

Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Volume 4, Number 4

Grand to Gustine

Arsenal to Utah Place

February 29, 1992

Look What I Found

The phrase "One man's trash is another man's treasure" has never been more true than it is in our neighborhood. The *Gazette* recently took a poll of some of the area's rehabbers to see what sort of treasures actually lay within the walls, floors, and ceilings of these vintage homes. The results were an interesting collection of whatnots, which to their original owners were all too common, but to whose new owners became precious, or at the least conversation pieces.

"I found a 1916 quarter in the plaster dust remnants as I finished tearing down an interior wall, which included two closets," says Steve Telford. "So evidently the individual had hung his pants up and the quarter had fallen out on the floor of the closet...a silver quarter, of course." Steve says it's pretty amazing he was able to find it considering the amount of debris on the floor. "He also found a battery igniter for gas lamps. "It was underneath the floorboards in the attic. I tore the floor up in the attic to insulate and exposed it," he said. While scraping off multiple layers of wallpaper, Steve

also found "a little message underneath the fifth layer, from the original remodeler. He gave his name, phone number, address, and dated it sometime in the fifties." Inspired by this bit of historical graffiti, Steve decided to leave something from our day for some future rehabber to find. After building an interior wall, "I stuck in a current newspaper. I think it's kind of like a tradition."

Tricia Heliker won't be following the same kind of tradition in her house. Not long after she moved into her house 14 years ago, she took an interior wall down in her basement and found a secret stash from a previous resident: "a bottle of rum, a handgun, and a cigar, all wrapped up." She speculates maybe "that was the only place he was allowed to drink and smoke." Though it might have been tempting to keep the stash together, Tricia had some reservations. "We gave the gun to my dad, because I hate guns. I just didn't want it in the house, even though it probably didn't work. My dad thought it was kind of unique." She kept the bottle of rum, though. "It was still sealed.

I kept it for quite awhile, and then I think we did open it, but I can't remember the particulars of the event." She thinks she threw the cigar away. Her interest in rehabbing may have been enhanced by her father's discovery in one of his houses. "My dad found a diamond ring once on top of a medicine cabinet, but not in my house, in one of his on Shaw. So I kept thinking, well any day now... I think of that whenever I tear something out."

Mary Schroeder also happened upon a hidden alcove in a house she formerly owned. "I had this electrician come in, and he found a closet under our stairs in the basement, and found a lamp shade he swore to me was worth over a thousand dollars. I don't know if I believe him though. It was some kind of fluted glass that was made only in the 20's." She hadn't noticed the closet before because "it was set back and made out of the same kind of wood." Aside from the shade, there was a miscellaneous collection of kitchen and bathroom products, and a 50th wedding anniversary plate belong—

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From the Editor

Do you have any idea why car dealers make their own commercials? Usually, they have no acting talent, are not particularly great looking, and their commercials are unimaginative. The ones on the television lately are strident and make me vaguely anxious. They aren't getting their messages across well, and if I could afford a car, I wouldn't buy from any of them.

It's not fair to pick on car dealers; furniture dealers are equally bad. There's a lot of hype out there, and you can see most of it during the 10 p.m. newscasts. Thank heavens for the mute button!

There is one ploy that really annoys me. It begins when an inanimate object speaks.

One radio ad starts out, "Hey, this is your stereo talking. Don't touch that dial!" If my stereo started talking to me, the last thing I would do is get close enough to it to touch the dial! Another commercial has your sofa talking to you about your recent weight gain. One that's been on the tube for a while features a car engine complaining to the car's owner. The people being spoken to don't seem to consider it unusual that their possessions are talking to them.

Promotion can be done with humor, dignity, and respect for the audience's intelligence. And so I'll make an appeal to your good sense.

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association has done lots of wonderful things in its four years of existence, and we ask so little of you, the residents. Now we are asking. Please join. Inside is a membership application—just fill it out, attach your \$6 (or more!) check, and mail it to P.O. Box 63046, St. Louis, MO 63163, or take it to your block captain.

Now, that's a sensible commercial!

Elizabeth Braznell

Elizabeth Braznell
Editor

The Tower Grove Heights Gazette

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Your letters and comments are always
welcome at the Gazette. Mail them
to: TGHNA Gazette, P.O.

Box 63046, St. Louis MO 63163

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.

Tower Grove Park is in the process of planting more trees at the edge of the park at the corner of Grand and Arsenal, giving the park more privacy and enhancing the Grand South Grand shopping district.

In November of 1989, after completing extensive renovation, Terry and Marie Harrison were ready to open Salon St. Louis at 3167 South Grand. Terry previously operated a shop in University City. Salon St. Louis has three hair artists and services are by appointment only.

Terry, the acknowledged creative force behind the business, has developed a remarkable line of products called Notare', which have been featured in many international hair styling magazines. His hair styles also have been featured in French, Swiss, and Italian publications. Recently, Terry was named in a poll of the best international hair designers in La Griffe, an Italian magazine.

As if the Harrisons weren't busy enough, Terry, who is a member of the International Board of Governors of the Art and Fashion Group, is working to start a local chapter here in St. Louis. The Art and Fashion Group consists of artists, clothing designers, hairdressers, and the fashion industry at large.

Salon St. Louis offers every imaginable service to style and care for your hair. Their special expertise is in the science of exact hair coloring, which they believe they have brought to the highest level of excellence.

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association welcomes this distinctive addition to the Grand South Grand business district.

Operating hours are: Monday through Friday, 11 to 9 and Saturday 10 to 3.

—Don Hardin



Missouri Botanical Garden

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Laurence Sombke

March 17, 1992
Innovative Uses of Perennials
Cole Burrell

March 31, 1992
Garden Design with Foliage
Judy Glattstein

March 10, 1992
The Evening Garden
Cathy Wilkinson Barash

March 24, 1992
Strategies in Urban Gardening
Patti Hagan

All lectures will be held
in the Shoenberg Auditorium
4344 Shaw Blvd.

Church Marks 100 Years

This year, the Church of Divine Science, located at 3617 Wyoming, celebrates its 100th anniversary in St. Louis. In 1892, Dr. Herman Schroeder came to St. Louis as a recently ordained minister of Divine Science. Divine Science stresses meditation as a means to finding the Christ within each of us. He came intending to instruct the large German population in St. Louis in this, then, new thinking. Dr. Schroeder organized the Society of Practical Christianity and began offering Sunday services in German.

