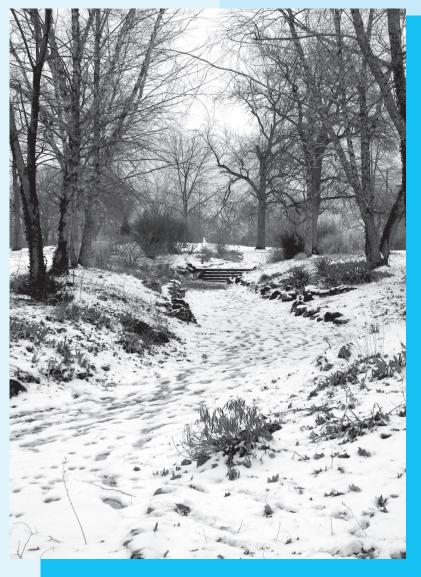
# MARQUIS

**FEBRUARY 2007** 

Founded by the residents of Lafayette Square

**VOLUME 29, NUMBER 2** 



Dane Drefke photo

#### Footprints in the snow

Barren trees lining a path after a January snow make for a tranquil picture from Lafayette Park. Because of a relatively warm winter, this snowfall was the first to stick in Lafayette Square.

## **CSI: St. Louis**

Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce explains the ins and outs of forensic science at recent LSRC meeting

#### By Laura McCarthy Marquis staff

Many of us harbor guilty pleasures for such forensic crime-solving shows as CSI: Miami, CSI: NY and the original CSI. But what happens when fans of those shows get called in for jury duty? To our modern lust for gadgets, tough-guy dialogue, sex and fast cars, CSI certainly delivers. But in terms of delivering reality, it's lacking, said City Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce.

Attendees at the Jan. 9 LSRC meeting at the Lafayette Park United Methodist Church welcomed Circuit Attorney Joyce, who spoke on the effect that such forensic science shows can heighten jurors' expectations of the way crimes are really investigated.

"CSI is to forensic science what Baywatch is to life guarding," Joyce said. "CSI is science fiction... That's why it won the a Saturn Award for Best Science Fiction Drama.

"In picking juries, we've been finding that people believe that [like TV] there's always going to be forensic evidence in a case," Joyce said, explaining that "Witnesses, confessions and good police work make the strongest cases." Scientific evidence is like the "icing on the cake" in criminal cases.

"Proof beyond all doubt is an impossibility," Joyce said. That's why juries must determine beyond a "reasonable doubt" the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Joyce said unless one has a forensic science background, there is no obvious way to tell how fictionalized these shows

are. "Something like Superman, we know it's fiction."

"This [trend] is not unique to St. Louis," Joyce said in a follow-up interview. A lot of jurors are simply misled by what they see on TV

Furthermore, "the labs on TV have no fiscal limitations," Joyce said. The Miami lab, the one that CSI: Miami is supposed to model, would be financially exhausted to conduct one case the way all of them are conducted on the show. One case would consume an entire year's budget, Joyce said.

That said, she added the night of the meeting that the St. Louis lab is "one of the most highly-accredited labs in the U.S." But even the best labs still have to send evidence to the FBI for testing. "On CSI, you'll see a piece of equipment only used every five years," she said.

"There's no way I can talk to everyone," Joyce later said, "so neighborhood meetings are a good way to do that." Lafayette Square is one of the many neighborhoods Joyce has visited.

She said the neighborhood responses have been mostly positive, and that it often sparks more questions, as it did the night of the LSRC meeting. Lafayette Square resident Linda Weiner, for example, asked about the frequency of DNA testing. Joyce said that DNA testing is conducted relatively frequently, but the process takes a lot of time. She added that it can also be essential in solving older cases.

On the positive side of the CSI effect, Joyce said that such shows are getting people interested in the criminal justice system, despite over-inflated expectations.

### Three vie to replace Reed as 6th Ward alderman

By Laura McCarthy
Marquis staff

With this year's race for 6th Ward Alderman heating up, and residents getting more involved, three Democratic candidates are contesting for

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March Marquis Deadline: Friday, Feb. 16

Lewis Reed's vacancy, and 6th ward residents are sure to get an earful in the dwindling days to the March 6 primary election.

Patrick Cacchione, Christian Saller and Kacie Starr Triplett are similar in their support of new development, redevelopment and preserving historic structures and neighborhoods, as well as wanting to see some positive use of the old Foodland building and Praxair site. And all three say they have the right experience for the job.

So the *Marquis* recently spoke with each of the candidates to give them a chance to sound off on why residents should cast their votes in his or her favor.

#### **Patrick Cacchione**

Compton Heights resident Patrick Cacchione first ran for 6th Ward Alderman eight years ago against Lewis Reed. Why run again? With Reed vacating the seat this year, Cacchione



Patrick Cacchione

as an "opportunity to be at the center of it all and be involved... I see the 6th Ward as an engine driving the city, and I hope to keep this forward momentum

said he saw this

going."

Fresh off of securing the endorsement of the 6th Ward Democratic Organization, Cacchione said he is proud to have earned the support of his peers and hopes that it will catch the attention of undecided voters. Although Cacchione is the longest-serving member of the organization, he assured that both Saller and Triplett are members as well and worked hard for the endorsement.

"I'm running on experience and proven leadership... experience that I don't think my opponents can match,"

Cacchione said, referring to 24 years in the political arena, and 16 years locally in the 6th Ward serving on various neighborhood committees, and regionally, serving on several boards of social service and healthcare organizations.

Cacchione also pointed out his involvement with Lewis Reed and Mayor Slay on the re-zoning of the Praxair site as a residential rather than industrial site. He said he hopes to see a mixed-use development fill the vacancy, with national and local businesses to take advantage of Chouteau as a major thoroughfare.

He listed three top priorities in his campaign: keeping development and redevelopment moving forward; safety and security; and strengthening neighborhood bonds. He stressed that the three are inextricably tied together.

"People won't live or work where they don't feel safe," he said, explaining that the 6th Ward's safety and security works on three different levels and that all must work efficiently and cohesively:

Continued to page 6

The Marguis 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 marguis@westendword.com or call 314-367-6612 x34. For advertising info, contact advertising@westendword.com or call 314-367-6612 x34.



