

MARQUIS

JUNE 2008

Founded by the residents of Lafayette Square

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 6

Bienvenue to You!

After months of preparation, Lafayette Square opens its doors

By Mark & Terry Etling
House Tour Chairs

The Lafayette Square House and Garden Tour is here again. On June 7 and 8 our neighborhood will, for the 39th time, welcome thousands of visitors from hither and yon.

This year's tour includes many of the attractions our visitors have come to know and enjoy — and some new features as well.

Ten wonderful homes are featured on this year's tour. They are:

1126 18th Street - Don't be fooled by the relatively small size of this home. It is most definitely a "must see." And it has a history to match its charm.

1828 Hickory - One of the unusual design features of this house is its use of an active solar panel system that provides both heat and hot water. It also has not one, but two rooftop decks.

1907 Hickory - Just when you thought you'd heard it all, there's the incredible story that accompanies this gorgeous home. It was built in 1885, but at one time fell into such a state of decline that bonfires were set inside it — deliberately.

1813 Lafayette - This home is unusual for Lafayette Square in that it was owned by the same family for more than a century. Built in 1883, it was owned by the Schwartz family for well over 100 years.

1835 Lafayette - This graceful beauty was built in 1886 by the Osterman brothers, who were tea and spice merchants. It represents the classic French Victorian Second Empire style, with three full stories and scalloped mansard roof.

1206 Mackay - At first glance this unobtrusive Victorian cottage, built in 1886, doesn't stand out among the larger, more renowned homes in Lafayette Square. But this one is a true "survivor."

1515 Missouri - This stately Italianate villa is the home of Chris and Mary Ann Goodson. It was built in 1882 for John and Sophia Vogel and their children. It is truly one of the most elegant homes in the



Photo courtesy of the 2008 House Tour Committee

This elegant, three-story Italianate beauty, in the 1700 block of Waverly Place, is just one of 10 houses on tour at the 2008 Lafayette Square Spring House and Garden Tour.

neighborhood.

1916 Park - The apartment featured in this newly built mixed-use building is above the Schwaig Art Glass Works. Opened just last year, it is one of the newest businesses in Lafayette Square.

1529 Vail Place - This home, owned by long-time residents Tom and Lynne Keay, is literally two homes in one. On one side is a half-story Italianate, and on the other is a two-story American

style home.

1723 Waverly - The original owner of this Lafayette Square "gem" was D.C. Jaccard, founder of Jaccard's jewelers, who moved here in 1881. The house is built in the Italianate style with a three-story facade.

There are also nine fantastic gardens

on tour, located at 1614 18th Street, 30 Benton Place, 1425 Dolman, 1911 Hickory, 1801 Lasalle, 2007 Park, the Community Garden at the corner of Park and Dolman, and two gardens inside the park: the Rock Garden and the Lafayette Park Lagoon.

This year's tour includes several other events that have become fixtures over the past several years:

The Antiques on the Park sale brings antique vendors from all over the region to display their treasures along Mississippi and Park avenues.

The Plein Air Art Exhibit features the work of some 50 local artists. Included in the exhibit will be a large number of works depicting scenes in Lafayette Square.

The Shepard Barclay Vintage Base Ball Festival is back, giving spectators a glimpse of how America's pastime was played over 100 years ago.

The wine tasting hosted by Chouette Winery of Ste. Genevieve returns this year. A number of fine Missouri wines will be available to taste and to purchase, including two — a Norton Blend and a Chardonnay — bearing the Lafayette Square Spring House Tour 2008 label.

A display of vintage wood and canvas canoes will be held on Sunday at the lake in the center of the park, hosted by the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association.

The first Summer Concert of the season will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the Betsy Cook Pavilion. The always-popular Kim Massie will be the featured performer.

A new addition this year is the Arti-

Continued to page 5

Residents offered sneak peek at plein air artwork

By Pete Snyder
LSRC President

Residents of Lafayette Square have a chance to preview and buy the Plein Air artwork that will be displayed and sold as part of the 2008 Spring House & Garden Tour. The preview is set for 7:30 to 9 p.m. June 6 at the Park House.

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July Marquis Deadline:
Wednesday, June 18

During this year's Plein Air competition, artists were encouraged to explore the entire Lafayette Square neighborhood. The encouragement came in the form of four "quick paint" contests that took artists into the neighborhood's four corners.

In our "quick paint" contests, artists had three hours to paint any subject they chose within specific geographic boundaries. At the end of the three-hour timeframe, artwork was turned in for judging and awarding of cash prizes.

On May 24, artists painted in the southeast area of the Square. It was sponsored by LSBA members along Park Avenue, including Panoptic Wealth Advisors, 33 Wine Bar, Albert Hall Emporium, Baileys' Chocolate Bar, Four Muddy Paws, Lafayette Square Antiques, McAvoy Realty, Park Avenue Coffee, Ricardo's, Square One Brewery, and SqWires. Bridgid Simpson lead the team of judges selected from the LSBA.

The west and south areas of Lafayette Square were the subject of the May 25 contest. The LSRC sponsored the event. We thank Nancy Bridwell, Kathryn Pole and Houston Smith for judging the event.

The northeast quadrant was painted during the May 31 contest. It was sponsored

by LSBA members along Chouteau and 18th Street, including Padberg & Corrigan Law, Weinbauer Financial, Garden Walk Massage Therapy, Lafayette Square Chiropractic Centre and St. Louis Gast Haus Restaurant. Judging was conducted by the artists.

On June 1 the competition moved to the northwest corner of the Square. Real estate agents Chuck Jung, RE/MAX Gold and Merry Dahms, RE/MAX Associates Plus sponsored the event that was judged by the artists.

In addition, an "at-large" quick paint contest was sponsored by Augusta Brewery. The Memorial Day event allowed artists to paint anywhere they wanted in the Square for the honor of being selected for a special beer bottle label, as well as other prizes. The winner-take-all judging was headed up by Judy Longden and included judges from Square One Brewery.

All the Plein Air artwork that was completed between May 24 and June 6 will be turned in for overall competition judging. The judging team includes Sharon Stockmann, Judy Longden, John Paul Sinisterra, and John Schwaig. All submitted artwork will be exhibited during the resident preview at 7:30 p.m. on June 6 at the Park House.

