

MARQUIS

APRIL 2008

Founded by the residents of Lafayette Square

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 4

Sinkhole in Lafayette Park lagoon reopens

By Wardwell Buckner
Lafayette Square

Part of the sidewalk around the east end of the lagoon collapsed a few weeks ago. More of it fell into the hole after the heavy rains that fell just before Easter. The hole has swallowed the lagoon drainpipe as well as the warning barricade placed around the edge by the Parks Department.

The sinkhole has reopened. The sinkhole first opened up a few years ago and may be part of the extensive system of caverns under the Square and parts of south St. Louis.

A sinkhole is a difficult thing to fix. It is the top of a fissure or cavern; it is not like a well, which has regular sides and is relatively easy to plug. The technique used before — dumping loads of large stones into the hole first and then pouring smaller stones, crushed stone and then dirt on top — worked for a while. It settled for a year, but it held until a few weeks ago.

This collapse could have serious consequences.

First of all, water overflowing from the main lake has to get to the sewer system in some manner. The main lake stays full and overflows because it receives city water through the pipe at the north end of the lake, through the pipe supplying water to the fountain and from rain. This water overflows through a tube into the lower lake, which we call the lagoon. When the lagoon fills up, water flows over the top of the square concrete box at the east end of the lagoon and into a drainpipe to the sewer. This is the drainpipe that collapsed into the sinkhole.

Second, the lagoon might be in trouble

because the floor seems to be hollow underneath. We have been cleaning out the lagoon each spring since 2004, when the LSRC paid around \$20,000 to have about 35 or 40 years' accumulation of debris, which was several feet deep in places, pumped, shoveled out and hauled away in dump trucks. What is in there today are a few inches of silt, leaves and tree branches, plus the rocks people throw in to watch the water splash, and it has accumulated since last April or May. When it is cleaned, the sides and floor are hosed down with a fire hose. When the concrete floor is tapped, it sounds solid in most places but hollow at the east end.

After the clean out last year, the lagoon would not hold water. A wide crack developed in the floor near the drain box. It was sealed with several pounds of hydraulic cement. There are several other cracks, and the gate valve doesn't shut as tight as it should, but the wide crack was the main problem.

If the ground under the floor has eroded into the sinkhole, thereby allowing part of the floor to crack and subside, then keeping water in the lagoon is going to be a problem.

The Parks Department has not been able to really look at the problem because of the rain and other factors. When its construction department decides what has to be done we will keep you informed.

Top: The park lagoon sits empty, awaiting an analysis from the Parks Department. Bottom: The collapsed section of the sidewalk, now barricaded, fell into the sinkhole.

Staff photos



Legislators look to set budget for coming year

By Jeanette Mott Oxford
State Representative, 59th District

Ah, the glamorous life of being a state legislator! The average Missourian may picture us flying off to a tropical island on our spring break (just completed March 14 through 24), but that is not

Inside the Marquis

LSRC president's letter.....	2
LSBA news	3
Gardening & beautification news.....	5
Playground modification proposals....	6
Harriet Hosmer events.....	7
Letters to the editor	8
February LSRC minutes.....	10

May Marquis Deadline:
Wednesday, April. 16

the norm for your state representatives and senators. Many state legislators spend spring break working at the full- or part-time jobs that they maintain when not in Jefferson City. Most of us do celebrate having some extra time with our family and friends. Mostly, my spring break was filled with answering mail that had piled up, getting my washer and car repaired and completing a long overdue house cleaning.

As we move into the final weeks of the Legislative Session, setting the budget for the next fiscal year will take up a significant portion of our time. This follows weeks of exhaustive appropriation committee hearings. Year after year these committees hear heart-wrenching testimonies from Missourians of every description.

As a "low tax/low service" state, we frequently hear how under-funding of essential services contributes to pain and suffering. Legislators often reply: "I wish we could do something about that, but we don't have the money. Who do you want us to cut in order to serve your group better?"

It is past time to address the inad-

equacy of Missouri's current revenue stream if we are going to build a vibrant economy, create healthy and educated communities and offer a compassionate safety net for our elders and persons with disabilities. I have filed House Bill 2131 to create an income tax system that is modern, fair, adequate and sustainable to address this crisis. The proposed income tax system overhaul would lower taxes for the 60 percent of Missouri households that make less than \$47,000 annually. The wealthiest 20 percent of Missourians would be asked to assume a tax burden equal to the percentage currently being carried by the 80 percent below them in income, and this would produce much needed revenue for education, healthcare, roads, etc.

I am glad to see that an amendment that I offered in 2007 has been incorporated into the 2008 budget bills. In recent years, the Legislature has passed a three-percent pay increase for state employees. (Missouri's front-line workers are among the poorest paid in the nation.) My 2007 amendment asked that all the money available for raises be divided by the number

of state employees so the same size raise would be given to all. The net effect of this would be to give a higher percentage raise to the lowest paid employees (about five percent) and a lower percentage to our top paid employees (about one percent). During an extended debate, two colleagues from across the aisle stood up to support my amendment. When the amendment failed by two votes, they promised to ask the majority party to offer a flat raise proposal in 2008 and have apparently kept their word.

Among my other priorities for the 2008 budget debate are: to adequately fund K through 12 and higher education; restore healthcare to the 180,000 Missourians who have lost Medicaid coverage since 2005; furnish adequate staffing for veteran's homes so that they can operate at capacity level; reinstate supports for workers with disabilities; offer tobacco use prevention and cessation resources and increase community-based mental health services. Hopefully when the budget becomes final in early May, it will contain all of these improvements.



*Living in the City
Insuring in the City*



Glenn Eckert Insurance Agency
314.631.5100
glenn@glenneckert.com
Serving the Community Since 1981



Cutting Edge Styles

David's Design Salon
2233 S. Grand St. Louis, MO 63104
314.771.9001

- Corrective Hair Color, Foils, Permanent & Semi-Permanent Hair Color
- Hairstyles to match facial shape & lifestyle

LSRC discusses hiring professional manager

By Pete Snyder
LSRC President

During the March LSRC Board meeting, a question was raised, "Is it time that we consider hiring a professional manager to attend to the affairs of our neighborhood?"

The question was asked in light of the fact that no one has stepped up to fill the role of V.P./President-Elect.

Other neighborhoods have retained professional managers: Downtown St. Louis, Tower Grove and South Grand, among others. Why not Lafayette Square?

Beyond managing the day-to-day affairs of our neighborhood, a dedicated manager can research and apply for appropriate grants and other sources of income. Often more income will be generated to the benefit of the neighborhood than the manager is paid. However, the salary is a cash outlay from the neighborhood, whereas a grant is typically earmarked to a specific project or program within the neighborhood.

We would still have a volunteer neighborhood board as we have now. But

everyday questions that now fall to the board would be fielded by the manager. Since becoming president of the LSRC I have had to respond to questions about potholes, non-functioning street lights, bad trash bins and other issues that are outside of my purview, but frustrated neighbors don't know where else to turn. A neighborhood manager would provide the appropriate outlet.

The LSRC and its board need to focus on larger issues: the Urban Plan, the Historic Code, problem properties, inquiries about Lafayette Square and making our neighborhood a better place to live and work.

Of course, there are many considerations to be thought through before a decision can be made: what kind of person are we looking for? Is Lafayette Square residency a positive or negative? How will this person be paid? How much are we willing to pay for this service? I'm sure the list can go on.

The dialogue on the need for a professional neighborhood manager is just beginning. I welcome all input. Please let me know your thoughts. Contact me at PeteS@Snyder-Workman.com.

MCAVOY REALTY



1205 MISSOURI \$359,900

A Victorian beauty featuring a brand new, high-end kitchen and dining area, spacious living room, finished lower level, 2nd floor laundry, 1st and 2nd floor side and rear porches, 3 bedrooms, amazing baths and a newly constructed 2 car garage.



CAROLYN MCAVOY (314) 757-1007 • (314) 531-1900

Editor's Note

It is the goal of this publication and those who support it to bring you the news about your neighborhood each month. This is your news, and we want to do our best to bring it to you in the most accurate and professional manner possible. So if you have something you'd like us to include, feel free to contact us. We're always happy to accept article submissions, photos, press releases or story ideas from anywhere in our coverage area, and we'll do our best to include them.

As your community newspaper, we want your contributions and input. So keep us informed and we'll do the same for you.

— Laura McCarthy, editor
367-6612 x34 or lmccarthy@westendword.com

The Marquis is published monthly by Virginia Publishing Company on behalf of the Lafayette Square Restoration Committee. Originally founded by Lafayette Square Restoration Committee as a small newsletter, the paper has grown into the voice of St. Louis' strong near southside neighborhood groups, serving Benton Park, Compton Heights, Fox Park, Gate District, Lafayette Park, LaSalle Park, and McKinley Heights neighborhoods.

Submissions, including articles, photos and story ideas, are highly encouraged, but the editor reserves the right to edit for grammar, space, clarity and appropriateness. Deadline for submissions is the 18th of the prior month. Contact the editor at lmccarthy@westendword.com or call 314-367-6612 x34. For advertising info, contact sstolberg@westendword.com or call 314-805-1068.



VIRGINIA PUBLISHING CO.