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**President** Jeff Fister Sales Director Laura McCarthy **Editor** Laura McCarthy **Copyeditor** Kara Krekeler **Creative Director** Ben Pierce **Graphic Designer** Kate Huffman

#### Contributors

Debra Crowe, Tim Gore, Stacey Rynders, Houston Smith, Dane Drefke, Pete Snyder, Linda Weiner, Carolyn Willmore







#### **Big 2007 plans for Square** are already in full swing

By Dane Drefke LSRC President

Activities for 2007 are well under way in the square, and there are many ways for you to get involved.

Planning has begun in earnest for our 2007 Spring House Tour. Mark and Terry Etling have graciously volunteered to chair the spring tour this year. This is quite an undertaking, and the board of directors and I are deeply grateful for their help and dedication. Please contact Mark and Terry or me if you are interested in participating in the spring tour this year. We would be happy to answer your questions and hear your suggestions, and we need your help to make the spring tour a success.

It's never too early to think about gardening, and Linda Weiner is already hard at work in planning the 2007 projects to continue to make Lafayette Square beautiful. When you enter the Square in spring and see all the beautiful flowers in bloom, thank Linda and the gardening volunteers for their hard work. We can always use more hands (and shovels!) with the neighborhood beautification projects, so please contact Linda or me if you have a green thumb that just has to be exercised.

Mark your calendars for the Feb. 13 membership meeting as 63rd District State Rep. Robin Wright-Jones will be joining us to discuss her legislative priorities for the upcoming year (if her schedule in Jefferson City permits). Please help me welcome Rep. Wright-Jones and bring your questions and suggestions for her.

Additionally, I will be presenting several important motions to amend the by-laws of the LSRC. The motions will be introduced and a brief presentation of the amendment process will be given. The motions will then be published in these pages in the March issue for your consideration, and voting on the amendments will take place at the March meeting.

You may have noticed that the former Praxair site is now for sale in addition to other sites of potential development. We will discuss plans for these sites as we know of them, and I pledge to keep you as up to date as possible on proposals for future development in the square.

I also want to extend my thanks to those volunteers who helped with the storm damage clean up. It was a rough year to be a tree in St. Louis, and I thank you for pitching in to help our city workers after the storms.





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### Maples planted in median, volunteer program planned

By Linda Weiner . Lafayette Square

#### Quote of the Month

"If a tree dies, plant another in its place."

— Linnaeus

#### Sunset maple trees planted on **Truman Parkway**

In the month of January, 25 Sunset Maple trees were planted on the Truman Parkway median from Park Avenue north to Chouteau. This completes almost one mile of median tree planting and represents Phase III of the plan to create a greenway from the Highway 44-55 offramp to Chouteau Avenue along the eastern edge of our neighborhood. Many thanks to Alderman Lewis Reed, Urban Forester Chris McCarthy and fellow dreamer Keith Welsh.

The next phase will be planting the Park Avenue entrance with a grant from Gateway Greening that we are hoping will be approved, replacing the large white

boulders with attractive pots funded by the LSRC, and landscaping with birch trees at the Carroll cul de sac.

We will be looking for volunteers for the summer of '07 to help water this area to help establish the plantings. If you can volunteer to help plant in the spring or water in the summer, please call me at 621-7071.

#### Lafayette Park volunteer program planned

By the time you read this, the first meeting of the Lafayette Park Flora Conservancy Planning Committee will have held a meeting to focus on building a solid volunteer program for our park. We are seeking volunteers to coordinate park beautification and upkeep by assisting in seed germination at the Forest Park greenhouse, adopting sites within the park, submitting design ideas or adopting a task such as pruning trees or watering plantings. If you are interested in volunteering, please feel free to contact me at 621-7071.

## **Cabrini to host 5K** Flying Nun Run

On March 31, in beautiful Tower Grove Park, St. Frances Cabrini Academy will host its first 5K race. On that day the fastest runners and the slowest walkers

the South Side (and beyond) has to offer will gather for a 5K run (3.12 miles) and a 1-mile fun walk.

In homage to its patron saint, the event will be called The Flying Nun Run. In the course of her work establishing hospitals, orphanages, and schools for the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Frances Cabrini trav-

eled thousands of miles around the world. In less than 30 years, she crossed the ocean 30 times and visited eight countries. She worked at an extremely

Unlike St. Frances, you don't have

to be capable of traveling at great speed to participate in the Flying Nun Run. If you're in the mood for competition or just a relaxing run, sign up for the 5K. If you feel like strolling through the park and chatting with a friend, go for the 1mile walk. All participants will receive

> a Flying Nun Run t-shirt. Prizes for the 5K will be awarded to winners in all age groups, and attendance prizes will also be given

> In the coming months you will begin to see fliers and registration forms for the race. Pick up one for yourself and some for your friends, athletically inclined or otherwise. You can register by going to the Cabrini website at

www.cabriniacademy.com to print out the registration form.

If you have any questions or would like to support the race in some way, please call Kate Fortier at 865-4170 with any questions.

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## Shrewsbury confident about reelection bid

By Tim Woodcock Marquis contributor

Jim Shrewsbury says he is "confident but not overconfident" about his bid to retain his position as president of the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen. Four years ago his opponent was 28th Ward Alderman Lyda Krewson; this time it is Lewis Reed of the 6th Ward.

Both are Democrats and they face off in the March 6 primary. No candidates from other parties have filed for the position.

The position of aldermanic president is a hybrid one, Shrewsbury said. One is always wearing two hats — that of a legislator — an "an alderman at large" representing the whole city — and that of the member of the executive branch of city government, through his seat on the powerful, budget-setting Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

"I work closely with the mayor; I work closely with the comptroller, but I don't

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Jim Shrewsbury

forget I work for the voters," Shrewsbury said.

Shrewsbury said the day-to-day running of the Board of Aldermen has improved during his time in charge.

"The Board of Aldermen operates as a professional legislative body now. And I'll take the credit for setting the tone and direction of how

the board operates." Shrewsbury says he is proud of his record as a legislator, a role he has had since 1983, when he elected to represent the 16th Ward in southwest city. He is currently sponsoring legislation, along with Alderman Fred Wessels, that would make new city buildings — be that a new office building or a parking structure — have to conform to green building guidelines. He is also in talks with St. Louis Public Schools about a day-time curfew for school-aged children that would help the school district with its truancy problems and neighborhoods that have issues with crime and anti-social behavior.

In previous years he has sponsored bills that have put aside for funds to help victims of domestic violence and tightened gun safety laws in the city.

