

THE GATE GAZETTE

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Thanks to all those who celebrated the Gate District East Neighborhood Appreciation Night on 10/3/2017!



From the Association President, Henry Gray

Greetings Gate District East Residents. I hope everyone had a great Christmas. Did "Santa" bring you everything that you wished for?? If not, no worries, there's always next Christmas.

As we look back on 2017, with the speed of the world moving at a hurried pace around us, sometimes standing still for a few minutes allows us reflect. As we look back at this year in review, the GDEA has restarted the newsletter,

welcomed two new board members, saw an increase in meeting attendance, saw the construction of various new homes throughout the area and had another successful Neighborhood Appreciation Night.

I would like to thank all of the Gate District East residents that participated in our annual Neighborhood Appreciation Night held on Tuesday, October 3rd. Going into the event, the weather seemed to not want to cooperate but as luck would have it, the weather conditions turned out to be a non-factor. This year's event attracted a lot a new faces. Everyone seemed to have had a great time talking and getting to know their neighbors. As usual, the food provided by Tom Jon's Catering and Diners Delight was excellent. I would like to send a special thanks to Diner's Delight for donating their portion of the food to the Gate District East Association. As we continue to improve upon the Gate District East communication and notification, I would hope that even more Gate District East residents will

make a concerted effort to attend any future events and meetings that our community may have. Remember, a stronger community starts with "you."

On behalf of the GDEA Board, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. As we usher in 2018, I hope this will be your best year yet. I hope to see everyone at our next general meeting.

Feel free to email me about any questions you may have pertaining to any of the above topics or even new topics at gatedistricteast@gmail.com. (The website is also available for questions.)

Regards,

Henry B. Gray, Jr.



**Update from
6th Ward
Alderwoman
Christine
Ingrassia...**

I hope you are all doing well in Gate District East and you are enjoying the

holiday season. The Board of Aldermen is currently considering several interesting bills this session I want to ensure you are all aware of.

Board Bill 194 would allow city voters to weigh in on whether the ordinance requiring city employees to live within the city boundaries should be repealed. The bill was heard in the Legislation committee on December 7th for the first time and the bill sponsor, Alderwoman Carol Howard, wants to undertake public meetings to hear input from the community. I will be sure to pass those

dates along to all of you via the email list serv and neighborhood Facebook page.

Board Bill 180, sponsored by Alderwoman Megan Green, would set low or no priority on police enforcement of laws on marijuana possession in order to allow for them to focus on more violent crimes. A similar bill (193) filed by Alderwoman Marlene Davis and President Lewis Reed would reduce the fine for personal possession of marijuana from \$100 to \$25 and presumes proper disposition of these cases to suspend impositions of sentences to require community service and/or drug related counseling and education. The bill sponsors expect to have public input hearings on these bills, as well, so I will ensure those dates get passed along to all of you.

The Compton traffic calming project is well underway. Thanks to all of you for your participation over this past year to

determine how to move forward. The City and I will be monitoring the implementation's efficacy over the coming months to ensure our efforts are working well and if there's anything we need to tweak.

Finally, I am working on adding amenities to Eads Park. There has been some interest in adding the City's first free public skateboarding park, as well as the possibility of an outdoor obstacle course style amenity. I will be discussing these ideas and wanting to hear yours at the January 2018 neighborhood meeting.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve as your representative at City Hall. Please feel free to reach out to me if I may be of service to you in any way. ingrassiac@stlouis-mo.gov or 314.622.3287.

Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia 6th Ward



**Update from
19th Ward
Alderwoman
Marlene
Davis...**

Dear Residents:

To all residents and business owners, my sincere thanks to you for my reelection and most especially your dedication to city living. Your volunteerism makes a safer, cleaner and beautified neighborhood. Let's continue to move forward and work

together in 2018 on issues that you deem most important.

Many blessing to you and your family and friends. Wishing you a prosperous, healthy, and safe 2018.

If there is a need to contact me, please feel free to call or text me at 314-680-9168 or davisma@stlouis-mo.gov.

Alderwoman Marlene Davis 19th Ward

WANTED:

Treasurer for GDEA

Duties: ensures checks & balances by signing checks after issued by bookkeeper and assists in preparing the annual contracts for the landscaping and maintenance of the public areas.

