



A Guy in The Park that Won't Talk Back

BY MARILYN BROWNING

If you've visited Tower Grove Park as often as I have, you've passed the statue of Alexander von Humboldt dozens of times. He's the guy in nineteenth-century dress that looks like he's protecting himself in a rough game of dodge ball.

So who's Alexander von Humboldt and why is he sharing space in the park with such noteworthy personages as Shakespeare and Columbus?

It may help to know that at the time Henry Shaw commissioned Humboldt's statue, Humboldt was considered a HUGE deal. In the early 1800's, thanks to his fame as an explorer, cosmographer, biologist, diplomat, and engineer, he was as well known around

the world as Napoleon. Charles Darwin considered him the greatest scientific traveler in the world, second to none.

Humboldt was born in 1769 in Berlin, and received most of his early education from tutors. By the time he was seven years old, thanks to his habit of collecting and labeling plants, shells, and insects, he was known to his family as "The Little Apothecary." Despite his longing for exploration and scientific discovery, at the age of 20 he was sent to the University of Frankfurt to study finance. He lasted all of six months, before he apparently

persuaded his family that it was a better idea for him to learn everything he'd need to know to accompany a scientific expedition.

Humboldt finally got his big chance in 1799, when he and botanist Aime Bonpland traveled to the Americas on an expedition sponsored by the Spanish government. It didn't hurt that by this time Humboldt's mother had died and left him plenty of money to pay for incidentals, so to speak. Humboldt and Bonpland spent the next five years exploring South America, Mexico, the United States, and Cuba. During his stay in the United States, Humboldt met and became friends with

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Time and Again

BY RICH IEZZI

I was having a normal day recently when I got an interesting email. Attached to the email were photos of our house from 1915, a century ago.

The email came from descendants of the family that bought our house in 1907. Years ago we noticed a group of people in front of our house. When I went out to talk with them, they told me their great grandfather was lost in the 1896 tornado and his widow had purchased our house. "You're the Strudell's" I said. I knew all about their family from researching our house.

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The Gazette is a non-profit publication published quarterly by the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association. For information concerning advertising rates and layout planning contact Rich Iezzi at

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Your letters and comments are always welcome at the Gazette.

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The Gazette/TGHNA

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Is It or Isn't it?

BY
**RICH
IEZZI**

We city people have lots of strange etiquettes that we follow. An example is street parking. We know we need to pull within a few feet of the parked car in front or behind us to utilize space. We can always spot county people – they take up two spaces. But one of the strangest rules we have to follow is what determines alley junk from stuff that still belongs to its rightful owner.

For those who don't know, there's an imaginary demarcation point that runs along every alley. If something is placed on the alley side of the imaginary line, it's up for grabs. It works a bit like a football player trying to score a touchdown. If the football 'breaks the plane' of the goal line, it's a touchdown. In the same way, if a board is positioned where the end of it pierces the alley demarcation point, the rest of the board is free and clear and ready to change hands. The demarcation line is normally comprised of fences that run parallel to the alley. No fence? Uh-oh.

continued on next page



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A GUY IN THE PARK THAT WON'T TALK BACK

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1

Thomas Jefferson, a friendship that lasted a lifetime. It's no stretch to imagine that Humboldt was an inspiration to Jefferson in his decision to send Lewis and Clark west of the Mississippi to explore the Louisiana Purchase.

“There are three stages to scientific discovery: first, people deny that it is true; then they deny that it is important; finally they credit the wrong person.”

– ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT

When Humboldt returned to Europe, he hung out in France, and over the next twenty years managed to publish thirty volumes of scientific observations on his American expedition. Since these volumes were self-published, and Humboldt took several trips to gather more scientific information, it's not surprising that he eventually blew through his inheritance.

To earn money, Humboldt took a job as the advisor to the King of Prussia, and gave a number of public lectures on some of his discoveries. He was able to use those lectures as the basis for a series of volumes called Kosmos that described the history and interrelationships of the natural sciences. They were wildly popular, read by scientists and laymen, translated into several languages, and in later years were unashamedly plagiarized.

Over the course of a very long life (he died at the age of 89) Humboldt made contributions to climatology, oceanography, biology, geology, engineering and archaeology, and is hands down the favorite for the title of Father of Geography. Today he's not as world-famous as he used to be, but in the scientific community he's still, well, a big deal. A great statue to have in a great park.