Within a few years, the Society purchased a church building at 18th and Pestalozzi. As the Society's following grew, an additional church building in Belleville, Illinois, was procured.

In 1916, a new church building was dedicated at 3617 Wyoming. This is the present First Divine Science Church. The beautiful stained glass windows with alternating English and German texts testify to its dual ethnic background.

Today, there are two Divine Science Churches in St. Louis: the First Church and the Divine Science Church of Crestwood.

The Rev. Paul Blanchard serves as the minister at First Church. Rev. Blanchard graduated from the Santa Anita Center for Ministerial Studies in 1981. He also holds a B.A. in counseling psychology from Stephens College and currently is a graduate student at St. Louis University.

Under Rev. Blanchard's leadership, the Church continues its tradition of community involvement. The First Divine Science Church is a participant in city organizations such as the St. Louis Intertask Force on AIDS, the Five Church Association, and is, of course, the gracious host of many of the functions and meetings of the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association.

The First Divine Science Church will mark its 100th anniversary with a special service on Sunday, May 17, 1992, at 10 a.m. At that time, the President of the Church is coming to St. Louis to speak. All who are interested are invited to attend.

Congratulations to the Church on its anniversary!

—Margie Meyer

A Walk on the Wild Side

TIRED of strolling through cold, impersonal malls? **TIRED** of trudging around boring, endless tracks?

WELL, then...PUT ON THOSE WALKING SHOES AND ENJOY THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH US!

If you are interested in staying fit and healthy, if you are interested in joining in with friends and neighbors, if you are interested in learning about your neighborhood, then this is for you.

This spring, TGHNA will start a new walking program designed to get our residents outdoors and on the streets. For your enjoyment, safety, and health, we plan to have groups of five or more residents walk through the neighborhood at mutually convenient times and paces. We also anticipate walks through or around Tower Grove Park in the near future. And, if there is enough interest, we hope to add educational walks, such as architectural highlights, tree identification and the like, as well as service walks designed to help keep our neighborhood clean.

All residents are welcome to join in the fun and exercise. To get in on the fun, contact your block captain or leave a message at 776-7360.

Here's to happy feet and neighbors!

—Diane Hurwitz

Inspection Rejection

Recently, Sidney Jacks' building at 3804 Wyoming was reinspected and rejected by the City's Conservation District because of lack of permits and various other problems. Word quickly spread throughout the neighborhood that city inspectors would be at 3804 Wyoming for the walk-through inspection. Calls were made to our Conserv officer, Patty Boyer, and her supervisor, Peter Sortino, by more than a dozen people from Tower Grove Heights. By the 2 p.m. inspection, 25 citizens of Tower Grove Heights were gathered in front of 3804 Wyoming to show City officials how strongly they felt about this problem property.

The same thing happened last year during hearings about this property at City Hall when Tower Grove Heights people literally filled the hearing room. We, the people of Tower Grove Heights, refuse to open any doors to allow irresponsible owners and tenants into our neighborhood. We have a nice place to live and intend to keep it that way.

—Rich Iezzi

Classifieds

Classified ads are available to all Tower Grove Heights residents. Rates are \$1.25 for each of the first two lines, and 50 cents for each additional line. Call 773-1773 to place an ad.

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Horticultural Corner



As of January 1 of this year, yard waste no longer may be disposed of in Missouri landfills. St. Louis residents are being asked to recycle their yard waste by using special "Yard Waste Only" dumpsters or by composting. Composting is a process based on the principle of return—we give back to the land what has been taken from it.

The word compost comes from two Latin roots, one meaning "together" and the other meaning "to bring." So, essentially the process of composting is the bringing together of several ingredients which are the raw organic matter, nutrients, oxygen, water, and micro and macro organisms.

This creates valuable humus. Humus is partly decomposed organic matter that plays an important role in the health of the soil and the vigor of plants. The presence of humus in the soil allows plants to develop more extensive root systems, creates a more porous soil, increases water holding capacity, improves gas exchange and, most importantly, provides necessary plant nutrients organically, which is a much better alternative than chemical fertilizers.

Organic matter will decompose naturally. However, it does so at a relatively slow rate. The process of composting accelerates this otherwise slow process

by creating an environment in which the micro and macro organisms can accomplish the decomposition more quickly. When the compost pile is constructed, the micro organisms—bacteria and fungi—begin to act on the organic matter and release nutrients locked up in the raw material. As these nutrients begin to be produced, the macro organism—earthworms, grubs and nematodes—begin to ingest them and release more nutrients into the compost. Given a good amount of nutrients, oxygen, and water, the compost will soon be in its finished state and ready for use.

In the garden, the most common method of composting is the Indore method. This method was developed in 1947 by England's Sir Albert Howard. An Indore-type pile is built by laying down alternate six-inch layers of green and dry vegetable matter, two inches of manure on top of that and then a sprinkling of either blood meal, bone meal, soil or finished compost. The sprinkling and manure serve as activators and are a good source of nutrients that are necessary to get the decomposition process rolling. Once this initial layering is done, complete the same layering process again. Continue this layering until the pile is a good size, approximately 3' X 3'. A compost bin may be used to contain the pile.

To make for ease of turning, at least one side should be open. Water the heap until it has a consistency of a squeezed sponge.

Water is an essential element in the composting process. Without it, the micro organisms could not survive. To maintain a consistent moisture level, it is often helpful to water between layers. However, be aware that if there is too much water, the good organisms will be destroyed and the pile will begin to smell of ammonia. If, during periods of heat and drought, it is necessary to water the pile, poke holes in the pile to allow the water to penetrate.

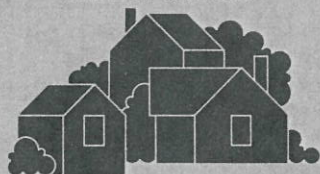
After the pile is complete, poke ventilation holes in it with a long crowbar. These holes should reach to the bottom of the pile. Without an adequate oxygen supply, the right kinds of fungi cannot do their work, the pile will begin to smell, and the decomposition process will be arrested. If properly aerated, the pile will begin to sink within a few weeks. If inadequately aerated, it may be necessary to reconstruct the pile.

After six weeks, the pile should be turned and the organic matter mixed together and repiled. Turning does not require the layering process. After six more weeks, the pile should be "finished" and ready to use.