625 N. Euclid, Ste. 330
PO Box 4538
St. Louis, MO 63108
(314) 367-6612
(314) 367-0727 Fax

President Jeff Fister
Sales Representative Sandy Stolberg
Editor Laura McCarthy
Copyeditor Laura McCarthy
Creative Director Ben Pierce
Graphic Designer Kate Huffman

Contributors

Betty Adams, Matt Brazelton, Debra Crowe, Jeanette Mott-Oxford, Pete Snyder, Linda Weiner

THE
MARQUIS

Endorsed by the
Handlebar Mustache Society
of St. Louis



COOL SPACES COOL PLACES



CREIGHTON BRINSON
CITY LIVING SPECIALIST
Saint Louis
PREMIER REALTORS

- Lafayette Square** - Turn Key Ready!
1801 Kennett PL., 2 bd, 1 ba, Garage, \$189,900
- McKinley Heights** - Price Reduced!
2210 Ann Ave, 3 bd 2-1/2 ba, \$214,900
- Benton Park** - Improved Price!
2867-1/2 Salena, 3 bd 2-1/2 ba, \$219,900
- Benton Park** - The Best Buy BARGAIN!
2118 Victor, 3 bd, 2 ba, 3120 Sq. Ft! \$179,900
- Benton Park** - Rehab Opportunity! Great Location
2816 Lemp, \$110,000

Life's better in the City.
Let Creighton find you a home.

2200 South 12th Street • Saint Louis, MO 63104
Office: 314.776.7884 • Fax: 314.776.7885
Mobile: 314.346.0097
cbrinson@stlouispremier.com • www.stlouispremier.com

WWW.STL-BOOKS.COM
Shop and Read

LSBA urges visitors to 'Park Smart'

By Matt Brazelton
LSBA President

Lafayette Square has become a primary destination in the city with many patrons visiting our restaurants and shops. But these visitors can also attract certain opportunistic car-break-in thieves because the visitors, oftentimes not city residents, forget to hide valuables out of sight in their cars.

What does this mean for our image? Will these visitors come back? Probably not. We want to continue the positive buzz around our neighborhood and allow everyone, visitor and resident alike, to have a positive experience in Lafayette Square.

With the help of Rachel Witt and the city, we have created signs that will be posted in the business area of the neighborhood. They are called "Park Smart" signs. They simply remind our visitors to store their valuables out of sight. If you have been on South Grand or downtown, you have likely already noticed these signs. They have proven to work where they are posted.

I know many of you are saying, "Oh no, another sign!" Well, don't worry. There are only nine signs being strategically placed in the business district of the neighborhood.

Along with trying to better protect our neighborhood, we are on our way to promoting the businesses here as well. The business association has put together a team to create a full-color brochure for all of the participating businesses in the LSBA boundaries. In order for a business to be in the brochure they need to be a *paid member by March 31*. We plan to launch the brochure during the House Tour weekend in June.

Along with all of the businesses providing them in their establishments, the brochures will also be distributed among hotels and visitor centers throughout the city. The brochure will be updated annually as we have many new businesses opening up in the Square.

Our next business meeting will be at 8 a.m. April 3. The location has not been chosen yet. You can call me at 773-7297 to find out the location if you do not receive an email.

Thanks for supporting your neighborhood businesses and shopping locally! We all appreciate it.

Foreclosure assistance for city residents

I know times are tough these days. The economy at this time is weak, job growth has stalled and the price of everyday materials seems to rise each week. As your Alderwoman, I want you to know that I recognize the situations at hand, and I'm working hard to find solutions to problems facing our community.

One of the greatest fears many of us face is the prospect of losing our home. The recent mortgage crisis has hit people all over the nation – regardless of their income. It is estimated that as many as 3,000 St. Louis homeowners are at risk of foreclosure.

That's why I'm pleased to inform you of recent legislation that will provide up to \$1,500 in mortgage payment and counseling assistance for those who qualify. These funds will be provided by the Affordable Housing Commission and will partner participants with organizations throughout

the city. Contact information for each of these groups are: ACORN, 531-6204; Beyond Housing, 533-0600; Better Family Life, 367-3440; Catholic Charities Housing Resource Center, 802-5440 and Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, 615-3600.

Situations are often difficult and problems appear daunting, but I know we will find progressive solutions through cooperation and open dialogue. If I can help you with this foreclosure relief program or any other concern you may have about the Sixth Ward, or with the city in general, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 622-3287 or email me at Triplettk@stlouiscity.

Proudly working for you and your family,

*Kacie Starr Triplett,
Alderman of the Sixth Ward*

Residents host 'almost annual' progressive dinner

By Mary Visintainer
Lafayette Square

The "Almost Annual" Progressive Dinner on April 26 is shaping up to be a wonderful evening in the Lafayette Square neighborhood.

Several fun and fabulous residents are planning drinks and appetizers in their four homes in various parts of the Square. Appetizers are served from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The time of year promises perfect weather for a leisurely stroll to one of 10 lovely homes around the Square. At these homes, delicious entrees are being specially prepared by talented chefs. The mixture of guests at these homes will provide for great conversation and an enjoyable time for all.

At 9 p.m. all one hundred guests and volunteers will meet at one lovely home for desserts. Money raised from the dinner benefits the bandstand and the boathouse in the Park.

The cost of the evening is \$50 per person. To make a reservation by phone,

call Kathy at 588-9004, or mail the reservation form in this edition of the *Marquis* to Mary. Reservations are going quickly so don't hesitate to register.

If you wish to volunteer for the event, contact Suzanne at 771-8646, Kathy at 588-9004 or Mary at 865-4954.

See page 10 for dinner reservation form.

MARQUIS

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

YOUR NEWS

CONTRIBUTE.

CALL 367.6612

TO FIND OUT HOW





FREE Hot Dogs, Cotton Candy, Popcorn & More!

Magician, Balloon Artist & Caricaturist!

GRAND OPENING




CF. Vatterott and Rolwes Homes invite you to an Old Fashioned Street Fair in celebration of Boulevard Heights' Grand Opening!

April 13, 1-4 pm

Join us for an afternoon of fun, food and festivities. Tour the fabulous new displays. Experience the atmosphere and energy of city living at **Boulevard Heights**, where a proud past meets a promising future. Conveniently located just off I-55 in South City, **Boulevard Heights** is within walking distance to historic Carondelet Park and shopping at Loughborough Commons. Bring your family to the street fair and enjoy all that **Boulevard Heights** has to offer.

Condominiums • Townhomes • Single-Family Homes



314.351.6700

From The \$180's



314.353.2500

South City at Trainor and Blow

www.BoulevardHeightsHomes.com



1107 MISSISSIPPI

314-575-9978



LOFTS FOR LEASE

SPECIAL \$500 Security Deposit
1 Month FREE with 13 Month Lease
on all 2 bedroom units

Studio, 1 Bedroom, 1 Bedroom w/Office, 2 Bedroom/2 Bath Units, AVAILABLE



1113 MISSISSIPPI



OFFICE SUITES FOR LEASE

Short and Long term Leases
Shared Services
Fully Equipped Offices
Conference Room

www.M-LOFTS.com
On-Site Restaurant and Fitness Center





Image courtesy of phd gallery

Urban Fossils

Using gritty, urban features like manholes, sewer grates, time-shifted concrete, tree stumps and roots, artist John Tuccillo creates fossils and sculptures that reflect the landscape around him. Thirty of his "paper artifacts" are on display through May 3 at phd gallery, 2300 Cherokee St.

www.stl-books.com

Gilded Age LAFAYETTE LIVING

BUILDING A NEW GOLDEN ERA



Properties from the \$140's to the \$600's

The Georgian 1515 Lafayette Avenue
Union Club 1700 S. Jefferson
Eden Lofts 1720 Chouteau Avenue

Mississippi Place 1618 Mississippi
The Abbey on the Park 1505 Missouri

Sales Center Open Daily

Call 314-771-7171 www.gilded-age.com

LPUMC celebrates milestone anniversary

By Debra Crowe

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church

For Lafayette Park United Methodist Church, it's been quite a journey from the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Carter to the imposing structure it now occupies.

In 1839, Mrs. Carter hosted a meeting of those interested in the teachings of John Wesley in the parlor of her home near Broadway and Chouteau. The service was led by a circuit-riding preacher and attended by a group of six.

In 1843 and 1844, the growing group organized under a new name, Wesley Chapel, and built its first church on Paul Street. In 1850, when this structure was destroyed by a tornado, they rebuilt, and yet again, in 1873, with a new building and a new name, Chouteau Avenue Methodist Church.

Once more, in 1888, the members erected a new structure, this time on the site that was to become their permanent address, the southwest corner of Missouri and Lafayette avenues. On Easter Sunday of that year, the congregation marched to their new home with its new name: Lafayette Park Methodist Church South.

Their hopes for a lasting home were short-lived, however, when their new church — and much of the Lafayette Park neighborhood — was destroyed on May 21, 1896 by the worst tornado in the history of St. Louis.

Ever resilient, the members of the church began construction once again, meeting in a tent on the grounds of their church home and in the Southside YMCA until the new building was completed. In September 1900, workers laid the cornerstone of the new church. Five thousand attended the historic event. Work was completed in May of 1902, and in September of that year, the new church was dedicated.

This May, Lafayette Park United Methodist Church will celebrate 120

years at this location with a series of commemorative events, including the opening of the cornerstone and the time capsule it contains on May 25 by Bishop Robert Schnase. For details on this and other special events and services, see the May issue of the *Marquis*. For a complete history of LPUMC, check out the church's story in the June edition of the *Marquis*.

