while Stephanie is working, watching Sadie while Stephanie is traveling, or just enjoying outings with Stephanie and Sadie as often as possible. Not only have we become smitten with Sadie, but we've also come to appreciate additional reasons that make TGH a fantastic neighborhood, namely, reasons from the perspective of dog ownership.


Whether you are new to TGH, new to owning dogs as a TGH resident or just interested in thinking about your dog-owning experience in a new way, you might find valuable some of the following benefits of living in TGH that we've discovered since Sadie became a part of our daughter's life this past year.




Sadie at Stupp Memorial Garden in TGP.

Location, location, location! With gorgeous historic Tower Grove Park just blocks away from any TGH home, dog owners can enjoy daily walks there surrounded by a beautifully curated natural setting, with a wide range of trees (did you know TGP is home to 325 different tree species?), plants and therefore scents! As any dog owner knows, the dog superpower of smelling is a favorite way that dogs engage with the environment. Dog experts liken a dog's excitement about "reading" messages from scents left by other dogs and animals to how entertaining and stimulating reading is for us humans.

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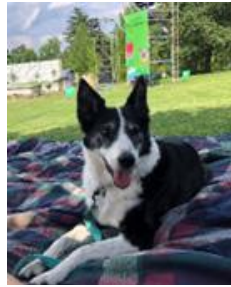
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As well as stunning groves of trees, on a walk in TGP, you can see lovely Victorian-era gazebos (no wonder TGP is one of only seven National Historic Landmark parks in the nation!), water features, gardens, structures like wooden balance beams that we've loved watching Sadie jump over, and of course, many other dogs. On a recent walk in TGP, I counted 44 different types of dogs including purebred and mixed breeds! Food Truck Fridays and many festivals held in TGP also make for wonderful outings with a dog. During this year's Festival of Nations produced by the International Institute of St. Louis and held during the last weekend in August each year, many of the more than 100,000+ attendees had their dogs in tow which makes me think that at least 1000 dogs were also in attendance!

In addition to having TGP in our "backyard," our neighborhood is conveniently close to many other city parks and venues. Carondelet Park in Holly Hills, Francis Park in St. Louis Hills, Tilles Park near Hampton Village, Lafayette Park in Lafayette Square and Forest Park are all less than four miles away. Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, held annually in Forest Park for several



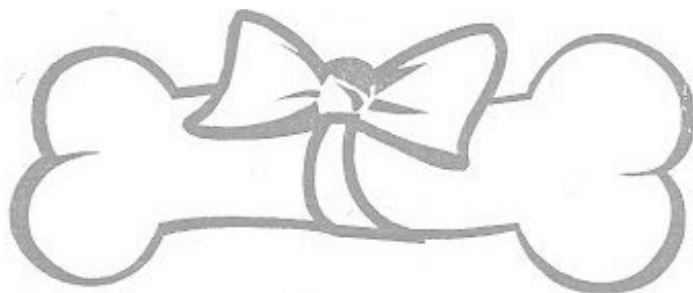
Sadie at SFSTL in Forest Park.

weeks in early summer, is one of our favorite free summer events that we shared with Sadie this year!

For a fee, dogs and their owners can enjoy time at nearby places like Shaw Dog Park (corner of Cleveland & Thurman) and Bar K St. Louis on McRee Ave. Looking for a dog-friendly bar or restaurant so you don't have to leave your pup at home? Riley's Pub on Arsenal, The Boat House in Forest Park, Rockwell Beer Garden in Francis Park, Rooster on South Grand Blvd. and Civil Life Brewing Co. on Holt Ave. are some options we've enjoyed with Sadie but more places are listed here: [Best dog-friendly patios in St. Louis](#) (St. Louis Magazine, June 2023). And if you need an indoor destination to take your dog on an inclement day, Lowe's on Loughborough Ave., PetSmart and OfficeMax on Chippewa all allow dogs to enter – thankfully given how much a border collie like Sadie needs exercise and stimulation!

If you're a TGH dog owner, you probably have your own tips and insights. Feel free to share at gazette@towergroveheights.com. Or better yet, consider writing an article for the Gazette – you're sure to reach many other readers who can relate to your experiences!

Anita Barker is a long-time Tower Grove Heights resident making her return to the Gazette as a feature writer.



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