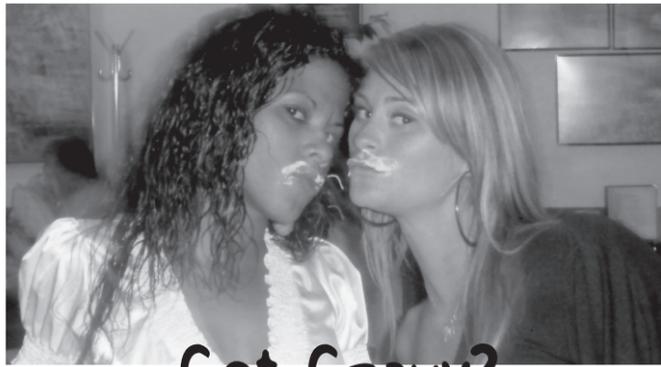
Management of all Plein Air activity was provided by Garry McMichael. We thank Garry for his leadership, the sponsors for their contributions, and the judges for their discerning eye.



Garry McMichael photo

Plein air artists create their works on location, in "open air," and this year participated in several competitions throughout the Square.

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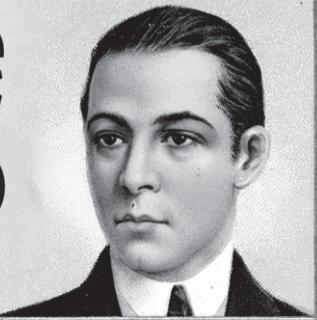
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Editor's Note

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 ssolberg@westendword.com or call 314-805-1068.



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625 N. Euclid, Ste. 330
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(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

Debra Crowe, Chris Duggan, Mark Etling, Terry Etling, Tom Keay,
Jeanette Mott-Oxford, Mark Reed, Pete Snyder, Dorothy Strasser, John
Strasser, Linda Weiner

Rain won't dampen spirit of House Tour

By Pete Snyder
LSRC President

LSRC Notes: Special guest slotted for June; leash law enforced

As I write this, it is raining ... again. KMOX reports that this has been the wettest five-month beginning to a year in recorded history. It seems that everyone has the same question on his or her lips; will spring ever arrive?

I worry about the weather for the Spring House & Garden Tour. Not that I can do anything about it. Still I wonder.

Then I think about the past 39 years that Spring House Tours have been conducted. Lafayette Square is the granddaddy of house tours in the region (and the best, according to several media sources). In the beginning the house tour was used by the Square's urban pioneers to convince other rehabbers to join them and rescue these Victorian treasures from the bulldozer.

Over the years Lafayette Square has had to deal with numerous bulldozers, as well as pestilence (an epidemic of urban decay and crime), fire (countless arsons), and plague (bureaucratic apathy, which almost turned Lafayette Park into a truck stop).

There hasn't been a flood, but the Square was devastated by a killer tornado on May 27, 1896 (third deadliest and most costly in U.S. history, according to Wikipedia). And prior to that, the Civil War found the sons of Lafayette Square fighting against each other on distant battlefields.

Yes, Lafayette Square has faced some incredible challenges and has survived ... thrived, in fact. *Architecture Magazine* and *Better Homes & Gardens* have named Lafayette Square "One of the ten most beautiful painted ladies neighborhoods in the nation." For that we thank the visionaries of 40 years ago for helping us achieve this distinction.

So considering what this neighborhood has been through, I'm going to stop worrying about the weather. And if we are blessed with "liquid sunshine," I'll consider how much more beautiful it will make the Park's flower beds.

This year's House & Garden Tour has so much to offer: the houses, the gardens, antiques around the Park, Perfectos vintage base ball tournament, Plein Air art show, carriage rides, wine tasting and so much more. It will be a delight for neighbors and visitors alike.

The June LSRC General Membership meeting will feature a presentation from Seventh Ward Alderman Phyllis Young. Young has been a staunch supporter of Lafayette Square, the southeast portion of which is in the Seventh Ward. She has been representing the Seventh Ward since April 1985 and is the ranking democrat on the board, so she offers a unique perspective on board activities.

The discussion on dogs during the May LSRC membership meeting culminated in a request to enforce city ordinances. The law requires dog owners to keep dogs on a leash at all times and to have owners clean up after their dogs. The vote on the matter was overwhelmingly in support of enforcement (there were only two dissenting votes). It was generally agreed (even among dissenting points of view) that a handful of flagrant violators were making the situation untenable for all. It was also agreed that all residents should exercise their rights to politely explain to violators what the law requires. The police vowed to enforce the ordinances.

During the May discussion on dogs, Matt Brazelton explained that he is looking for an area within Lafayette Square for a dog park, which will allow dogs to be exercised off lead. Residents interested in helping with this effort should contact Matt at info@fourmuddypaws.com.

It is now official. Don Terrill is the V.P./President-Elect of the LSRC. Many thanks to Don for taking on this important task (and to his wife Daphne for letting him do so).

"Movies In The Park" co-leaders Linda and Steve Skinner announced the results of the residents' survey. The schedule will include: *The Wizard of Oz* on July 26, *Cars* on August 23 and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* on September 27. Please mark your calendars for these family classics. More information will follow.

Rachel Witt and the LSRC Community Affairs Committee will host the June after-meeting social at Wireworks. The social will take place around the pool at Wireworks, 1425 S. 18th St., following the general membership meeting on June 10.

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Image courtesy of Mildred Wayne

This rendering of the unveiling of the Benton Statue first appeared in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper on June 27, 1868.

Series of events/celebrations mark Benton Statue anniversary

Celebrate the 140th anniversary of the unveiling of the Benton Monument and Flag Day in Lafayette Park. The event is free and open to the public. Festivities will be held at the Benton Statue, just west of the main lake in Lafayette Park, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on June 14. There will be patriotic music, speeches, a free carriage ride and activities for the kids. Plein Air artists will capture the scene. Refreshments will be available for purchase. To add to the Victorian-centered event, come dressed in Victorian attire.