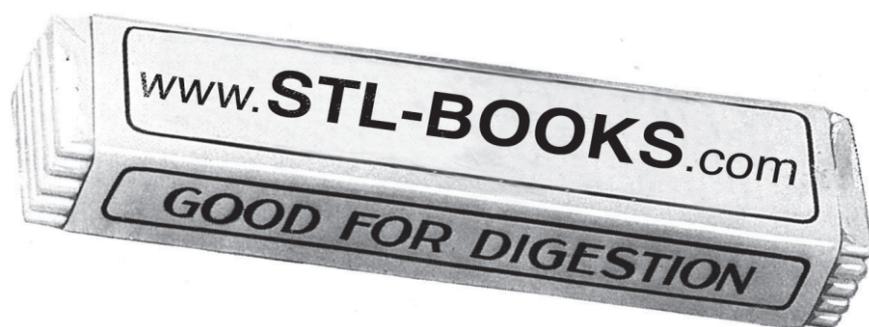
In the meantime, mark your calendar for a couple of special *current* events. On April 11 and 12, peruse the wide variety of titles at the United Methodist Women's annual book sale. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday in the lower level of the church. Plan to arrive early for the best selection. On Saturday, you get all of the books that will fit into one bag (available at the sale) for just \$2.

Looking ahead, the first part of May brings another UMW favorite, the Spring Rummage Sale. Clothing, toys, house wares — whatever you need, you'll find at a great price. Come to Fellowship Hall on the lower level from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 2, and from 8 a.m. to noon May 3. Saturday is Bag Day, when all you can fit into one bag (provided by the UMW) is only \$1!

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church is located at 2300 Lafayette Avenue, just one block east of Jefferson. Sunday worship times are 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday school classes for all ages meet at 9 a.m.

The Resale Boutique is open every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Note to those of you who donate items to the Boutique and for rummage sales: The UMW thanks you for your donations and regret that they can no longer accept electronic or computer equipment due to limited storage and display space. They appreciate your understanding and support.)

You may reach us by phone at 771-9214 or visit our website at www.lp-umc.org.



franco

EAT • DRINK • ENJOY



AWARDED BEST NEW RESTAURANT, 2007

Riverfront Times, Sauce, Alive Magazine & St. Louis Magazine

MON — SAT :: 11am — 1am

Call for reservations: 314.436.2500

FRANCO@EATATFRANCO.COM | 1535 SOUTH EIGHT | SAINT LOUIS, MO 63104

Brightside Blitz jumpstarts spring cleaning

By Linda Weiner
Lafayette Square

Quote of the Month

A fine garden is a beautiful thing, and the person who tills, plants, and cultivates it has every reason to be proud.

But the ultimate success is when the gardener also grows.

Virgil Adams,
American columnist

Blitz is here, April 12

Hello neighbors! Operation Brightside Blitz Day is here! Besides cleaning out that attic and basement, come to the Washington Statue at 9 a.m. to volunteer to beautify the neighborhood by working in Lafayette Park, along Park Avenue or at the Jefferson median (Truman Parkway is next!) This event is usually one of the most fun, reconnecting with old neighbors and meeting new ones!

If you can't join us to work that day, consider loaning us a well-marked wheelbarrow and/or pitchfork, delivered to the Washington statue at Lafayette and Waverly Place by 9 a.m. on April 12 and picking it back up at 12:30. We can borrow shovels and brooms from Brightside, but not wheelbarrows and pitchforks.

Another way you can help is by organizing your block on that weekend to sweep sidewalks and alleys in preparation for our spring and summer visitors to the Square. We have door hangers that can be used to notify neighbors of the event. Just contact me by email, Linderweiner@prodigy.net. or call Blitz Area

Commander Linda Weiner at 621-7071.

Blitz refuse instructions

Trash pick-up begins at 10 a.m. Please place all small items in the trash bins or roll out carts. Do not overload! Please leave four feet between large items and the trash bin/roll out cart; otherwise the truck will be unable to operate properly. Do not leave large items behind the trash bin. If you do not have a through alley, large bulk items can be placed in front of your home at the curb. There will be a variety of trucks coming through, each of which will load a different type of item.

Car batteries, used motor oil, large appliances and tires will be recycled. Please leave them four feet from the trash bin or cart. Unused paint, chemicals and such should be filled with absorbent material such as kitty litter, and then resealed and placed inside the trash bin or cart (I sure would like to figure out how to detoxify our environment better, but this is it for the moment).

Grass clippings, leaves and twigs go in the "yard waste only" (green) trash bins. Branches no longer than three feet in length must be "bundled" and placed with bulk items for collection. Let me know if there are lots with debris or large branches for pickup, or call Citizens' Service Bureau for help at 622-4800.

Don't call about slow pickups until after 3 p.m., and then call the Blitz Hotline at 772-4646.

Beautification and gardening events need volunteers

Now is the time to volunteer to beau-

tify our neighborhood by volunteering to become a Flora Conservancy Volunteer, adopting a spot in the park or a job such as weeding in a beloved location. Contact Linda Weiner at 621-7071.

Now is the time to volunteer to beautify the greater St. Louis area by volunteering with Gateway Greening or Operation Brightside on the following dates and projects:

- Great Plant Sale, April 17 through 19 at Meramec Community College (Fundraiser for Gateway Greening).

- Great Perennial Divide at Bell Garden and other locations. Plant donation stabilization and preparation shifts, sale and community greening project plant giveaways from April 29 through May 3. You may also help by donating plants from your yard!

- Downtown St. Louis Plant-Up on May 10 along Market Street and around City Hall.

Please call Operation Brightside at 772-4646 or Gateway Greening at 588-9600 X28 to volunteer! Let Gateway Greening know you are from Lafayette Square to be sure they record your volunteer hours in order to fulfill our agreements in exchange for grant assistance.

"Hat's off to Hatie" symposium and gala set for June 13, 14

An exceptional collaboration among the Lafayette Park Conservancy, St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis History Museum, UM - St. Louis' Mercantile Library and Washington University is in the planning stages. A symposium and gala celebrating the life and work of renegade sculptor Harriet Hosmer will

be held to raise funds for the restoration of one of her great works, the Benton Statue in Lafayette Park. Following the symposium, a celebration at the Benton Statue followed by an elegant dinner on the Benton Place ellipse will be held. Mark your calendars!

Muchas, Muchas Gracias

Many thanks to returning and new block captain volunteers including Margaret Howard of Waverly Place and Mitchell Hunt of Carroll Street. Many thanks to Addy Donnelly for beginning the spruce-up of the Benton Statue and volunteering for Blitz. Thanks to Erin Budde and Patricia Barber for volunteering on Blitz Day to plant the Jefferson Median.

Thanks to Sara Davis for volunteering on Blitz Day. Thanks go also to Mitchell Hunt, Diana Gray, and Robert Bischoff for volunteering with Gateway Greening to make up some of the 30 hours of service promised in exchange for grants this season.

Community Garden beds

Thanks to all those who called regarding a bed this season at the Lafayette Square Community Garden. As we were awarded materials to build three additional beds and several other beds become vacant, we have been able to accommodate all but one person who is now on the waiting list. Unfortunately, the telephone number I have for Ellie Shermeyer is inaccurate. Anyone knowing Ellie is encouraged to ask her to call 621-7071 again and leave her number slowly. Many thanks!

LSRC Notes: Aldermanic president, Doorways president to visit Square

By Pete Snyder
LSRC President

- The April LSRC General Membership meeting will feature a presentation from long-time Lafayette Square supporter, Lewis Reed. Lewis will be talking about accomplishments during his first year as president of the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen. For over a decade Lewis was the Alderman for the Sixth Ward, which incorporates most for Lafayette Square.

- Decisions on the potential renewal of "Movies In the Park" have been tabled pending identification of someone who would be willing to chair the program going forward.

- We are still looking for someone to fill the V.P./President-Elect role for the LSRC. If you or someone you know would consider taking on this position, please contact me at PeteS@Snyder-Workman.com.

- I have been asked to remind all neighbors and visitors to Lafayette Park that it is a city ordinance that all dogs be on a leash and must be cleaned up after. Please keep Lafayette Park a dog-friendly

park by complying with these laws.

- The return to Daylight Savings has given us longer days to enjoy outdoors. The police have asked me to remind us all to be vigilant and aware of our surroundings — longer days also bring out a less-than-desirable element. Please report any suspicious activity immediately to the police.

- Doorways president, Lynne Cooper, will meet with area residents at 7 p.m. April 24 at the Park House. It is Doorways' objective to be a first-class neighbor. To this end, Ms. Cooper wants to hear about any concerns from the neighborhood regarding the condition of the Doorways property (located at the southeast corner of Park and Jefferson avenues), about potential problems with any of Doorways' residents, or any other area of concern. Area neighbors are asked to coordinate comments through Carol Fisher, who can be reached at CarolFisher.stl@g-mail.com.

- The April after-meeting social will be hosted by Libby and Pete Peters, 1818 LaSalle, following the general membership meeting on April 8.

M^cAVOY REALTY



3419 HAWTHORNE BLVD

A remarkable Compton Heights mansion that exudes the elegance and splendor of the early 20th century. Where else will you find a 3rd floor ballroom, ladies parlor, domed staircase, library and pool?

\$899,900



PATRICK CACCHIONE (314) 265-5335 • (314) 531-1900

Transfer & **SAVE**
with **3.99** % APR
for six months
on balance transfers

Transfer your credit card balances to an AECU credit card before April 30, 2008 and save with 3.99% APR for 6 months.

