

Tower Grove Heights Gazette

Grand to Gustine

Arsenal to Utah Place



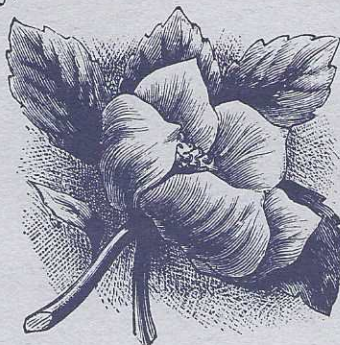
Tower Grove Heights Gets Blitzed

Operation Brightside's city-wide clean-up Project Blitz hits Tower Grove Heights on Saturday, May 15th. Let's celebrate Spring throughout the neighborhood with true South-city pride and spirit! On Blitz Saturday, at 10 a.m. Operation Brightside trucks will begin to empty the trash and "yard-waste-only" dumpsters. There will be a special bulk pick-up for large items placed at least four feet from the dumpster and off private property.

The city is going to be cracking down on misuse of the "Yard Waste Only" dumpsters. A warning will be issued for the first offense. If there is a second offense, a \$500 fine will be levied. City workers will be monitoring the "Yard Waste Only" refuge and if non-yard waste, with any names, addresses, or identify account numbers or found, action will be taken. Let's make sure that these dumpsters are not misused. The money spent to pay these city workers to monitor the yard waste could be better spent. Perhaps by putting more police on our streets.

Here's our chance to do some outdoor Spring Cleaning in the front yard, the back yard, and even the alley! Tools, trash bags and flowers will be provided to industrious volunteers who want them but remember, these flowers can only be

planted on public property. Woodchips will be available and can be picked up the week before our Blitz at McDonald Park Utah and Bent. Get creative with the grass strips and around those trees that grow between the sidewalk and curb. Visualize pots of plants and colorful flowers on porches and stoops up and down your whole block for everyone to enjoy!



Cash awards will be given again this year to neighborhoods for special projects. Regional prizes will be awarded in the following three categories: Best Beautification, Best Clean-Up and a new category this year (and my favorite!) Deck the Dumpsters, a contest painting the "yard-waste-only" dumpsters. Neighborhood artists of all ages can get some local exposure while contributing their energy and talents toward beautifying our otherwise unsightly alleys! I can't wait to see

the bright and creative "Art Dumpsters" throughout Tower Grove Heights all summer long.

The Blitz couldn't be successful without volunteers, so plan on working together Saturday morning, May 15. Let's meet in the alleys and get rid of those old branches and limbs and help someone haul an old couch or chair outside for bulk pick-up,

Working together on a common goal is a great way to meet new neighbors and get acquainted with old ones; who knows, you might paint a fence, or mend one! Tower Grove Heights has seen a lot of changes since last Spring, we've been sprouting new businesses and residents just like a garden dawning on full bloom. Operation Brightside's Spring 1993 logo looks just like a garden too, and you can get it on their new bumper stickers and Hanes Springtime in St. Louis T-shirts (white) with bright yellow daffodils blooming under the Arch.

The shirts are only \$8.00 plus shipping, make great gifts, and all the proceeds benefit Operation Brightside. Neighborhood organizations can earn \$1.00 for every shirt ordered; for more information on shirts, bumper stickers and Tower Grove Heights Blitz Saturday, call 781-4556.

Victoria Cusumano Miles

Did You Know?

That the building on the northwest corner of Spring and Connecticut housed one of the first chain grocery stores in St. Louis?

That most of our houses are of the architectural style called American Foursquare, with four rooms downstairs and four rooms upstairs, each at a corner, and a front porch?

That brick made from clay mined in the Grand-Oak Hill area was of such high quality that it was exported to Europe?

Association Meeting

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association will meet at 7 p.m. Sunday May 16th, at the First Church of Divine Science, 3617 Wyoming. The guest speaker will be John Karel, Director of Tower Grove Park. NOTE: This meeting was originally scheduled for May 9th.



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Star Video is on the move. In early summer they will be moving into the new Square on Grand complex (next to St. Louis Bread Company). If you haven't been in this great architectural treasure lately, please do so. A lot of renovation and restoration are in progress. The marble floors, towering ceilings and artglass windows in the lobby are not to be missed.

The ever growing list of tenants is varied and interesting:

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From the President

Smoke

Did you know that smoke is an essential component of every electrical device? It is scientifically repeatable observation that when you turn on an electrical or electronic apparatus and smoke comes out, the device stops working. Obviously the retaining seals have broken down and released the smoke. Right? Of course not. In fact, the only seals that have broken down are the ones holding the smoke between the observer's ears!

The point is, that if one isn't certain about the identification of a problem, supplying a remedy may be futile or even detrimental. It is for this reason that we as a neighborhood association have to be a tad conservative in our goals and the methods we employ to achieve them.

Illuminated porches and involved neighbors will help keep crime to a minimum. Street trees and painted trim keep the neighborhood inviting. Properly maintained apartments attract better tenants. Well attended association events help us keep the ear of our city and state representatives. Tolerance, pride, and a touch of competition will keep us on the right track.

Remember, a bottle of liquid smoke may help your summer barbeque, but won't do much for your ailing radio. See ya on the street.

There is a fine tradition here on the "Southside" that lives on in spite of obsolescence elsewhere - Its the custom of sitting on one's stoop. For you recent immigrants to the "Southside" one's stoop is the colloquial term for the front porch. Its common here in the Heights to wave to one or more stoop sitters when going to and from your car.

Which brings me to my neighbor Bob Bohner, who lives just west of me. Bob's been retired from MO-PAC since 1979. on every nice day for the ten years that I've lived here, Bob's been there with a wave and a welcome home smile.

It's easy for me to think of Bob as the older man next door, who keeps an eye on things. And he does know what is going on too. He knows who's moving in and who moved out, currently and for the past thirty six years. But, of course thirty six years ago, Bob wasn't one of the stoop sitters. He didn't have time.