These bills may not seem to have much in common but Shrewsbury begs

to differ. "Those are not the kind of bills that raise you a lot of campaign dollars but they do improve the quality of life," he said.

After years of decline, the city's population is stabilizing and may even be increasing, and new housing developments are popping up across the city:

"The city is making progress," he said.

But one of the biggest issues facing the city is the state of its public schools. The aldermen have no control over public education in the city — that responsibility falls to a seven-member of Board of Education — but in a surprising, recent twist the aldermanic president could find himself making a crucial decision that affects the direction of the city's schools for years to come. If, as seems likely, the Missouri State Board of Education uses its authority to strip the elected Board of Education of its power and put in its place an appointed school board to oversee reform, the aldermanic president will get to make one of the three appointments.

What would Shrewsbury look for in a potential appointee?

He said firstly he wants someone who has acted "properly and responsibly in the public domain"; secondly, it should be someone connected to children through professional or voluntary work; and, thirdly, "I want someone who has no connection to the St. Louis Public Schools!"

Shrewsbury said he is a "strong supporter" of Diana Bourisaw, the latest in a long line of superintendents. "I think she is doing a good job. I think the Board of Education ought to allow her to run the district," he said.

Another contentious issue in recent months has been the proposed lease of Hudlin Park, a part of Forest Park, to Barnes-Jewish Hospital. The hospital,

which currently has a parking structure underneath the green space, wants to build on the land and in exchange for lease payments of \$2 million a year.

Shrewsbury has been the highestprofile ally of the campaign group Citizens to Protect Forest Park and he said that even if there is support for the expansion of the hospital on to parkland in the political and business communities, "There is no public support for it."

"When it is gone, it is gone forever. We're giving away a part of our legacy," he said.

Mayor Francis Slay and Shrewsbury have clashed over this particular issue, but Shrewsbury said "more often than not I support the mayor's proposals" and "people have confidence in him."

Slay was elected mayor in 2001, having served six years as aldermanic president, and Shrewsbury, the most senior Democratic alderman, stepped into his shoes. Shrewsbury confirmed his position through an election in November 2002.

Shrewsbury refused to make any comment about his opponent Lewis Reed, saying he will campaign on his merits.

Shrewsbury said he aims to be a political leader who is "honest and open" and he will bring the same attributes to this campaign.



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## Reed seeks to fill perceived leadership gap

By Laura McCarthy Marquis staff

On March 6, 6th Ward Alderman Lewis Reed will look to unseat six-year president of the Board of Aldermen Jim Shrewsbury. Beating the incumbent is not an easy task, but is one that Reed has taken on fullthrottle. If elected, he would be the city's first black aldermanic president.

Reed said his background in the private and healthcare sector in which he was often recruited to troubleshoot, rework and renegotiate contracts and networking systems primed him for his work in politics. In his eight years as Alderman of the 6th Ward, Reed has earned many notches on his belt for community improvement and development.

Reed said that right when he came into office as 6th Ward Alderman he "took a look at development deals, things that had been stuck for years," and worked to see them through. He cited 1111 Mississippi, the St. Vincent homes in the Gate District, and helping pass the neighborhood TIF in Lafayette Square as examples. He said he also worked on implementing the plan developed for Washington Avenue and securing the proper funds for streetscape improvements like sidewalks and lighting.

Made



**Lewis Reed** 

"The reason why [community improvements and developments are my focus is because if we achieve those goals, then we can deliver everything that the people ask for," like safety and security, cleanliness

and even emergency services, Reed said. Attracting people to an area is "how you stabilize the tax basis. Once you do that, then you can afford to put police on the streets, you can afford to open new firehouses instead of shutting them down, you can afford to pave the streets instead of patching up the potholes."

Reed said such community improvements help in driving down the perception of crime in St. Louis. "The perception of crime in our city hovers way above our actual crime rate. The question becomes, what adds to that?" Unkempt streets and sidewalks, broken streetlights, derelict structures, among other factors, all contribute to this perception, Reed said.

With that in challenge mind, Reed helped start Bike St. Louis. "It has something to do with the cyclists," Reed said. "But it wasn't [just] for the cyclists... I came up with

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the plan as a means of additional marketing for the city, as a means of driving down our perception of crime," he said.

"When you are visiting our city [and see bike signs and bikers], you get a feeling of safety and security and also an urban environment that's on the move," he said. "People are moving back into the city instead of moving out, businesses are choosing to open here instead of someplace else."

Bike St. Louis is now a regional effort, Reed said, with \$1.2 million in grants and 70 miles in routes throughout the metro area, including Maplewood, Richmond Heights, Clayton and all of the MetroLink stops.

Reed also pointed out several projects with which he is involved in Tower Grove East, such as a major rehabbing overhaul, which sought to attract developers and balance out the "rental" and "for sale" housing. He is also working on a new police substation and introducing two high-speed Vespas for the area police, which should be up and running early this summer.

On the issue of the proposed Barnes-Jewish Hospital lease for Hudlin Park, a section of Forest Park east of Kingshighway, Reed said that approving the lease — which would allow BJC to build on the existing green space — would mean billions of dollars spent in the city and more jobs. Shrewsbury is opposed to the lease.

The issue has sparked the group Citizens to Protect Forest Park to push for legislation that would require the leasing of public green spaces to be put before a public vote. Although Reed said he would support such an initiatve, he said, "I don't think people

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realize how often parks are leased," and how expensive it would be to get such issues on a ballot every time.

If elected, and the BJC issue still on the table, Reed could potentially upset the current balance of support for the lease, with Mayor Slay also in favor, and Comptroller Darlene Green on the fence. The votes of the mayor, comptroller and aldermanic president decide whether the lease can move forward.

Reed concluded that as president of the board of aldermen, he plans to be a full-time president, not part-time. He said the position pays a full-time salary and that there is no reason to expect or settle for anything less than a full-time president.

"I believe there is a true lack of leadership," he said of his motivation for running. "I'm running against [Shrewsbury] and I have over half the members of the Board of Aldermen supporting me" — that speaks volumes about the job satisfaction of the current president, Reed said.

But ultimately, Reed said, "I enjoy what I do. I like getting important things pushed through for the benefit of the people who call St. Louis their home."

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#### 6th Ward candidates

Continued from page 1

the neighborhood level, the police level and the level of the court system.