Email gatedistricteast@gmail.com for information or to express your interest.

Stay Connected with Gate District East & Your Neighbors



Send your email to: gatedistricteast@gmail.com to be added to our email list.

Visit www.gatedistricteast.org for full meeting minutes and other neighborhood resources.



Search: **Gate District East** to keep up on GDE news and events and communicate with your neighbors, and **NSO Dena Hibbard** to see posts from our 6th Ward NSO.



Nextdoor

Join your neighbors on Nextdoor to communicate, share, and keep up on what's going on in The Gate District and our surrounding neighborhoods. Download the app or visit www.nextdoor.com to sign up.

Gate District East Association Meeting
October 18, 2017
By Theresa Hebron, Secretary

Opening Business: President's Report and Treasurer's Report

President Henry Gray thanked neighbors for attending the meeting. Henry thanked Diners Delight for donating fried chicken wings for the October 3, Neighborhood Appreciation Night held in Eads Park. Photos from the event are posted on the Gate District website at www.gatedistricteast.org. Henry reminded neighbors of vacant positions on the GDEA governing board for vice president and treasurer. [Michael Hebron is the new GDEA vice president, effective October 18, 2017.] The duties of the vice president are to assist the president, perform new duties as they arise, and to chair the preparations for the annual Neighborhood Appreciation Night. For neighbors interested in the treasurer's position, they include responsibility for signing the checks after the bookkeeper issues them. Additionally, the treasurer prepares the annual maintenance contract for the landscaping and maintenance of the public areas. The Treasurer's Report, Sixth Ward crime statistics and minutes from previous general meets are posted on the website at www.gatedistricteast.org.

Henry thanked Rep Dan Iadevito for serving as editor of The Gate Gazette, and thanked Michael Thornton for assuming the responsibility for the replacement of the neighborhood banners. He reminded neighbors to direct all correspondence, including requests for inclusion on the e-mail mailing list, to gatedistricteast@gmail.com. Finally, Henry introduced spokesperson Mike Kelly who spoke to neighbors about voting for "Prop P".

Guest Speakers

Mike Kelly urged neighbors to vote for the "Prop P" in the Special Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. The passage of "Prop P" is expected to bring in more than \$23 million annually in Sales Taxes. The money being appropriated as follows: \$12.8 million would go to police salaries, \$5.4 million to firefighter salaries, \$1.5 million to the Circuit Attorney's Office, \$975,000 for summer and after-school jobs, \$975,000 for children's recreation programs, \$975,000 for mental health and social workers, and \$675,000 to demolish dangerous, vacant buildings. ["Prop P" passed by a vote of 60% for and 40% against on November 7, 2017.]

Neighborhood Organization Reports

Third District Community Outreach Officer Patrick Clancy distributed a handout of Gate District crime statistics for the months of August and September 2017. A two-car chase that ended in the 2600 block of Rutger resulted in one driver being shot in the leg.

Neither of the drivers resides in the Gate District. There were three stolen vehicles, one of which is a scooter. A home burglary in the 2800 block of St. Vincent resulted in some items stolen. There were eight larceny thefts from cars. Five of the vehicles were unlocked. Officer Clancy said that police officers do respond to shots fired. If an officer does not come, Officer Clancy suggested contacting the on duty-supervising sergeant at 314-444-2500 for assistance. The Third District is composed of ten areas with officers patrolling each area. The closest car in another district will assist if the patrolling officers are not available. Contact Officer Clancy about adults hanging out in Terry and Buder Parks, and he will enlist the assistance of Sergeant Ross. Officer Clancy also encouraged neighbors to take the twelve-week informational training at the Citizens Academy. The course participants meet once a week. Theresa Hebron volunteered to talk with any neighbor interested in taking the course.

Officer Clancy also encouraged neighbors to vote yes for "Prop P". Officer Clancy said that he has twenty-two years on the Saint Louis police force and he is not going anywhere. However, he said that the City is losing many young police officers to the County because, the salaries are higher in those Police Departments. For instance, the Third District recently lost another two officers to Police Departments in the County.