Bob moved to his home on Connecticut with his wife, two daughters, and three sons, June 1956. By 1958 the family in-

cluded two more boys. Bob worked for MO-PAC, sent his kids to St. Pius School, belonged to the Grand-Oak Hill Association and was busy. Then in 1968, his wife became ill and passed on. Bob was left to raise his family of five boys and two girls alone. "It was no problem"

he says simply, adding, "but, I did have some help. Right about then is when wash-n-wear came out. Made laundry a lot easier." I smiled respectfully. Help in my mind is somebody, besides me, doing the laundry, the dishes, the floors, and the sheets, as well.

Life is slower now. Bob enjoys visits from his family, which includes seven grandchildren. While

rearing the kids, the luxury of a hobby was out of the question. He now spends time recording movies from the TV and music from the stereo, much of which he gives to his family. He sits on the stoop, watches and waves, continuing the fine tradition of "Southside" friendliness. I'm glad he does.

Margie Meyer



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Calling All Landlords

The Tower Grove Heights Tenant Referral Service needs you! It needs you to list your available apartments with its apartment referral system. To participate in this program, a landlord needs to call 772-5982 when an apartment becomes available. Information about the apartment will be taken over the phone: apartment size, unique features, rent, deposit, etc. This apartment information will then be given to prospective tenants when they call the neighborhood association.

By listing an apartment with Tower Grove Heights, a landlord also gets his apartment advertised at several businesses and universities in the city; In the past year, Tower Grove Heights assisted in renting 17 apartments in the neighborhood. Numerous prospective tenants had to look elsewhere for a home because TGHts. did not have enough apartments on the referral list. So please call 772-5982 to list available apartments. This service is FREE!

The association also has a packet for landlords that includes: tenant application, lease, pet agreement, etc.

An eye-catching Tower Grove Heights "FOR RENT" sign can be purchased for \$6.00. All of this helpful information is available to neighborhood landlords by calling the association at 772-5982.

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Meet the Press



Jodie Heliker lives in the 3800 block of Hartford with her mother and brother. She has been Assistant Secretary of TGHNA, block captain, organizer of Kids Day In The Park, and writes the KIDS PAGE for the Gazette. She attends UMSL full time and works at Walden Kids. In her spare time, Jodie paints furniture, organizes block parties, and shares her mother's interis in decorating.

Lou Jenneman

Thumbs Up!

Tom Coriell, Mickey Schults, and Rich and Chris Jamison, block captains of 3600-3700 Connecticut, have developed their own method of communication with the residents on their block. The CONNECTICUT CONNECTION, a block newsletter, imparts basic information in a way that is personal and block oriented. It encourages neighbors to work for the common goals such as keeping porch lights on all night to deter crime. It stresses the need for input from residents and encourages them to inform their block captains of any concerns or suggestions. It gives times and dates of upcoming events. As Mickey pointed out, it is often difficult to catch people at home and speak with them directly. The CONNECTICUT CONNECTION is their link to residents on 3600-3700 Connecticut.

The Thumb



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In the Neighborhood

by Mary Schroeder

I think everybody in our neighborhood knows the Black Thorn Pub at the corner of Spring and Wyoming. It's got to be the nicest example of the "South Side" tavern that still exist in the whole area. Dave and his wife, Sally Difani are the owners. They are active members of the neighborhood. Not only do they own and operate their business here, but they live in the apartment above it. So they are definitely committed to Tower Grove Heights.

What everybody around the neighborhood may not know, is that the Difanis serve food at the Black Thorn. They have snacks and sandwiches to nibble as you sip your cocktail, beer, wine, or soda. You ought to give it a try. These aren't just snacks, these are snacks with PIZAZZ!

The Difani's have made the Black Thorn cozy and clean. There is a room off the bar that has a comfortable, yet private feeling. They have decorated with everything from street signs to neon signs, to chalk greetings written above the door jams. For the video game experts, there are quite a few to choose from as you spend an evening with friends. The feeling is that you're in someone's family room.

Big Ed and I tried sandwiches, Ham and Swiss Cheese and the Roast Beef and Cheddar. They were big, on sourdough bread with a huge pickle chunk on the

side. The sandwiches come with a small order of Cheese Fries. I have to tell you how wonderful their fries are. I was expecting something simple, you know, with melted Velveeta over the top. But the Black Thorn's are extra special. Cheddar and Parmesan cheese with just a hint of garlic over the potatoes. Yum! The Black Thorn also serves: Dave's special recipe for Hot Chicken Wings, Taquitos, Mini Egg Rolls. Cheese Fries, Nachos, and Pizza. I want to get back and try something else, too. Prices are certainly well within the means of even the most frugal of Southsiders. The kitchen is open from 3 - 9 PM Tuesday - Friday, 6 - 9 PM on Saturday and Monday. If you want to get more information about the Black Thorn Pub, just call, 776-0534

Coming To Your House

by Lou Jenneman

... will be city inspectors. The 15th ward has been scheduled for a house by house exterior inspection this spring. City inspectors will be paying close attention to loose or damaged railings, chipping paint, brick tuckpointing and exterior concrete. Be reminded that paved parking pads are required by law for all off-street parking. There will be a 90 day limit for all repairs which can be extended another 60 days by contacting the inspector listed on the notice. This must be done prior to the deadline date or court costs will be charged. Tower Grove Heights will be the first neighborhood inspected so be prepared. Please contact Alderperson Gerry Osborn at 664-3287 or 773-8416 if you have any questions.



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Coming Up In Tower Grove Park

by Tom Booth

Now that our clocks have been set ahead once again, and we know that the chances of another snowstorm are slim, it's time to start planning outdoor activities, and that normally means that Tower Grove Park will be involved.

To get things off to a fresh start, park lovers can join in the annual Spring park cleanup which will take place on May 15 from 10 in the morning to 3 p.m. Those interested in helping in the cleanup are asked to meet at the Turkish shelter on Main Drive. Connie Chartier, of the park office, suggests that "everyone bring a rake, if they have one, wear gloves, and a smile, and come help us beautify the park".