We see again and again that the same criminals are re-released" because of the non-violent nature of their crimes. So there is a high level of criminal activity, but a low number of criminals, Cacchione said. "And with the first-time offenders, often young offenders, I'm interested to get to the root of the problem to find out why... And I'd like to see [these young offenders] go through a social system rather than the court system."

Cacchione stressed that 6th Ward residents "need to make sure [they pick] the right person," he said, because whoever is elected will likely hold the position for a long time. "It's hard to beat an incumbent... and it can be hard to rectify if the right person is not elected."

#### **Christian Saller**

Fifth-generation St. Louisan Christian Saller points to his 10 years with the St. Louis Development Corporation — which he explained as "the development arm of the city of St. Louis" — as the ideal primer for an alderman. He said he worked primarily as a liaison



**Christian Saller** 

among the legislative bodies, developers and the boards that would ultimately approve development plans.

"That experience was invaluable because I was on the ground floor

of the legislative process for development," Saller said. "I'm familiar with the step-by-step process."

A homeowner in Tower Grove East for 12 years, Christian said he is passionate about historic neighborhoods and working to maximize the potential of those neighborhoods, within the guidelines of historic preservation.

Also a member of the Board of Directors in Tower Grove East, Saller said he is "dedicated to the neighborhood process," and was heavily involved in the neighborhood redevelopment plan for Tower Grove East. He said his involvement was like "wearing two hats," both as a concerned resident who's active in the neighborhood and as someone working for the St. Louis Development Corporation. The Tower Grove East redevelopment plan "is significant because it partakes of both spheres of experience that I have: the local level and the government level."

"The best role I think for an alderman to take is a coordinating one," Saller said, adding that residents often know what concerns they have and know what they hope for in their neighborhood. "Having an alderman who's accessible, and who's willing to work directly for those results is what's needed — rather than trying to figure out what's needed, just having open communication with the community."

"I would not pursue any other employment. I would be exclusively an alderman, which I think is necessary," he said.

Along with fostering responsible development and redevelopment, one of Saller's goals for the 6th Ward, is to make all of the communities walkable communities. He mentioned the Gate District as an example of a community that was redeveloped residentially, but has been slower to develop commer-

Saller also vows to personally get involved in problem or nuisance properties, and to contact the owners, many of whom own the properties as investments and may not be aware of the problems.

"I know that there are aldermen who [get directly involved and] have excellent results... I'm not talking about intimidating people, I just mean using my official capacity as a representative of these neighborhoods to prioritize their interests first," and give

the owner the opportunity to rectify the problem, he said.

#### **Kacie Starr Triplett**

A life-long resident of the 6th Ward, Kacie Starr Triplett looks to her youth,

energy, and passion for her neighborhood to drive her candidacy.

"I know the people; I know this ward like the back of my hand," she said.



**Kacie Starr Triplett** 

Her experience in politics extends to Washington, D.C., where she worked for Congressman Lacy Clay and then for Dick Gephardt during his '04 run for the Democratic presidential nomina-

"I always knew that I [would] run for public office," she said. "It's a passion. It's a fire that's inside of me." She said the timing for this aldermanic race felt right.

"Nothing would please me more than to be able to serve the people of the community that I grew up in. I think it's a natural fit," she said.

"The residents of the 6th Ward can count on me to be an outspoken advocate," on issues like safety and security, development and redevelopment, and

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any other issues that affect the community's ability to provide things like education (even though the board of alderman has no direct control over education), and crime and safety.

"Development goes hand in hand with safety," Triplett said, who said she has been a victim of numerous crimes herself, such as robbery, car theft and vandalism. "A lot of people are not educated on how to report problem properties in the community... and how to report nuisances." She said she has posted information on her website to help direct such issues.

With the Foodland building vacant, Triplett said she has seen many businesses come and go at that location, and hopes to see a reputable grocery store in its place. She said it is part of the job of alderman to make sure that such properties, including the former Praxair site, are put to good use.

On the subject of Cacchione securing the support of the 6th Ward





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Democrats, Triplett said, "We knew that it was going to be an uphill battle. We knew there were not a great amount of persuadable voters. But I'm very encouraged by the number of people who did come out.

"We would have loved to have gotten the endorsement, but what I'm concentrating on is getting the support of the people on March the 6th.

"I know I have the vision and the capability to progress the 6th Ward forward," she said, adding that a lot of people have recognized that, including Mayor Slay, who appointed Triplett as commissioner for the Affordable Housing Commission. "I think I have the most concrete legislative and political experience out of all of the candidates, and I just happen to be 26.

"I would fall on a sword for this city," she said, "and I always tell people, 'Just as aggressive as I'm being on the campaign trail, I'm going to be as aggressive an advocate for you at City Hall."

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

Artist SJ Hammack exhibits at Marbles throughout February

Marbles Gallery presents an SJ Hammack exhibit throughout the month of February. The public is welcome to a reception for the artist from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 9, at Marbles Yoga Studio, 1905 Park Ave.

The paintings, described as a plethora of color narratives influenced by current events, pop culture and abstract expressionism, will be shown by appointment.

For more information about the artist or to schedule a viewing, call 791-6466.

#### Von Der Ahe to debut at Chatillion **DeMenil Mansion March 4**

Von Der Ahe, a one-act play by journalist Jim Rygelski, explores the life and career of saloonkeeper Chris Von Der Ahe, the colorful owner of the St. Louis Browns, during the 19th century, who spurred interest and support for the game of baseball in St. Louis. Through their memories, the characters relate the founding of the team that later became the St. Louis Cardinals.

The play will be presented at 2 p.m. March 4, at the Chatillon DeMenil Mansion, 3353 DeMenil Place, Call 771-5828 for more information.

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### **LPUMC: beyond the walls**

By Debra Crowe Lafayette Park United Methodist Church

The mission statement of Lafayette Park UMC states that "Lafayette Park United Methodist Church will be a church without walls, creating a visible sign of Christ's presence in our urban community and beyond." In this month's article, I'd like to highlight some of the ways the body of the church lives out that statement.

Many of you who live in the neighborhood are familiar with some of the more visible ways that we go outside the walls of the church. If you drive along Lafayette Ave. during the month of October, it's pretty hard to miss the hundreds of pumpkins filling the parking lot for our annual Pumpkin Patch. You may have brought the children in your life to the Easter Egg Hunt that is held in Lafayette Park each spring or to the December Breakfast with Santa. And the allure of home cooking may have enticed you to the corned beef dinner hosted by the UMW each March and/or the turkey dinner presented every year in November. We're glad to see you and hope you'll continue to come to these events and to bring family members and friends! And we'd like to share information about other activities of which you may not be so familiar.