Is It or Isn't it?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

There's a lot of confusion out there about this sort of thing. I was driving the alleys when I saw some lumber that was stacked on a parking pad. It looked unloved and unwanted but was on the owner's side of THE LINE. When one of the owners appeared, I asked about the wood. “Oh no, we're keeping it” was the reply. I tried explaining the rules of the alley but got nowhere. How could I tell him that not everyone plays fair? Sometimes pickers move the imaginary line all the way to an owners parking pad fence so anything on the parking pad would be – “picked.” Gotta watch it.

Unwanted metal is a different story. There must be a radio frequency or satellite imagery that can locate METAL IN THE ALLEY. It's not unusual to see it gone in 20 minutes and the metal pickers are nice guys. They also have etiquette to follow (take the metal/don't leave a mess) but some ignore the rules. It's a real disappointment to discover your metal pile has been replaced by another, less desirable metal pile. This happens when a picker's truck is full and something has to be jettisoned to make room for a better find. All you can hope for is another picker with an empty truck.

I'm always amazed at the alley treasure in TGH. My best find was a complete rolltop desk in golden oak. Another guy had also acquired the target and was closing in fast but I got there first. However, the rules of the game dictate that you can't leave anything behind – your possession applies to only one trip. Luckily, with our wonderfully smooth asphalt alleys, I was able to pull off the move by loading items on every flat surface of my car, including the hood, and driving slowly home with my head out the window.

Man, I sure hope that rolltop was on the free side of THE LINE. Uh-oh...



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Vet Clinic Gets New Life as *Innovative Architecture Workshop*

BY ABIGAIL MILLER

No, he doesn't have a chip reader to help track down the owner of that stray dog. Nor does he have a pair of canine nail clippers. Anyone who has recently stopped by 3735 Connecticut in search of veterinary services, likely found themselves momentarily disappointed yet pleasantly surprised. The building, located at the corner of Spring and Connecticut, has a new owner, architect Patrick Weber, along with his business, Aesh Designs (www.aeshdesigns.com).



Aesh Designs isn't your run-of-the-mill architecture firm, nor is Patrick your typical architect. Beyond building design, Patrick and his business partner, David Grisham, have a particular interest in product design, specifically custom furniture

design and fabrication. Their innovation and eye for detail is apparent with a quick visit to their online Etsy store, NashvilleDesignLab, which showcases their modern and very chic custom mailboxes. For those not in the market for an envy-inducing mailbox, Aesh Designs still has plenty to offer, including building design, historic renovation and rehab. Patrick's first local project is a redesign of a rear porch on Juniata.

A St. Louis native, Patrick spent time in Miami, Baltimore, and, most recently, Atlanta, before finding his way back home (before you ask, Chaminade). Not originally from the city, he was lured to Tower Grove Heights by the walkability of the neighborhood and proximity to Cherokee Street. His appreciation for beautiful buildings, alongside a Masters in Architecture and Urban Planning, make him a great fit for the neighborhood. It hasn't taken long for Patrick to get connected within the city's entrepreneurial scene. Besides his office here in the Heights, he spends time at TREX, a downtown co-work space and tech incubator, and Nebula networking events.

Not originally from the city, he was lured to Tower Grove Heights by the walkability of the neighborhood and proximity to Cherokee Street.



As for the building itself, along with a new owner comes a few changes to the storefront. Plans include exposing a brick wall and installing custom built-in desks and shelves. The back portion of the building will serve as the Aesh Designs workshop.

The original tin ceiling is staying and there are high hopes for unearthing the long-hidden wood floors. Patrick welcomes neighbors to stop in and say hello, and has enjoyed the many neighbors who already have.

Yet another innovative business and invested neighbor that will certainly add to the vibrancy of the Heights. Welcome to the neighborhood, Patrick!



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Message from the President *of Tower Grove Heights*

BY KELLY
STOUT

I have been fortunate enough to call Tower Grove Heights my home for the past five years. My husband, Zach, and I moved into TGH when we married in 2010. Between us, we had lived in a number of city neighborhoods already but we wanted to find a new enclave that we could explore and grow to love together. We wandered around Tower Grove South visiting place after place for a number of weekends. We quickly began to realize the charm and beauty of the area. When we pulled up to our current home, with its front yard outlined by a wrought iron fence and vines creeping up the front brick, I knew we had found home, without even stepping inside. I can still recall the flip my stomach did when we got out of the car and telling myself not to get attached yet.

I knew we had found home, without even stepping inside.