For the first time in some years, the park will offer a day camp program sponsored by the City of St. Louis Recreation Division. Children ages 4 to 6, will be in-

involved in a number of games and crafts such as archery, face painting, and kick ball. Those between the ages of 7 and 12 can enjoy archery, rope jumping, frisbee, golf, and Soccer among other activities. For more information about the camp, call 353-1250.

The Wednesday concert series, (as the name implies, formerly held on Wednesdays), will be performed on Sundays this Summer, at 4 p.m. at the music stand. It will be a 4 week series highlighting a different style of music each week. The series, sponsored by Friends of Tower Grove Park and the Regional Arts Council, will begin in July.

The Compton Heights Band once again will be returning with a kickoff concert at the end of May. The dates for their eight week Monday night series have not been finalized as yet, but the concerts will have a 7:30 p.m. starting time.

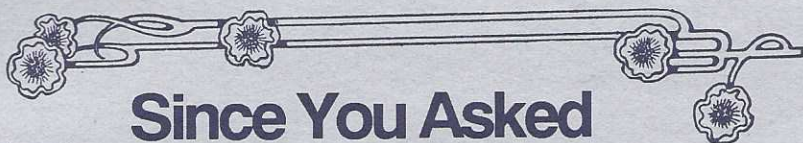
In addition, the park will be host to a 6 week children's concert series to be held Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Stupps Center near Grand and Arsenal. The program will begin in mid July and although it is geared to children, adults enjoy it as well. Also anticipated, are a few lunch concerts similar to those held last Summer. Aside from music, the park will offer some unique presentations to the public. On May 22 at 10:00 a.m., Chris Bensch, the Curator of Victorian Culture at the Strong Museum in Rochester, New York, and Jeff Smith of the St. Louis Mercantile Library will be at the wading pool to discuss how attitudes on recreation are reflected in the park, and show how recreation changed after the turn of the century. Anyone interested in taking part should wear play shoes. Croquet mallets will be provided.

The June program will be held at the Stupp Center on June 12 at 2:00 p.m. Gary Kremer, professor of history at Westminster College, will lead a discussion of Tower Grove Park memories. The Friends of Tower Grove Park invite you to share your memories, photos and any other objects related to the park. So this Summer, for those of you looking for a variety of activities, take advantage of what's in our own backyard... at Tower Grove Park.



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by Don Hardin

"DID YOU MAKE ANY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS - HOW ARE THEY GOING?"

Harry Witt: "I don't make any New Year's resolutions. I try to make and keep resolves throughout the year."

Tim Raw: "I don't make any New Year's resolutions. I know I won't keep them and I don't like that feeling."

Susan Smith: "We were resolved to sell our house, but we have decided to take it off the market and stay here in Tower Grove Heights."

Anonymous: "I have decided to eat better and get more exercise. I am proud of the progress I've been making."

Ruth Hertel: "My New Year's resolution is to try to sell my house."

Fern Black: "I don't make any new year's resolutions. I know I won't keep them."

Cecelia Porter: "I made a resolution to join the book discussion group at the Carpenter Branch Library. I'm enjoying the group very much."

Kathleen Carr: "I don't make any new year's resolutions. I'm not good at keeping them."

Randy Dirnberger: "I save myself the trouble."

David Cunningham: "I didn't make any. My wife may have, but she didn't tell me. That way I won't know if she kept them or not."

James DeWitt: "No willpower!"

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"Up On The Roof"

by Rich Iezzi

A roof is a beautiful thing. It keeps you safe and dry and adds architectural definition to your home. Even a new flat roof is a thing of beauty when water beads up on its deep ebony surface.

Tower Grove Heights has a variety of roofs. Originally all pitched roofs were slate, tile or asbestos shingles. But most of these have been replaced with newer composition shingles. The original slate shingles were either split off a large block of slate along grain lines or cut with a saw. Certain grades of slate like "black Maine" or "tri-colored Vermont" have lives of 300 years and are installed with copper nails. Most of the slate

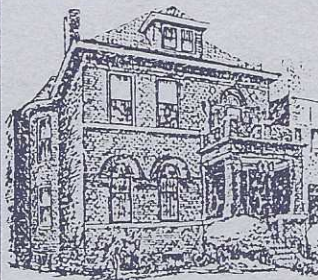
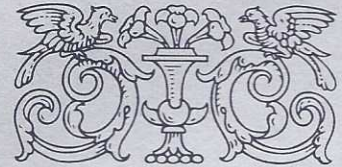
In St. Louis is bangert slate from Pennsylvania with a life of 100 years. A slate roof is easy to maintain if you don't mind climbing around on your roof. Defective slates are removed using a slate nail puller and new slates are shoved into position and held with copper retainers. Use binoculars to locate broken slate like the big guys do. Be careful!! I was using a cheap plastic rope and body belt once when I hopped over a gable and slid the rope against the top of a sharp slate ridge. When I glanced over, the slate had cut through two of my three strands of rope. Tile was probably the first manmade roofing material and was produced by Egyptian women forming the clay over their thighs. Tile has an interlocking system of hubs and collars that hold the roof in place while keeping out the rain. Tile is tougher to work on and extremely heavy. A square (10' x 10') of tile weighs 975 lbs., while slate is 800 lbs. and composition shingles are 225 lbs. Like slate, tile relies on a felt or rubber backed underlayment material nailed to the raw wood for a moisture barrier. Use a wooden ladder or boards over the tile to distribute your weight if you must go on the roof. Tiles can be removed and replaced but they are easy to break. Locate a supply of identical tiles before starting your work. Tile, either glazed or natural, can also last hundreds of years and give a beautiful, clean looking roof. A flat roof can be a good roof too. Newer fiberglass materials enable a three ply roof to last at least 15 years. A flat roof should be recoated or "mopped" every 5 years or so, but not mopped more than twice after it's installed. Be careful when a seller says he's just had a "new roof" put on -- it may be only remopped. If you can

afford it, have the old roof torn off when buying a new roof. Old roofs can be 4" thick and put thousand of needless pounds over your head. If you plan to insulate, do it now so your roofer and insulator can work together. Flat roofs are sometimes covered with gravel or rock to reduce ultraviolet rays which dry out roofing oils. Newer rubber roofs sometimes require the rock to hold the membrane to the roof.