Open your account and credit card today!
Stop by an AECU office, call 877-325-CU4U, or visit us online at www.ameaglecu.org

You can join the credit union if you live or work in one of these three counties: St. Louis, St. Charles or Jefferson County, or in the zip code communities of 63101, 63102, 63103, 63104, 63109, 63110, 63116, 63118, 63139 or 63143



A division of Anheuser-Busch Employees' Credit Union

Around the Corner
2101 S. Jefferson
(at Russell)

1001 Lynch Street
(across from the brewery)

Around Town
St. Louis
4650 Hampton Ave.

South County
3805 Union Road

Jefferson County
1334 Jeffco Boulevard

Des Peres
13275 Manchester Rd

Hazelwood
8995 Dunn Road

O'Fallon
70 Crossroads Center

On the Web
www.ameaglecu.org
877-325-CU4U

*Membership requirements apply. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Special 3.99% rate for 6 months is available on balance transfers made 2/1/08 through 4/30/08. You'll pay no balance transfer fees. Transfers must be requested via a transfer form, by calling a credit union credit card specialist or by online request via PC CUing online access. Transfers made using Convenience Checks do not qualify for this special offer. All transfers are subject to credit availability. Not applicable to current credit union credit card balances. This option cannot be used to pay a loan. The credit union will allocate payments to the lowest APR first. We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

LPC proposes modifications to Lafayette Park playground

By Bob Bischoff
President, Lafayette Park Conservancy

A number of people have asked me why the Lafayette Park Conservancy wants to change the look of the existing playground. Other people are concerned about exactly what changes are being proposed or about how those changes would be funded. These are all good questions, to which I hope to provide some insight in this article.

The Conservancy currently has two active playground projects, both of which are now undergoing review by the Lafayette Park Implementation Advisory Board, the group specifically created by the Lafayette Park Master Plan to review all park projects for Master Plan compliance. Let's look at each of these LPC playground projects.

Phase II Enhancements Project

The first, relatively non-controversial project is aimed at increasing overall playground usability and safety. Some playground features identified but not funded during the initial playground expansion project last year are slated to be installed. These include new shade trees, relocating the Cassilly frog sculpture and potentially adding a message board.

Safety is an additional concern. Many parents and grandparents have pointed out sharp corners on the cuts through the concrete curb between the swings and the rest of the playground, and the playground committee is investigating means of rounding them off. The committee has also worked with

the Parks Department to have replaced a damaged slide on the original playground.

A further health and safety priority is the public restroom, which is in deplorable condition. The Parks Department unlocks and relocks the door on a daily basis, but there is no one who maintains its usability and cleanliness. Until the Conservancy completely renovates the boathouse and this public restroom, which is a longer term project, the playground committee will address cleanliness on a timelier basis by first performing a major cleanup and partial refurbish, then providing ongoing restroom upkeep through volunteer commitments.

Funding for these Phase II Enhancements has been provided through the generous donation of \$3,000 from the LSRC, plus an additional \$2,000 available from the LPC, should it be needed. Actual work is currently on hold pending input from the city Forestry Division about the shade tree location and final overall project approval from the LPIAB and the Parks Commissioner, which is expected in June.

Color and Signage Modification Project

The question I am most frequently asked about this project is, "Why do it at all?" The answer is that many people, including the membership of the Conservancy, who addressed the playground at its annual meeting in November, feel that the overall look of the new equipment and prominent plastic manufacturer's signs does not sufficiently "respect the

Continued to page 8



Photo courtesy of the St. Louis Poetry Center

Poet Molly Peacock reads from her work on April 12 at the Georgian in observance of National Poetry Month.

Celebrated American poet visits Georgian for Poetry Month

The St. Louis Poetry Center will present a reading by Molly Peacock on April 12 in celebration of National Poetry Month. Peacock will read from her collected works from 5 to 7 p.m. April 12 at the Georgian, formerly City Hospital, 1515 Lafayette Avenue, Unit 211.

Tickets for the reading are \$50 and include a champagne reception and raffle. Proceeds benefit the St. Louis Poetry Center.

Molly Peacock is the author of six volumes of poetry including *Cornucopia: New and Selected Poems* and *The Second Blush*, which will be published in June. She is also the author of a memoir, *Paradise, Piece by Piece*, and editor of an essay collection, *The Private I: Privacy in a Public World*.

A former president of the Poetry Society of America, she was co-creator of the Poetry in Motion program in New York City's subways and buses. Peacock is a faculty member in the brief residency MFA program in creative writing at Spalding University in Lexington, Ky. She lives in Toronto, where she serves as poetry editor of the *Literary Review of Canada*. (Her Web site is www.mollypeacock.org.)

Peacock will be reading from her work at the Georgian, the newly renovated condominiums at the site of the former City Hospital. Started in 1906 and completed in 1912, this Georgian Revival structure was designed by Albert Groves with the firm of Grable, Weber and Groves.

City Hospital closed in 1987, was abandoned in 1997 and escaped demolition in 2001 when it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Lafayette Square-based development firm Gilded Age developed the building into condominiums.

The St. Louis Poetry Center, still thriving after sixty-two years of serving those who love and write poetry, is the oldest center of its kind west of the Mississippi River.

The center holds monthly workshops at the University City Public Library and readings at the Focal Point in Maplewood. The center also conducts contests and outreach programs in schools and prisons.

The April 12 program featuring Molly Peacock will benefit the center and allow it to continue in its mission.

Call 973-0616 for more information or visit www.stlouispoetrycenter.org.

Relocate to the Square ... Call us!



RE/MAX

Associates Plus

"The Top Team"

Merry Dahms

Judi Chapnick

Lots of choices in the Square and Beyond!



LAFAYETTE SQUARE

1506 Mississippi - 2 story replica townhome, gar, fin LL, deck, scrnd porch, \$298,900
28 Benton Pl. - Private street, grand spaces, 3-sty, + rental apt. 5417 SF, \$889,000
1703 Simpson - Elegant Historic home on the Square, 3-C gar., 5605 SF, \$895,000
2013 Park - Only one left, opportunity for all new replica home, 2900 SF, \$674,000
2346 Albion - 3-story Victorian, total renovation on dbl lot + 2-C gar., 3173 SF, \$465,000
2339 Albion - Gorgeous new chef's kitchen, 3-story Victorian, 2248 SF, \$375,000
1314 & 1316 Mackay - Brand NEW 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath townhomes, 1670 SF, \$396,900
1622 Carroll - 3 level townhome, freshly painted, 2+ BR, 1.5 ba \$200,000
1209 Dolman - Soon to be ready for buyers' custom finish, 3200 SF, CALL
2841-2843 Lafayette - W of Jefferson: 2 NEW contemporary homes, 2200 SF, \$335,000
410 N. Newstead - CWE stunning condo w/ arch view, pool & garage, 2100 SF, \$375,000
3863 Utah - W of Grand, Historic rehab, 3 bdrms, 3.5 baths + garage, 3058 SF, \$474,900
1523 S. 10th #214 - LaSalle Park Adorable condo, all refreshed, \$89,000

BENTON PARK

2624 McNair - 2+ bdrm, 2.5 bath nicely restored home, 1754 SF, just reduced to \$189,900
3251 Indiana - complete renovation with 2-car garage, \$224,900

Nobody Sells More Real Estate Than RE/MAX

RE/MAX Associates Plus

**Specializing in Buyers and Sellers
River to River, or Around the World... Always call "The Top Team"**
Merry Dahms & Judi Chapnick
Mary Walls

314-727-8008 or 1-800-ARCH-123
topteam@stlouishomes.org
www.stlouishomes.org

INTERESTED IN THE POTENTIAL FOR TAX-FREE RETIREMENT INCOME? LET'S TALK.

Mary E Cox
Financial Advisor

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

2731 South Jefferson Ave
St Louis, MO 63118
314-577-0167

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

THE HUB
Furniture & Appliances
Since 1996

1901 S Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63104
(314) 231-2100

Delivery Available

STORE HOURS
Monday Through Saturday 9-7 pm

Last chance to get your rocker recliner for this incredible low price of only...

\$199

CROSLEY

\$279

Nostalgic Console Radio with Turntable and CD All Wood Oak Cabinet.

Audiophile's

"You Don't Have To Be A Big Wheel To Deal At The Hub"

Benton Statue sculptor honored with special events

By Carolyn Willmore
Lafayette Square

June will be a busy month in Lafayette Square with Spring House Tour on June 7 and 8 and the Hosmer Symposium and Gala on June 13 and 14. The Lafayette Park Conservancy's Benton/Hosmer events will benefit the restoration of the Benton Monument.

The opening reception for *The Life and Works of Harriet Goodhue Hosmer* symposium is from 6 to 8 p.m. June 13 at the Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. Elizabeth Pickard, theatre coordinator of the Missouri History Museum, will present "Zenobia Unchained: The Life and Times of Harriet Hosmer."

The Symposium is from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. June 14, in Steinberg Hall at Washington University. Andrew Walker, curator of American art at the Saint Louis Art Museum, is the moderator.

The keynote address is "The White Marmorean Flock, 19th Century American Women Neoclassical Sculptors," by William H. Gerds, professor emeritus of art history, graduate school of the City University of New York.

Other presentations are: "Harriet Hosmer in St. Louis - Body and Soul," by Julia Markus, director of creative writing and professor at Hofstra University and author of *Across an Untried Sea*.

"The Curse of Beauty: Images of Women in the Sculpture of Harriet Hosmer," by Julie Dunn-Morton, Curator of Fine Art Collection, Mercantile Library

"Bronze and Stone: Process and Preservation of Hosmer's Legacy," by Phoebe Dent Weil, Northern Light Studio.