(continued on page 9)

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Resident Profile

Those who have had the chance to visit The Resource in Lafayette Square already know it is the kind of store that does more than sell elegant, affordable Victorian hardware—it has a way of whetting a person's appetite for quality home restoration. As many also know, a visit with its owner, TGH resident Chris Wynn, has a similar effect. He has a way of making people enthusiastic not only about City homes but about City living in general.

"I've spent time in a lot of different places, both in the St. Louis area and outside of Missouri," says Chris who grew up in Des Moines, Iowa, and who lived in other cities such as Las Vegas during his years as a regional manager for Fashion Gal. Closer to home, Chris has lived in many different areas both in the county, such as St. Charles, Creve Coeur and Florissant, and various City neighborhoods in addition to Tower Grove Heights including Tower Grove East, Fox Park, Lafayette Square and Dutchtown.

"My wife and I have had a taste of county living," adds Chris, "and after living in the City, we have no desire to live in the county again." Chris' wife, Shari, who grew up in Florissant, is a loan officer for Gershman Investment Co.

For the Wynns, City living has incomparable advantages. First, the City offers homes with character at extremely affordable prices. "Add to that a tremendous selection of places to eat and shop that are reasonably priced and very convenient—City living is delightful," says Chris. "It would be nice if some of the more prominent news media personalities would share and express that opinion more," he asserts.

Chris is a firm believer in attitude being the key to success. Given his own positive attitude, the huge success of his store, The Resource, is not surprising. Chris opened the store in 1989 intending it to be a part-time endeavor in keeping with his long-time interest and experience in home restoration. At the time, Chris was a full-time employee for the U.S. Post Office.

Because of the quality of products and services Chris was able to provide customers, it wasn't long before the store became much more than a part time enterprise. "We realized early on that The

Resource is meeting a big demand in a unique way. We don't just sell vintage products; we help customers know how to make the best use of them."

The Resource recently opened another store in Kirkwood, and by the end of 1992, there will be five more stores: one in Clayton, another in St. Charles, and three in the Chicago area. Within 5 years, Chris expects there will be about 30 stores nationwide. He recently ended his job with the Post Office to devote more time to his demanding business and other personal goals.

Fortunately for Tower Grove Heights, some of his goals are relevant to our neighborhood. Now that Chris and Shari have officially moved into their property in the 3600 block of Humphrey, they are moving ahead with their plans to run Resource-related offices out of the first floor unit and to finish their home on the second floor. "Our goal is to make our home spectacular—a showcase for what can be done to the houses in the City," says Chris.

Chris also intends to help the

neighborhood association in its efforts to realize the neighborhood's fullest potential. He plans to provide a substantial gift certificate on an annual basis as a way to encourage homeowners to beautify the exteriors of their properties.

In addition, he hopes to play a part in changing the overall perception of the City, and especially the attitudes of politicians in City government.

"For a city to prosper, a city needs an attitude that it can prosper," feels Chris. "In the late 70's I saw that kind of attitude in Lafayette Square, which is why a group of people was able to transform a crime-filled red-light district into a viable place to live. I see that kind of healthy attitude at work in Tower Grove Heights."

Most people would agree that Chris is a man with both a strong vision and an ability to make the most of opportunities he sees. It is certain that he and Shari will continue to be great assets to our neighborhood and the City of St. Louis.

—Annita Barker



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Environmental Alert Anatomy of a Landfill

On January 1, a law went into effect banning yard waste from landfills. From now on, grass clippings, leaves, etc., are not to be thrown in with regular garbage. They are not to be put down sewers, either, as that will clog up the sewer and cause water to back up, possibly into homes. This law was enacted because our landfills are expected to be full in 8 to 10 years at present rates of disposal. Keeping yard waste out of the landfills will buy us a little time because yard waste makes up a considerable portion of a landfill.

Let's look at a typical landfill: 42% is paper, 9.4% is glass, 9.2% is plastic, 9% is metal, 10.4% is non-recyclable, and 20% is yard waste.

Okay," you say, "but why does the yard waste have to decompose in MY yard? It seems like it would rot in a landfill quickly enough and then free up some space. What's the big deal?" The big deal is that scientists have found that things that SHOULD rot in a landfill DON'T rot. Garbologists (there's a 90s kind of scientist for you!) from the University of Arizona have dug into landfills and discovered food and newspapers that are 20 years old, yet look like they were tossed out only last week. It seems that trash is so tightly

compacted in a landfill that beneficial bacteria, oxygen and water cannot do their jobs. So yard waste sits there, taking up valuable space.

Environmental engineer and fellow block captain Kirk Brandt points out that in Europe, most trash is composted. Moisture, air and bacteria are allowed to do their work, as once was the case in U.S. dumps. But during the Reagan and Bush administrations, there was concern over groundwater contamination from landfills. Municipal landfills now are designed with an eye to keeping liquids out. Liquids are removed from the bottom by wells or pipes and, when a landfill is full, the top is capped off to prevent water from getting in. What's left is a big "tomb" of trash. The compostables do not have a chance to decompose and the landfill remains full.

But your yard waste can be composted, and quite easily, too! Really! It doesn't take anything fancy. We put up some chicken wire and wood posts and that's it. We dump leaves, garden refuse and vegetable/fruit scraps into our compost pile. We allow grass clippings to decompose on our lawn, returning nitrogen to the ground, but you can put clippings in your compost heap, too. We periodically turn

the pile and add some dirt to the top. Dirt contains helpful bacteria and keeps animals out. And no, we have never had problems with bugs or rats. In the summer, we do plant flowers and vines to beautify the pile so alley drivers' sensibilities aren't offended.

Another option with small city yards is to use leaf vacuums and mulchers. Ground-up plant matter can be added right to a garden or placed under bushes.

Remember to visit the Home Gardening Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden for composting advice. You can take advantage of free tips from the State of Missouri's free composting pamphlet by writing to:

Missouri Environmental
Improvement and Energy Resources
Authority
P. O. Box 744
Jefferson City, MO 65102

For more information on what NOT to put in landfills and for recycling booklets, write to:

Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources
Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Also, the Garden is offering classes on composting on March 3 and 24, 7 to 9 p.m. Call the Garden for more information.

The City of St. Louis also may be a resource for getting rid of your yard waste. At the present time, dumpsters designated for yard waste are being tested at several sites. Early results are not encouraging, because people are using the dumpsters for regular trash, even at the test site in our own neighborhood!

Keep in mind that yard waste is really beneficial stuff: fertilizer! Sometimes we humans are so far removed from the natural cycle of things we forget that what comes from the Earth should return there.