Please note the large green recycling bin in the northwest corner of the parking lot. It's available to all for recycling of paper and newspaper. On Feb. 17, the church will be offering parking on our lot for those participating in Mardi Gras festivities. Funds from that day's activity will be used to support future Habitat for Humanity teams from the church. Ash Wednesday service will be held on Feb.21 and is open to all. You needn't be a member of the church to attend.

On March 3, LPUMC will host one of a series of Potato Drops sponsored by the church. From 8-11 a.m., thousands of pounds of potatoes will be transferred from a truck to bags to be distributed to area food pantries and social service agencies. If you'd like to help sort and bag the vegetables, please join us on the parking lot on the west side.

Trivia Night returns this year on March 31 at 7 p.m. and is open to all who are interested. If you'd like to support this annual fundraiser that benefits the Lafayette Park Preschool, via donations for the silent auction and door prizes, please contact Edna Coleman at 771-9214, ext. 15 or via email at lppreschool@sbcglobal.net.

The Resale Boutique is open each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop provides household goods, gift items and more at great prices. Proceeds from sales help allay church expenses in a variety of ways, and the shop is a great place to donate gently used items that you no longer need. You may drop by during shop hours

any Wednesday with your donations.

Vacation Bible School, coming up this year July 23-27, is a multi-generational program open to all. It's a great way for you and the kids in your life to meet people from LPUMC and to get to know more about us in a fun and relaxed

Reaching even farther beyond our walls, we sponsor Volunteer In Mission trips to areas in need. Teams have made two trips to flood-ravaged New Orleans, and the third trip to Juarez, Mexico is planned for May 19-25. During this time, two homes will be built for families currently residing in wood pallet houses. Volunteers are needed and are welcome. If you're looking for a way to help those less fortunate, please contact Nancy Thuer at 965-9231 for infor-

Stretching even further beyond our home boundaries, we have a covenant partnership with sister church Catembe United Methodist Church in Mozambique. As part of our covenant, we support Catembe UMC through prayer, financial aid and sponsorship of a seminary student.

It's important to the people of Lafayette Park UMC to be an active, growing part of the great neighborhood in which we're located and to have a positive impact on those in distant neighborhoods who need help. We invite you to be a part of this growing effort in whatever way seems best

Please join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. (casual and more contemporary) and 10 a.m. (traditional worship) and for Sunday School at 9 a.m. If you'd like more information on any of the activities listed above, please contact the church office at 771-9214. YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.



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#### Atten-tion!

Dressed as period soldiers, four men attend a 2006 ceremony in observance of George Washington's birthday. The 2007 ceremony takes place at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 19 in Lafayette Park, preceded by a warm-up reception at 9 a.m. at the Park House, sponsored by the Lafayette Park Conservancy. Put on by the Daughters of the American Revolution, the ceremony includes the laying of a wreath at the statue of George Washington.

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#### ELECT DEMOCRAT CHRISTIAN SALLER 6TH WARD ALDERMAN ON MARCH 6, 2007



Progress in the 6th Ward demands experienced and dedicated leadership to solve problems while sustaining and increasing development in every neighborhood. As alderman, I will draw on ten years' experience working with City Hall, development agencies, and redevelopers in every city neighborhood to bring new amenities to all areas of the 6th Ward. My goal is for every neighborhood to enjoy a variety of restaurants and convenient shopping within walking distance from homes, not miles away and accessible only by getting in a car. I will take the lead role in aggressively working to eliminate nuisance properties and criminal activity that hamper progress in our neighborhoods. I will personally communicate with and pursue absentee property owners and slumlords who do not respect our community. I will coordinate resources available through the Neighborhood Stabilization Office, local police, the Building Division and the City Counselor's Office to produce results. Directly engaging owners of persistent problem properties is a fundamental first step in attaining improvements that will bring them in line with the community's expectations. I will work to retain and secure redevelopment of historic properties throughout the ward. The city's pride, its past and its future are reflected in the eelectic architecture of the 6th Ward. Keeping our irreplaceable historic fabric intact benefits residents, developers and the city at large.

The 6th Ward needs an advocate who can immediately and effectively go to work on these and other issues. Part-time leadership will produce part-time results and inexperienced leadership will delay delivery of the results we need and deserve. As your full-time alderman, I will be available seven days a week and will personally return every phone call I miss within 24 hours.

## I Greatly appreciate your trust and support on March 6!

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## Mott Oxford lays out plans for legislation

By Jeanette Mott Oxford State Representative, 59th District

Thank you for sending me back to Jefferson City as the Representative for the 59th Missouri House District! I was sworn in for my second term on Jan. 3, along with 182 additional House members and 34 Senate members. The current party demographics for these chambers are 91 Republicans and 72 Democrats in the House, and 21 Republicans and 13 Democrats in the Senate. Rod Jetton of Marble Hill was again elected as Speaker of the House, with Carl Bearden of St. Charles assuming the Speaker Pro Tem position. Michael Gibbons of Kirkwood was elected President Pro Tem of the Senate.

During January, I sponsored and cosponsored several pieces of legislation to lift workers out of poverty, provide healthcare access for all, improve schools, protect civil rights, and create a state tax system that is fair, adequate, and sustainable. You can read the text of these bills by going to my webpage: www.house.mo.gov/bills071/member/mem059.htm.

One of my major priorities for 2007 is to see that we finally update the income eligibility guidelines for the subsidized childcare program. According to a recent family-supporting wage study, the wage need to support a family of three in the St. Louis region is about \$18 per hour. Clearly many Missouri workers do not earn enough to pay for basic human needs, including high-quality, safe childcare that will prepare their children to succeed in school and in life.