"Catalogue Raisonne, An Overview of the Life and Work of Harriet Hosmer," by Patricia Cronin, artist and associate professor at Brooklyn College.

Tickets for the symposium and reception are \$40. Members of participating institutions (Lafayette Park Conservancy, Missouri History Museum, St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis Mercantile Library at University of Missouri-St. Louis and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University) receive a \$10 discount. Student tickets are \$15.

The Benton Monument event is from 5 to 6 p.m. June 14 at Lafayette Park. The

event is free and open to the public. Celebrate Flag Day and the 140th anniversary of the dedication of the Benton Monument in Lafayette Park. Enjoy rousing patriotic music and Plein Air artists, with food available for purchase.

Hats off to Hattie Gala, a fundraising event for the restoration of the Benton Monument is set for 6 p.m. June 14 on Benton Place. For tickets, contact the Lafayette Park Conservancy at www.lafayettepark.org

Benton Place in Historic Lafayette Square will be the site of a gala evening following the public celebration of the Benton Statue in Lafayette Park. Guests will dine beneath decorated tents on the Benton Place ellipse and will be invited to tour selected homes and gardens on Benton Place during the evening and enjoy music and art displays outside and inside homes.

Paintings completed during the Benton Statue celebration will be displayed and offered at auction during the gala. The gala is a ticketed event with proceeds benefiting the restoration of the Benton Monument.

Related Hosmer Events

- An exhibition in the Teaching Gallery of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University showcasing Hosmer's works from collections of Washington University and the Saint Louis Art Museum will be held from May 2 to July 21. Visit <http://kemperartmuseum.wustl> for more information.

- "Celebrating Harriet Hosmer," a discovery tour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 4, presented by the Missouri History Museum under the direction of Linda Koenig. Tickets are \$65 for Missouri Historical Society members. Call 361-9017 for more information.

- A gallery talk on Harriet Hosmer's works in the Washington University Collection, led by Erin Sutherland of Washington University's department of art history and archaeology will be announced.

All events will soon be posted on the Lafayette Park Conservancy's web site: www.lafayettepark.org.



Image from the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. Photo reproduced. Harriet Goodhue Hosmer, shown here with the bronze Benton Statue by which Square residents and visitors may know her, was an American sculptor with close ties to St. Louis.

The Outsider Landscape Design, llc

Complete Design/Build Services
Ponds ~ Fountains ~ Waterfalls ~ Rain Gardens
Patios ~ Outdoor Kitchens ~ Walls ~ Lighting
Drainage ~ Decks & Fences ~ Irrigation ~ Plants

314-288-7544
Professional / Reliable
OutsiderLandscape.com

Ploch Financial Services

Expert Tax Preparation
The tax law is constantly changing. Let a professional help insure that you get full advantage of all available deductions and exemptions.

OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE
Roth IRA 529 Plans
Traditional IRA Retirement Plans
Coverdell IRA College Savings Plans

2319 Whittemore Place
(314) 771-7559

Gilded Age
LAFAYETTE LIVING
BUILDING A NEW GOLDEN ERA

Properties from the \$140's to the \$600's

The Georgian 1515 Lafayette Avenue	Union Club 1700 S. Jefferson	Eden Lofts 1720 Chouteau Avenue
Mississippi Place 1618 Mississippi	The Abbey on the Park 1505 Missouri	

Sales Center Open Daily
Call 314-771-7171 www.gilded-age.com

PICTURE YOUR AD HERE.

Complete the puzzle.
Advertise in the Marquis.
314.367.6612
or info@westendword.com

Playground

Continued from page 6

historic picturesque tradition of park design" as expressed by the Master Plan for this Victorian strolling park, nor does it blend well with the older playground equipment. While it is true that the playground is a modern park amenity, the use of excessively bright primary colors significantly accentuates the playground's modernity, making it stand out rather than blend in with park landscape visuals.

The most unfortunate aspect of this project is that it is taking place after the installation of new equipment and signage rather than before, when modifications would have required only a few simple strokes of a pen. For reasons unknown, the initial playground expansion project somehow fell through the cracks, bypassing the design review and public input that would normally have been required by the LPIAB. We are where we are, however, so we must make the best of it and simply go on with the remedies available today.

The playground committee has consulted closely with Miracle, the equipment manufacturer, and with the city Parks Department to come up with a compromise proposal, recognizing the fact that installation has already occurred. Their proposal retains all functionality of the existing playground expansion, changing only its look. Briefly, proposed modifications include:

- Replacing the two large red and yellow Miracle signs with one sign of a color that better coordinates with the existing structure in color. The present signs, in addition to being more than needed and larger than necessary, display a corporate advertisement that may give the impression that the playground was sponsored by the manufacturer, which is certainly not the case. The signs currently indicate that one part of the playground is designated for 2- to 5-year-olds and the other for 5- to 12-year-olds, but review of the manufacturer's catalog reveals that most components of the new and older structure are designated for 2- to 12-year-olds, thereby requiring only one sign. The Parks Department has specified that the replacement sign must read, "This playground has been designed for children 2-12 years of age. Adult supervision is recommended," which addresses all liability issues.

- Swapping red, yellow and blue plastic equipment components with identical components colored green or tan, for better visual coordination with older equipment. To ensure safety and preserve manufacturer's liability, all equipment swaps will be performed by authorized manufacturer's representatives. Surplus plastic components can be donated to another neighborhood that is in the process of building a new playground. This has been discussed with Sixth Ward Alderman Kacie Starr Triplett and Parks Commissioner Dan Skillman. Jackson Park in the Fifth Ward is installing a playground in the Spring and Alderman April Ford Griffith would be very receptive to such a donation. The playground committee would work with the Fifth Ward to incorporate any donated equipment.

- Painting some metal components green. The components to be painted are the yellow barriers and the red and blue swing set armatures. The manufacturer's recommended paint will be purchased and applied according to manufacturer guidelines. If it is determined that a manufacturer's suggested paint contractor would be most appropriate for the reapplication, such contractor will be engaged.

A color rendering showing how the playground might look after color and signage modification takes place is available on the LPC website, along with a detailed list of plastic components to be color-swapped, plus other information.

Funding for the Color and Signage Modification project will be entirely through private donations restricted to this purpose. The estimated cost of swapping plastic components is \$11,000 for the components themselves plus an additional 62 percent (\$6,820) for manufacturer installation. Painting will be accomplished with volunteer labor provided by members of the playground committee, the LPC and others who wish to donate time to the park for this project.

In accordance with the procedure set up by the Lafayette Park Master Plan, no physical changes will be implemented under the Color and Signage Modification project until approval has been received from both the LPIAB and the Parks Commissioner.

Public comments and suggestions for project change are welcome and may be submitted to the Lafayette Park Conservancy, 2023 Lafayette Ave., St. Louis, MO 63104, or to the LPIAB. A public meeting will also be held at 6 p.m. April 20 in the boathouse to present the Playground Color and Signage Modification proposal in detail and solicit public response.

For more information on the Lafayette Park Conservancy, including all active projects, please access the LPC website at www.lafayettepark.org.

Letters to the editor:

Disagreement over playground colors is with city, not neighbors

Oddly enough, it is simple in a close community such as Lafayette Square to lose sight of the fact that everyone wants the same things in life, though we may each have different pathways for getting there. The recent disagreements over the playground addition and subsequent proposal for modifications are a function of those sometimes-divergent pathways.

At issue is not whether there should or should not be a playground in Lafayette Park. There isn't anyone who does not want to see families and children enjoying this beautiful space. The issue arises for those who value the historic and pastoral qualities of the park and understand that there is a process for making changes. Sometimes the process yields outcomes that everyone applauds — the renovation of the Park House for example. Sometimes the process may bring an outcome that is not highly celebrated, but it is accepted as it went through this process. In the case of the playground addition, the issue is the missed steps of due process.

In this issue of the *Marquis* there is an article that explains the process and the Lafayette Park Implementation and Advisory Board's role in Lafayette Park Master Plan Implementation. In short the Lafayette Park Master Plan, a jointly developed and agreed upon written agreement between all park stakeholders and the government of the city of St. Louis, is the guiding document for due process with respect to all projects in the park.

The Master Plan specifies that projects must be reviewed by the LPIAB before approval is granted to proceed. The LPIAB, in other words, is the body that was agreed should approve or reject projects according to their compliance with a shared vision for the park as expressed by the Master Plan.

The LPIAB approval process requires three presentations of any project to the board, so that projects will be reviewed at all stages of design, from preliminary to final, before any construction work begins. An extremely important part of the LPIAB approval process is to ensure that sufficient public input has been sought.

LPIAB review was not sought or received for the playground expansion project. It is the belief of the Lafayette Park Conservancy's Playground Committee that sufficient public input was not sought and thus park stakeholders were not given a chance to express their opinion before construction began. The addition plan was presented as an update at an LSRC membership meeting and no vote was solicited since no LSRC funds were used.

Upon delivery and installation of the new equipment, it was revealed that no formal review process had taken place. Those entrusted with the implementation of the Park Master Plan (the LPIAB) and LPC were not involved and although it was presented to LSRC members, no real forum was engaged to gain public feedback.

Funding came in the form of a grant that was applied for by the Parks Department with the assistance of a neighbor and a matching grant given by the alderman from Sixth Ward monies. In total, \$105,000 was spent on this addition. To date, no LSRC funds have been spent on the playground, although \$3,000 was allocated if needed towards Phase Two items that have yet to be completed.

