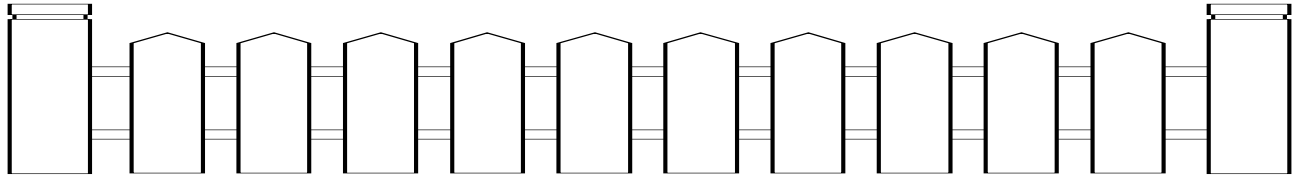


Fence Talk

University Heights Association, Inc.
September, 2000



BOARD REPORT

The Board is looking into the possibility of hosting a neighborhood House Tour as a means of raising funds for neighborhood improvements. Anyone interested should contact Linda Strassburger at 721-6476.

Tim Cross and Jeff Massey are checking into establishing a web site for the neighborhood, possibly through the PostNet.com site. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Tim Cross at 862-0828.

Jeff Massey has been working to repair the plant holders on our ornamental light posts. Thanks Jeff!

The September Board meeting will be held at Malcolm Bea's home (6900 Cornell) on September 12. All neighbors are welcome to attend.

FENCETALK

If you have any articles, ads or other information for the October Fencetalk, please get the information to Janet Schaper no later than September 25th. Contact her at 6974 Dartmouth, 726-5352, or janetschaper@planetstl.com. Written information is always preferable, for spelling of names and accuracy of information to be reported.

MILESTONES

Welcome George Martin Nichols, born July 24th to proud (but tired) parents: Diana and Colin Nichols on Dartmouth.

(If you have information on new neighbors, neighbors moving away, births, deaths, graduations, marriages, or any other significant events in our neighborhood, and would like to share them with our neighbors, contact Janet Schaper to have them included in Fencetalk).

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

The annual University Heights neighborhood picnic will be held Sunday, September 17th (Rain date is September 24th).

PARADE

Begins at 3:30pm at Yale/Cornell/Princeton
Come join the parade! Prizes for costumes & decorations. Decorate your bike, your big wheel, yourself, your dog, your Mom & Dad, whatever, and meet us at the corner before 3:30. If you don't want to walk, come out and watch. Beautiful buttons will be handed out to all paraders and spectators.

POTLUCK PICNIC

After the parade there is just enough time to go home and get your goodies for the picnic and return to Lewis Park. The U Heights Association provides hot grills, cold beer and soda, nametags, games, music and other amenities. Each household is asked to bring a pot-luck dish (salad, vegetable, casserole or dessert) big enough to serve 10-12 people. You also need to bring your own main dish, plates and utensils. If you bring your own drinks, please remember that glass containers are not allowed in the park. There will be extra tables in the park, but many people prefer to bring their own picnic blanket or chairs. Don't forget insect repellent.

DUNKING BOOTH

A new feature at this year's picnic will be a celebrity dunking booth. The board has assembled a number of famous and infamous "dunkees". You are sure to want a chance at immersing them in the cold tub of water. This association fund raiser is sure to provide entertainment for all! Chances will be sold for \$5/each, with reduced prices for kids!

The U Heights picnic is not just for kids and not just for families. It is for all residents, old, young, single, married new neighbors, old timers, former neighbors, everyone!

Come out and join the fun!

STUDENTS ON THE MOVE

By Eileen Pheiffer

Many households in the neighborhood have had a flurry of activity over the past few weeks as their students prepare, and for some, leave home, for a new school. In this column, I'd like to tell you where and what some of these students are studying.

The Moore family on Yale is a buzz with change, with both sons starting new schools. Daniel, a graduate of Kansas University, has moved to New York to attend law school at the City College of New York. Younger son Andrew graduated from Crossroads High School and will be moving onto the campus of St. Louis University to major in Business. Andrew played soccer and basketball while at Crossroads.

The Bloom-Ellis family, also on Yale, will be able to visit two students at one campus. Paige, a graduate of University City High School, will be joining her sister, Aryn, at the University of Missouri at Columbia. Aryn is a junior and is pursuing a degree in social work. Paige was involved in the spring musicals while attending U.C.H.S. and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Elizabeth Remus, on Radcliffe, graduated with high honors from MICDS and will be attending Williams College in northwestern Massachusetts. While at MICDS, Elizabeth was a member of the St. Louis Rowing Club and she plans to continue this sport at Williams. She will be majoring in Biology, with a minor in Economics. Her goal is to attend medical school to become a pediatrician.

John Schwarz, on Princeton, will be attending his father's alma mater, the University of Louisville, this fall, majoring in Chemistry. He graduated from Whitfield, where he received the Math and Science awards for the school. John played varsity tennis for three years and was the co-founder of the Model UN program during his senior year. John is an avid rock climber during his free time.

Nils Hinshaw, on Amherst, is a high school freshman and will be attending Scattergood Friends School, a farm-based, college preparatory, boarding school. The school is located east of Iowa City, Iowa and has an enrollment of 60 students. Fourteen years ago, Nils moved into the boys dorm as a new faculty baby and spent his first seven years there as a part of the school community. With his uncle as head of school, and with a cousin in the eleventh grade, Nils isn't exactly venturing into the unknown. In fact, the Hinshaw family has been associated with the school since 1890.