Symposium: 'The Life and Works of Harriet Goodhue Hosmer'

A symposium honoring the woman who created the Benton Statue will be held June 14 at Washington University. Symposium tickets include a symposium reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday evening at the Mercan-

tile Library at the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

Hats off to Hattie Gala

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 to benefit the restoration of the Benton Monument. Tickets are \$200 per person or \$175 for members of the Lafayette Park Conservancy.

'Deep roots' stretch 120 years at LPUMC

By Tom Keay & 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 '44, 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 built yet again in 1873, under a new name, Chouteau Avenue Methodist Church. Once more, in 1888, the members erected a new structure, this time on the site that became 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 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 of 1900, workers laid the cornerstone of the new church. Five thousand people attended the historic event. Work was completed in May of 1902, and in September of that year, the new church was dedicated.

Architect William Cann designed an

edifice rich in Romanesque style with a limestone exterior of alternating courses of smooth and rusticated stonework. The imposing entrance arches are highlighted with carved cherub capitals, while the main tower is accentuated with stone gargoyle heads serving as rain spouts.

The octagon-shaped sanctuary, surrounded by lovely stained glass windows, is modeled after theater design. Four small balconies overlook the interior space, and pews are set in a fanlike shape on an inclined floor facing the altar. Behind the chancel, ranks of elaborately stenciled organ pipes provide the amazing melodious sounds of the original Killigan Organ.

William Cann served as architect for seven churches in St. Louis around the turn of the 20th Century and more than 600 church designs throughout the country. He was a member of the Lafayette Park church, which he personally designed.

Lafayette Park United Methodist church continued to serve the south St. Louis community throughout most of the 20th Century but by the late 1960s suffered decline associated with the fate of its urban location. But as the city and especially Lafayette Square were rediscovered, the congregation began a resurgence that continues today. Lafayette Park United Methodist Church once again provides more and more opportunities for people of all ages: children, youth, young adults, seniors, singles, couples, professional and single parents. "From deep roots, new shoots."

In May of this year, Lafayette Park United Methodist Church celebrated 120 years in Lafayette Square with a series of commemorative events highlighted by the visit and sermon of Bishop Robert Schnase on May 25.



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St. Louis Perfectos to Take on 'Imperfectos' June 21

By Chris Duggan
St. Louis Perfectos

The St. Louis Perfectos vintage base ball team will follow up its weekend of matches on June 7 and 8 with its annual match against the "Imperfectos" of Lafayette Park on June 21. The Perfectos and the neighborhood team face off for the first game at 2 p.m.

Following the June 7 and 8 Shepard Barclay Vintage Base Ball Festival, which featured the Perfectos and several visiting teams, the June 21 event is the Perfectos' only other home

contest in June before they head off to a road match against the Vermillion Voles on June 28. This is a great chance to catch the Perfectos in action and experience some authentic vintage base ball. The Perfectos' next scheduled home games are on July 26 against the Downer's Grove Ploughboys. The first of those games begins at 1 p.m.

The Perfectos play according to rules that were in place in the 1860s, when baseball was called "base ball" and before modern innovations like fielders' mitts

and batting gloves. Batters are "strickers," pitchers are "hurlers," and fielders are called "scouts" and "tenders." Wearing uniforms and using equipment consistent with the game as it was played in the 19th century, Perfectos matches are equal parts competition and living history.

All games are free and open to the public. Seating is not provided, so



Kara Krekeler photo

Team members of the vintage base ball team the St. Louis Perfectos line up before a match on a beautiful day in Lafayette Park.

audience members, or "cranks," are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs. Following the June 21 contest, cranks and Imperfectos players are invited to join the Perfectos at that evening's Concert in the Park from 6 to 9 p.m., which features renowned St. Louis-area blues guitarist Rich McDonough.

For more information about the St. Louis Perfectos, and for a complete schedule of games, visit www.stlouisperfectos.org.

2008 Legislative session ends with flurry of action

By Jeanette Mott Oxford
State Representative, 59th District

At 6 p.m. on May 16, the 2008 Legislative session came to an end. With the governor, the speaker of the House, and the President pro tem of the Senate all being "lame ducks" in 2008, perhaps none had the clout needed to move a legislative agenda along. In any case, more bills passed in the final 24 hours of the session than in the previous four months combined. Among the bills that passed are:

Property Tax Reform – Senate Bill 711 requires local governments to roll back rates to keep tax collections stable when property values rise after reassessment. It also increased relief for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. I voted no on the bill because I thought we needed to offer more relief to these citizens, but I did approve of parts of the bill. (If my vote had been needed to pass the bill, I would have voted yes.)

Immigration Reform – House Bill 1549 barred immigrants without legal status in the United States from receiving public benefits and getting drivers' licenses, but then both were already illegal, so I considered that "chest-thumping." The bill imposes sanctions against employers who hire undocumented workers unless the employers used an electronic verification system, and it bans "sanctuary cities." I voted no because I support comprehensive federal reform instead of a patchwork of state laws and diversion of scarce state and local law enforcement to this issue.

Veteran's Tuition Break – Sen. Cole-

man's Senate Bill 830, the "Returning Heroes' Education Act," limits tuition charged at Missouri higher education institutions to \$50 per credit hour if the student is an honorably discharged veteran who (1) was a Missouri resident when first entering the military and (2) served in armed combat after Sept. 11, 2001. I voted yes.

Incentives for Energy Efficiency – Senate Bill 1181 requires that energy efficiency design be part of new construction or substantial renovation of state buildings. The bill promotes use of energy efficient products in several ways, including offering the "Show Me Green Sales Tax Holiday." From April 19 to 25, 2009, all sales of Energy Star certified new appliances will be exempt from state sales tax. I voted yes.

Elimination of Campaign Finance Caps – Senate Bill 1038 cleared the House on a near party-line vote of 83 to 72, eliminating campaign giving caps that Missouri voters first imposed in 1994 with 73.9 percent support. Under current law, individual donors can give no more than \$1,350 to a statewide candidate, \$675 to a Senate candidate and \$325 to a House candidate per election. When the repeal takes effect on Aug. 28, donors will be able to give unlimited amounts. I voted no.