Newer composition shingles consist of a fiberglass material coated with asphalt then sprinkled with ceramic granules to reduce ultraviolet rays and provide coloring. They have stick down tabs that bond each layer together when they heat up and are lightweight compared to slate or tie. You should only apply two "roofs" before a tearoff is required. Composition shingles can have a class "A" fire

rating and last over 30 years. Stale-looking shingles offer that original slate appearance for less cost. Look at the Warner Mansion at Grand and Shaw for a good example.

No matter what the material, your roof depends on the skill and honesty of your roofer. The Tower Grove Heights referral program has reliable, honest roofers with good references. Call the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association at 772-5982 for recommendations.



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A MESSAGE FROM REP. PAT DOUGHERTY

House Passes Measure to Criminalize Stalking, Sends Bill to Senate.

Missouri laws offer little protection to victims who have not been physically injured by their stalker and this legislation is designed to protect individuals before they get injured.

I am the sponsor of legislation that would make it a crime to stalk another person. The bill defines two degrees of the crime-stalking and aggravated stalking. Stalking would be defined as knowingly and repeatedly harassing or following another person with the intent of harassing that person. A first offense would be a class A misdemeanor. If a second offense occurred against the same victim within a five year period, the crime would become a class D felony.

The crime of aggravated stalking would occur if someone stalks another person and makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or physical injury.

Under the bill, this crime would be a class D felony the first time it was committed. The penalty for committing aggravated stalking a subsequent time against the same individual within a five year period would be a class C felony.

The measure would allow law enforcement officials who have reason to believe these crimes have occurred to make arrest without warrants.

My goal is to provide women (and men) the best protection the state can provide and to have law enforcement intervene in a crisis before someone is hurt or killed. This legislation provides the much needed tools to help our law enforcement system act before tragedy occurs.

If you would like a copy of this legislation, please call my home at 772-1948, and I will mail it to you.

Representative Patrick Dougherty District 67



LA LUZ

A Study of Form and Light
by Don Hardin

On Friday evening April 2nd, Sheltons Hair Salon hosted the opening reception of the photographs of Janice Nesser, one of the Heights' many resident artists.

Jan's media is black and white photography. Her work was also represented at "The Art of City Living." The gathering was an interesting mixture of friends, neighbors and art connoisseurs. Wine, fresh fruit, and cheeses were offered to nourish the body, while the art of Ms. Nesser and the art of conversation nourished ones soul. Sheltons' predominately black and white decor and subdued blending of old architecture and high tech was the perfect setting for Jan's work.

Don't miss this exciting and provocative showing. Ms. Nesser's work will be on display through June 26th.

POTLUCK DINNER

By Tom Booth

On March 14, a healthy and hungry crowd gathered at the First Divine Science Church at 3617 Wyoming for the annual potluck dinner. Besides drawing neighbors out of their Winter isolation, the event served to kick off the T.G.H.A.'s membership drive. Those who attended provided either a salad, pasta or dessert. As always, there was an abundance of delectable foods! For those of you who may not already be members, the potluck dinner is a good way to meet your neighbors and have fun at the same time. Whatever your interests and skills, there is a committee looking for you, at whatever level of involvement you are interested in. Whether it's handing out flyers door to door, writing for the Gazette, or helping at your block party, it's your participation that makes T.G.H.A. a success.

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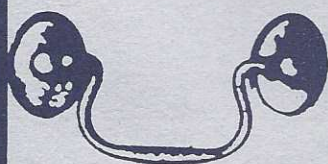
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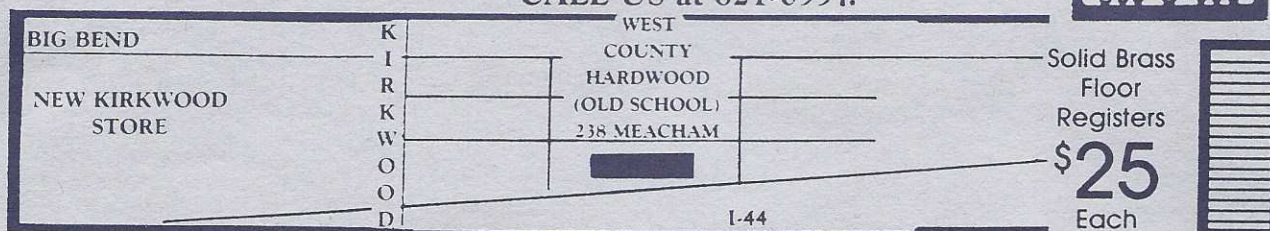


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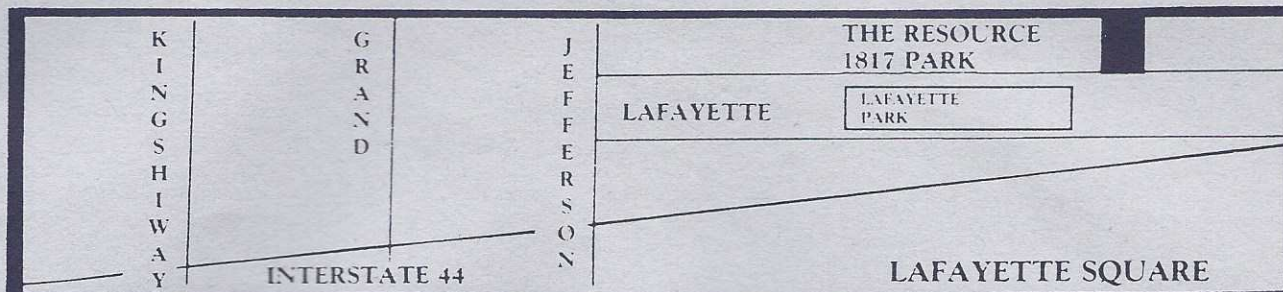
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Day Trippin'