In the five years since that day, I can say that my love-at-first-sight response was not fleeting. It was not the rush of a new crush, but the recognition of knowing immediately we had found what would, and has, become an important part of the story of our lives. We have spent these who give it life. And I believe that we are surrounded by neighbors who have found the same thing.

In the five years since that day, I can say that my love-at-first-sight response was not fleeting. It was not the rush of a new crush, but the recognition of

While it is a great truth that the strength of our community is visible in our ability to pull together to overcome big things, such as the crime and vacancies in past decades and the unfortunate large-scale vandalism on South Grand last summer. The less visible aspect of our community's strength is in the daily interactions and relationships I have watched flourish. It is the neighbor-to-neighbor moments that weave us together and form the backbone of a strong community.

I encourage all of you to continually seek these out. There are so many opportunities for interaction, from quick chats in the alley, to helping out someone with a need, to attending the many events and activities we have throughout the year. I have personally been able to connect with multiple people via the Facebook page prior to finally meeting them in person at an event. There is no greater feeling of safety and stability than when you realize you are surrounded by people who know you, and whom you know, neighbors you have helped and who have helped you.

A few months ago Zach and I were unexpectedly caught in the rain. We were leaving a neighborhood meeting and it was pouring. We had to walk home, but discovered two other friends in the neighborhood had to do the same. What ensued was a hilarious, yet very wet, walk in the rain with friends. What I realized in that moment was that we were in the middle of a memory. We often look back on moments in life with laughter or longing, how rare to know when we are standing in that moment.

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RESCUING THIS OLD HOUSE

BY RICH IEZZI **B**efore I met Michael Goldberg and Shari O'Brien, new owners of 3636 S. Utah Place, I heard rumblings in the neighborhood about them. Rich Seifert, Utah resident, emailed me about 3636 Utah saying the house was falling into disrepair but now an energetic couple was bringing it back to life. Neighbors, Jeff and Jan Blunt, said, "They're great!" when I inquired about the new owners.

And they are great. When I approached the house to do this article, Shari was hand stripping the floor boards of the front porch. Who does that? I told her she'll never finish the job because neighbors will constantly come up and talk with her. There was a neighbor talking to her at the time.

Michael was out back doing hard labor and when I got him and Shari together to talk about the house, I couldn't write fast enough to keep up. Shari said the house had called to them because it had everything they wanted. "We were looking for a brick house in the city that had a large front porch and spacious backyard. And we didn't mind putting in some sweat equity", Shari explained.

3636 Utah Place is a bit more than that. It's a special house, built in 1910 with almost all its original amenities. The front



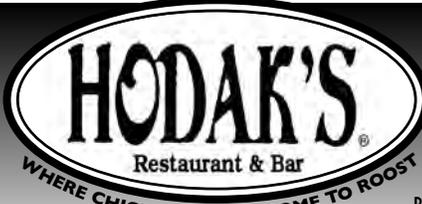
door woodwork is untouched quarter sawn oak with carved details and beveled glass. And it's big. The transom over the door covers both sidelights and is eight feet wide. Once inside, the house becomes cavernous. As I walked through the living room/dining room combination, I noticed a dark void to my right. It was a room but it seemed way too big. Then I went back outside and saw it--the protruding west wing that made such a large room possible.

Michael and Shari have only owned the house since February, 2015 but they know all about it. They discovered that their original Chicago brown brick is almost impossible to match and Michael showed me the 'casket window' (it's wider than the front door so it can handle---caskets) and a second floor Jefferson window. While David and Michelle Sohovich are the general contractors (Shari told me, "They're the best!"), Michael and Shari still get their hands dirty. Michael runs a company during the day but said that after working on the house, he feels stronger than he has in years. Shari seemed to be in constant motion the whole time.

But the house story didn't start out well. After Michael and Shari agreed to buy the house, someone broke in and swiped the copper plumbing and stained glass windows. Michael told me, "The plumbing can be replaced but losing those windows really hurt". Luckily, they were located. "We found them at the third antique shop we visited" beamed Michael. Even better, the guy that stole them is behind bars.

Michael and Shari have big plans for their house and are going to have a party when they finish. With that in mind, I guess Tower Grove Heights residents better stop being so friendly to Michael and Shari so they can finish their dream house---and have that party.

When I approached the house to do this article, Shari was hand stripping the floor boards of the front porch. Who does that?