I was glad to see that a number of bad ideas failed, for example, the Voter Photo ID bill, repeal of the minimum wage increase for tipped workers and significant restructuring of the non-partisan court plan. Constituents of the 59th District will receive a thorough End of Session report through the mail soon. Watch for it!

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Volunteers needed for watering, weeding; residents plan fall garden fundraiser

By Linda Weiner
Lafayette Square

One touch of nature/Makes the whole world kin
-William Shakespeare

Gardening events herald spring, bring us together

What a whirlwind of gardening and beautification activity early spring brings! There is the Native Plant Dig, the Great Perennial Divide, downtown flower planting by numerous groups including Gateway Greening, Operation Brightside, the city Forestry Division, volunteers from throughout the city and county and the Flora Conservancy of Lafayette Park and other volunteers planting and mulching for weeks in a continuing cascade of volunteers!

New residents introduce themselves and old friendships are renewed as wayward hair is swept off foreheads and smiles appear on dirt-streaked faces. Finally, the cityscape and park are ready for visitors. Now that we're beautified and connected, let the concerts and movies in the park begin!

Volunteers needed: Summer watering and weeding awaits

Volunteers are always needed for Flora Conservancy efforts to keep Lafayette Park sites weeded and to assist in other

locations such as the mini-park on Park Avenue at Mississippi Avenue, which could use "adoption" by someone interested in watering, weeding and planting. Additional sites include Truman Parkway and the Jefferson median as well as the Park Avenue medians and bump outs. While we are grateful to our regular volunteers, there are more weeds to come than folks can keep up with! Please consider volunteering by calling me at 621-7071 and/or by becoming a Flora member.

Street closings may get improved barriers

We are continuing to pursue the building of concrete "islands" at Lafayette Avenue and 18th Street and Lafayette Avenue and Dolman Street, upon which attractive urns may some day perch, overflowing with Babalonian plantings. More to come. Aldermen Phyllis Young and Kacie Starr Triplett will have to approve these budget items to move the project along. Let them know of your support!

Lafayette Square Community Garden members plan fall fundraiser

Planning for a community garden event to raise money for construction of brick pillars and iron fencing for the Park Avenue entrance to the garden is underway! Think white tablecloths and candles, night-blooming fragrant flowers, evocative poetry readings, Victorian

attire. Thanks to Margaret Howard and Keith Welsh for their energy and vision.

Muchas, muchas gracias

Thanks to Dave and Nancy Bridwell for adopting the Park and Mississippi avenues corner of Lafayette Park; Doug Fish for beautification efforts; Mitchell and Devyani Hunt for adopting the stone urn on Missouri Avenue; Tom Keay, Ruth Kamphoefner, Ward Buckner, Susan Pinker-Dodd and Carolyn Willmore for growing yummy plants for Lafayette Park; Robert Bischoff and Greg Plattner for watering; Marilyn Lane for adopting the Washington statue for weeding; Linda and Steve Skinner for mulching; Mary Otto, Robert Bischoff and Mitchell Hunt for volunteering for community-wide beautification efforts; Artemus Phillips for boxwood trimming at the Washington statue; Billie Jean Portis for park bench beautification; Julie and Shane Piathek for beautifying the Benton statue; Rebecca Wright for her tireless work at the rock garden on Missouri Avenue; Patricia Barber and Erin Budde for adopting the Jefferson median; Keith Welsh and Mitchell Hunt and others for adopting Truman Parkway; Carolyn McAvoy for adopting the Benton entrance to the park; Vicky Houghton for volunteering; Jeff Jensen and Matt Brazelton for weeding the Park Avenue medians ... and I know I have left out many of you who have volunteered. What a neighborhood!

After-tour party: Sqwires Restaurant
Flowers: Walter Knoll Florist
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\$500 level: AmerenUE; Seventh Ward Alderman Phyllis Young
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The Missouri Valley Conference; The Padberg & Corrigan Law Firm
Special thanks to: Garry McMichael, Charles Wallis, Paul and Susan Sauer, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, Sixth Ward Alderman Kacie Starr Triplett.
Of course, the House Tour would not be possible without the hard work of literally hundreds of volunteers, led by our dedicated House Tour Committee. The spirit of volunteerism has been a hallmark of the Lafayette Square neighborhood for many years, and it will be on display once again. Get ready to experience the grandeur, history and fun of the 39th annual Lafayette Square Spring House and Garden Tour.

Continued from page 1

sans of Lafayette Square event. A number of vendors from the Square and the immediate vicinity will display and sell their wares.

Free carriage and trolley rides will be available for the comfort and enjoyment of our visitors. Don't forget to check out our merchandise booth, where you can purchase a souvenir to help you remember your House Tour experience. Tickets are available for \$18 on the days of the tour at the corner of Mississippi and Lafayette avenues.

The Lafayette Square Restoration Committee wishes to gratefully acknowledge the sponsors of this year's House Tour (with an apology to our sponsors who stepped up after the deadline for this story):



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'Best New Chef' finds 'Niche' in south city

By Laura McCarthy
Marquis staff

When owner and head chef of Benton Park's Niche chose St. Louis as the location for his restaurant, he never dreamed it would lead to one of the most prestigious titles for a chef at the start of his game: one of *Food and Wine* magazine's ten "Best New Chefs" in America for 2008.

The magazine claims some of the most successful chefs in America as alumni of the list, and now that list includes St. Louis' own Gerard Craft. "It's been a whirlwind," he said.

Hailing from Salt Lake City, Craft spent a lot of time in the lower ranks of some of the city's finest restaurants like Fats Grill, Bistro Toujours and the Metropolitan, as well as The Standard Hotel and The Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles.

He said it was working literally every station at these restaurants, often under some of the industry's top chefs, that he developed his knack for the culinary arts.

Although he did spend a year in culinary school, he discovered that the best way for him to learn was by doing. "I think a lot of people fly in the classroom, and I think I don't," he joked, and added that his short attention span proved crippling in the classroom, but he always excelled at cooking.

"As far as cooking goes, I probably took more of a traditional way. And now



Anna Spector photos

Niche owner and head chef Gerard Craft was recently named one of America's "Best New Chefs" by *Food and Wine*.

maybe it's a different way just because of all the different culinary schools, but I think traditionally a lot of people just started at the bottom of the ranks, learned every station, and became a chef that way," Craft said.