Sixth Ward Neighborhood Stabilization

Officer Dena Hibbard reported that Kurt Tarkington (Nineteenth Ward Stabilization Officer) has retired due to health issues. Bernie Powderly and Ms. Upchurch perform Mr. Tarkington's duties until a permanent stabilization officer becomes available. Bernie Powderly was at the meeting and said that residents can contact him at e-mail powderlyb@stlouis-mo.gov and at telephone 314-622-1366.

Family Dollar Store continues to be a nuisance property. Dena Hibbard is turning complaint of standing trash around the building to the Department of Health. Dena suggested that neighbor get the name of the private trash pickup service coming before 6:00 am and file complaint with the Citizens' Service Bureau. Gate District West, represented by Alderwoman Marlene Davis, is holding a neighborhood meeting on November 1, 2017. In order to classify as a "nuisance property" police must receive two calls within a month directed toward a particular property. Dena would like to meet with neighbors living in the 2600 and the 2700 blocks of Rutger at Caroline to instruct them on how to call-in nuisance property complaints. The neighbors are giving their addresses instead of the nuisance property address. If you are living on either block please contact Dena Hibbard at

hibbard@stlouis-mo.gov (314-657-1359) or Problem Properties/Nuisance Officer Erin Hein at elhein@slmpd.org (314-444-2532) to schedule a meeting. Finally, Dena told neighbor complaining about standing high shrubbery etc. in Terry Park to report to Citizens' Service Bureau as a drug problem and ask for cleanup assistance from Forestry.

Barr Branch Library Manager Tonnya Joy reminded neighbors of the free downloading digital services at the public libraries. "Text for Tots" the concept that introduces children to coding is available at Barr Library through April 2018. Barr Library is holding its "Christmas Open House" on December 13, from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Barr Library will close for the holidays on November 11, November 23, and December 26, 2017.

Neighborhood Representatives Report

Lafayette Terrace Rep Louis Hannegan was not at the meeting however, he submitted several neighborhood issues that he wants Alderwomen Ingrassia and Marlene Davis to address. [Henry Gray will present the issues to the alderwomen.]

Buder Park Rep (alternate) Steve Brown encouraged neighbors to work with Officer Clancy and Sergeant Ross in combating adults loitering in/around Terry Park and Buder Park. Steve puts out the bulk pickup signs reminding neighbors to put out bulk items for pickup by the Refuge Department during the week of the second Monday of each month. He suggested that neighbors living around Terry Park should ask Alderwoman Davis for assistance in having the curfew times changed for the park. Steve told neighbors that the Gate District donates candy for Halloween for the children coming to the Buder Rec Center. **Eads Park Rep Michael Thornton** is looking for block captains. Neighbors residing in the Eads Park area should contact him to volunteer. Michael says that he enjoys working around the area getting to know his neighbors and the neighborhoods that compose the Gate District. (Contact at e-mail: leatherneckque1994@outlook.com and 314-328-1092) **St. Vincent Park Rep (alternate) Vanessa Jones** said that neighborhood has some surplus funds and Dan Iadevito is inviting neighbors to contact him with suggestions about how to spend the money. (Contact at e-mail: dc109@att.net and 314-313-0842)

The Gate Gazette

Dan Iadevito

Editor

314-313-0842

Submit stories and feedback to:

dc109@att.net



Update from 79th District State Representative Michael Butler...

It has been my honor to serve the City of St. Louis in the Missouri Legislature for the past 5 years. Our next Legislative Session begins on January 3, 2018. Here are a few topics you can expect to take priority.

Missouri Housing Tax Credits

Both the Missouri Historic Preservation and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits will be scrutinized during this year's legislative session. These programs have been highly successful in assisting to rebuild the St. Louis area (and many areas across the state), but

our new governor wants to end them under the belief that they are too costly. Other people opposed to these tax credits say that the programs are too exclusive, and are not accessible to many small businesses.

Paycheck Deception and Prevailing Wage

The war on union labor continues as some in the legislature want to reduce the wage that construction workers are currently getting paid across the state. This wage is called the prevailing wage and is a publicly determined minimum wage for certain workers who mostly do construction work. Expect to hear about efforts to reduce or eliminate this wage law.

