

# The Benton Park News

A Monthly Publication of the **Benton** Park Neighborhood Association

Volume 10, Number 4

April, 1993

## "Take A Bite Out of Crime" Dinner Dance A Success!

Approximately 150 people gathered at the lovely Franklin Room for BPNA's First Annual Dinner Dance. Final figures are not yet in, but according to latest accounts, the Association has netted a nice profit of at least \$1,800. This event, of course, would never have succeeded without the hard work of the committee.

So, special thanks go to Chairperson Nancy **Christen** who single-handedly sold around forty tickets; Ron **Bentley** who expeditiously selected and booked the hall, food and music; Ken and Pat **Ortmann** who competently handled the ticket sales; Beverly **Swanson** who did a wonderful job **PR-ing** the event; and Ron Lentz and George Rutter whose assistance helped make the benefit a success.

We also especially appreciate the following people for donating various items for the raffle and door prizes. Their generosity created an element of excitement as drawings for prizes continued throughout the evening:

**Martie** Aboussie (20" Color Television); Pat & Lee **Bania** (Fiberglass Canoe); Sara **Linguist** (Life Size Art - "The Scream" and "The Mummy"); Ron **Lentz** (Hand-Crafted Jewelry Box); Sidney **Street Cafe** (Gift Certificate); **Brown Bag Cafe** (Two Lunch Certificates); Cafe **Windsor** (Lunch Certificate for Two); **Jana Bahr & Denise Ortmann** (Hand-Painted T-shirt).

And last but not least, sincere thanks to all the people who purchased tickets, an essential detail for a successful benefit function!

## Operation Brightside: Project Blitz 1993

Yes, folks, it's that time again. Operation Brightside's Twelfth Annual Blitz, which begins April 24, 1993 and continues until May 15, 1993, will sweep through the **Benton** Park Neighborhood on May 8 enabling residents to clean and beautify our neighborhood. Operation Brightside provides trash bags, tools, mulch, flowers (periwinkles and marigolds). Flowers are to be planted on public property. Trash pickup and separate yard waste pickup will begin at 10:00 AM and end at 3:00 PM. Your Block Captain will see to it that you have the necessary materials. If you don't know who your Block Captain is, call George Rutter (664-5118) or Nancy Christen (776-2972).

As in the past, the Blitz falls on the same weekend as the **Benton** Park House Tour. Attempts to get the date changed have been unsuccessful, but past years have proven that the two events can co-exist quite well with planning and cooperation.

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## Win! Win! Win!

Get your neighbors together and enter the **Anheuser-Busch** Special Projects Contest. Win cash awards for the neighborhood. Prizes will be awarded in each region for *Best Beautification* and *Best Clean-Up Projects*.

New this year, paint the "yard waste only" dumpsters in your area and win cash prizes. Regional prizes range from \$25 to \$100. Regional winners will be eligible for grand prizes ranging from \$250 to \$1,000 in a city-wide competition. For more information, contact BPNA member George Rutter (664-5118) or the Operation Brightside's Blitz Hotline (781-4556).

## April BPNA Meeting

One of the items on the agenda for the next BPNA meeting, Tuesday evening, April 6, is a proposal to develop a book to market **Benton** Park as an alternative use of funds previously earmarked for the production of a neighborhood video.

The proposal will be presented by BPNA member, Charlie Dahlheimer, president of Community Marketing Resources, Inc, a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1990 by Dahlheimer and BPNA president, Ron Bentley.

**Benton** Park Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM, at Epiphany Parish Hall, 2911 McNair. The Public is invited to attend.

## SHARP, Citicorp Grant Focused on Arsenal Street

SHARP (Supplemental Housing Assistance and Repair Program) is focusing efforts on Arsenal Street as one of the neighborhood's main entry points. Co-sponsored by Neighborhood Pride, Inc. and Joint Neighborhood Ministries, the program offers assistance to low-income residents to make emergency repairs and address code violations on their properties. A grant and loan program offers up to \$2,500 to needy home owners with no interest over a three-year period. This permits owners to stay in their homes and make preventive repairs as needed before the problems become large. To date, a variety of repairs have been **funded** including **concrete**, wiring, deck and roof work. If you know of anyone who might benefit from this program, contact **Glenn Koenen (771-3987)** or **Bill Stephenson (664-6117)** for an application.