So what brought Craft and his family (he and his wife Susan are soon expecting their second daughter) all the way to St. Louis from Salt Lake City?

"I have a hobby of getting on the Internet late at night and looking up real estate. And I found all of these great

deals in [St. Louis city] and started to look into it and research it.

He said he soon discovered chefs Kevin Nashan at Sidney Street Café and Larry Forgione at An American Place.

"To be surrounded by amazing people I thought was a good opportunity. We found the space right in between the two. I thought, if nothing else, we could take some overflow," Craft joked. "Sidney Street is always full!"

Completely "naive" to the central corridor of St. Louis that many would associate with fine St. Louis dining, what Craft said he did know was that two very fine restaurants were thriving in the affordable south city neighborhoods.

"[Sidney Street Café and An American Place] are our older siblings over

there ... I still keep calling [them] with the dumbest questions, and they're nice enough to answer them," he said.

Craft opened his restaurant in the fall of 2005 and recently expanded his kitchen, dining and storage spaces and added Veruca, a storefront for pastry chef Matthew Rice.

"This award more than anything ... has really been even more of a motivator for us, to progress more ... and to live up to it. We have the fear of God in us right now. We don't want to disappoint anybody."

And Craft is quick to credit the people around him, including his wife Susan (the book keeper and "unsung hero of Niche"), the customers and those in his kitchen, for his and the restaurant's success.

"I have the most talented kitchen that I've ever had in my three years here right now. I have guys and girls that are really reaching out on their own and really doing fantastic stuff; I almost feel like this is starting to become a think tank here — lots of creative people bringing their ideas to the table."

He said they draw inspiration from each other, what's in season and current trends. "We all read tons of cook books, we all surf the Internet at night; everyone's up to date on current trends and current techniques."

As a result, the menu undergoes frequent changes, especially the popular tasting menu, which consists of five courses for \$65 (\$5 of which goes to the non-profit Big Brother/Big Sisters), and features the kitchen's picks for the evening. "It's us at our most creative," Craft said.

Recently on the main menu, "Oddly enough, one of our biggest sellers is our

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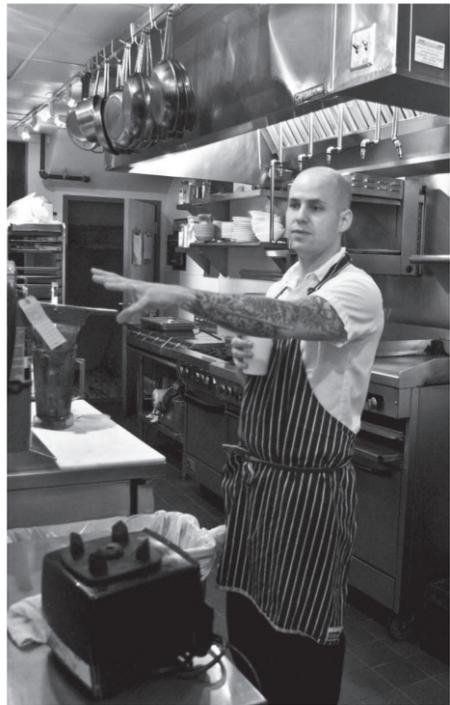
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fried pig's head ... People just love it. It's an example of what we do — we treat every ingredient with integrity," he said, and added that he loves everything about the pig, which frequently plays a starring role on the menu.

When asked if he wants to stay in St. Louis, Craft said, "Yeah, definitely. I really don't know at this point what my future is going to hold — hopefully more restaurants, but whether or not they're all right here or not, I don't know. But I'll see what opportunities come my way."

Craft will be featured with the other "Best New Chefs" in the July issue of Food and Wine. Pastry chef Matthew Rice was coincidentally featured in the June issue for an unrelated article.

Niche is located at 1831 Sidney Street. Reservations are recommended. Call 773-7755.



Craft shows off his newly expanded kitchen, which was finished in December.

McKinley Heights no longer 'donut hole'

By Mark Reed
McKinley Heights

Donuts are a wonderful thing, except for that empty void that's left in the middle. That's what McKinley Heights was until most recently.

All of the surrounding neighborhoods had implemented local historic codes that protect their most valuable asset, the housing stock, except McKinley Heights; we were the hole in the middle of the donut.

That recently changed however, when an effort to establish a local historic code was signed into law by Mayor Francis Slay.

This represents several years of work by the Neighborhood Housing Corporation and many devoted residents of the McKinley Heights Neighborhood. Now the neighborhood has a tool to help maintain the character that is so unique to many of St. Louis' neighborhoods. It is this unique architectural character that is one of St. Louis's most valuable commodities.

It has been shown that neighborhoods where local historic codes have been implemented are able to combat destructive mutilation of structures through inappropriate modifications that accelerate the decline of communities, and property values have been stabilized. In many cases those neighborhoods have experienced a resurgence of popularity with new residents moving in and property values actually increasing.

What this now means for property owners is that prior to making any alterations to the exterior of a building, plans for the proposed changes must be submitted to the Department of Cultural Resources for evaluation of their appropriateness for that particular building.

In 80 percent of the cases brought before the Cultural Resources office, these requests are approved in the office immediately.

In a few cases, recommendations are made on how to implement the requested change in such a way that is in keeping with the age and construction of the building and the surrounding streetscape, and in a very few cases, the plans are denied all together.

This only applies when alterations are to be made to the exterior. Any pre-existing conditions, unless sited for safety or health reasons, need not be changed until that time when the owner should decide to repair, renovate or replace exterior elements.

The implementation of this legislation is an historic event for the McKinley Heights neighborhood and one that will ensure its quality and existence for many more years to come.

We wish to send a huge "Thank you" to all those who labored unselfishly to see this come to fruition.

For more information or to read the actual code, contact the Cultural Resource office at 622-3413. The Web site can be found in the St Louis city Web site, www.stlouissmissouri.org.