While the city of St. Louis does "own" Lafayette Park, the Master Plan is an agreement between the neighbors of the park and the city. The City Parks Department has a presence on the LPIAB and yet failed to follow the agreement.

Sadly, the issue surrounding the playground addition presupposes that neighbor is blaming neighbor and that this is a personal agenda being fought in a public space. That is quite to the contrary. What is being debated is simply the setting of precedent. If not addressed, the Lafayette Park Master Plan — with its requirement of stakeholder review — can be ignored by the city. If this is the case then the Lafayette Square Urban Plan and the Lafayette Park Master Plan are ineffective documents that may best be nullified. (It is significant to note that the cost of these plans were significant to the LSRC in both dollars and neighbor/public time.)

The controversy over the playground bears great similarity to the monthly debate that takes place between the LSRC Development Committee and projects concerning neighborhood residences that have failed to meet the historic standards set forth by the historic code of Lafayette Square — an ordinance approved by the Board of Aldermen and accepted by the city of St. Louis.

It is with this concept that those who seek to modify the playground are at issue. If it is determined that no formal review process need to be engaged to make modifications to the neighborhood and/or park, then the possibilities are endless. As neighbors, with a common vision for our community, we may well prepare to accept a contemporary glass and concrete home on Mississippi or a modern corten steel sculpture on public display in Lafayette Park.

Susan Sauer
1520 Mississippi

TAXES
MIDWEST
ACCOUNTING SERVICES
Accountants Specializing in Small Business and Individual Income Taxes

THOMAS A. SLAWIN, EA
Enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service

2200 S. Vandeventer Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110
We've moved 10 minutes from Lafayette Square

VISIT OUR WEBSITE **(314) 776-5500**
Fax 314-776-5502
WWW.MIDWESTACCOUNTINGSERVICES.COM

RE/MAX GOLD

LIVING IN THE CITY...

SELLING IN THE CITY...

Chuck Jung: (314) 756-6047

For the professional, confidential, and personalized service you would expect in the purchase or sale of Real Estate.

Meeting your housing needs is my number one goal!

RE/MAX GOLD: 114000 Concord Village Ave. Suite G, St. Louis, MO 63123. (314) 756-6047

Hair Fetish

FORMER MANHATTAN Stylist
in SOULARD
SPECIALIZING IN CUTS & COLOR

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
OPEN TUES.-FRI.: 1-8pm
SAT: 1-7pm

1615 S. 9th St. (314) 588-0763
JEFF—OWNER/STYLIST
SINCE 2000

THE HEALTHY PET MARKET
Nutrition•Grooming•Self-Service Wash & More

FOUR muddy paws

1711 Park Ave. in Lafayette Square
314-773-PAWS(7297)
www.fourmuddypaws.com

Oh! Wretched Spring!

A poem by H. Regina Austermann
2330 Park Avenue, 27-year resident

Oft lately, as I betook myself
To winter's landscape —
Subtle, subdued, sparse-colored.

I revel (not too vigorously)
In Lafayette Park monochrome covered.
Soft browns, delicate grays,
Unobtrusive blues — refined hues.
Understated. Sophisticated.

Mostly quiet. Undisturbed by
Infrequent and uninvited woodland
Beast frivolity.
Everywhere is seen and heard only
That which mind and taste correctly
Balance in proportionality.

But yet I know that soon to come
Is Wretched, wretched Spring!
I cry, "Undone!"
Those colors! Those wild and loud and
coarse
Heralds of Spring.

Magnolias, dogwoods, crab apples, elm
Lady cigars, and Maples —
Silver, Japanese and (most unnatural)
REDBud trees.

Foreshadowed first by garish Forsythia
And unlovely crocus.
Followed quickly by noisy tulip,
Daffodil and pansy
All in undisguised and riotous profusion
breeds.

And then, what matters the subsequent
Despoiling of dogs, and birds, and
rabbits
And squirrels and hawks.
The strollers (both kinds), the bikes,
The runners (include joggers), the
picnic
And kites — why balk?

That which was, is no more — for now.
The park is given over to Wretched
Spring.
(And I dare not even mention that
loathsome
Eyesore — children's play things.)

LPIAB advises park projects in keeping with Master Plan

By Tim Gore
LPIAB

What is the LPIAB? Why, it's the Lafayette Park Implementation Advisory Board, of course. Many of you may have heard of it before, but this article is designed to provide basic information about its purpose and processes.

The creation of the LPIAB was mandated as part of the Lafayette Park Master Plan. The nine-member panel consists of neighborhood representatives, representatives of city agencies, a landscape architect and a planner/architect.

The Advisory Board's role is to do just that—"advise." Any individuals, private groups, city agencies, etc. that have a project they are interested in doing in the park come before the board to receive feedback on their proposal, get guidance on how to work with needed city agencies, etc. The board does not propose projects nor does it fund projects. It hears projects as they come to the board.

Examples of projects previously reviewed by the board include the Park House exterior renovation and the Park House interior renovation. Current projects before the board include the Park House Gazebo project and the playground project.

According to the review process developed with the city of St. Louis, the board reviews any specific project proposal a minimum of three times, providing feedback as needed regarding additional details/public input/changes in plans, etc. At the end of those three reviews, the board can vote to recommend the project to the city or to not

recommend the project to the city. It is important to remember that the board is an "Advisory Board" only.

Since Lafayette Park is a city park, the city has the final "decision-making authority" regarding any project in the park. The city seeks the board's input and feedback to make sure any project they are considering meets the goals of the Master Plan and enhances the park for all users.

That feedback, combined with other information provided by appropriate city agencies involved in the project (i.e. Cultural Resources, Board of Public Service, etc.), allows the city to make its final decision on any project.

The board meets quarterly with the ability to call additional meetings as needed. All meetings are open to the public and public notice is provided through the city of St. Louis Parks Department. The board encourages the public to attend its meetings to learn more about projects currently before the board and to offer their opinions on those projects. The board is also working to develop a new Web site. Its purpose will be to provide a public forum for continual updates about park projects before the board and another avenues for public comment on those projects. Look for an article in the May *Marquis* announcing the Web address and operation.

If you have questions about the Lafayette Park Implementation Advisory Board, please don't hesitate to contact its members who live in the neighborhood — Wardwell Buckner, Tim Gore, Julie Padberg-White and Carolyn Willmore — or contact the St. Louis Parks Department.



Mary 'One' Real Estate Tip of the Month



Mary "One" Johnson
Owner/Broker



Shad Lager
Pulaski Bank

SPONSORED BY

Mary 'One' Johnson
Home Team Realty, LLC



Mary, we have our home on the market and our realtor told us that someone is interested in our house. They are getting pre-qualified for a loan before they look at the house. Is this unusual?

No this is not unusual at all. The buyer is wise to find out ahead of time how much their buying power is. It'll be even better if they get pre-approved, with a lender promising to give them a mortgage loan. In either case, what they're doing doesn't involve your specific house at this point. But when and if they make an offer, you'll have some assurance that they're financially able to afford the property, which will take some of the uncertainty out of the negotiations and really is a plus for you.

Is P.M.I. (Private Mortgage Insurance) tax deductible?

Yes, just recently Congress passed legislation to make P.M.I. tax deductible in 2007. This is available only on transactions that occur after January 1, 2007. Eligible borrowers include those with a household adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less and is not restricted to first time home buyers.

Featured FOR SALE Properties



2654 Gravois
\$125,000

ATTENTION MOTIVATED INVESTORS!!! Has to be seen to be believed! Cash Flow this mixed use property in thriving South St. Louis. This place has limitless potential, from art gallery/studio salon, or retail space. Commercial space has a finished basement w/ bathrm. 18x24ft ULTRA CLEAN garage space. Upstairs, spacious occupied 2bd 1ba apt. Fresh paint, alarm system, molded wood trim, updated electrical systems, plumbing & a/c make 2654 Gravois...your Next GREAT INVESTMENT!!!

3928 N. 25th Street
\$142,500

In an area full of new development projects, this 2400 sq. ft. 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath new construction home stands out from the rest!! Hardwood floors, granite countertops, ceramic tile, new refrigerator, new range, ceiling fans, jacuzzi tub, and both baths feature separate showers and tubs!!!! The home is 10yr. tax abated and the seller is offering \$1500 towards buyer's closing costs and an HSA Home Warranty Plan. There are only 2 available in this phase at this price, so get one while they last!!!! Hurry up and call Chris "#1 Son" Johnson at (314) 504-4247.



Interested in buying or selling or if you have any questions for Tip of the Month, contact Mary 'One' at

MARY 'ONE' JOHNSON HOME TEAM REALTY LLC
1911 PARK AVENUE • ST. LOUIS, MO 63104
OFFICE (314) 436.3970 • mary1@maryonestl.com
www.maryonestl.com

For lending questions, call Shad Lager with Pulaski Bank at 579-7705 (office) or 322-7109 (cell).

GRAND LIVING

15TH ANNUAL GRAND SOUTH GRAND HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR

COMPTON HEIGHTS
TOWER GROVE EAST
SHAW
TOWER GROVE HEIGHTS
COMPTON HILL RESERVOIR SQ.

11AM - 5 PM
APRIL 19 & 20, 2008

ADVANCE TICKETS \$15
DAY OF TOUR \$18

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN GATE GIFT SHOP,
GRINGO JONES IMPORTS, BOTANICALS DESIGN STUDIO,
BY PHONE AT 314.773.4844 OR PAYPAL AT WWW.TOWERGROVEEAST.ORG
FREE SHUTTLES THROUGHOUT THE TOUR.