In 1992 SHARP obtained a community betterment grant from **Citicorp's** Urban Renaissance Program. This grant was targeted for improvements on **Arsenal Street** to make a better first impression on visitors coming into the **neighborhood**. **Pat and Ken Ortmann** coordinated street improvements and flower pots along Arsenal Street. Libby Reuter and Marion Smith coordinated the design of an entry marker designed by Dan **Pierron**, which **will** be installed prior to this year's BPNA House Tour. Site negotiations are currently under way and members of the **Benton Park Neighborhood Association** **will** be invited to help with the installation. **Ortmann** will direct concrete footing work and **Pierron** will direct the marker erection.

Also, according to a third and, hopefully, final revision received by the editor of this newsletter regarding contribution and placement of the trash receptacles specially designed by **Pierron**, three **will** be purchased with the Citicorp grant: one to be located at the marker site, another at Epiphany Church and the third at Pontiac Central Park. BPNA has agreed to purchase one trash container, also to be located at Pontiac Central Park.

## Compton Heights Concert Band To Perform

The members of this fine band **will** perform on Sunday, April 11 at 3:00 PM for their **Annual** Easter Concert at St. Elizabeth Academy, 3401 Arsenal. The concert is free of charge.

## Eva's Environmental Tips

Americans use over a billion gallons of paint every year. When selecting paint, we should think about more than just color; what kind of paint we use and what we do with it when we're done has a direct impact on the environment. Paint products, including oil-based paint, thinners, solvents, stains and **finishes**, account for 60% of hazardous waste dumped by **individuals**. Here are some things we can do:

Use latex paint: It's generally less harmful to the environment than oil-based paint.

Buy only the amount needed. Donate extra paint to a school, church, etc. **Disposing** of any paint by pouring it on the ground is risking groundwater contamination.

Store hazardous materials properly: Keep them in their original containers and make sure labels are securely **fixed** to containers. Keep them in a cool, dry place • out of reach of children. Keep lids on tight; letting any oil-based paint products evaporate pollutes the atmosphere.

**Clean paint brushes safely: Don't wash brushes outside even with latex paint;** the paint will threaten groundwater. If you're on a sewer system, rinse them in a sink, the waste **will** go to a treatment facility.

Want additional information? Send for the free brochure, **Paint Disposal...the Right Way**, from National Paint and Coating Association, 1500 Rhode Island Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005.

### The Benton Park News

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### PUBLICATION DEADLINE

The 20th of each month is the cutoff date for material to reach the Benton Park newsletter editor. We welcome input from all of our readers regarding people and events that involve Benton Park and its residents.

Submit information by phone (664-8552), FAX (664-6310), or mail (3108 Illinois, 63118).

### 1993 BPNA OFFICERS:

Ron Bentley, President  
Barbara Marshall, Vice President  
Duane Beougher, Secretary  
Kevin Kelleher, Treasurer

## A Message From House Tour Chairperson Linda Dahlheimer

The planning of **this** year's event is very much on track, thanks to a lot of dedication from the various committees! Thirteen homes have been selected for the tour, scheduled for Mothers Day Weekend, May 8 and 9, **12:00** Noon to **5:00** PM both days. We are coordinating our efforts with Antique Row's Street Fair, which **will** be held on both days. In addition, a group of artists **will** have their studios open this year. Brian **Susskind** and Laurie Ogborn are coordinating that aspect.

As a special feature **this** year, in honor of Mother's Day, moms who once lived in any of the tour homes will be admitted **free** on either day of the tour. If at all possible, some documentation (photo, letter, postcard, etc. bearing the address) should be presented at the tour ticket booth.

Volunteers **will** be needed to distribute posters which Marian **Amies** is in the process of designing. Shop owners enjoy receiving the posters...and it's a great way to meet people. If **this** project appeals to you, and you have family, friends or work that frequently brings you to a section of the city or county, call Public Relations committee members Libby Reuter (**773-4274**) or Pat **Ortmann** (776-0161). The committee is trying to cover **as** much of the metropolitan area as possible and, at the same time, avoid overlapping of particular areas. The more volunteers, the greater the distribution!

We **will** also need housesitters. **This** job generally involves two hours at one of the tour homes. Call Barb Marshall to volunteer (776-7829). Housesitters will receive free tour tickets.

**All** persons whose homes are on tour have been invited to a wine and cheese reception which **will** be held before the tour event. They **will** also receive a floral arrangement the weekend of the tour as an appreciation gift from BPNA.

Everyone who has **donated his/her** time and talents - be it distributing posters, working at the booth, working on the committees, etc. - will be invited to a barbecue sponsored by the Association after the house tour ends on Sunday.