Missouri State Budget

While tax reform is being debated on the national level, it has big effects on our budget here in the state. In many cases our state tax rate is based upon the federal tax rate of items. Expect to hear about various scenarios where we lose funding based on what the U.S. Congress decides on.

My office is sincerely focused on reducing crime in the City of St. Louis. Last year we were successful in getting \$450,000 in the State Budget for the City's Neighborhood Ownership Model. This year we will continue that effort, and attempt to increase those funds. Unfortunately, Governor Greitens has

held up that money from coming to the City, in a procedural move called a withhold. I need your help. Please Call the Governor's office at (573)751-3222 and tell them to "release the \$450,000 for Neighborhood Watch Programs in the City of St. Louis, and no longer withhold it."

Our office has also filed every Forward Through Ferguson Report's "Justice For All" recommendations. This includes changing legislation concerning punitive impounding of vehicles, incarceration for minor offenses, establishing police conduct databases, civilian oversight boards, and psychological and implicit bias training for officers. I am extremely proud of the work those in our community did on finding solutions to our issues, and will work hard in our State Government to implement them.

Never hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about your State Government. I can be reached at (573)751-6800 or via email at Michael.Butler@house.mo.gov

Sincerely,
State Rep. Michael Butler
79th District, City of St. Louis
House Democratic Caucus Chair



Set the PACE St. Louis
Clean Energy Financing for Home and Business

**Residential Property Accessed
Clean Energy (PACE) is now
available in the City of St.
Louis!**

Greetings!

By now, we hope you have had a chance to review the letter mailed to you recently regarding the availability of the Set the PACE St. Louis Residential Program. On behalf of the Clean Energy Development Board of the City of St. Louis (CEDB), we are excited to announce the availability of this new program that allows homeowners in the City of St. Louis to invest in the efficiency and sustainability of their properties.

How It Works: Residential property owners can finance energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades through a voluntary special assessment on their property. The annual special assessment to repay the financing will be placed on the City tax rolls and can be financed up to 20 years. The CEDB is making this program available to residents at no cost to the City of St. Louis.

What's next? Look for monthly newsletters from the residential program administrator, Ygrene Energy Fund Missouri, LLC. Visit www.setthepacestlouis.com for more information.

Sincerely,
Patrick E. Justis
Chair
City of St. Louis CEDB

Otis Williams
Executive Director
St. Louis Dev Corp Board Member, CEDB

Welcome to Michael Hebron, Sr, the new Vice-President for the Gate District East Neighborhood Association



Hello, my name is Michael (Mike) Hebron, Sr. I am your new Vice President for Gate District East. A little about myself.... I am a REALTOR (St. Louis area) for the past 4 years, before that I was in retail management for 35 years. I am about 6'7", so it is hard to miss me. I moved to St Louis about 5.5 years ago and I decided to make it home. I have lived many places (Los Angeles, San Fran, Dallas, Denver,

Seattle to mention a few), so city life/city issues are nothing new to me. I wanted to get more involved in the place I now call home and want to keep it the best it can be. There was an opening as a VP, and said sure why not. I am always open to comments and suggestions. --Michael Hebron, Sr.

Michael Hebron, Sr. | cell-314-502-0468 | michaelhebron@kw.com

Updates from your Neighborhood Reps



Update from Michael Thornton, Eads Park Representative... I would like to welcome the new residents to Eads Park. Eads Park is seeing new development ready in modern residential architecture on California and Lafayette. Please feel free to recommend your friends and family to this great neighborhood. I would like the help to plan a new year

social for Eads Park. I have received ideas about cleaning Eads City Park or alley clean up. If you have any ideas that you would like to see for Eads Park, please email me at EadsParkGDEA@outlook.com. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and has a great start to the new year!

Update from Dan Iadevito, St. Vincent Park Representative... It's so exciting to see increased participation from residents in the St. Vincent Park area of GDE.

Thank you for your attendance at meetings, appreciation night, etc. As Vanessa noted at the recent meeting, we have some funds to utilize in our area for events, clean ups, etc. Please email at dcio9@att.net with any ideas you have so we can put something together early in the new year. Warm wishes for a wonderful 2018!