March LSRC membership meeting minutes

The meeting was held at Lafayette Park United Methodist Church with approximately 60 residents in attendance. President Pete Synder called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the February minutes as presented by the secretary.

Committee Reports

Safety - Don Owens reminded the membership that Operation Brightside is April 12.

The problem properties are making headway; there are 4 to 5 properties that need addressing.

Spring is coming and Don warned that the warmer weather will bring more people to the neighborhood. Don't forget to lock your car doors and not to leave anything of value in sight for thieves to break into your car.

Officer Lang presented the crime stats for the Fourth District. Crime is down 17 percent for the month and down 33 percent year-to-date.

Cars have been broken into at the Loft Apartment area; copper gutting has been stolen in some areas. If you see a stranger in the neighborhood, and your gut feeling says there is something not right about this person, call 911 and report your feelings.

Finance - Sue Bauer announced that our income is at 13 percent of projection and our expenses are at 13.5 percent.

Spring House Tour - Terry Etling passed out sign up sheets for volunteers needed for the tour. She also announced that they have 10 houses for the tour and would like to really have 12 for good measure.

There will be a house tour meeting held at the Etling's home at 7 p.m. March 19.

Terry and Mark are looking into having people use the Internet to purchase their house tour tickets this year.

House Tour Sponsorships - Sue Linhardt advised the sponsorships are going slowly and more are needed, and if anyone knows of someone who wants to be a sponsor to call Sue at 772-4762 or call Terry Etling at 621-1437. Sue will have packets ready for distribution at the next membership meeting.

Lafayette Park Conservancy - Bob Bischoff gave a report on the conservancy and what events were coming up.

Bob and Jim Wilmore gave a report on the Harriet Hosmer and the Benton Statue gala coming up in June. Save the date: June 14. There will be a symposium, "The life and works of Harriet Goodhue Hosmer," at 8:30 a.m. at Washington University. A gala fund-raising event for the restoration of the Benton Monument is at 6 p.m. June 14 on Benton Place.

New Business

1555 Jefferson, Liquor License application - The beauty supply store at this address wants to apply for a liquor license so they can open a convenience store. Felicia Harris from the Gate District lives in the area behind the store and came to the meeting to have petitions signed by the Lafayette Square property owners.

The membership also requested a letter be written to the excise commission that the neighborhood is not in favor of having a liquor license issued to this store. We already have a filling station that sells beer and a liquor store across the highway that

sells liquor and beer.

Opera Promenade - Fern Rosen was absent.

Park House Gazebo - Paul Doerner — in absence of Pete Synder — handed out copies of the two designs for the gazebo. There are some details that need to be reviewed and then presented to the LPIAB.

Movies in the Park - Shane Nelson reviewed last year's event in the park and advised there needs to be improvement between Front Yard Features and the city for this to work. The membership talked about the pros and cons of last year. The membership voted to have Shane and Peter meet and discuss what has to be done this year if we are to continue with the movies in the park.

Nominations: V.P./ President-Elect - Nominations are open to fill the office of Vice President/President Elect. If anyone is interested in this position please contact Pete Synder.

Old Business

Progressive Dinner - Michael Petetit gave a recap of what is happening on the Progressive Dinner. More houses are needed that can seat six or eight people. The money for this year's dinner will be earmarked for the boathouse fund.

Church of Scientology - Sue Linhardt introduced Ellen Maher-Forney to the membership. Ms. Maher-Forney advised they have purchased the corner lot where the car wash used to be, and it will be used for additional parking for the church. The church is in its fund raising time. At the present time, only small projects are being done.

Doorways meeting - Pete Synder

advised a meeting with Lynn Cooper of Doorways has been set for 7 p.m. April 24 at the Park House.

Membership Mailing - the mailing was sent out two or three weeks ago and so far has been pretty successful.

Announcements

Corned beef dinner will be held at the Methodist church.

Any violations against the historic code should be reported to Keith Houghton, so he can accumulate all of the violations and report them at one time to Kate Shea's office.

Perfectos vintage baseball team is going to have a wine tasting event from noon to 3 p.m. April 26 at 33 Wine Bar.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Diehl, past membership secretary
(in the absence of Ann Horner)



DINING AROUND THE SQUARE

By Mary Visintainer

Back by popular demand, the Lafayette Square "Almost Annual" Progressive Dinner will take place this spring on Saturday, April 26. The money raised from the progressive dinner will be used by the Lafayette Park Conservancy toward the restoration of the bandstand.

Several talented cooks have already volunteered their homes for this evening but the committee is still in need of appetizer and entrée homes. To volunteer your home and culinary skills, call Kathy Marks-Petetit at 588-9004, Mary Visintainer at 865-4954, or Suzanne Sessions at 771-8646.

If you prefer to be a guest, the evening will begin at 6:00 with appetizers and drinks at one of four lovely homes in the Square. Next, you can walk around the Park to meet more neighbors at one of ten homes for delicious entrees and scintillating conversation. The evening will end with everyone meeting for dessert in one beautiful home in the Square.

The cost is \$50 per person for the evening. To make a reservation by phone, contact Kathy at 588-9004, or mail the reservation form in this edition of the Marquis to Mary.

This event sells out quickly so make a reservation today.

DINING AROUND THE SQUARE RESERVATIONS

The progressive dinner schedule for Saturday, April 26 is:

- 6:00 Appetizers
- 7:30 Entrees
- 9:00 Dessert

Please make the following reservations for the Progressive Dinner on Saturday, April 26:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Food allergies _____

I have enclosed \$ _____ for _____ reservations at \$50.00 per person.

Participants will be called or e-mailed prior to the event with details regarding their host homes.

Mail form and check made payable to Lafayette Park Conservancy to:

Mary Visintainer
1304 Mackay Place
St. Louis, MO 63104

First crop appears at Soulard Market

By Sandra Zak
Soulard Market

Usually the first crop of the season is spinach. We welcome this hearty vegetable that can "weather" a freeze and other torments of nature that would easily destroy other crops.

Spinach is quite nutritious and is good both raw in salads and cooked in soup and side dishes. It is rich in iron, vitamins B and C, and beta-carotene. Originating in the Middle East, spinach was brought to Spain in the eighth century and became popular in Europe. The rest is history.

Spinach usually comes in two varieties: flat or curly leaf. The flat type can be either broad, round or pointed and the young leaves (baby) are tender and delicate.

When purchasing spinach, look for healthy-looking deep green leaves. Pass on spinach that is yellow, wilted or slimy. One pound of spinach will yield one cup of cooked. Usually there are two servings per pound.

Helpful Hint: Do not wash spinach until you are ready to use it. To wash, first pick through and remove all of the tough stems. Rinse several times in cold water until all "grit" is removed. Do not allow spinach to soak in water too long or it will wilt.

Cooking spinach takes very little time. Blanch in boiling water or steam for a few seconds. Squeeze moisture out and sauté or mix with other ingredients.

Here are two tasty recipes to enjoy our first vegetable of the season. Both are sautéed dishes. For the first recipe, make sure you check out our new vendors Steve and Veronica Baetje at stand 18 with Baetje Farms, where they

raise their own goats and make the most delightful artesian goat cheese I have ever tasted.

Sautéed Spinach with Pecans and Goat Cheese

(Serves six)

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 medium red onion, (about 8 ounces), halved and thinly sliced
- 1 1/3 pounds baby spinach
- 2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup (about 2 ounces) soft goat cheese, crumbled

1. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat until hot but not smoking. Add onion; cook, stirring occasionally, until onion has softened, about 5 minutes. Add spinach; cook, tossing, until spinach has started to wilt, about 2 minutes. Transfer to a serving platter.

2. Add vinegar to skillet, and heat 5 seconds. Drizzle over spinach and onion. Sprinkle with pecans and goat cheese. Gently toss. Serve immediately.

Warm Spinach Salad with Bacon, Tomatoes and Pecans

(Serves four)

- 1/2 cup pecan halves
- 6 slices bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 red onion, halved and thinly sliced
- 1 pint (2 cups) grape tomatoes
- 1/3 cup white-wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 to 3 bunches (1 1/2 pounds total) flat-leaf spinach, trimmed, cleaned, and dried

Coarse salt and ground pepper
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Spread pecans on a rimmed baking sheet and toast in oven until golden and fragrant, 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside.

2. Meanwhile, in a large skillet over medium heat, cook bacon, stirring occasionally, until browned and crisp, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer to a paper-towel-lined plate. Pour off all but three tablespoons fat from skillet.

3. Add onion to skillet; cook, stirring occasionally, until crisp-tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Add tomatoes, vinegar, and sugar; simmer until liquid thickens slightly and tomatoes are heated through, 1 to 2 minutes.

4. Place spinach in a large bowl and pour hot tomato-onion mixture over; toss quickly to coat and wilt spinach. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with reserved pecans and bacon.