You may already be involved with the planning, or you may decide to help out the weekend of the tour, or maybe you're planning to just take the tour. Whatever your involvement, your participation is important! Plan to be part of this important marketing event for the neighborhood.

## Homes Featured on Tour

This year's collection of homes should give tour-goers an interesting afternoon or two. Many of the featured homes have never before been on tour. Several were previously on tour but now have new owners.

**Following** are the addresses of homes **scheduled** to be on **this** year's tour: 3122 Illinois; 3010 Lemp; 2916 Lemp; 2859 **McNair**; 2838 Salena; **2204** Sidney; 3000 Wisconsin; 2916 Wisconsin, 2212-A Wyoming; 1906 Wyoming; 2124 **Wyoming**; 2122 Victor; and 2130 Victor.

### Membership Application

Activities of The **Benton** Park Neighborhood Association are funded primarily by the dues **and** donations from neighborhood residents, and property and business owners within **Benton** Park.

Annual dues of **\$5.00** include a year's subscription to The **Benton** Park News and a 10% **discount** on **all** purchases from participating area merchants. The growing list includes: Allen's **Garden** Shop, 3201 Cherokee; Morands Hardware & Supply, 1801 **Pestalozzi**; TEASE Hair Salon, 1615 South Ninth; **Edel & Mertz** Hardware Co, 1822 S. Broadway; the **Icarian** Studios, 3016 Wisconsin; and **Sidney** Street Cafe, 2000 Sidney Street and **Art** of the Ages, **2205** Cherokee.

#### Count me in as a member for 1993:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues enclosed

\_\_\_\_ **Additional** gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed to support neighborhood **programs/events**.

(Make checks payable to **Benton** Park Neighborhood **Ass'n**.)

Mail to: **BPNA, P.O. Box 2066, St. Louis, MO 63158**

## Benefit to be Held for Compton Heights Concert Band

On Saturday, May 1, 8:00 PM, Frontenac Plaza will be enveloped in the sounds of a jazz extravaganza entitled **Pizzazz!**, with net proceeds to benefit the Compton Heights Concert Band. Included in the jazz pops concert to be conducted by Dr. Gregory Fox will be Grammy-nominated **Arturo Sandoval**, hailed as the jazz trumpeter of the decade by jazz critic Leonard Feather.

Then at 10:00 PM, the world-famous East St. Louis Lincoln High School Jazz Band is sure to delight the audience to jazz sounds conducted by Ron Carter.

Mistress of Ceremonies for this event will be St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Elaine Viets. Honorary Chairpersons are Viets, former Miss America **Debbye Turner**, and Stan "The Man" Musial.

A silent auction is included in the evening's events, as well as the opportunity for dancing. A cash bar **will be** available. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$25 per couple. Ring-side seats are **\$100** per person. To order tickets, call 776-2227. Credit card orders will be accepted. Net proceeds for the benefit will go to Compton Heights Concert **Band**.

## Kite Festival in Forest Park

The Great Forest Park Kite Festival will once again be held on Saturday, April 10 at 1:30 PM. Check the Calendar section of the Post Dispatch for more details.

## BPNA Starts "Menu of the Month" Program

Beginning with the April 6 BPNA meeting, members are asked to bring along with them specific canned or dried foods that will provide a needy family of four with a balanced meal. Each month, this newsletter will print the scheduled "menu of the month."

This month's menu consists of Beef Stew, Rice, Vegetable and Fruit. So, please bag up at least one can each of stew, vegetables, fruit and a **box/bag** of rice, **and** bring the **sack with** you to the meeting. Joint **Neighborhood** Ministries will do the rest, and your **generosity** will be greatly appreciated. BPNA member Jane Huber (664-7244) is coordinating this worthy project.

## Welcome, New Residents

The BPNA is pleased to announce and warmly welcome the arrival of four new residents:

Joseph **Walker** Trout, eight-pound, **two-ounce** son of Jim Trout and Martha **Tobin**, 2130 Victor, born on February 12, 1993;

Jonathan Barrett **Higganbotham**, six-pound, **two-ounce** son of Mike and **Jennifer Higganbotham**, 2132 Victor, born on January 25, 1993;

Samantha Lynn Hantak, eight-pound, **six-ounce** daughter of Greg Hantak and Gail **Gronski**, 1956 Senate, born November 23, 1992; and

Megan Groh, infant daughter of Colleen and John Groh, 3006 Indiana.

### The Benton Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 2066  
St. Louis, MO 63158