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RESIDENT PROFILE

ARTICLE BY
SARAH TRUCKEY



NAME: **Chris Bronson**

PROFESSION: **3D illustrator and animator; husband; hockey fan**

ORIGINS: **Lemay**

FAVORITE FOOD ON GRAND: **Takeout from Café Natasha**

YEARS IN THE HEIGHTS: **1.5**

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TGH: **Its personality, walkability and architecture**

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To say he's a "neighborhoody" is an understatement.

I showed up to the Gelateria one rainy Sunday morning with an appointment to meet the subject of the next resident profile—a feature on Chris Bronson. I wasn't sure what to expect, as I wasn't given much information about who I was interviewing or why, but was pleasantly surprised when Chris walked in smiling, craving a coffee and ready to talk.

What first struck me about Chris was his honesty, his authenticity and his genuine concern for the neighborhood. He loves the Blues (he goes to 20+ games a year), drinks plenty of local Civil Life beer, admires the city's architecture, and has a pretty healthy obsession with Tower Grove Park, where he takes daily walks with his wife, Dayna.

These writing assignments are of particular interest to me because of the intrigue surrounding them. The email I received from the Gazette editorial staff noted only the following: "He's an artist and recently moved into the neighborhood. Maybe you've seen his drawings of the TG Park pavilions on the local chatter thing [Facebook]." And I'm sure many of you have, too.



Chris is a graphic artist and animator who has an impressively unique resume. He works with a company to create visualizations that bring life to various designs — from 3D architectural renderings to water splashing and suns setting to birds flying. And this is not a profession Chris gets bored with, as he's always looking to sharpen his skills by taking on projects like the design and animation of the Sons of Rest Pavilion in Tower Grove Park seen last fall on Facebook.

He doesn't mind being the "tech guy" in the neighborhood, especially when it means he gets to set up a projector and show movies (and baseball games) to the neighbors.



He would love to do a virtual tour of the entire Park, making it fully interactive and visitable by those who are unable to see it. He loves challenges like these, and he says he doesn't mind being the "tech guy" in the neighborhood, especially when it means he gets to set up a projector and show movies (and baseball games) to the neighbors, like he did for the Hartford Block Party last fall.



In talking to Chris, it's evident that he loves his neighborhood just as much (if not more) than people who've lived here 10 times longer than he has. He notes TGH's perception of its own identity, its architecture and its ability to come together in times of need. Chris also is encouraged by the families who are having children and staying in the area, and by those who he knows who rent apartments and then upsize by buying a house just around the corner. The inability for any property to stay on the market for more than a few weeks is also a good sign, he says. Even with the aftermath of what happened in Ferguson, he knows TGH is on the right path and couldn't be more proud to call it home.#



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Buzzed in Tower Grove Heights

BY
CAROLYN
LEZZI

Buzz on the street is a Starbucks is going in at the corner of Grand and Shenandoah. While we are super excited to have more business on Grand, did you know you could get amazing coffee right here on South Grand without a mermaid on your cup and having to use words like Venti? It's true! Here were a couple of my favorites.

I walked into Gelateria Del Leon and was greeted by a sweet "hey there!" The ambiance is something you can only really get in South City. Dark, rich woodwork, huge windows, leather chairs, tin ceilings, everything a south city girl loves to see and feels at home in. I was amazed by their menu. So many yummy options. I am a huge espresso fan and know there is a whole science behind perfecting espresso. Well, Gelateria Del Leon has truly mastered the science. My espresso was

I didn't believe them until I walked upstairs to their second floor and saw the massive roaster myself. What a beautiful piece of machinery.

smooth, creamy and sweet. I was in love. Not to mention I could get a cup of house made creamy gelato to go with it. It's like having a little piece of Italy right here in TGH! Another unique and truly unbelievable fact about the Gelateria? They actually roast their own coffee in house! I didn't believe them until I walked upstairs to their second floor and saw the massive roaster myself. What a beautiful piece of machinery. Not going to lie, it made me want one in my own house. Talk about a conversation piece! You can purchase their whole bean coffee in an