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Vintage canoe collectors salvage pieces of St. Louis' Victorian history

By John F. and Dorothy S. Strasser
Wooden Canoe Heritage Association

This article is excerpted from "Maine on the Meramec" originally published in *Wooden Canoe* (Issue no. 146, April 2008), the journal of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association (www.WCHA.org) and is reprinted here with permission.

Nov. 20, 2007, should have been a wonderful day. Last fall had been one of the best in recent memory with brilliant colors and warm days made for canoeing Ozark rivers.

It should have been a perfect day but it wasn't. The building that had once housed the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company in Valley Park, Mo., was coming down. How Wally Hauck, and I came there that day to mourn the loss of the historic factory is a story that began a year and half earlier with an innocent question. "Did you know there was a canoe manufacturer in Valley Park?" my wife Dorothy had asked.

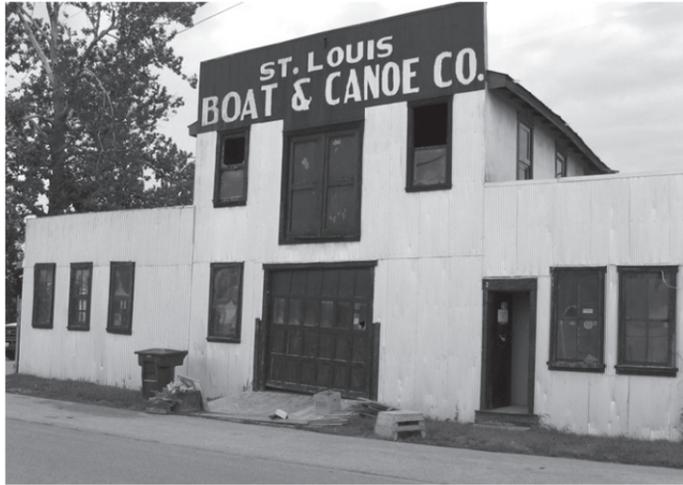
My response had been something like, "Oh yeah, I heard about that." In reality, I was thinking, "Really, here in St. Louis?" Dorothy had found the last known location of the company in the "Historic Inventory of St. Louis County Buildings." The following weekend, we were in Valley Park. The building still stood on the corner of Benton and Third streets, topped by a sign for "St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company." There was a small sign on the door for "St. Louis Boat and Canoe Repair" with a name and phone number.

Dorothy's initial research on the Valley Park canoe maker had taken her to the

Wooden Canoe Heritage Association Web site. We learned that the company's founder was Alfred Wickett, principal designer, chief builder and operations manager for the Old Town Canoe Company, circa 1900 to 1914. The Old Town Company in Maine is famed for being the oldest canoe company in the U.S. Wickett settled in Valley Park in 1922.

We enlisted Marty and Wally Hauck in the search. The next morning, Wally and I tried to call the phone number on the door. The number was no longer in service. We tried Ray's tree trimming business to the east. Ray had just purchased the canoe factory building. He offered to take us through the building. The first floor was devoid of any canoe manufacturing equipment except for a thirty-six-inch band saw and a huge drum sander.

The second floor was filled with canoe memorabilia. Ray told us that Richard Menley had been the previous owner of the building and had purchased the assets of the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company in 1978 and changed the name to the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Repair Company. Mr. Menley, Ray said, lived nearby. We introduced ourselves to Richard that day and arranged



photos courtesy of Dorothy Strasser

The St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company moved to its Valley Park, Mo., location in 1930. It was one of two locations in the St. Louis area and was destroyed in November.

to return when he could guide us through the factory.

Our research on the St. Louis Meramec Canoe Company began in earnest. Wickett, we learned, had designed the "arrowhead" deck of the canoes that he began to build in Valley Park. This design was touted as producing a canoe that is stronger than ordinary construction.

Marty learned that the Meramec River canoeing scene in the 1920s and '30s, was "the" place for courting couples on a Sunday afternoon. She gathered information on the ownership and location of the factory over the years.

Dorothy and I became determined to find a Meramec canoe. We located one for sale in Pennsylvania and returned with a case of wooden canoe fever. We were thrilled; the

canoe handled beautifully.

When Richard Menley took us through the building, he mentioned that he had "hung around" the factory as a young boy when his uncle worked for Alfred Wickett. Richard pointed out the areas where each step in the manufacturing process had taken place and directed our attention to materials in the rafters that hadn't been disturbed in over 61 years. Wally offered to buy the drum sander and the band saw and we arranged to pick up these items later. Wally picked up some cedar boards which appeared to have writing on them. I took a large wooden crate filled with papers, which contained company stationery, shipping, repair and payroll records

Later, at our favorite fly fishing establishment, Wally and I tried to decipher the writing on the cedar planks. We both reached the simultaneous conclusion that these were production boards from the company that held the key to dating the manufacture of the canoes. There were no previously known records from the canoe companies in Valley Park. We knew we had to search the loft again.

We met Richard on a steamy afternoon; the temperature was hovering around 95 degrees. Richard told us to help ourselves to any of the records and to let him know when we were finished. He said he had no desire to go upstairs in the heat.

Wally dismantled the band saw. I headed upstairs to rummage through the boxes and general debris scattered over the second floor. I found records dating from 1962 to 2003. A good deal of the wood in the rafters consisted of templates and patterns for canoes.

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The temperature in the loft was reaching 110 degrees. The air near the tiny windows was unbreathable due to the dust. I started taking my "finds" to the trailer.

The building had become an oven. Once outside, I felt the temperature drop to a manageable 98 degrees. After my third trip up and down the stairs, Wally returned to the trailer and immediately ordered me to sit down. All I could do was rest in the shade while Wally loaded the band saw.

We hurried to buy liters of Gatorade. I was close to suffering a heat stroke and of no further use that day. We would return for the rest of the items when cooler temperatures arrived.

At summer's end, we learned that Ray planned to demolish the old canoe factory when weather permitted. We spent our spare time on further research and together collected several more Meramec canoes. We pored over the records that we had salvaged from the factory. We found information on the canoe companies in the archives of the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, N.Y.

Cooler temperatures arrived; it was time to visit the factory. Richard Menley alerted us that the building was coming down soon.