by Mary Schroeder

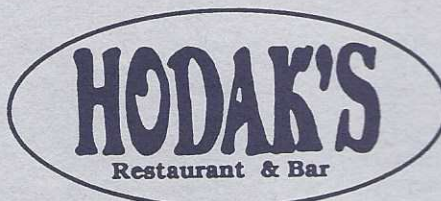
I ought to change the name of this column to Let's Get Lost. Last month Big Ed and I drove to Okawville, Illinois, and on the way home, guess what! We got lost, just like the time I drove to Ste. Genevieve. I guess it could have something to do with Big Ed's fascination with birds and me being nearly blind. Lots of our drives have moments like this. "What was that, was that a hawk?" "Where, where?" "Over there above that tree by that house." "Where?" "The one near... oh, never mind."

Anyway, we went to Okawville because it has a neat old hotel/spa from about 1900. Only there wasn't a lot going on there in February. So we had lunch in the hotel - they have very good roast beef sandwiches there - and drove around the town. It was very nice and very small. It reminded me of a movie set for a small town in the early 1900's. The spa, also small, was nice. There is an indoor pool, hot mineral baths, steam rooms, and massages available. They also have bottled mineral water for sale. Things were not expensive at all. It only takes about 45 minutes to get there. Drive over to Illinois and get onto Highway 64. Follow it to the Okawville exit, you'll be right next to town.

So we thought we'd stop by Waterloo on the way home to buy our monthly lottery ticket and why retrace our steps? We decided to follow the little country roads straight across. They don't have enough signs for us city folk out in the country like that. So we missed our road and ended up at the Peabody coal Mine. Or at least the Peabody Coal Mine train. We figured the mine had to be close by. Eventually we did make it to Waterloo, too. Oh, Waterloo is a nice place to visit too. They have a neat German band, and a summer farmersmarket in the main town square. And a Walmart. And a McDonald's. It is a nice Sunday morning drive. All you need to do is go across the Jefferson Barracks Bridge and follow Rt. 3 straight into town. Even though it's only about a half hour away, there are fields as far as the eye can see. You really feel like you are away from it all in the country.



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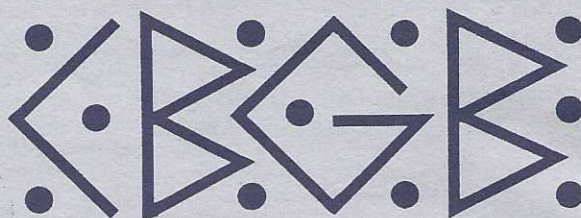
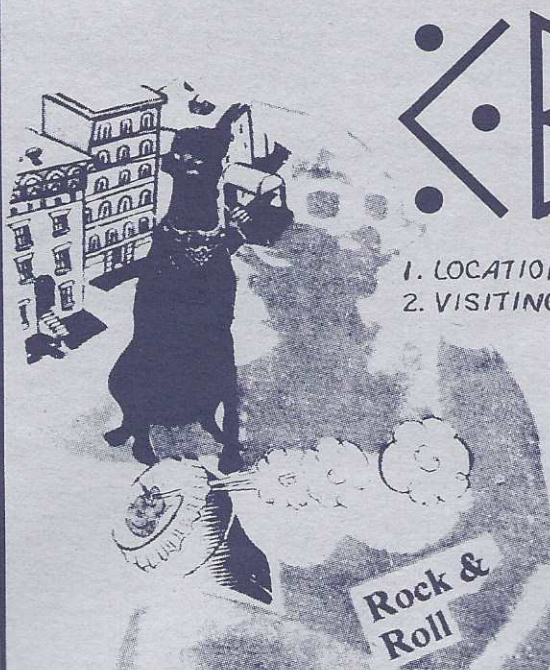
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LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENED

My Favorite Mechanic

By Terry Mayes

The following are suggestions for the average uninformed car owner, to guide him in handling typical minor car problems.

First of all, know your car model, make, the year it was manufactured, and the engine size of your vehicle. The easiest way of finding these things out is to open the glove compartment and read the owner's manual.

Some essential items you should carry in your car at all times are: 1) (and most important besides a credit card) Jumper cables 2) A plug kit for flat tires 3) A 12 volt air compressor for inflating tires

The directions for plugging a tire are usually on the plug kit. It's a simple procedure and depending on where you are

continued on page 16

A School Is Not A Building

by Tom Jenneman

"A school is not building," said Horace Mann School Principal Katherine Vaughn. "A school is group of people. We have an excellent school," she added. After more than three decades as an educator, most of that in administration, Vaughn has the experience necessary to recognize excellence.

With the large enrollment at Mann School, it is a busy place. In addition to grades kindergarten through five, the school has behavioral disorder class and learning disability class. Physical education, art and music are part of the curriculum for all the students and the computer lab serves kindergarten and first graders. "These students are great," she said "Mann School has a tremendous staff, one of the most professional I have worked with." She characterized the staff as caring and well-trained "With limited

resources and minimal support we are doing an excellent job."

For the staff, the day starts early and ends late. Breakfast and lunch are served in the cafeteria and when the day ends officially, teachers are often found in the building well into the afternoon.

For grades three through five, the Say No To Drugs program is available. Vaughn said the program offers healthy activity for the children that includes play, school work, movies and talks about alternative behaviors.

Trips into the community are an important part of education at Mann School too. This year classes already have made several trips to the Grand-Oak Hill Community Center to perform for senior citizens and others there. Principal Vaughn said such activities are most prevalent around holidays. "We teach respect for the elderly," she said.

The red brick building opened in 1901, and is due for renovation and the addition of a new multi-purpose facility next school year.