Barr Branch Library
1701 South Jefferson
Saint Louis, MO 63104
(314) 771-7040
Tonnya Joy, Branch Manager

Did you know Barr Library hosts a wide range of programs for children and teens every month? Programs are free and do not require registration unless indicated. For more information, visit the Library's calendar of events at <https://www.slpl.org/>.



January 17, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Tech for Tots, Families (Also on 2/21 and 3/21)

Children are never too young to code. By playing with code, children age 2-6 years old will develop important skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and persistence. Each family will receive a free book for attending the program (while supplies last). *Groups should call in advance to reserve seating.

January 22, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Our History, Our Silhouettes, School age

Exploring the meaning of Dr. King, Jr.'s legacy, create a silhouette self-portrait filled with all the people, places, and things that make you who you are.

February 6, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Singer Dancer, Spy? A Spotlight on Josephine Baker, School age

Learn about St. Louis native Josephine Baker and her involvement in World War II as a spy for France. Participants will create and use invisible ink similar to what Josephine Baker used to smuggle secret documents among her sheet music.

March 15, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Tomb Raider Escape Room, Teens

Celebrate the release of the new *Tomb Raider* movie by solving the mystery of an ancient Egyptian tomb.

March 28, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Family Movie Night: Batman, Families

March 29, 3:00-6:00 p.m., Virtual Nature Experience, All Ages

Relax, de-stress, explore, and create your own worlds in the stunning immersive environments of Nature Treks VR, using the library's HTQ VIVE Virtual Reality set.

Fridays, February 2 – April 13, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Adults and Seniors

Volunteers from the University of Missouri-St. Louis provide free tax assistance through their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for low to moderate-income families and individuals, seniors, and persons with disabilities. For more information, visit the Gateway EITC Community Coalition at <http://gatewayeitc.org/index.html>. Service is First Come, First Served. The line forms before the branch opens at the Library's back entrance located off the parking lot.

Mark Your Calendars - 2018 Association Meeting Schedule

Gate District East General Meeting | 7-9PM | 3115 Park Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63104

January 17 | April 18 | July 18 | October 17

GATE DISTRICT EAST ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

President - Henry Gray
314-664-7699 | gatedistricteast@gmail.com
Vice President-Michael Hebron, Sr
314-502-0468 | michaelhebron@kw.com
Secretary - Theresa Hebron
314-776-1122 | earthousky10@att.net
Buder Park Representative - Steve Brown
314-540-7926 |
mckinneybrown@sbcglobal.net
Buder Park Rep II-Mary Jones
314-772-1595
Eads Park Rep-Michael Thornton
314-328-1092 | eadsparkgdea@outlook.com
St. Vincent Park Rep-Dan Iadevito
314-313-0842 | dcio9@att.net
St. Vincent Park Rep II-Vanessa Jones
vaj6@swbell.net
Lafayette Terrace Rep-Louis Hannegan
314-971-5129 | louisahannegan@gmail.com

State Senator 5th-Jamilah Nasheed
573-751-4415
State Representative 79th-Michael Butler
573-751-6800
US Rep District 1st - Lacy Clay
314-367-1970
US Senator Claire McCaskill
314-367-1364
US Senator Roy Blunt
314-725-4484
6th Ward Aldrwmn - Christine Ingrassia
314-622-3287
19th Ward Aldrwmn - Marlene Davis
314-680-9168
NSO Dena Hibbard - 6th Ward
314-657-1359 | hibbardd@stlouis-mo.gov
NSO Bernie Powderly - 19th Ward
314-622-1366 | powderlyb@stlouis-mo.gov
Police Officer Patrick Clancy
3rd District Community Outreach Officer
314-444-2500 | pmclancy@slmpd.org
Police Officer Erin Hein
Problem Properties Nuisance Officer
314-444.2532 | elhein@slmpd.org
City Hall **314-622-4800**

ANNOUNCEMENT: CALLING ALL GREENS



Please remember to flatten cardboard boxes before placing them in the recycling bin. This frees up space in the bin for other users.

Plastic bags are not recyclable as they only clog the sorters. If you truly care about the environment, gather your plastic bags and take them with you to the supermarket. All major supermarkets recycle plastic bags (Schnucks, Shop 'n' Save, and Dierbergs).

Gate District East Association

P.O. Box 2021

Saint Louis, MO 63158