—Recyclin' Ruthie Schnurbusch

P.S. Don't miss your chance to see the Smithsonian Institution's Tropical Rainforest exhibit at the Science Center. It will be there until April 5.



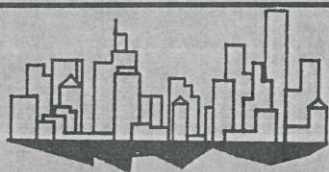
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The Renovator

Basic Drywalling



When you walk through that house or flat you just bought, what's the largest surface area you see? The walls and ceilings, right? While drywalling is about the least expensive repair per square foot, a house full of bad plaster can take you out of the passing lane real quick.

Drywall is the home owner's friend. It's made of gypsum, which is a hydrated sulfate of calcium that occurs naturally in sedimentary rocks. Drywall, a.k.a. sheet-rock or wallboard, is normally 4 feet by 8 feet long, but is available up to 16 feet long. Thicknesses run 1/4", 3/8", 1/2" and 5/8". The sides are bevelled to accept the joint compound (or "mud") and tape application required for flat side-by-side seams. Since most joists and studs run on 16" centers, 4-foot-wide drywall sheets are easily laid out on walls and ceilings.

Lets's walk through a typical 12' by 12' room you're thinking about drywalling. Like any other project, planning is paramount. Will you require demolition to run wire or pipes? Is the woodwork coming off to be stripped? Are you hanging a 1-pound light fixture or a heavy ceiling fan?

Now look at the plaster. I love natural plaster as much as anyone, but have wasted incredible amounts of time stripping wall-

paper only to find that the plaster underneath died 20 years ago. If the plaster still seems solidly bonded to the lathe, move on. Anything less than solid or repairable plaster should be replaced or you'll be haunted by cracks for the rest of your life. If you must remove the plaster, leaving the lathe on will provide strength and give you something to screw into for picture hanging. Since the plaster was about 1/2" thick, use 1/2" drywall over lathe.

Ceilings should be scrutinized even closer. If you've ever had to go into an occupied apartment to clean up a "dropped ceiling," you'll understand. The exterior walls are usually better off than ceilings or interior walls since the plaster is bonded to 12" of solid brick instead of to wood lathe.

The first step in drywalling does not necessarily require plaster removal. Consider an idea I stole from Susie Gudermuth which calls for drywalling over existing plaster. Ideal candidates for this are ceilings and long, flat walls. To do this, remove the trim from around doors and pull off the cap moulding from the baseboard. Be sure to remove the nails through the woodwork from the back. Locate the wall studs and mark them on the baseboard and ceiling. Cut the drywall to fit between the base-

board and ceiling. Make sure the seams will fall on studs and secure the first dry-wall sheet to the wall. Snap a chalk line on the sheet from top to bottom over the studs. This will line the screws up on the studs and make you look good when visitors drop in.

Use a metal L-shaped strip, call corner bead, for outside corners. It gives strength to the corners while providing a smooth surface for your drywall knife to ride along. When you screw it or nail it over the drywall, make sure your knife makes contact only with the outside bead and the drywall. Unless the sides of the metal are covered with sufficient joint compound, they will not bond and be hard to repair once the mud has dried.

When you reattach the door trim, nail a 3/8" thick piece of wood to the door frame and nail the trim over it to make up for the 3/8" drywall. Reattach the base cap directly to the drywall. It will stick out 3/8", but you'll never see it. Trust me.

Drywalling over plaster works even better on ceilings because you don't have trim to remove, it produces minimum dust and eliminates the problem of plaster disposal. If you still feel that basic desire to

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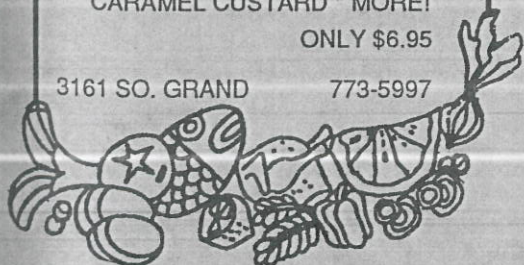
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A Message From Alderman Geraldine Osborn

I have received a number of questions and expressions of concern about two matters which I wish to discuss in this column.

First, electric signals are badly needed to regulate the flow of traffic at Grand and Wyoming. These signals are needed to make this intersection safer and more convenient for both pedestrians and motorists. Alderman Aboussie and I located a source of funds for the installation of these signals and we were able to have this project included in an appropriation bill (Board Bill 345) which was passed by the Board of Aldermen on February 15, 1991. The City's Board of Public Service finally asked for bids on this project and eventually awarded the contract for the work to Gerstner Electric, Inc. discussed this project with the City's project manager, and he advised me that Gerstner Electric had ordered the necessary material for the job after receiving the contract. I was advised that the contractor will have 60 days to complete the work after the necessary materials are received. The projected completion date is the end of June, 1992. I share your impatience and frustration that a relatively small construction job is taking this long after the appropriation bill was passed in February of 1991. In defense of the dedicated employees of the Board of Public Service, I should point out that they are not responsible for the red tape and bureaucratic hurdles with which they have to deal.

Second, I have spoken to the manager of the K-Mart Store at 3861 Gravois about the plans for the facility. He indicated that K-Mart is spending more than \$1 million to renovate this store. He indicated that 10,000 square feet of sales space will be added and that a Little Caesar's restaurant will be located within the K-Mart area. The store will remain open during this renovation, which should be completed in April of 1992.

These two items and the activation of the Tower Grove South Mobile Patrol are good news for our neighborhood and its residents.

*Geraldine (Gerry) Osborn
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\$10 OFF PERM OR COLOR**
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For An Appointment

Sheltons Hair Salon
3208 South Grand Avenue

Horticultural Corner

(From page 4)

Another method of composting, developed by the University of California, was designed to produce compost quickly. Essential to this method is that all organic material must be chopped or shredded in order to increase the surface area available to the micro organisms to work on. This method also requires that the raw organic material is mixed thoroughly with the nutrient source and the activators. Frequent turning is vital for this method. At a minimum, the pile should be turned every three days. After fourteen days, the pile should be "finished." Besides producing finished compost quickly, this method is excellent if space for a compost pile is limited.

If space for a compost pile is not available or if composting is not feasible, then special dumpsters in the alleys will be available for use. Beginning this spring, the City will make a separate collection for

yard waste. The yard waste will be recycled at a composting site in the City.