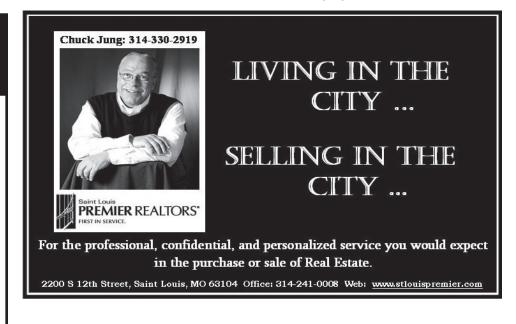
The State of Missouri last did a major updating of the income eligibility guidelines for subsidized childcare in 1991,

more than 15 years ago! At that time, we furnished subsidies for workers below about 150 percent of the federal poverty level. By not addressing inflation in subsequent years, we now rank dead last in the nation in childcare subsidies. We cut off aid at only a little more than \$8 per hour for a family of three, about \$10 per hour below a family supporting wage.

The federal poverty level is based only on the cost of food and is a very inaccurate measure of poverty, failing to count millions living with too little income. The bill that I will co-sponsor offers a subsidy for workers earning less than 130 percent of the FPL for the current year. The subsidy is gradually reduced as the worker's earnings go up and ends at 185 percent of the FPL (about \$27,500 for a family of three).

Since the bill is more likely to pass with a lead sponsor from the majority party, I have asked Rep. Jeff Grisamore of Lee's Summit to play that role. Sen. Chris Koster of Harrisonville has been recruited by my allies to take the lead in the Senate, and he has filed a bill identical to the one I had drafted two years ago. (The chair of the Children and Families Committee unfortunately refused to hear my bill in 2005 and 2006.)

The recent raise in the minimum wage makes it all the more important that we finally update this guideline in 2007 and keep it updated! If we fail to act, many Missouri workers will lose access to affordable childcare and that will be detrimental for Missouri's economy and certainly for the quality of life in these families and their communities! Please help me pass this bill by writing letters to the editor and contacting legislators.







## January LSRC membership meeting minutes

LSRC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 9, 2007

President Dane Drefke called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. The December minutes were reviewed and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes.

New residents were asked to introduce themselves. Five new residents introduced themselves and what streets they live on.

Special Guests: Circuit Attorney
Jennifer Joyce gave a recap of the three
men that have caused the most problems
in our neighborhood. Bobby Allen's stolen
property case had a not guilty verdict.
Don Chappel is still locked up. His record
is seven misdemeanors and 11 felonies
(no convictions). Tyrone Hubbard is a
teenager that will be tried as an adult
in November. He could get 50 years in
prison.

Ms. Joyce talked about "The CSI Effect: Myths and Realties of 'Forensic Television." CSI shows are entertaining, but they can mislead jurors and create unrealistic expectations, she said. Under the eyes of the law, all evidence is equal. If CSI was real, your property taxes would be astronomical.

Ms. Joyce also handed out a Neighborhood Prosecution Summary as of Jan. 9. There are 12 felony crimes and 31 misdemeanor crimes currently being tried.

President Drefke remembered Roger Russell, a neighbor and friend of Lafayette Square who passed away in December. Roger chaired the Holiday House tour and gave his experience in decorating the neighborhood for the holidays. Roger will be missed for his talents and most of all his friendship. One of the urns will be dedicated in Roger's name and a fund has been set up for the restoration of the urn.

Committee reports

**Finance:** Susan Sauer gave a financial status. There is \$135,000 in the savings and \$21,000 in the checking account.

Development: Paul Doerner advised the last development meeting was well attended by the neighborhood. On the agenda was the Apostolic Church of Christ, 2035 Park Ave., being renovated to a single resident home. There was no new information on the church building at Park and Mackay. Discussion on the types of development going on in the neighborhood. Discussion on the density issue in the current and new developments. Going to have more advanced notification on the development meetings, time and location.

**Safety:** Don Owens advised the graffiti issues have been painted over and if there are any more, please call 241-2677 to report any new graffiti. We still have clubs and license plate covers for sale; if interested contact Don Owens at 231-7127.

Officer Simonds advised the graffiti on the German house has been reported and will be corrected. He also advised there were five auto thefts; overall crime is up approximately 16 percent.

**Membership:** Dave Diehl reported we have 61 memberships for 2007. If your company has a matching gift program, they will match you membership dues.

Community Affairs: Rachel Witt advised the Vin de Set restaurant, 2017 Chouteau Ave., has graciously offered to have a private happy hour for the residents at any of the lofts to become involved in the neighborhood. It will be held on Jan. 18 from 5 to 7 p.m.; beer and wine specials

and free appetizers. Block captains are also invited.

LSBA: Pete Synder advised no report.

Park Conservancy: No report.

#### Old business

Terry & Mark Etling, 2007 Spring House Tour chairpersons, advised they are starting to get things organized for the tour and will be getting volunteer list out shortly. Anyone interested in helping with the house tour please call Terry or Mark at 621-1437.

#### New business

President Drefke advised he has been contacted by a real estate agent for marketing the Praxair property. There are few details available, but the F&C Trucking company at the corner of Chouteau and Jefferson is interested in expanding the trucking company and have asked how the neighborhood would feel if the trucking company could use the Praxiair lot for storing new trucks. (18/24 months)

The members expressed concerns and thought our alderman should be involved and so we could have a plan about the traffic on the side streets. The side streets are narrow and could not be used by the trucks nor there should be no parking on the side streets with these trucks.

#### Announcements

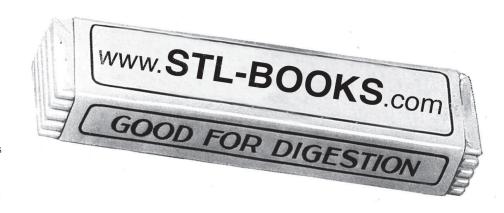
The Lafayette Methodist Church is hosting a roast beef dinner on Jan. 27, from noon to 7 p.m. at 2300 Lafayette Ave. Dine in or carry out available. Call 773-1346.

Pete Synder advised that the base stands which hold the urns on the bridge are in poor shape and may require additional money to have repaired. He made a motion for an additional \$2,000 if needed for repairs to the bases and decorative pieces. The motion was made and seconded. The motion was approved.

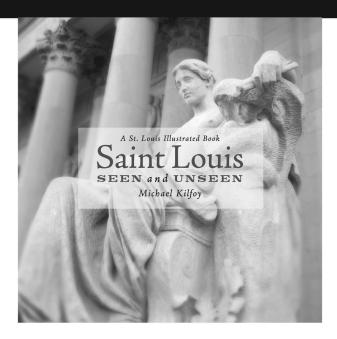
Meeting adjourned 8:30.