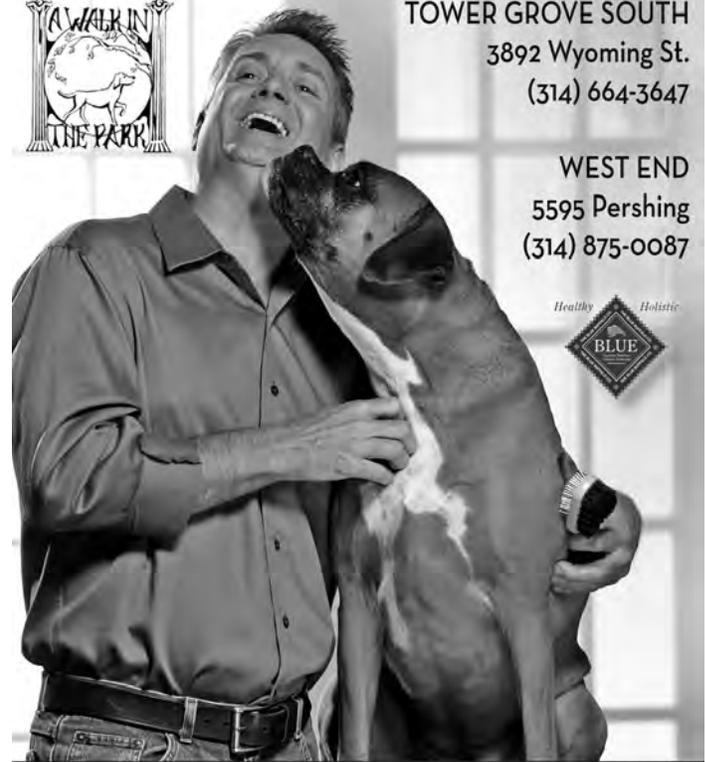
environmentally friendly tin you can bring back every time you run out and receive a discount on your next refill. Environmentally friendly AND keeping me caffeinated?! Yes, please! Not to mention, in the summer time, Gelateria Del Leon has growlers you can purchase filled with iced coffee. You can keep this awesome caffeinated nectar in your fridge for the days when you need that extra 15 minutes of sleep and can't make it to the cafe. Genius!

My next stop was Mochi Cafe. I know what you're thinking, a sushi restaurant for coffee? YES! They have the best iced coffee! If you have yet to try it, put it on your list. Some places have a tendency to water down their iced coffee which gives it a weak taste. Not here! It's great as a dessert if you can't resist to get a volcano roll.

Next, I walked across the street to Meskareem. Did you know Ethiopia is considered to be the birthplace of coffee? Fun little fact for you to use at your next dinner party. Two things caught my eye on their menu. The Ethiopian coffee seemed like a given, but the Ethiopian spiced tea also intrigued me. As I sipped on the coffee, I couldn't believe how smooth it was. I could literally feel it going into my bloodstream. Hello, caffeine! Then, I tried the tea. If you aren't a coffee

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Buzzed in TGH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

drinker and want to change up your usual hot tea, you need this in your life. It definitely has a kick to it, so be ready!

I took a day off taste testing after Meskareem. My heart needed to re-adjust back to it's original pace and I needed the twitching to subside.

My next fix, I mean stop, was Hartford Coffee House. As I walked in, memories of studying for my college exams and sipping on an ice cold Vanilla Frap came flooding back to me. This place is a staple in the neighborhood. It was one of the very first cafe's where mom's in the neighborhoods could allow their children to play in the play area while still getting that much needed mommy time. They have a place for everyone! Two patios for those needing some outdoor time, a "whisper only" zone for those studying or just needing some peace and quiet, a "kid zone" and an area for all the in-between. They also host live music, family fun nights and other fun events for everyone. Their menu has just as many varieties as their sitting areas. You can order anything from cake to goldfish crackers for your little one. They also offer their own coffee which they roast in-house. I highly recommend the highlander grog. It's one of my absolute favorites! But, if you want a treat and also need a jolt of caffeine, I recommend the vanilla frap.

So, the next time you want to get buzzed in TGH, remember all the amazing places we have right here in the neighborhood! Happy caffeinating!



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The Vine is Growing

BY MINDY
ROUFF

This is only my second story for the *Gazette* and I've already tasted the perks of being a writer, and, I must say, the perks taste delicious. Longtime manager of The Vine, Ali Mohsen, recently treated me to their delicious hummus and perfect pita after he shared with me the vision for their new and improved restaurant and market. The Vine is being renovated to create a bigger, more beautiful restaurant while still stocking the attached market with customer favorites like mango juice and za'atar (an herbaceous spice blend).

Renovation started approximately a month and a half ago and should end in two weeks. The biggest goals of the renovation are to add more dining space to the restaurant and to make the restaurant and market feel like one big shared space. They accomplished these goals by adding tables to the market area and by opening up the wall between the restaurant and market. In the market, they are still able to sell everything from bulgur wheat to hookah supplies by displaying fewer items on the shelves. They'll still carry all the same items; there will just be smaller quantities on the shelves (with more in the back to restock as needed).