Finished compost will be available to residents. "Yard Waste Only" dumpsters will be identified in each alley. All yard waste and only yard waste should be placed in these special dumpsters. Yard waste will be collected once a week and regular trash twice a week. For areas with roll-out carts, yard waste and trash will be collected separately, with once-a-week collection for yard waste and once-a-week collection for regular trash. If you have questions about the use of special dumpsters, call the City of St. Louis Refuse Division at 353-8877.

Whether you compost or use the Yard Waste Only dumpsters, please remember that we can make a difference in helping to alleviate some of the solid waste that enters our landfills. So, please recycle.

— Benjamin N. Chu is a superintendent and Curator of the Japanese Garden at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

A Message From Rep. Pat Daugherty

This year's general assembly will focus on two very controversial topics: gas taxes and universal health care. This column will discuss the possible new gas tax.

There are many issues surrounding an increase in Missouri's gas taxes: cities and counties getting a larger share of the money; inclusion or exclusion of public/mass transit programs; implementing the tax by a ballot vote or by legislative vote or a combination of the two; and how much and over what period of time should the money be raised.

Under the recently passed Transportation Act, Missouri will be eligible to receive more than \$180 million to rebuild our decaying transportation infrastructure. However, we must match this federal money with state dollars on a project-by-project basis, before we can receive the federal money. For every dollar matched by Missouri gas taxes, we would receive four dollars from the federal government.

We need this money for repairs to our 32,000 miles of primary and secondary roads and hundreds of bridges. Several years ago, we were informed that we had the largest number of dangerous bridges in all of the United States. Repairing these will put thousands of Missourians to work. Some estimate that over a period of 15 years, about 40,000 jobs will be created.

The current proposal would establish a six-cent increase over a five-year period; two cent increments in 1992, 1994, and 1996. It is estimated that such an increase would cost an individual driving about 15,000 miles yearly and getting an average of 20 mpg about an additional \$15 per year.

Additionally, if we are to make any real and long-term progress with air pollution, traffic congestion and future urban planning, we must include monies for public transit. This may mean changing the Missouri Constitution in order to allow gas tax monies to be used for public/mass transit. Some big sources are trying to kill any mass transit efforts right now. Their motives are somewhat suspect, I would think.

If you would like further information, please call my office, 1-751-3599, or leave a message on my recorder at home, 772-1948.

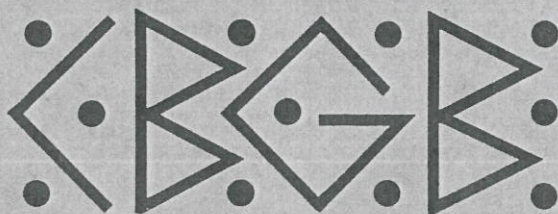
— Pat Daugherty

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2. VISITING HOURS: 4-1:30 M-F/6-1:30 SAT.

3. HOT LINE: 773-9743
4. HAPPY HOUR: TILL 7:00
5. DAILY DRINK SPECIALS
6. HOME OF: "THE GIN BUCKET"
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8. CLEAN!
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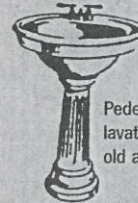
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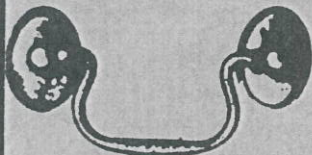
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	INTERSTATE 44		LAFAYETTE SQUARE

Look What I Found

(continued from page 1)

ing to the only people who lived in the house before her. She says she left the items "in the same closet, so it's there for someone else to find. It just seemed neat to leave them with the house."

In her present house, where her husband Ed grew up, Mary said they found old newspaper under the linoleum in the kitchen. Ed claims there's an old light bulb in the fruit cellar that's close to 60 years old, and still works." He claims it hasn't been changed since he was here as a little kid," she said, betraying more than a little skepticism of her own. Mary said her husband "did find a coal oil lamp in an unused clean-out flue." She says she knows he kept that, because "he keeps everything."

Not everything unusual is found in hidden cubbyholes or behind walls, though. Betsy Vanderheyden says when she and her husband Brian moved into their house, there was an old Maytag wringer washer in the basement. "I think it's probably from the 30's," she said. "We also had a little gas stove in the basement, where they used to heat the water for the washer." She says she's not sure where the stove or the washer is now. Like Mary Schroeder, Betsy says she and her husband found newspaper from the 20's underneath the carpet pad in one of their bedrooms. "It was between the floor and the padding," she says.

Mike Miles says that "it seems like every time I tore up things, I always found money. It never was a lot of money, it was always coins." He says he found coins from the 30's behind the kitchen walls and also when he was tearing out a false ceiling in the basement. "I found them lying up on top of some beams. It was like whoever did it would always take the change out of their pockets, because it was falling out or something, and then forget it." Mike found items other than money, of course. "We found some old tins of throat lozenges which made a great Christmas present for a friend of mine who collects old medicine bottles," he said. He guesses the tins "go back to the 30's." Mike traced some previous rehabbing in his house to 1942, because there was a fire in the house. He says at that time, a back staircase was removed and in the enclosed space he found newspapers. "They used newspa-

per as shims. I started opening them up and they were all dated 1942. They just crumpled right up, but it would have been neat if I could have saved some of them, because there were whole articles and advertisements," he said.

One of our veteran rehabbers, Rich Iezzi, has a laundry list of items he's found over the years. One item he found was a package of "Dr. Smith's Constipation Pills Guaranteed To Cure Constipation Naturally." Rich says, "it looked like someone was trying to hide it," because it was secreted behind a bent radiator pipe. Some of the other objects he's found are: a 1903 penny rubbed shiny from a pocket door passing over it; a 1910 newspaper addressing the evils of drinking; a huge pile of dust-covered buttons he eagerly mistook for coins; a carpenter's calipers enclosed in the apron of a window in 1896; names and dates left by the builder in 1902; and an unopened Christmas card dated 1902, found behind the living room mantle.

Those of you who share a fascination for objects from the past need not look far. You may find that behind your walls, under your feet, and above your head lay intriguing glimpses of the past lives of your home, waiting to be discovered.

—Tom Booth

Grand Bucks For Grand

The Grand-Tower Grove Local Development Corporation, commonly known as the Grand South Grand Business Association, has been awarded a \$40,000 federal block grant. Lenita Moore, manager of the association, says that the funds will be used for improvements on both sides of Grand.