The social was held by Jassen Johnson.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Diehl, Membership Secretary



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Sarah Shoemake Doles Karen S. Snyder Peter L. Snyder Kathleen Sudano

RESTORATIONIST Anthony Bassett Kevin Bohnenstiehl Ward Buckner Judith E. DuChateau Mark Etling

Terry Etling

Harold Gregory Suzanne Gregory Gary Hubler Bill McCarthy Tom Modglin Tara Mulder Bill Odman Mike Reardon Sue Reardon Ed Steck Jean Steck Kenneth M. Stone Cynthia Todd Margaret A. Wayne

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#### **A Message from** RUTH KAMPHOEFNER

Back in 1980, Jim Shrewsbury was beaten up and hospitalized because he was campaigning with me

to rid Lafayette Square of corrupt political representation. Since those early years, Jim has been a staunch supporter of Lafayette Square's rebirth. He is an honest, hard-working public servant who merits our support for re-election as President of the Board of Aldermen.



Please vote for JIM SHREWSBURY Aldermanic President **Tuesday, March 6** 



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# Feb. LSRC meeting agenda

Lafayette Square Restoration Committee

**General Membership Meeting** 

7 p.m. Feb. 13

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church

7:00 — Call to Order Review of minutes of previous meeting Welcome new residents Sign-up sheets

7:05 — Rep. Robin Wright-Jones, Missouri 63rd District. Discussion of Legislative Priorities for the 2007 legislative session.

7:20 — Committee Reports and Neighborhood Organizations

Finance: Susan Sauer
Development: Paul Doerner
Safety: Don Owens
Membership: David Diehl
Community Affairs: Rachel Witt
LSBA: Pete Snyder
Park Conservancy: Tim Gore

7:45 — Old business Spring House Tour: Mark & Terry Etling

NW area development: Dane Drefke

7:55 — New business

The president will present, on behalf of the board of directors, several motions to amend the by-laws of the LSRC. Discussion of the amendment process and written presentation of the proposed amendments to be made.

8:05 Announcements 8:10 Adjourn

After-the-meeting social hosted by:
Come to the meeting to find out!
Join your neighbors for refreshments
Material for the Marquis due by the
18th of the month. Submit articles
electronically to Virginia Publishing
(lmmcarthy@westendword.com) attn:
Laura

#### Upcoming meetings

Feb. 20 Board Meeting 7 p.m. Park House

March 6 Development Meeting 7 p.m. Park House

March 13 Membership Meeting 7 p.m. LPUMC



#### Lafayette Square Restoration Committee 2006 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.

The Lafayette Park Conservancy is landscaping the grounds around the newly restored Park House. You may have noticed a bobcat scraping the ground between the Park House and flagpole. The area is being graded for a new patio and gardens. Last fall, plants in the old gardens were rescued and moved to other areas of the park. When bulbs popped out of the ground this spring, they were dug up and replanted, too.

The Lafayette Park Conservancy was founded in 2001 to restore and preserve the historic legacy of Lafayette Park, the first urban park west of the Mississippi River, and raise money for this purpose. Please join the LPC and help achieve the goals of the Lafayette Park Master Plan.

\$150 Historian

#### The Lafayette Park Conservancy membership form

s35 Friend

	\$50	Contributor/Family		\$300	Preservationist		
	\$75	Botanist		\$500	Benton Society		
				\$1000	Lafayette Society		
Membership benefits are listed on our website, lafayettepark.org							
Member information							
Name(s)							
Address							
Pho	ne _	E-mail					
I prefer to receive the Conservancy newsletter and mailings							
by mail by e-mail (the Conservancy will not sell or share e-mail address)							

If your contribution is eligible for a matching gift, please submit a matching form from

The Lafayette Park Conservancy 2023 Lafayette Avenue St. Louis, MO 63104

your company.

Classifieds
367-6612

#### **For Rent**

**LAFAYETTE SQUARE** – 2 BR 2nd floor end unit, a/c, off-street parking & deck. Merry 503-7574

LAFAYETTE SQUARE – Like new. 1BR w/ hrdwd fls, stnlss steel app., granite & more! \$850 Merry 503-7574

#### **Office/Retail For Rent**

FUCLID PLAZA BUILDING – 1ST floor, parking, 1704 sq. ft., spacious, large windows, must see!!! \$2500/month. www.rwoodrealty.com, R. Wood Realty, 314-645-6033 x225

#### **Services**

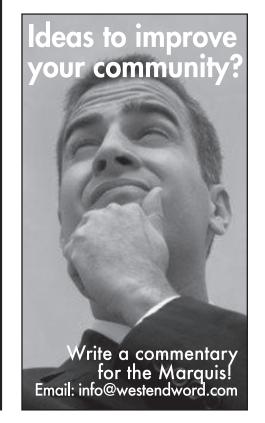
PROUDLY HELPING RESTORE AND BEAUTIFY THE CITY. Carpentry, roofing, brick laying, tuck pointing. 20 years experience, local references available. Insured, highest quality work, free estimates. Call anytime. 314-220-3638 ask for Matt.

engineer takes on any roof for gutter cleaning & minor roof repairs. No house too tall, no job too small Fully insured. 314-220-3638, ask for Matt.

IF YOU ARE NOT A – carpenter, painter, roofer, concrete finisher, or landscaper, call Extreme Interiors and Exteriors. Kitchens, baths, additions, part and whole house re-habs. 314-352-4252

#### **Wanted**

**DONATIONS WANTED - YARN DONATIONS** - Cathedral Parish group needs washable yarn to knit prayer shawls. Call Mary at Cathedral, 373-8204, to drop off donations.



## McAVOY REALTY

(314) 531-1900



2017 ARSENAL \$469,000 Stunning rehab with a great view of Benton Park Lake! Spacious 5,300 sq. ft.- tall ceilings, impressive millwork and gorgeous mantles. New hardwood floors, marble tiled baths and designer treatments. Stunning rooftopdeck.Incredible attention to detail!



3662 CLEVELAND \$279,900 Superb family home in historic Shaw neighborhood. This light, bright home has a two story screened in porch off the back, excellent millwork and restored hardwood floors. Home is on a quiet cul-de-sac street, come check it out.



3220 INDIANA \$232,900
Outstanding brick manse in Benton
Park historic district, ½ block from
park. Completely rehabbed with new
kitchen, zoned heating & cooling,
stunning staircase, new wood floors,
spacious rooms & off-street parking.