I arrived at the canoe factory on the morning of November 20. A huge excavator arrived 10 minutes later and proceeded to demolish the west side of the building. I called Wally to let him know things were moving fast. The north side was flattened in less than five minutes. The excavator then attacked the center of the building where the milling had been done. The wrecker rolled over the sign as the front of the building was taken down. That sign was the only remnant of the building that we hoped to salvage. It was now 10:15; it had taken less than 25 minutes to obliterate the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company. I asked the owner's permission to retrieve the sign. He



Wally Hauck kneels with the 11 pieces of the sign — the last vestige of the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company.

said, "Go ahead, but be quick about it."

I wanted to wait for Wally but thought I had better get in the debris and try to locate some of the eleven pieces of the sign. I had located five sections when Wally arrived. We kept ahead of the excavator and located the remaining pieces. We were able to preserve some of the history of the St. Louis Boat and Canoe Company.

Through publication of this article we have begun the process of sharing our information on this historic St. Louis Company with other members of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association. We encourage anyone with an Arrowhead canoe or any information on the company and its founders to contact us at dorthstrass@yahoo.com or zymostudios@sbcglobal.net.

Marty and Wally Hauck contributed to this story.

Mary 'One' Real Estate Tip of the Month



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May LSRC membership meeting minutes

The meeting was held at Lafayette Park United Methodist Church with approximately 35 residents in attendance. President Pete Snyder called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes as presented by the secretary. New neighbors Amanda and Andrew Denny introduced themselves. Square One Brewery owner, Steve Newcomb introduced himself to the neighbors. He announced that a spirits distillery is in the works for the business. He hopes to be through the red tape soon.

Special Presentation

Kacie Starr Triplett made a presentation regarding the Board of Aldermen and the 2007 session. She is a member of the Ways and Means Committee and the Parks and Environmental Committee.

In addition to Lafayette Square, she represents several other neighborhoods that are within the ward boundaries. In Fox Park, the board has been targeting vacant buildings. Downtown, the Children's Center has been relocated to the GEW Lofts. Villa Lighting is relocating their headquarters to the Gate District. Compton Heights will be the first neighborhood to experiment with green alleys. A dog park is also planned. Criminal activity has been targeted in the Tower Grove East neighborhood. The Emergency Tree Relief program has been implemented in the Sixth ward.

In Lafayette Square, plans are underway to redevelop the Praxair site. The city assisted in filling the hole in the lagoon. \$6,000 was allocated for upgrading the lighting in the Park.

If you need to reach your alderman, her phone number is 622-3287. Her email is TriplettK@stlouiscity.com. The number for

the Citizen's Service Bureau is 622-4800.

Committee Reports

Safety - Officer Brian Min gave the safety report. There has been one burglary, six larcenies and two vehicle thefts. Clubs not only deter car theft, they also deter car break-ins. Call the station or Don Owens to purchase one. Dog problems were mentioned but not discussed at this time.

Finance - Sue Bauer announced that our income is at 9 percent of projection and our expenses are at 42 percent. This is to be expected because the bulk of our funds come from events that have not yet happened. The savings account has \$147,308.51 and the checking account has \$27,213.48.

Spring House Tour - Mark and Terry Etlng are the chairs for this event. Ten homes and nine gardens are scheduled for the tour. Details will be in the June *Marquis*. The tour booklet is printed, the postcards have been mailed and posters are available. As always, volunteers are needed for day-of-tour jobs. Call the Etlngs to volunteer.

The Plein Air contest will have a new twist this year. The artists are going to be scattered about the neighborhood on various days in order to paint different sections. Do not be surprised to see painters outside your home the last weekend in May. There will be prizes for each section. Pete Snyder is looking for judges. If interested, give Pete a call. An artists' sale will be at 7:30 p.m. June 6 at the Park House. One artist is looking for a homeowner to volunteer his or her home for an interior painting.

Terry Linhardt presented the idea of including other nearby neighborhoods in our tour this year. Each neighborhood would be offered a booth along the fence where their representatives could offer advice and brochures on home buying in the city. Many people want an old home in our area but

cannot afford one. There are many alternatives in areas not far from us that visitors might not be aware of. A motion was made to invite several neighborhoods to our tour. The requirements are: (1) the booth must be staffed, and (2) no merchandise may be sold. The motion was passed.

New Business

Dogs - A long and detailed discussion was held on the problems of unleashed dogs and owners that do not clean up after their pets. The ordinances were read to the group. Many did not understand that the Park is not a designated area for controlled off-leash activity. Gary Bess has stated that there will be no such area in the Park and that there will be no dog park in the Park. It was noted that a group has formed to look into the possibility of a dog park on a site in the Square. It was the consensus of the gathering that Officer Min should give warnings/tickets to those who are not in compliance with the ordinances.

Old Business

Movies in the Park - Steve and Linda Skinner head up the committee this year. The movies that will be shown this year are: *The Wizard of Oz* on July 26, *Cars* on August 23, and *The Raiders of the Lost Ark* on September 27. There will be related activities before each movie. Details will follow at a later date.

Hats Off to Hattie - Carolyn Willmore gave an overview of planned events. These celebrations will occur on June 13 and 14 in honor of Harriet Hosmer, who designed and executed the Benton statue in the park. A reception will be held on June 13 at the Mercantile Library; a symposium will be held at Washington University on June 14 during the day; a public celebration will occur in

the park that afternoon, and a Gala will be held that evening on Benton Place. Post cards have been mailed to the residents of the Square.

Sidewalk Signage Program - The committee is currently gathering data about various houses and sites in the neighborhood. All facts must be verified as correct before any printing can be done.

VP/President Elect - Don Terrill was elected as VP/President-Elect by a unanimous vote.

Announcements

Seventh Ward Alderman Phyllis Young will be the guest at our June meeting.

A meeting regarding the issues at doorways will be held on May 15 at 7 p.m. at the Park House. Carol Fischer is coordinating this information session.

Mulching Madness will occur May 17 and 18 in the Park.

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church will celebrate 120 years at this location at 10 a.m. May 25. A barbecue will follow the service. All are welcome.

Meeting Schedules

The Arts Council will meet at 7 p.m. June 12 in the Park House.