Ali Mohsen has been manager of The Vine since it opened in 2008 (the restaurant half of the space opened in early 2010). In fact, he was responsible for picking its South Grand location. He saw Asian restaurants on South Grand and felt that the area needed Lebanese cuisine. He is a warm, generous man who has put the same love and care into this renovation that he puts into managing The Vine. The renovation was guided by a desire to preserve the building's historic beauty and to embrace the Mediterranean flavor of the restaurant. On the newly renovated market/restaurant side, they removed a drop ceiling to expose the original, beautiful tin ceiling, and when I interviewed Mohsen, a friend was hand-painting a colorful mural.

“When you're part of a neighborhood, you have to really be a part of it”

The exterior of The Vine is also getting a makeover and they are spreading the Mediterranean vibe onto South Grand by re-facing the restaurant with natural stone. The spacious patio is getting new concrete. The Vine has always taken pride in its external appearance and Mohsen explains how businesses encourage each other to beautify their space by “stepping up their own game,” so to speak. For example, a few years ago The Vine planted flowers and then other local businesses did the same. He also notes with satisfaction that South Grand, the street itself, has grown more attractive, and he says, “Beautiful streets encourage businesses to be beautiful. We couldn't help but make the outside [of the restaurant] nice.” Mohsen says “South Grand deserves the best”—a motto that definitely extends to The Vine's food.

Mohsen tells me that everything at The Vine – from the pita to the hummus to the shawarma – is made from scratch daily. I know he's telling the truth for two reasons: 1) The pita he bought for me was soft, delicious and clearly freshly baked, and 2) Mohsen told me I could call him with questions anytime from 3:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and you don't wake up at 3:30 a.m. unless your restaurant makes all its food fresh each day!

For The Vine's most popular dish, chicken shawarma, they slice and marinate chicken breasts each day. Local lamb and beef arrive in the whole once a week and are deboned daily. They then put the chicken on the spit.

Beyond giving South Grand the best food, The Vine works to be the best neighbor. Mohsen tells me that he loves our neighborhood and its people. He says, “When you're part of a neighborhood, you have to really be a part of it” and they do this by participating in school, religious, and neighborhood fundraisers and parties.

Let's give The Vine our best. Dine in sometime soon and enjoy their renovation and don't forget the market if you want to take home some goodies. The Vine is located at 3171-73 S. Grand and is open during renovation. Check them out at www.thevinestl.com.



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40 YEARS OF HARDWARE

BY RICH IEZZI

Don Scherer, owner of our local True Value Hardware store at 4100 Connecticut, has been walking the aisles of his store for 40 years. While things have certainly changed, one thing remains the same---taking care of the customer.

I've been going to Don's store since we bought our Hartford house in 1978 and the store seemed old fashioned even back then. Now, it's like stepping into a time machine.

We'll do anything for the customer.

As soon as you walk in the store, you're greeted by Don, Tim Murphey or John Enos with a "How can I help you?" I've been there many times when the store was crowded and Don was working timelessly with a customer

who was buying something for under a dollar. "We'll do anything for the customer", explains Don. Helping the customers with their hardware needs is Don's favorite part of the business.

As a long time customer, I've seen this over and over. Knowing that Don stays at the store past closing time, I only need to make a phone call to have my requested supplies handed to me from the side door after 5:30. Don said other customers do the same thing before 8 AM. When the store is super busy, I've filled out and signed my own bill and walked out with my stuff. Better not try that anywhere else.



As far as secrets for the 40 years of service, Don points to three things: family support, good employees and good customers. Don told me, "A lot of times our customers become part of our extended family" and that's evident when you stop by for a glass of punch on Christmas Eve. That's when 'the store', as Don calls it, really feels old fashioned. Don and the boys are all in ties and 40 years of scrapbooks are laid out.

The next time you visit Oak Hill Hardware, congratulate Don on his 40 years of hardware service to our neighborhoods. Also, be sure to enjoy the old time courtesy and helpfulness they offer. You might not find it anywhere else.