On the west side of Grand, which is in the 15th ward, \$20,000 will be used to improve the parking lot between the King and I and Mangia Italiano restaurants. Privacy fences will screen the back of the lot and the dumpsters, and landscaping and wrought iron fences will enhance the front of the lot.

The east side, in the 9th ward, will see facade improvements to the tune of \$20,000.

The block grant is part of a larger grant made to the City to improve various business areas. The areas are designated by theme. The theme for Grand South Grand is international. With its amazing diversity of international restaurants and shops, Grand South Grand is a wonderful asset to our community.

Wondering What Step To Take Next?

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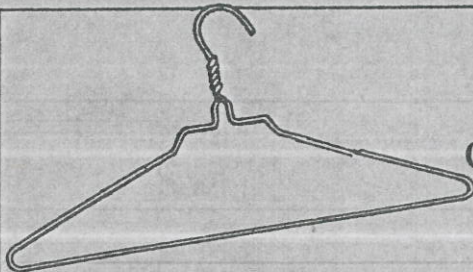
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Coffee Break

Your Best Work is Always Behind the Refrigerator

We have a new dog, a 17-month-old Doberman. His registered name is Razha, but we call him Roger. After all, this is south St. Louis!

I had forgotten how cold a dog's nose is, especially when you've just come out of the shower and are nice and warm. And the place that a dog's nose touches you is never, ever warm again. I don't know how dogs manage to live with that.

Roger is eager to please, and wants to help with the rehabbing of our house. He has good taste, but his timing is off. While we were at work one day, he decided the carpeting in the not-yet-rehabbed master bedroom had to go. Do you have any idea how hard it is to take up carpet with your teeth? I can't do it, but Roger did. We had planned to leave the carpeting down for another year or so, but it wound up in the bulk trash pick-up. He's right, though. It needed replacing.

He came to live with us just as I was beginning to tape and float the new dry-wall in the kitchen. This is the first time I've taped and floated (put tape on the seams of the new drywall and then covered it with "mud" so the seams don't show when the wall is painted). Roger was insecure about his new home, and wouldn't leave my side, so he got covered with dollops of mud that I dropped while trying to master the technique of getting the cold, nasty mud from the bucket to the wall.

I was covered, too, but that's part of the charm of rehabbing. You don't care what you look like, even in public. The worse you look, the more status you have as a rehabber. It's easy to tell a real rehabber from those who merely contract the work out, then complain about the mess. Real rehabbers have broken fingernails, bruises in strange places, and paint speckles on their eyeglasses and watches. Pseudo rehabbers have perfect manicures, functioning watches, and pained expressions.

Taping and floating seemed pretty easy until I put the primer on. Then every little mistake became a glaring sign shouting, "Boy, she really messed up here!" My best work is in the area that will be behind the

refrigerator. But that's life: your best work never shows. It's always behind the refrigerator and never will be seen.

The Neighborhood Association does a lot of work that's visible: we have special events like Holiday in the Heights, and perform services such as producing the *Gazette*. A lot of the work goes on "behind the refrigerator." Did you know we have a mobile patrol? A group of great volunteers from Grand/Oak Hill, Parkside South and Tower Grove Heights patrol our streets, reporting suspicious activities and people to the police. Want to volunteer? Call Rich Giesler at 772-0082.

Our Buyer/Tenant Referral Service will help landlords learn tenant screening skills, locate tenants, and develop good leases. For more information, call Jean, 772-4987.

Neighborhood Improvement Committee works to reduce crime and promote cooperation among neighbors. Want to help? Call Dennis at 772-9162.

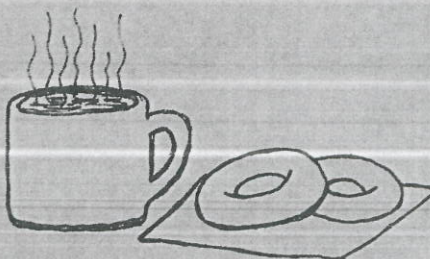
And block captains! These wonderful people do so much to keep our community in touch. To volunteer to be a block captain (there is no such thing as too many on a block!), call Diane at 776-7360.

Of course, we always need help at the *Gazette*! People to write, type, help with circulation, fold, typeset, design ads, and sell ads are welcome. Call me at 773-1773.

Many of these jobs require less skill than taping and floating. They take less time than rehabbing a kitchen (I'm afraid that the one-year warranty on our new stove will expire before the stove's installed!)

So call. Volunteer. We'd love to meet you!

—Elizabeth Braznell



What About Renters?

Have you ever wondered why fewer renters join the Neighborhood Association compared to homeowners? To find out why, we conducted an unscientific poll of some renters here and there in the neighborhood.

One obvious reason is that many renters don't live here very long, so they haven't heard about the Association or had a chance to join. While this was true for some people, I found many renters who have lived here for years (one renter has been here for 8 years!). Almost all of them had heard of the Association—mainly because of the *Gazette*.

Many of them didn't think they knew that much about the Association. They had seen the *Gazette* and it looked like it was of high quality, but they had never gone to any activity, so they didn't have personal experiences to base opinions on.

Many renters seemed like they had never gotten around to it or gotten motivated enough to make to a meeting. There were several reasons for this: some people thought the renters were not exactly welcome; some were single and thought the activities were family oriented; and some felt they might not "fit in" and wouldn't be comfortable.

Another interesting thing was many renters didn't really seem to know about the activities. They remembered there are general meetings, but they didn't recall the ball games, the festivals on Grand or the Park, or the pot lucks. They remembered more of the block activities.

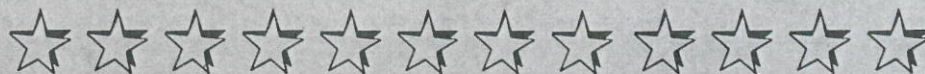
This led to many differences in attitude from block to block. The feeling about whether renters would be welcome was very different from block to block. The blocks which have many holiday-oriented events seemed to generate a different impression of how "friendly" the other neighbors are compared to blocks that mainly do the whole Association-type events.

All the renters thought the Neighborhood Association was a good idea and that it did a very good job. But we want all renters to know that this Association is for all residents: renters included!

Renters are welcome and encouraged to attend all functions. We need your input!

—Mike Kriz

Police Beat



Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association hosted the January 9th Third District Police Public Affairs meeting at First Divine Science Church. Captain Everett Page of the Third District led the meeting.