Classifieds
367-6612

Services

WOOD REFINISHING BY SUE WHEELER - FURNITURE, ANTIQUES, CABINETS, ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK. CHAIRS RE-GLUED. NOW OFFERING HANDYMAN WORK AND PAINTING. PICK UP/DELIVERY. FREE ESTIMATES 314-367-6054

WHITE GLOVE CLEANING SERVICES - HARD TO REACH AREAS. BASEMENTS, REFRIGERATORS, MOVE-INS, MOVE-OUT'S. WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY, MONTHLY SERVICES. RESIDENTIAL/SMALL COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES. CALL JANET HARRIS @ 609-8579

ECONOMY HOME SERVICES - LOW RATES - PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, HEATING, AIR, HOT WATER HEATER. 24/7 EMERGENCY CALL. LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED. CALL 314-435-2939

SOUTH CITY - \$1100/MO SOUTH TOWER GROVE AREA. SINGLE FAMILY - NEWLY REHABBED 3B 2.5B. CENTRAL AIR, 2-CAR GARAGE, FENCED YARD, FULL BASEMENT, W/D HOOKUPS. CALL 314-378-4615

LIFE COACH - YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM MY LIFE EXPERIENCE. PRACTICAL AND USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS, MARRIAGE, CHILDREN, DIVORCE, CAREER, EDUCATION, BUSINESS AND MORE. STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. REASONABLE RATES. CALL 314-726-2327 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Lafayette Square Restoration Committee 2007 Membership Form

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name(s)

Address

.....

Telephone.....

Email address

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

- General (\$10 per person)
- Renovationist (\$35 per person)
- Restorationist (\$60 per person)
- Preservationist (\$150 - Individual or Family)
- Marquis Circle (\$250 - Individual or Family)
- Friends of LSRC (Non-resident -- \$10 per person)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- I am interested in volunteer opportunities (e.g. House Tour, Bike Race).
- This donation is eligible for a corporate matching gift. (*Please submit a matching gift form from your company.)
- I am a new resident and would like to receive a Welcome Packet.

Please return with check or money order to:
LSRC Membership, 2023 Lafayette Ave., St. Louis, MO 63104

Memberships are valid for the calendar year.
Memberships are tax deductible to the extent allowable under IRS regulations.



LAFAYETTE PARK CONSERVANCY MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

- Friend - \$35 per person
- Family -\$50
- Botanist -\$75
- Historian -\$150
- Preservationist -\$300
- Benton Society -\$500
- Lafayette Society -\$1000

Please return with check or money order to:
Lafayette Park Conservancy,
2023 Lafayette Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63104
www.lafayettepark.org

Memberships are valid for one year.
If your contribution is eligible for a matching gift, please submit a matching form from your company.

McAVOY REALTY

(314) 531-1900



3419 HAWTHORNE BLVD. \$899,900
A remarkable Compton Heights mansion that exudes the elegance and splendor of the early 20th century. Where else will you find a 3rd floor ballroom, ladies parlor, domed staircase, library and pool?



2350 ALBION PLACE
Three family Victorian located on a quiet cul-de-sac just down from Lafayette Square park. Property features off street parking, a great two level deck, 1st floor unit has recently been updated with a new contemporary kitchen and open floorplan.



1205 MISSOURI \$359,900
A Victorian beauty featuring a brand new, high-end kitchen and dining area, spacious living room, finished lower level, 2nd floor laundry, 1st and 2nd floor side and rear porches, 3 bedrooms, amazing baths and a newly constructed 2 car garage



3127 ALFRED \$272,000
Complete rehab with all of the finest amenities. 4 Bed, 2 1/2 Bath. 2nd Fl. Laundry, high efficiency Zoned HVAC. New hardwood floors throughout. Huge double lot. Secure parking w/ two automatic garage doors.



3534 SHENANDOAH \$270,000
Intact historical splendor of inlaid wood flooring, plaster relief work, ornate crown molding, fireplaces and much more. Four bedrooms, one and a half baths with a large deck and a two car garage.



4000 CLEVELAND \$249,900
Stunning family home in the heart of Shaw with a new kitchen and bath, great hardwood floors, additions of a 2nd floor porch and breakfast room. 4 large bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Coming Soon!



4059 FLORA PLACE \$349,000
2.5 story home on lovely gated Blvd. 4BR, 2.5 bath home has many updates: new electric, plumbing, newer roof, gutters. Completely remodeled kitchen open to breakfast room, hardwood flrs. Front/side porch and the screened-in back porches.



4022 FLORA PLACE \$249,900
Spacious Shaw neighborhood home w/striking arts & crafts facade, beautiful art glass windows, oak pillars and staircase. Oversized garage w/extra storage. Property is in need of remodeling/updates and is being sold in as-is condition.



4100 FLORA PLACE \$695,900
Arts and crafts style home on a fantastic tree lined private street. 5 gorgeous bedrooms and 3.5 luxury baths along with a fantastic 1st floor layout with chefs kitchen, a walkthrough butlers pantry, a great dining room and impressive living room!



3801 CLEVELAND \$249,900
Majestic turn of the century home with natural woodwork, multiple fireplaces, large bay windows and a full front porch. This 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath home has great amenities of old paired with modern conveniences.



1331 N. MARKET \$269,900
3BR, 3BA Crown Square loaded with upgrades including stainless steel appliances and Silestone countertops and ceramic tile flooring, crown molding accents, Heatilator fireplace, hardwood floors. Tax abated.



6160 WASHINGTON \$269,900
Spectacular four bedroom three bath Skinker-DeBaliviere area home w/wood floors, updated electric & plumbing, newer kitchen, lighting & windows, fenced yard & off-street parking and striking plaster relief and frieze work facade.



4121 FLAD \$239,900
Complete rehab in sought after neighborhood. This 4 bedroom 3 full bath home has all new systems, a new garage, two story deck and much more. Second floor master bedroom and master bath. Hardwood floors on first and second floor. Upstairs laundry!



10N. KINGS HIGHWAY \$229,900
Spacious Central West End condo in the historic ABC Condominiums, beautiful hardwood floors, master bedroom suite, a sitting room, separate dining room, updated kitchen. Across from Forest Park with 1 car garage parking.



4256 LINDELL \$229,900
This gorgeous top floor CWE condo features an elegant neutral decor and an abundance of natural light. 2 BR, 2 BA, bay windows, private balcony, oversized fireplace mantle, secured entrance, 1 car garage space. Prime location for Barnes and SLU hospitals.



4033 SHENANDOAH \$224,900
Fabulous kitchen, hardwood floors, huge bedrooms and a great location. This house is hard to beat! First floor laundry and great closet space. Completely renovated in 2004 while keeping the old-style charm. Close to Tower Grove Park.



3680 BLAINE \$214,900
4 Bedroom/2.5 Bath beautiful 3-story home with hardwood floors. Just blocks from the hospitals and right across the street from a great park and playground.



2034 GEYER \$199,900
Recently updated single family home with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Large, open kitchen with granite countertops. First floor laundry. Designer quality baths. The 2nd floor master bedroom features walk-out deck and jacuzzi tub.



3635 HUMPHREY \$189,000
Beautiful condos in a great location. Walk to all the restaurants and shops on grand South Grand. 6 units available. Several different layouts to choose from, each unique. Starting from \$189,000 2 or 3 bedroom units available, off-street parking. Call Jennifer Bobo (314) 753-5046.



1319 N. MARKET \$189,900
Wonderful single family residence in the reviving Crown Square in Old North Saint Louis. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, spacious master suite, wired for cable, alarm & internet. Tax abated. Call Jim Sonnemaker at (314) 560-4393 for more information.



2733 ARSENAL \$164,900
Newly rehabbed live/work space. First floor is a very large room/studio with a kitchenette, an office and full bath, 2nd floor is a gorgeous two bedroom apartment. Exposed brick, hardwood floors, lots of windows. All new, all nice, all right!



3833 RUSSELL \$157,835
Turn-of-the-century three story Shaw home w/five bedrooms, wood floors throughout. New light fixtures, freshly painted interior and exterior. Delightful back yard set on a slight knoll above the street.



2712 PARK \$134,000
This updated townhome in Lafayette Towne features hardwood floors, double sided wood burning fireplace, full front porch, 2 car basement garage, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, skylights, a window box, courtyard and much more. Low hassle living.



3903 BOTANICAL \$131,900
This incredibly affordable, completely renovated, two bedroom condo is in the heart of the Shaw neighborhood. New stainless appliances, spacious private storage and low condo fees make this unit perfect for a professional or student.

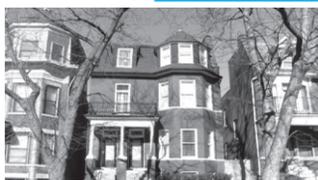


4123 MCDONALD AVE. \$129,999
Restored Blast from the Past. The famous Lustron House, made of pre-fab enameled steel panels circa 1950. Striking interior. 2 bedrooms, built-in storage units. Large fenced yard. 2 car garage. Really cool, really fun!!!

TWO FAMILY APARTMENTS



JOHN GRASS (314) 471-5722



3449 CRITTENDEN \$299,000
Beautiful 3-story in Tower Grove East on gated cul-de-sac only a block from Tower Grove Park. Lots of historic features including pocket doors and original mantles. Newer roof and HVAC. 2 car detached garage.



1212 SHENANDOAH \$239,000
Terrific townhouse style, two-family in the heart of Souldard. Each unit has been remodeled with carpet, fresh paint, updated kitchens & bath. Well appointed with exposed brick, stained glass and a deck off the master bedroom.



3456 CRITTENDEN \$269,000
Beautiful 3 story in Tower Grove East prime for a conversion to single family. Only a block from the park and on a gated cul-de-sac. Historic features a plenty. Newer roof and HVAC.



805 RUSSELL \$215,000
Sharp renovated two family in Souldard. 1 bedroom unit with new granite and stainless steel kitchen, new bathroom plus a 3 story townhome unit with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. Call Carolyn McAvoy (314) 757-1007