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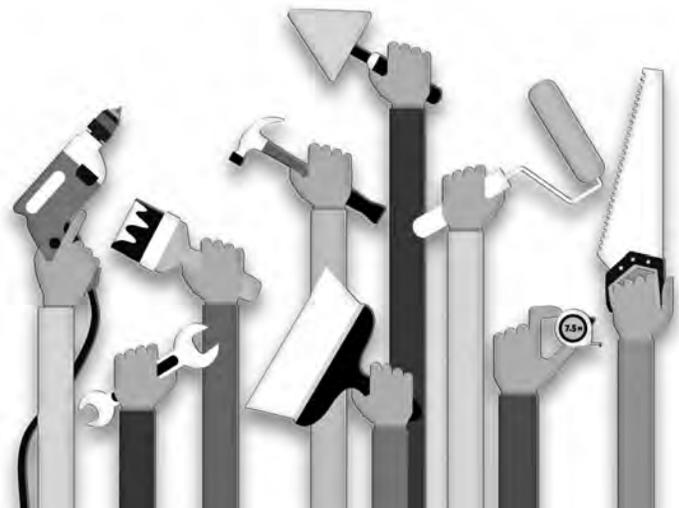
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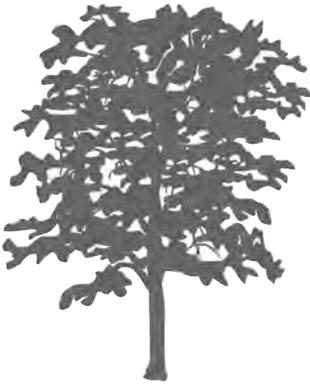
Coupon expires 07/31/15 (TGHNA)
Not applicable to work in progress - Oak Hill Hardware



Branching Out is Not Always Good

BY SARAH TRUCKEY

Thanks to our perfect spring weather, the trees lining the streets of TGH are responding appropriately by growing quickly and fully, causing many of the branches to hang low over the sidewalks, thus causing many pedestrians to duck—or even limbo—underneath them. Please keep an eye on your foliage and, if it's not out of your range of maintenance (aka, you don't require the City to come out), give it a small sawing or lopping to let those pedestrians run unobstructed.



It might also be a good time to remove any unwanted tree seedlings growing in your fence line. Protected by the fence, these little guys can't be easily weed wacked or mowed and they'll be with you for a long time if allowed to grow.

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Time and Again - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Some of the pictures in the email contained shots of Hartford St. with new trees planted every 10 - 15 feet. There was plenty of parking---there were no cars. The house to our west wasn't built yet and houses had their original shutters. One of my favorite shots is of young Fredrick Strudell smoking a cigar on our front porch, sitting in the exact spot where I have my Friday night cigar. He's holding the cigar in his left hand. I'm left handed.

“It’s a good thing we can blame it on the cats”.
She replied,
“They’re in bed with us”.

I wondered if the Strudell’s were responsible for some of the oddities we experienced in our house. I remember smelling an unusual

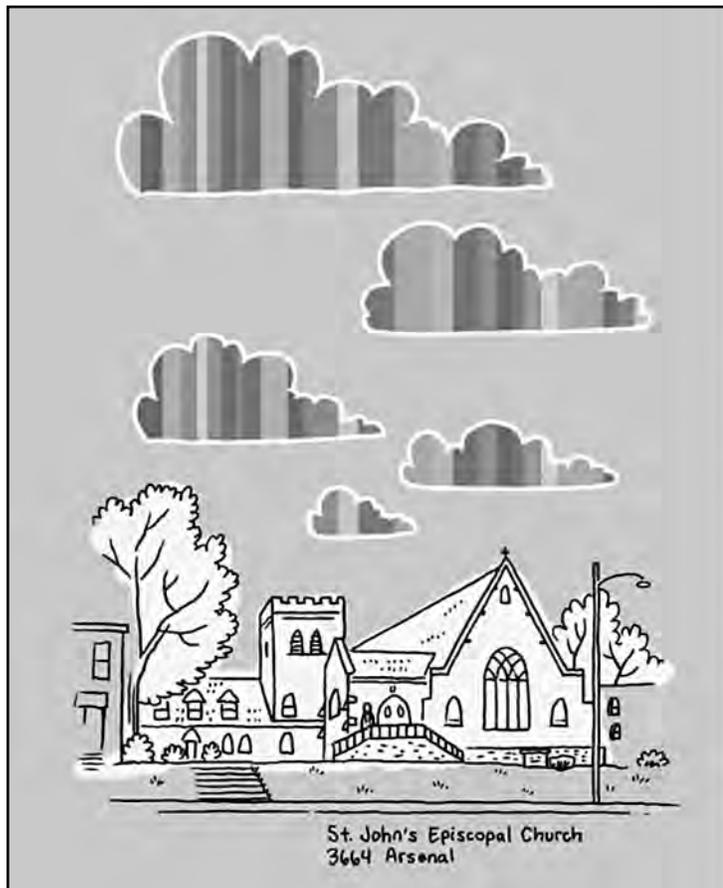
fragrance every time I entered a certain room on the first floor. At one point, I literally smelled every object and surface in the room but never found the smell. Whenever I was in that room, I also had the feeling someone was always standing behind me.