6547 WINNEBAGO \$189,900 Big brick bungalow. This home is just shy of 2000 sq. ft. not including the partially finished basement which has a family room and full scale bar. Three large bedrooms and two & a half baths. Art glass, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, nice yard, a great home.



3737 ARKANSAS AVE. \$159,900 Great value for newer construction in the Gravois Park area of South St. Louis. This home features 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths--a guest (half) bath on the main level and two full baths upstairs. 2 car attached garage.



2326 PARK \$475,000
Feast your eyes on this beautiful Victorian home in Lafayette Square. Contemporary interior. Open floor plan. Completely renovated. New hitech kitchen. Over 3,500 sq. ft. Master suite w/huge master bath. Large deck unique patio, large yard w/ very deep lot. Large beautiful 1 bedroom Carriage House.



3818 BOTANICAL \$269,900
This beautiful home keeps true to its historical past with 5-6 bedrooms, great stone work, original pocket doors in the bedrooom, an amazing turret and much more awaits the new owners of this special Shaw home.



4663 TOWER GROVE \$224,900
Fantastic large home with many original elements including stained glass, hardwood floors, original woodwork & fireplace. 2 bedrooms on the first floor, 2 bedrooms, a family room & an office nook on the second floor. 2 car parking pad & a great vintage brick patio. New cedar porch, furnace just installed!



2326 HICKORY \$169,900 Update in process on this great Square home. Features a uniquely private yard, New appliances, garage parking, back deck, 2 large bedrooms and much more. Own a fantastic low maintenance home in an amazing historic neighborhood.



5627 DEWEY \$144,900
Pleasant two family near Carondolet
Park. Great living rooms with
stained glass windows, fireplaces,
and hardwood floors which stretch
across the home. Separate dinning
rooms & Large eat in kitchens. Home
is currently being rented. Call for
details.



2002 RUTGER \$379,900 This historic duplex comes back to life as 2 outstanding townhomes. Each unit with totally new interiors, 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths, gorgeous custom kitchen, hardwood floors, finished lower level with street-side door and new 2-car garages.



4149 CASTLEMAN \$259,000
A great family home! This historic Shaw home has it all, gigantic double-lot provides a home oversize to grow be been some leaves space to grow. Updated & ready for you!



2306 CHEROKEE \$195,000
Project Townhome with large storefront space, ready for your creative interior design. this is a shell, a unique building-needs to be framed. Includes new electric service, gas lines,water & sewer service, roof, windows, garage and renovated storefront.



5746 ITASKA \$167,900 Charming brick & stone Tudorstyle home with art glass windows, immaculate natural woodwork, refinished hardwood floors, stone fireplace mantle. Two bedrooms, central air, garage & back porch. Call Jennifer Bobo (314) 753-5046.



4426 ARSENAL \$139,900 Updated two family facing Tower Grove park. Nice large units with hardwood floors, brand new heating systems, newer ac, electrical, plumbing, roof. 2 car garage! Units have large separate living and dinning rooms, open kitchens and back decks.



1711 LAFAYETTE \$319,900

Welcome to Lafayette Square!

This is a beautifully updated home with spacious rooms, great views of the city and just down from the park. Perfect home for entertaining with an open floor plan and large kitchen. See it today.



615 KENILWORTH \$249,500
Cute, spacious family friendly home on a delightful private cul-de-sac in the space on the lower level. 4 bedrooms and 2 baths on the main level.



1491 CRAIG RD. \$193,900
Nice 5-bedroom ranch in the desirable
Parkway School District to be features
an update of the second power level has
a large annily room w/fireplace, two
bedrooms, a full bath & a furnace/
utility room.



5649 MURDOCH AVE \$163,900 Charming bungalow on a great street. Main floor master with open living room & dining room. Lower level bedroom and den. Convenient 2nd floor--great for office space & guest bedroom. Great yard & nice garage.



5147 DRESDEN \$124,900
2 bedroom Dutch Colonial home recently updated with new carpet, contemporary light fixtures, & fresh paint. Half bath off kitchen with full bath upstairs. This home has a full basement with lots of room for storage. Great St. Louis City home just off Gravois & Christy.



21 VALLEY DR. \$279,900
Beautiful full-brick home with lovely landscaping on a private circle drive in Union. Hardwood floors, sunroom, two great master bedrooms, full brick wood burning fireplace in the family room opening to the eat-in kitchen.



725 SHENANDOAH \$235,000 Recently restored Soulard home. Original hardwood flooring on the first and second floors, stained glass windows, exposed brick, Built-in antique china cabinet Large walk-in closet in bedroom. Third floor loft includes another full bath and a door for a roof top deck.



Three bedroom one bath charming south city bungalow with amazing artist loft above over sized garage. Beautiful hardwood floors, stained glass windows, spacious floorplan with extra sunroom. Call Jennifer Hamlet (314)368-8047



2922 VICTOR ST. \$159,000
Historic home in Tower Grove East neighborhood. 3 bedrooms and 2 baths are enhanced by a lovely and spacious open loft at the top of the landing; perfect for an office or sitting room. Gorgeous original stairs and woodwork, formal dining room with stately beamed ceiling



\$124,900 all home w carpet, by & freshly painted, newly remodeled Benton Park West townhome. This large 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome is a great home in a developing neighborhood. Newer kitchen and baths, electric, plumbing carpet. This home is move in ready!

#### **CONDOMINIUMS/CLUSTER HOMES**



James Chestnut 314.283.1484



4254 LINDELL BLVD. \$209,900 Gorgeous CWE condominium is in move in condition. Enjoy this top floor unit that features elegant neutral décor, oversized fireplace mantle, bay/bow windows in the living room and French doors leading to private balcony.



2310 RUTGER \$159,000
Spacious 2 bedroom Lafayette Square condo. Wood-burning fireplace, spacious private deck, newly updated kitchen & bath. Skylights, off street parking & a panoramic view of St. Louis city. Freshly painted and ready



4375 LACLEDE \$145,900
Great 2 bedroom condo in the
Central West End. Within walking
distance to restaurants, shops,
etc. Freshly painted, new lighting.
Enjoy this great location and
surprisingly low condo fee.



4953 MCPHERSON #B \$149,900
Spacious condo in historic World's Fair building w/wonderful architectural detail. This light & open condo features 9-foot ceilings, generously sized rooms, hardwood floors & lots of large windows.