With all the changes and up-to-date educational techniques at Mann School, community tradition is not forgotten. A kid may be taught by the same teacher as mon or dad was.





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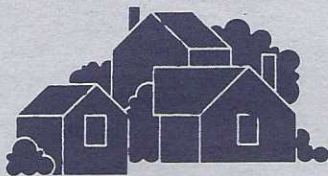
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Inner Spaces

by Trish Heliker

Appearances aside, in what ways do we describe people? Adjectives such as friendly, charming, nurturing, or even cold come to mind. Maybe an aloof air, a calm demeanor or alaid-back attitude would apply. What we are referring to is the personality of the person, that which helps to make them who they are and that which distinguishes them from one another. These characteristics emanate from rooms as well. Memorable rooms, like memorable people, have distinct personalities. Rooms with a friendly quality beckon you to sit and relax. Some convey an unspoken DO NOT TOUCH message. Rooms bathed in sunlight can be cheery or harsh. Those with the drapes closed and the light dim might strike a serious note or a cozy or romantic atmosphere. All rooms have personality (some possibly personality disorders), but with a little coaxing and a few changes in arrangement, lighting, furnishings, or color, the aura of the room can be changed dramatically.

In evaluating a room, consider the main purpose it serves. How will it be used? What should the prevailing mood be? Bedrooms are usually expected to be tranquil, family rooms comfortable, foyers inviting, bathrooms relaxing, and kitchens stimulating. How this is achieved in a home is as varied as the people who inhabit them. It is possible that some may want their living rooms formal, their bedrooms stimulating, and their kitchens and bathrooms strictly functional. That's the beauty of designing rooms to suit your taste. So get clear on what you want the room's disposition to be and then be guided in your choices by that feeling.

Once you have the personality in mind, you can move on to style. Again, this relates to people...often evident in how they dress. Is it Dockers or pinstripes? Ruffled blouses or classic blazers? Just as people have a variety of clothing styles in their closet, so they may have a combination of styles in their homes. What designers refer to as casual, country, contemporary, traditional, Victorian, Oriental, classic, or eclectic is simply labeling for convenience. The furnishings and accessories may come from various periods but the overall ambiance fits one of these categories. It is possible to cross the lines in style within the home and within a

room. The key is to theme it together. This is done with color, pattern, collections, and similar lines in furnishings. Think about a roomful of people standing silently. Now think of them joining hands and conversing. If your furnishings are a mix of styles, you just introduce them to one another. Point out what they have in common and they will get along nicely. A sofa and chair from different periods covered in the same fabric will relate. A simple traditional table draped in antique lace and used to display a collection of Victorian picture frames and photos will be right at home next to the ornate Victorian rocker. Paint an old upright piano a glossy black and watch it dance across the marble floor of a very sophisticated contemporary scene.

Your style will depend on who you are, so take some time to think about it. Don't copy a "look" from a magazine. Find something in that picture you really like. Use that and add to it things that are personally meaningful to you. Cost is not the criterion here. It's the emotional impact that's critical. It must say something about you. Take a piece of furniture and make it uniquely you. Paint it. Apply a special finish. Stencil it. Put your collections on it whether they be pipes or pigs. Those things that reflect your inner style are what is going to give the room the feel you love. Soul is what makes a room come alive. Personal expression, not specific styles, gives a room soul.



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POLICE BEAT

by Ed Schroeder

The April 8th Third District Police Public Affairs meeting was hosted by the Grand Oak Hill Neighborhood Association.

The big congratulations of the evening were for Jean Leibel, the treasurer of the Third Police District Public Affairs Committee. Let's give her a big hand because on the night of April 8, 1993 she graduated from the civilian police academy after finishing her training for the "Ride with a Cop" program. Terry Shoemaker informed us that Jean would also get a big surprise at the graduation ceremonies. She received the "Good Citizen's Award" from Police Chief Clarence Harmon. Congratulations, Jean, on a job well done.

Gloria Hock, President of the Grand - Oak Hill Neighborhood Association, welcomed us to the Grand Oak Hill Community Center. She spoke of reac-

tivating our area mobile patrol for the warm months ahead. She also talked about the newly formed Apartment Owners Association with its 85 members. This group is keeping good rental property in this neighborhood.

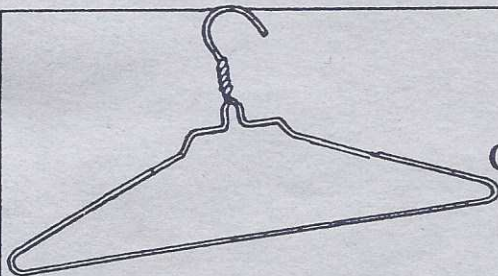
The position of presiding judge at the juvenile court is a two year term position. This position was recently filled by our guest speaker, Judge James Gallagher. Judge Gallagher explained that the juvenile court is the most important court in the justice system. It is responsible for adoptions, termination of parent rights, delinquency, and rehabilitation, not punishment. 70% of all juveniles before the court come from fatherless families. The judge used the example of Raja the baby elephant at the zoo, and his mother, Pearl. The mother didn't know how to take care of the new baby because she

had never been in a family environment. She had to be taught to nurse Raja and care for him. So, too, today, mothers bring children into the world and don't know how to care for them - Thank God for Grandmothers. The judge spoke at great length and gave a lot of good information. I wish we had the space to include everything he said.

The next speaker was Captain Robert Bauman, who gave the district report. Police of the third district have undergone extensive problem solving training. In domestic disputes the police try to get the parties to resolve their differences so that the neighbors can get back to sleep (or whatever they are doing) and not call the police to come back time after time. This all results in fewer calls to the police and frees police to do other duties.

With the arrival of warm weather, the "Cops on Bikes" program will be getting back into full swing. The police will be riding their bikes from dusk till dawn, so keep an eye out for them. Although crime city-wide is up .9% in the Third Police District it is down 2.97%.