The first speaker of the evening was Lee O'Donnell of Operation Teamwork. She outlined what it takes to get our city's youngsters active in worthwhile recreation. Right now, only one out of five city youths (ages 5-19) has some contact with a sport or recreation program. Operation Teamwork will bring these young people together with existing leagues, programs, and recreational spaces in St. Louis. They need adults for supervisors, coaches, mentors, and teachers. The program is now working through Rose Fanning Community School. Call 361-0015 to find out more.

The next speakers at the meeting were from Crusade Against Crime, located at 3654 South Grand. Donna Brostron, Project Coordinator of the Child Assistance Program of the Crusade Against Crime,

explained that program for us.

The Crusade has existed for several years and was instrumental in helping police start the Neighborhood Watch Program. The Crusade also holds the Medal of Valor Awards annually to recognize area law enforcement officers who distinguish themselves through meritorious service. The Crusade manages the Child Assistance Program, which is a structured shelter program for 25 homeless women and children. The program has placed over 135 families in permanent housing since 1986. Its services include temporary emergency shelter for homeless women and children, housing referral, education, employment assistance, and follow ups.

Eleanor Coyle detailed the work of the Volunteer Guardian Ad Litum, a program to assist repressed youths and follow their progress.

By the way, the Crusade is a non-partisan, interracial, volunteer non-profit organization. Madeline Shelton at 772-3331 can give you more information.

Next on the agenda was a presentation of the Officer Appreciation Award. Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association president Susie Gudermuth presented a certificate for dinner for two at Cafe de Manila to Officer Ronald Danback. All of us in this neighborhood appreciate the work of Officer Danback and all the St. Louis police officers.

Following the presentation, various area political representatives made announcements giving more city information.

This is a really brief summary of all that we learned at this meeting. Why don't you join your neighbors for the March meeting (see the Calendar) and hear about everything that's happening in all Third District.

—Ed and Mary Schroeder

Third District Police Affairs Meetings:
March 12, 7 p.m., Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church, 1075 S. Taylor (at Arco).

April 9, 7 p.m., Epiphany United Church of Christ, 2911 McNair.

S

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A haircut can be too much reality for anyone. At Salon St. Louis, Terry Harrison knows when a client doesn't really want short hair.

"I can hear it in their voices," he says. "If I don't hear that conviction, I don't cut it short." As a prelude, he massages aromatherapeutic oils into the scalp. Clients can also wear a stress-reducing yoke that relaxes the neck muscles. Clients' kids' hair he cuts free. Call in advance; he regularly flies to Europe to do styling shows. His styles, photographed by Brenda Hootselle of St. Louis, have appeared in the international journal *Passion*, Spain's *Peluquerias* and Italy's *Esthetica*.

St. Louis, March 1991



News & Notes

Save White Elephants

The second Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Flea Market and Yard sale has been set for May 16 in conjunction with the Summerfest on Grand Avenue. This was a real money maker for the neighborhood, so pitch in—literally!

We need baby items, kitchen misc., books, furniture, WORKING appliances, tools, etc., etc., etc. If you donate an item with a particular value, please let us know what that is.

Please, no mattresses, clothes, shoes or non-working appliances. For information on delivery or pick-up, or to volunteer to help, call Robin Faszold at 771-9162.

KINGSHIGHWAY

The Kingshighway bridge between McRee (north of I-44) and Manchester will close in April for repair, says Art Kruger of the City's Board of Public Service.

Mr. Kruger anticipates the bridge will be closed 18-24 months. Northbound traffic will be routed over Vandeventer to Boyle to Kingshighway, and southbound traffic onto Manchester to Tower Grove to Vandeventer. Stop signs and lights will be added where necessary to help traffic flow. Signs on the bridge will announce the closing one week beforehand. When the bridge opens, it will be six lanes with left-turn lanes at McRee and Manchester.



THUMBS UP

Thumbs Up to all those wonderful volunteers who put together the Members Pasta Potluck on February 2. We all know these events don't "just happen." So, hats off to all those who helped in any way.

Special thanks to Jodie Heliker for organizing the event, to the block captains for publicizing it, and to all the spontaneous volunteers who stayed after to help with the cleanup.

Jim Lynn deserves a round of applause for coming early and setting up the tables single handedly. And to all those members who joined together for a great buffet...Thumbs Up to you.

We are all members of many units: family, school, church, sports, work, scouts, etc. These groups often take us all over the city. But TGHNA is a group that brings us together in our own community.

This is our neighborhood. All who live here should be members of this special unit. If you aren't, join today!

— The Thumb

Neighborhood Improvement

The Neighborhood Improvement Committee has been reborn, with Dennis Haddock as chair. This standing committee has been inactive.

Dennis' group will work to improve safety and neighborhood cooperation. To help, call him at 772-9162.

Summerfest

The grand celebration of Grand South Grand, Summerfest, will be Saturday, May 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fredbird, the mascot of the St. Louis Cardinals, will greet those who come to marvel at the antique cars, listen to the street bands, and shop at the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association's Yard Sale and Flea Market.

This annual celebration is a great way to mark the coming of summer and renew acquaintances with the marvelous restaurants and shops on Grand.

The April Gazette will have more details.

Project Blitz

Operation Brightside's Project Blitz falls on May 16 this year.

During Project Blitz, we meet in the alleys to pick up trash, pull weeds, trim undergrowth, and socialize. It's a great way to meet your neighbors!

Your Blitz Captains will be contacting you in April with more information.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Police (Non-emergency)	231-1212
Poison Control Center	772-5200
Citizen's Service Bureau	664-4800
Call for Action	421-1975
Alderman Osborn	773-8416
Representative Dougherty	772-1948
Buyer/Tenant Referral	772-4987
Block Captains	776-7360
Gazette	773-1773

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Renovator

(continued from page 7)

rip out plaster, do it while you're looking for the location of the ceiling light wires. You'll need to mount an electrical box on a joist to carry the weight of the ceiling fan, if you're installing one.

Drywalling the ceiling starts off like the walls by locating and chalk lining the joists right on the old plaster. Next, figure out if you want to install the drywall parallel or perpendicular to the studs. I prefer perpendicular because you don't have to worry about strangely spaced joists or try to match two sheets together on the 2" joist. Try to buy sheets long enough to span the room to avoid end splices.