Brittany Pheiffer, on Radcliffe, has gone to Thundorf, Switzerland, to be an exchange student for her junior year of high school. She will live in this small village, about 25 miles

from Zurich, and take the train into the town of Frauenfeld to go to the local college preparatory school. All of her classes will be in German. With five years of Latin and two years of Japanese under her belt, the first five weeks of intensive language study will be greatly needed. Brittany will have a host sister her age and a host brother a year younger. An avid field hockey player for the University City High School, Brittany has left her hockey stick behind, but plans to learn to ski. She will return in mid July 2001.

If you have a student on the move, that is, anyone going away for high school, just starting college or graduate school, or perhaps you've gone back to school yourself, please send me your information for next month's FenceTalk.. My e-mail address is izyz@aol.com and my home address is 720 Radcliffe. I know that there are many more students on the move and I'd love to feature all of them.

BLOCK HOMES

Dear Neighbors,

It's that time of the year again. School children are walking through the Heights to and from school. It's time to remind you about the Block Home Program, which was established in 1984 under the guidance of our neighborhood association and the University City Police Department. It addresses the issues of health and safety for our children who walk to and from school.

As is often the case, a few Block Home participants moved over the summer, and we invite new participants in the program. We try to have at least 2 homes per street, more on longer streets such as Dartmouth.

As a Block Home volunteer, you will be asked to place a sign in your window so children going to and from school will know which house can be used in an emergency. You will not need to be home everyday. The sign can be removed when you are not available. You will not be expected to break up fights or give medical aid. It will be your responsibility to call the parents and proper authorities in any emergency situation involving a child.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please give me a call at 862-2644. Those of you who are parents of school age children may want to walk your child's route to and from school with him/her and point out the Block Homes on the way.

As a parting note, I want to remind drivers in the Heights to SLOW DOWN and remember to stop for the stop signs. They are there for pedestrians, and especially for our children.

Thanks!

Marilyn Cathcart
Block Home Coordinator
6933 Columbia
862-2644

Some Historical Notes on University Heights #1

By Michael LaCour-Little, Ph.D.

University Heights #1 was the first of several subdivisions developed by Edward G. Lewis, founder and first mayor of University City. Lewis acquired the original tract of eight five acres in 1902 and laid out the subdivision in 1904. Lewis was involved in construction of about 80 of the 258 houses in the neighborhood, prior to his departure for California in 1913. University Heights #2 and #3 are located south of Delmar, including Washington Avenue and Kingsbury Boulevard. University heights #1 was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

The indenture for University Heights #1 included the usual provisions governing private "places", as they had come to be known when first developed in the City of St. Louis during the nineteenth century, prior to the advent of modern zoning. These included limiting use to single family dwelling units and specifying set backs for each lot. In addition, Lewis divided the subdivision into sections and specified minimum construction costs, ranging from \$1,500 to \$6,000. Lewis' intent was to create a neighborhood that contained a mixture of home sizes, affordable to households with diverse income levels. An advertisement from the original marketing materials, promoting University heights as "A Restricted, Private Residence Park" makes this clear:

"Overlooking the City, Forest Park, Washington University and the country for miles around, more than 100 feet higher than a large part of Forest Park and Westmoreland Place. We do not know of a more beautifully laid out RESIDENCE PLACE anywhere than University Heights. Improvements made and paid for. No Flats, Hotels or Boarding Houses...Some of the finest homes in or about St. Louis are in University Heights, but the less expensive homes have the same protection as the most costly..."

Lewis also offered apparently attractive financing terms. The same advertisement cited above states "Terms are 10 per cent cash, balance in monthly payments. No interest until January 1, 1908, and only 4 per cent thereafter".

Further Reading:

"The Formation of Urban Infrastructure Through Nongovernmental Planning: The Private Places of St. Louis, 1869-1920" by David Beito with Bruce Smith, Journal of Urban History, Vol 16(3), May 1990.

"University City Landmarks and Historic Places" by Judy Little with the assistance of Esley Hamilton, 1997, prepared for the Historic Preservation Commission of University City. Some of the houses discussed in this illustrated guide include 6975 Cornell, 725 Harvard, 6975 Princeton, #7 and #8 Princeton, and 748 Trinity.

CALENDAR

September 17	Neighborhood Picnic
September 22&23	U City in Bloom Bulb Sale Market in the Loop
September 24	Rain Date-Neighborhood Picnic
Week of October 9	1st Leaf Collection-East Area
October 13-15	Loop in Motoion
Week of October 30	2nd Leaf Collection-East Area

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Trustee Ron Scott	725-0893
Trustee John Jennings	726-4690
U Heights Board President	
Angela Feddersen-Heinze	721-2032
Streetlight Outages-Ameren UE (not ornamental lights)	342-100
Block Homes-Marilyn Cathcart	862-2644
FenceTalk-Janet Schaper	726-5352

Yard waste stickers are now available at Dale Hardware, 1115 S. Big Bend Blvd, and by mail to Public Works Department, City of University City, 6801 Delmar Blvd, University City, MO 63130.

Free mulch and wood chips are available to U City residents at Heman Park, near the basketball courts, using the Shaftesbury Avenue entrance.

It is no longer necessary to remove the plastic caps and lids from containers for recycling.

Your Neighbors Have Requested that you remember:

Don't allow your dogs to leave "visiting cards" on your neighbors' lawns. It is only courteous to clean up after your dogs (besides, it's the law!).

DRIVE SLOWLY through our neighborhood, and stop at the STOP signs. Our children and pets are precious to us!