The next meeting will be May 13th at St. Francis DeSales Church parish hall 2653 Ohio. The meeting starts at 7 PM.



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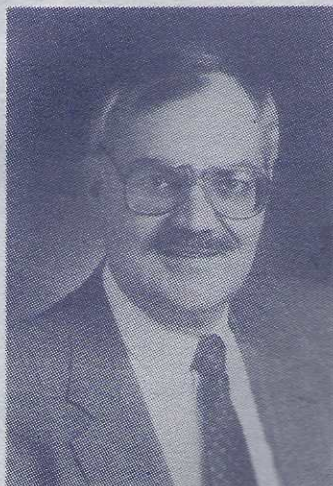
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HORTICULTURAL CORNER

Lawn Care by Benjamin Chu

As temperatures rise, the soil warms up, and rainfall is abundant, lawns begin to actively grow. Now is the time to work toward that picture perfect lawn.

The first step in achieving this goal is the removal of the thatch layer, or dethatching. Thatch is a detrimental layer of dead grass stems, leaves and roots between the green vegetation and soil surface. This layer may become so thick it prevents the penetration of water, air, fertilizers and pesticides. Grass roots will also develop in this layer and make the grasses less tolerant to drought. Under these conditions diseases may develop more readily. To remove the thatch layer from bluegrass and fescue lawns, a short mowing, approximately at an inch, and a vigorous raking is a very effective method. In zoysia lawns, thatch may be more difficult to remove because of the slower decomposition of dead plant parts, which causes a thicker thatch layer than in bluegrass and fescue lawns. The best method is to mow the lawn as short as possible and rake vigorously with a hard garden rake or a dethatching rake. A gas powered dethatcher, available through some rental outlets, may be used to make this process easier.

A word of caution to owners of zoysia lawns: burning dry zoysia lawn is not suggested. Besides offering no benefit to the grass, it is very dangerous to life and property.

Occasionally, as a result of dethatching, some bare spots may occur in the lawn. In bluegrass and fescue lawns these bare areas should be reseeded or, for quicker results, sod may be used. In zoysia lawns, bare areas may be filled with plugs taken from other parts of the lawn or purchased from local garden centers.

Following seeding, sodding or plugging, the lawn may be fertilized with a balanced fertilizer such as 12-12-12. Application rates will vary depending on the brand of fertilizer and type of spreader used. Read and follow directions on the fertilizer bag to avoid over fertilization and burning the lawn.

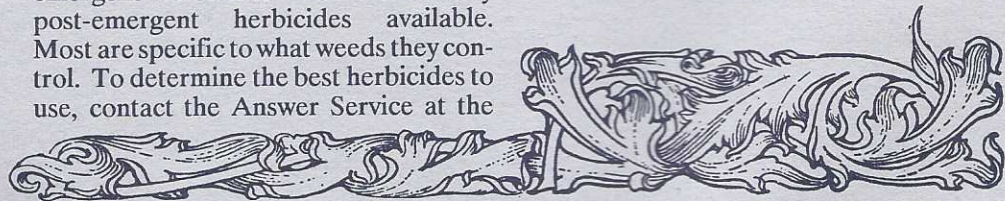
The dethatched lawn should be well watered with, at minimum, an inch of water. After the initial watering, seeded or sodded areas should be kept moist until the seed has germinated or the sod has established itself. Once this has happened, a regular watering schedule of approximately an inch per week should be maintained.

For those lawns that are not in need of dethatching, a fertilization and pre-emergent herbicide program, if applied early enough, will prevent the germination of weed seeds. Weeds that are not controlled with a pre-emergent herbicide or weeds that grow from established root systems should be controlled with a post-emergent herbicide. There are many post-emergent herbicides available. Most are specific to what weeds they control. To determine the best herbicides to use, contact the Answer Service at the

Missouri Botanical Garden (577-5145). As with any chemical, read and follow the directions carefully to avoid personal injury and damage to the lawn.

Following these simple steps will ensure a beautiful lawn all summer long!

Benjamin Chu is a superintendent and the curator of the Japanese Garden at Missouri Botanical Garden.



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COFFEE BREAK

The Rehabber's Waltz

By Elizabeth Braznell

Those of you who follow this column know that my husband, Jay, and I are redoing our kitchen. We finished the structural stuff and progressed to the instant gratification stuff: cabinets.

We assembled the cabinets--yes, they came in flat boxes--and hung them on the wall. Take three steps forward. The next day, we found water running down the walls of our new kitchen. Our ceiling and walls were waterlogged, and our beautiful pine floor was warped. The culprit was the toilet on the second floor. Take two steps back.

After cleaning up the mess and installing the new toilet, we put in the base cabinets. Then the refrigerator wouldn't fit. Jay rebuilt the corner cabinet unit, and we got the refrigerator in. For the first time in eighteen months, the refrigerator was in the kitchen! Take three steps forward. Kindly neighbor Joe Moore hooked up my new stove, and I was able to cook for the first time in the house. What joy to go to the store and skip the MRMs (meals



ready to microwave)! But when we tried to put the dishwasher in, we needed an extra inch and a half, and couldn't find it anywhere. Take four steps back.

A call to where we purchased the dishwasher seventeen months ago confirmed that they would take it back for store credit and a 5% restocking charge. It cost us \$11.35 (5% of \$227) to have the dishwasher sitting in the living room as a sculpture for seventeen months. We borrowed a pick-up truck and headed to Webster Groves, dishwasher in the back.

However, they don't carry 18" dishwashers, what other merchandise did we want? After two hours, we settled on a television. They didn't have that model in stock. They called the other store, who did have it. Off to south county. We got the television, took it home, and it doesn't work. Wander around aimlessly, hands in the air.