Now, go rent that drywall jack. I know, I know, I used to carry the sheets up a ladder with a pillow strapped to my head, but to do this job we need a 12' sheet 1/2" thick which weighs over 100 lbs. (real men aren't stupid!). Half-inch drywall on a ceiling is a must so it won't sag or follow existing undulations. The drywall jack is mounted on rollers and rents for about \$15 a day. It's easily disassembled to fit in your car and lets you pop those ceiling light wires through that 1" hole with no problem. You'll love it.

Before discussing taping, I wonder what you've been attaching the drywall with, screws or nails. If you've never tried drywall screws, try them. Buy a magnetic extension bit for your drill so the screws stay on even when it's hanging at your side. Screws take only one hand to drive and can be backed out easily. Nails are forever.

Now, let's tape the seams. To tape, you'll need 4", 6" and 12" drywall knives, drywall tape, and joint compound. If you're using paper tape, apply a layer of joint compound to the seam that's 1/8" to 1/4" thick and wider than the tape. Place the tape on top of the compound, and run your 4" knife down the seam to bed the tape in the compound. To eliminate bubbles from paper tape, cut them with a razor blade when dry and fill holes with mud. If you're using self-sticking mesh tape, apply it to the wall before the joint compound. The trick to taping is to apply a minimum amount of mud when taping seams or covering screw heads and holes. It's much easier to add more than to sand off the excess.

Apply at least three mud applications, sanding between coats. The seams and screw holes should be filled enough to provide a surface flush with the drywall. You may want to try sponging to avoid dust and drywall-paper damage. Wet a sponge and swirl it around like you would sandpaper. Sponging is a technique and takes practice. Too much water can ruin your work and put you back behind the drywall knives.

Drywall and taping are basically simple, labor intensive repairs—cheap and relatively easy. So find some bad plaster and have some fun!

—Rich Iezzi

JOIN TGHNA TODAY!

Fill out the enclosed form and take it to your block captain. Get in on the fun and meet your neighbors!

MEMBERS CAIO DOWN

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association had its annual Members Potluck Dinner Feb. 2 at the First Divine Science Church. The event was a fantastic success. There were almost one hundred adults plus children present.

This year's theme was a pasta dinner. Members brought dishes to share, and the Association provided garlic bread and rolls, coffee and condiments, paper products and utensils plus a friendly atmosphere.

The Fun and Fundraising Committee promoted Market Fare. Market Fare offers top quality meats, pastas, cheeses, snacks, etc. Order forms will be available at the bi-monthly meetings. The Association makes 10% on all orders and does not have any overhead expenses. Great idea! Over 25 orders were taken that evening. Thanks!

If you're not a member of the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association, join now by completing the membership form in this *Gazette*. Then you'll be sure to get in on all the fun!

—Libby Kriz



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Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association

President: Susie Gudermuth
President-Elect: Becky Staup
Secretary: Michele Kerr
Asst. Secretary: Jodie Heliker
Treasurer: James Lynn

Past-President: Benjamin Chu

COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE

Block Captains: Diane Hurwitz
Fundraising: Robin Faszold
Neighborhood Imp.: Dennis Haddock
Promo. & Marketing: Jean Iezzi
Publications: Elizabeth Braznell

BLOCK CAPTAINS

3600/3700

UTAH

Janis Bello (3661)

Randy Dimberger (3626)

Dolores Queensen (3706)

HUMPHREY

Felicia Foland (3671)

Kati Guerra (3671)

Joe Sueme (3728)

Larry Borowiak (3700)

WYOMING

Betsy Vanderheyden (3656)

Sally Difani (3735)

CONNECTICUT

Ruth Schnurbusch (3620)

Kay Lynn Firsching (3736)

Kirk Brandt (3652)

JUNIATA

Connie Bender (3665)

Paul Ladensack (3650)

HARTFORD

Marilyn Abbott (3648)

Carol Hoffmeister (3656)

ARSENAL

Diane Hurwitz (3640)

3800

UTAH

Susie Gudermuth (3834)

Veda Lynn (3855)

HUMPHREY

Sande Vieira (3868) (needs second captain)

WYOMING

Linda & Pete Fick

Tom & Nancy Dietz

Jim & Laura Stadelman

CONNECTICUT

Margie Meyer (3860)

Monica Nawrocki (3842)

Janice Nesser (3822)

Keely Cook (3830)

JUNIATA

Shauna Feely (3871)

Anita Barker (3818)

HARTFORD

Bill Wright (3836)

Jodie Heliker (3802)

ARSENAL

Jean Iezzi (3809 Hartford)

CALENDAR

MARCH — APRIL

March 1

Lecture, "A French Pattern Book for Early St. Louis Parks," 2 p.m., Stupp Memorial in Tower Grove Park. Free.

Gazette staff meeting, 6:30 p.m., King and I Restaurant. Everyone welcome!

March 2

Lecture, "Trees for St. Louis Gardens," 7 p.m., Missouri Botanical Garden, \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members. Call 577-5125

March 4

Lecture, "What Will It Take to Save the Rainforests?" Dr. Peter H. Raven, Director, Missouri Botanical Garden, 7 p.m., Shoenberg Auditorium, Ridgway Center. Free.

March 7 through April

Spring Flower Show, Missouri Botanical Garden, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Orthwein Floral Display Hall, Ridgway Center. Free with regular admission

March 8

Second annual Child's Global Village Fair, noon to 5 p.m., Missouri Botanical Garden. Call 577-5140 for more information. March 11 through March 14

All-city Middle School Science Fair. For more information, call 577-5140.

March 12

Third District Police Public Affairs meeting, 7 p.m., Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church, 1075 South Taylor (at Arco). Program: Crime Prevention by Environmental Design.

T.G.H.N.A.

Meeting

Mar. 15

7 p.m.

First Divine
Science Church

Be There!



March 16

Bulk trash pick-up

April 5

Lecture, "The Boulevards of St. Louis," 7 p.m., Stupp Memorial, Tower Grove Park

April 9

Third District Police Public Affairs meeting, 7 p.m., Epiphany United Church of Christ, 2911 McNair

April 20

Bulk trash pick-up.

April 23

Shakespeare Statue Birthday ceremony, Tower Grove Park, call 771-2679 for more information.

Gazette folding party, 7 p.m., 3723 Hartford. Join us for folding and fun!

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR:

Tower Grove Park Clean-up Day was not scheduled at the time the *Gazette* went to press. Watch for notices in the *Post Dispatch* and *South Side Journal*.

Mark your calendar now for TGHNA's May 17th general meeting. It's a program you won't want to miss! Read about it in the April *Gazette*.



The TGHNA Gazette
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