The LSBA will meet at 8 a.m. June 5 at Park Avenue Coffee.

The LSRC Development Committee will meet at 7 p.m. June 3 in the Park House.

The LSRC Membership meeting will be held at 7 p.m. June 10 at Lafayette Park United Methodist Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. Susan and Paul Sauer hosted the social.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Horner, membership secretary

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Steinberg Hall Auditorium, Washington University
Saturday morning, June 14, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderator: Andrew Walker, Curator of American Art, Saint Louis Art Museum

"The White Marmorean Flock," 19th Century American Women Neoclassical Sculptors, William H. Gerdts, Professor Emeritus of Art History, Graduate School of the City University of New York

Harriet Hosmer in St. Louis- Body and Soul, Julia Markus, Director of Creative Writing, Professor, Hofstra University and author of **Across an Untried Sea**.

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

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

From Boston to Rome: Harriet Hosmer's Professional Journey, Melissa Dabakis, Professor of Art and Art History, Kenyon College

Clip and mail registration form to:

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

For more information, visit www.lafayettepark.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

I/we will attend the Opening Reception Friday.

yes no

Names: _____

List additional names on back.

Registration Fee and Payment

_____ @ \$30.00 (Member's rate for Lafayette Park Conservancy, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Missouri History Museum, Saint Louis Art Museum, or Saint Louis Mercantile Library. One discounted registration per member, please.)

_____ @ \$40.00 (Non-member)

_____ @ \$15.00 (Student)

My check for \$ _____ enclosed, payable to the Lafayette Park Conservancy.

Please bill my _____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Card number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

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_____ *International Celebration Sponsor \$10,000 -2 tables plus seating for 20 at the Benton Monument Celebration and 10 tickets for the Symposium and Opening Reception*

_____ *Restoration Sponsor \$5,000 - 1 table for 10 plus seating for 10 at the Benton Monument Celebration and 5 tickets for the Symposium and Opening Reception*

_____ *Art Patron Sponsor - \$2000.00 - 1 table for 10 guests*

_____ *Individual tickets - \$200.00 each, Lafayette Park Conservancy Members - \$175.00*

_____ *Unable to attend, but would like to contribute to the restoration of the Benton Monument in historic Lafayette park*

Payment Method:

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For more information call (314) 772-5724

or visit www.lafayettepark.org

Please mail response by June 4 to 2023 Lafayette Avenue • Saint Louis • Missouri • 63104



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.

**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.

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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?



4100 FLORA PLACE \$679,900
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!



2325 WHITTEMORE PLACE
Lafayette Square Victorian located on a cul-de-sac just off the park. This spacious painted lady is in the mid stages of a gut rehab. Get in today and help pick out the finishing touches. Historic home with modern convenience!



3315 SHENANDOAH AVE
Impressive 3 story, 5 bedroom 2.5 bath home on a large lot with garage parking. New hardwood floors and premium marble tile on first floor. Grand staircase leading to a marvelous master bedroom suite. Property sold as-is.



1205 MISSOURI \$349,900
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.



4059 FLORA PLACE \$325,000
2.5 story home on lovely gated Blvd. 4 BR, 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.

2229 PARK AVE

\$574,000



The 'Showboat House' built in late 1840's. Features a stunning, floor-to-ceiling mahogany library, a secret sauna room, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths and a 3 story deck facing Lafayette park!



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3534 SHENANDOAH \$250,000
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.



5479 PERNOD \$248,000
Great brick bungalow with charming landscaping on a fantastic block. This home features stunning hardwood floors, a great kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 updated baths and garage parking.



4000 CLEVELAND \$239,900
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!



5635 WATERMAN \$239,900
3 bedroom, 2 bath unit, the largest floorplan in the building! Light filled living with tons of thermal windows. Newer hardwood floors. Updated kitchen with stainless appliances and granite countertops.



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.



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.



2034 GEYER \$184,900
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.



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.



2327 TENNESSEE \$179,935
Large two story townhome with hardwood floors, exposed brickwork, a premium kitchen, Bosch appliances and granite countertops! 3 large bedrooms, 2 full baths and a 2 car garage!



4101 SHENANDOAH \$168,000
2 bedroom, 2 bath Condos with amazing woodwork. Large dining room with beamed ceilings. New kitchen with maple cabinetry, center island/breakfast bar, Jefferson window access to a covered deck



5653 WATERMAN \$159,900
3rd floor unit overlooking the pool! Maple kitchen with breakfast bar, quartz countertops and stainless appliances. In unit laundry, secured gated off-street parking. 2 bedroom, 1 bath.



2733 ARSENAL \$149,900
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!



3645 OREGON AVE \$129,500
Total renovation with everything you can think of...All new plumbing, electrical panel, ceramic tile, 42" kitchen cabinets with walk-in pantry. Fresh paint throughout and a lot more. Wonderful rehab—open floor plan. It's a must see!



4123 MCDONALD AVE. \$127,500
Restored Blast from the Past. The famous Lustron House, made of prefab enameled steel panels circa 1950. Striking interior. 2 bedrooms, built-in storage units. Large fenced yard. 2 car garage. Really cool, really fun!!!



3619 UPTON ST. \$117,900
Sharp renovation, 2 BR, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, granite countertops, new bath, sunroom & detached garage. Just off Carondelet Park, this south city gem is in move-in condition!



4248 GILES AVE. \$109,500
All brick 2 bedroom 1 bath Tudor in Dutchtown neighborhood. Stained glass, nice corner lot, separate LR & DR, enclosed back porch. Call Scott Maddux for more information (314) 369-3786.

TWO FAMILY APARTMENTS



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.



3456 CRITTENDEN \$268,000
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.



1212 SHENANDOAH \$219,900
Terrific townhouse style, two-family in the heart of Soulard. 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.



805 RUSSELL \$215,000
Sharp renovated two family in Soulard. 1 bedroom unit with new granite and stainless steel kitchen, new bathroom plus a 3 story townhome unit with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths.



5012 DEVONSHIRE \$127,500
Freshly renovated two family on a pleasant block. 4 room units with newer thermal windows, central air, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchens and baths, bright, clean, freshly painted interior.