After talking to several other stores, we bought a smaller dishwasher for \$73 dollars more than the other one. Of course, there's the extra cabinet door we had to buy because we drilled a hole in the wrong place, and the cabinet we had to

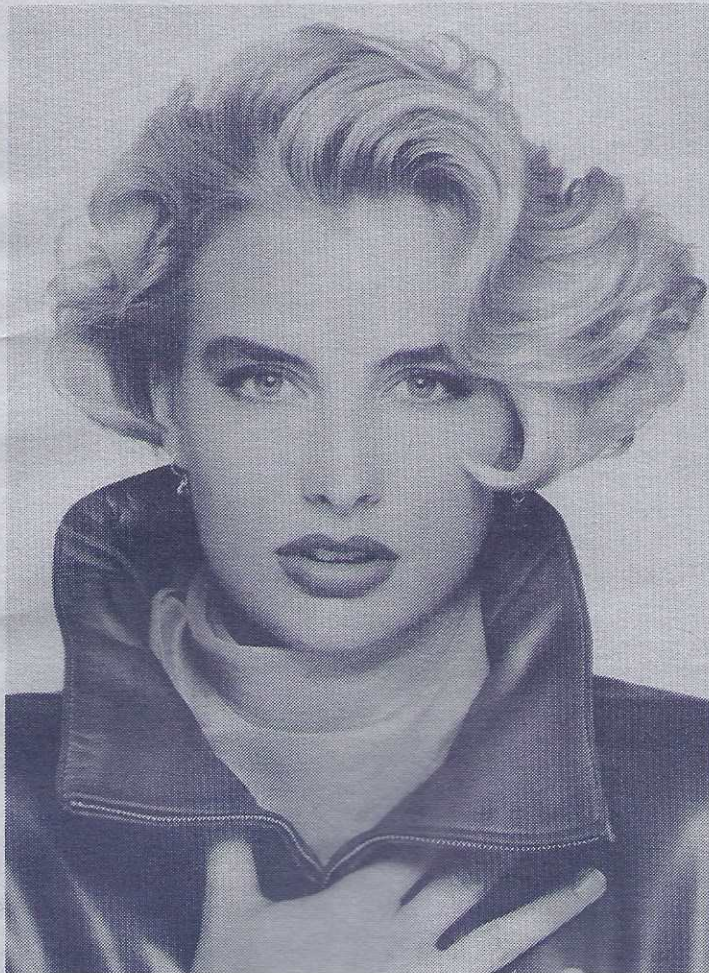
purchase because the one we bought (and drilled holes in) didn't fit. Put your hands in your pockets, then throw your money on the ground.

And that's the rehabber's waltz.

The kitchen is almost finished, although the sink is still in its box in the living room because we don't have counters yet. But by the time you read this, that, too, may be installed. And so, a rather interesting chapter of my life comes to a close.

Another phase of my life has passed. For almost two years, I've served as the editor of this newsletter. But the hard work has taken its toll, so I've passed the Gazette editorship on to a committee headed by Don Hardin. I'll remain on the staff and continue to write this column.

It's been a great experience, compounded by the great Gazette staff. And heaven knows we need more help: graphic artists, desktop publishers, reporters, etc. Give Don a call at 772-9151 to volunteer.



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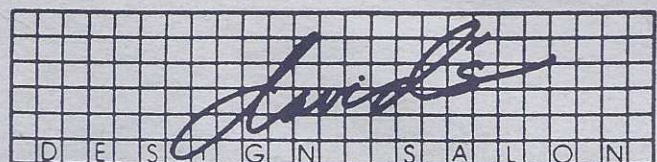
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NEWS AND NOTES

BASEBALL TICKETS

Baseball tickets are available for the Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association nightout at the ball park. Come join your friends and neighbors for a night of fun, Monday May 5th, at 7:35 to root for the cards against the Astros. Tickets are available from your block captain or call Tom Jenneman at 664-9180.

BLOCK CAPTAINS MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 25th and Tuesday, June 22nd are the dates of the next two block captains meetings. The block captains are the backbone of the Association, and Tower Grove Heights is always looking for more volunteers to serve in these indispensable positions.

BLOCK CAPTAIN WORKSHOP

Grand-Oakhill hosted a block captains workshop on Monday, April 19th. Several of the surrounding neighborhood associations participated in what was a valuable exchange of ideas for problem solving and fun and fundraising.

WHAT'S COOKIN'?

We are still looking for recipes for the Tower Grove Heights Recipe Booklet - so if you have a favorite, call Diane at 776-7360 or Trish at 773-7130. Each recipe submitted qualifies as an entry to win a free copy.

My Favorite Mechanic

continued from page 11

when your tire goes flat could save you anywhere from \$20 to \$150. Remember, a space saver tire (the one that comes in car trunks these days), should not be driven over 45 miles per hour. I neither like nor use the canned repair kits for tires because they are very flammable. What happens in hot or cold weather when you drive your car? You guessed it... your tire heats up with a flammable gas inside. There have been incidents in which a tire, inflated this way, has blown up in a mechanic's face when placed on a tire machine because the steel from the machine created a spark and caused an explosion. Be sure if you should use this canned explosive to tell your mechanic BEFORE he repairs your tire.

A lot of people also have trouble with jump starting their cars. The safest way to do this is to call Triple A, of course, but if you need to do it yourself... do it by yourself. When more than one person is involved with hooking up the cables, the chances

increase of a mistake being made. To connect the cables correctly: Hook the RED cables to POSITIVE and the BLACK cables ... NO not to the other side of the battery, but to a good ground (that is, any large piece of sheet metal) on the engine block, alternator bracket, etc. Be sure to do it in that order - hot wire first. I cannot stress this enough, for if you hook to ground first and then touch the hot wire to your battery, an explosion is very possible. Trust me on this one, I've seen it many times. If possible, wear some sort of protective glasses or goggles, just in case. If you practice this procedure a few times when it's not necessary, you will have no trouble when you finally do need it.

In future issues, I'll talk about the mechanical problems to look for when buying a used car, and how to avoid being ripped off at repair shops.

Terry Mayes, Your Favorite Mechanic (Terry Mayes is a Tower Grove Heights resident, and has been a mechanic for over 20 years.)

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