On another occasion, Jean and I had just gone to bed when we heard the piano play downstairs. The piano was in ‘the room’. I told Jean, “It’s a good thing we can blame it on the cats”. She replied, “They’re in bed with us”.

I’m mentioning our experiences because I think there are other old house stories out there. If there are, we’d like to hear them and perhaps include them in the Gazette. Also, any old house



photos would be good. Please send anything you consider interesting to Rich at riezzi@swbell.net.



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REAL ESTATE NEWS

for Tower Grove Heights

Inventory of homes for sale is very low and mortgage rates are still low too. If your home is priced right and in good condition, your home could sell quickly for list price or more and get multiple offers. It is definitely a seller market right now.

Email me your real estate questions at: DeborahErvin@att.net

Houses Sold in Tower Grove Heights January 1st - April 30th 2015

Type	Price	Address	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	Square Feet
Residential	236,000	3825 Connecticut	4	3	2,181
Residential	242,000	3865 Juniata	4	2	1,923
Residential	260,000	3636 S. Utah Place	5	3	3,098
Residential	365,000	3808 Wyoming	3	3	2,900
Residential	430,000	3822 Humphrey	4	4	3,503
Multifamily	215,000	3636 Wyoming			2,650
Multifamily	225,000	3735 Connecticut			3,645



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 Megan-Elyia Green Citizen Service Bureau
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NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Membership Registration Form

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

There are two ways to join TGHNA:

1. You may join TGHNA online. Go to towergroveheights.com under the Get Involved tab. Online payment is done through PayPal.

2. To join by mail, complete the bottom portion of this form and return to P.O. Box 160069, St. Louis, MO 63116. Make checks payable to: Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association

All membership fees are set by the board prior to each calendar year. With the exception of Lifetime (individual or household), each membership is renewable annually and due on the yearly anniversary of the initial registration.

Only members who meet the requirements for voting privileges and are current in membership fees may vote at TGHNA meetings. Voting eligibility for newly-admitted members will commence 60 days following receipt of membership fees.

Membership fees are tax deductible as allowable by law.

FEES AND LEVELS

Regular (individual) Membership (\$10): To be eligible for membership at this level, an individual must reside in or own property within the boundaries of Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood (TGH). Individual members are entitled to one (1) vote at TGHNA meetings and can stand for office in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws. By-laws can be found on towergroveheights.com.

Household Membership (\$15): This level of membership provides for a single annual membership fee to cover multiple people residing in or owning the same residence in TGH. A Household Membership carries a maximum of two (2) votes at TGHNA meetings.

Business Membership (\$25): This level is for local businesses that have an interest in Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood. A business located in the neighborhood is entitled to one (1) vote. Business memberships located outside the neighborhood are not eligible to vote. This membership level entitles members to a 10% discount on TGHNA Gazette ads for one year.

Associate Membership (\$10): This level is for individuals who have an interest in the Neighborhood but who don't meet the requirements to be a Regular member. An Associate Member may attend Neighborhood meetings, serve on or chair a Committee, but may not vote or be an Officer.

Lifetime Membership (individual) (\$100): At this level, an individual may become a member of the TGH Neighborhood Association for his/her lifetime. A Lifetime Member must meet the requirements of a Regular Member to be eligible to vote or stand for office.

Household Lifetime Membership (\$200): This level of membership provides for a single lifetime membership fee to cover multiple people residing in or owning the same residence within TGH. This level carries a maximum of 2 votes at TGHNA meetings. Any resident or owner of the household 18 and older is eligible to stand for office.

Each membership expires one year from the date of registration, except lifetime memberships.

Please detach the bottom portion and mail to P.O. Box 160069, St. Louis, MO 63116

- Regular membership (individual) - \$10
- Household membership - \$15
- Business membership - \$25
- Associate membership - \$10
- Lifetime membership (individual) \$100
- Lifetime membership (household) - \$200

___ yes Include my/our names, address and
___ no contact info in the TGHNA Buzz Book.

___ yes Please include me/us on the TGHNA
___ no email notification list.

Thank you!

Please print legibly.

Check this box if this is a membership renewal

Address of residence/business:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____