

SHAW

AUTUMN 2010

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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News from Shaw Neighborhood Housing Corp

The Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association (SNIA) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1950 and incorporated in 1975. The corporation is managed by an Executive Committee and governed by the Board of Directors, which includes Block Captains. The large neighborhood network of Block Captains helps ensure that every voice is heard and every resident is represented. SNIA serves the Shaw neighborhood by sponsoring programs that serve its residents, providing information, facilitating discussion, and acting on solutions. Please join us in supporting your efforts to maintain and improve YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Barely Legal: Best Art Fair in St. Louis Turns 18!

Our Historic Shaw Neighborhood will welcome thousands of visitors the first weekend in October. The 18th Annual Historic Shaw Art Fair will take place on Saturday, October 2 from 9AM to 5PM and on Sunday October 3 from 10AM to 5PM.

Our guests will stroll amongst the lovely homes and park setting of the 4100 and 4200 blocks of Flora Place, enjoying the work of 134 artists from across the country and Canada, an eclectic collection of music in the St. Louis University Hospital Music Pavilion, street performers throughout the fairgrounds, and a variety of foods provided by a number of local restaurants and caterers.

The artists have been selected from over 400 entries, representing disciplines in painting, drawing/pastels, photography, print making, digital art, sculpture, mixed media, clay, jewelry, fiber arts, glass, wood, and metal.

The jury will award over \$6,000 to the artists for Best of Show, first through fourth places in Fine Art and Fine Craft, as well as a group of awards created or named in honor of our fellow Shaw residents.

The HSAF is highly regarded by both artists and the public.

Music, in the SLU Hospital Pavilion will include jazz, the American songbook, bluegrass, experimental/blues/afro beat, rhythm and blues, blues, folk, and rock and roll.

There will also be strolling minstrels, jugglers, magicians, and other surprises throughout the fair grounds.

For the first time, we will be presenting a food court where our guests can sample a wide variety of foods, all from local businesses. Vendors will include Mary Samuelson's Mama Josephine's, Reine and Cbabi Bayoc's SweetArt, Kelly Spencer's The Social Affair, Shannon Brasher's Simply Shannon, and La Tropicana. SNIA will be selling beverages and, as always, we will have ice cream from Oberweis Dairy and Ye Olde Kettle Korn. Schlafly Beer, Crown Valley Wines, Bloody Marys, and Mimosas will be served by The Thurman Grill.

The Food Court will serve brunch items on Saturday from 9AM to 1PM and Sunday from 10AM to 2PM. Lunch items will be available from Fair open to close.

The Youth Area will feature numerous schools and groups, Central Visual and Performing Arts, Mullanphey School,

-continued on page 5

SNIA General Meetings & Board Meetings

SNIA General Membership Meetings
(all welcome!)

Next meeting: October 4

7p.m. St. Margaret of Scotland Church basement
39th St. between Flad and Cleveland

SNIA Board of Directors Meetings
(for the Exec Committee and all Block Captains)

Next meetings: Sep 20, Nov 15

7p.m. Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy
conference room
Cleveland Ave. at Tower Grove Ave.

Important Neighborhood & City Resources

Alderman Steve Conway 773-4329
<http://stlcin.missouri.org/alderman/alderman.cfm?Ward=8>

**Anonymous Drug, Gang,
Homicide Police Hotline** 241-COPS

Citizens' Service Bureau 622-4800
<http://stlouis.missouri.org/government/csb.html>

Many problems that deal with the Neighborhood & City should be reported to the CSB, such as trash collection, street maintenance, traffic signs and street lights, requests for building and health inspections, stray dogs, unmowed yards and weeds, etc. Follow up with the NSO if the problem isn't resolved.

**Crime Victim
Advocacy Center** OK-BE-MAD
(652-3623)

Neighborhood Stabilization Officers
Michelle Boston-David
8th Ward 657-1358

Anthony Minden
17th Ward 657-1363

Vernita Mullins
19th Ward 657-1369

Operation Brightside 772-4646
<http://stlouis.missouri.org/501c/brightside>

MetroBus and MetroLink 231-2345
www.metrostlouis.org

Humane Society 647-8800
If possible, transfer stray animals to their location at 1201 Macklind (off Oakland near the St. Louis Science Center).

EnergyCare 773-5900
Energy-related services for low income seniors, disabled, and young children.

When in St. Louis...

The Shaw Neighborhood and SweetArt recently received a nod in the New York Times article, *36 Hours in St. Louis*, written by Dan Saltzstein. To read the entire article, go to <http://travel.nytimes.com/2010/06/27/travel/27hours.html>. Excerpted here are highlights from our neighborhood.

“In the leafy neighborhood of Shaw, stately architecture mixes

with hip spots like SweetArt, a mom-and-pop bakery and art studio. Reine Bayoc (mom) makes the food, which features vegan ingredients like soy-based “facon” and “un-chicken.” Cbabi Bayoc (pop), whose colorful and playful artworks line the walls, paints in the studio in the back. Don’t leave without sampling Ms. Bayoc’s light-as-air cupcakes, which

come in flavors like strawberry lemonade (\$1.95 each).”

“The neighborhood is named after Henry Shaw, a botanist and philanthropist whose crowning achievement is the Missouri Botanical Garden. It covers an impressive 79 acres and includes a large Japanese garden and Mr. Shaw’s original 1850 estate home, as well as his (slightly creepy) mausoleum.”

SNIA's Efforts Help to Secure Future of Sherman School

It only takes a cursory glance at Sherman Elementary - our neighborhood school - to recognize its value. Fortunately, both a dedicated SNIA committee and the school's new principal, Dr. Olivia Roberts, agree and are working to save it from closure.

Designed by architect William B. Ittner and built in 1898, Sherman is eligible for the National Register, according to the St. Louis Landmarks Association. Its history of excellence is well documented. When she retired, 24-year Principal Juanita Doggett who passed away last April, a St. Louis Post-Dispatch obituary characterized her as someone who "didn't tolerate poor work habits - from students or teachers - and often went to the homes of kids not in class." And a Platform editorial from long-time Shaw resident, Eddie Roth, described how Mrs. Doggett brought a diverse neighborhood together.

Yet in 2008, the School Board, citing low student enrollment, poor performance, and aging conditions in the school's building and grounds voted to merge Sherman with Mann School (in Tower Grove South) and Shenandoah (in Tower Grove East) into a new school facility to be constructed in 2011.

In response to this decision, SNIA launched its efforts to save Sherman. The Sherman School Committee was formed to bolster student enrollment, promote school improvements, and increase community involvement in the school. The Committee is currently chaired by Lawrence Johnson, who moved to Shaw in 2007.

The past school year has seen the arrival of a new, permanent principal for Sherman, Dr. Olivia Roberts. Her enthusiasm and energy have been infectious with the staff, students, parents, and community. She has worked with and welcomed the Committee's involvement in the following school initiatives:

- Back-to-School Meet & Greeting for students & parents
- Library move from the basement to the first floor
- Sherman School/Tower Grove Park Black History Month Tree-Planting Ceremony & Shakespeare in the Park Performance
- Information exchange between the Sherman & SNIA websites
- Curb landscaping and playground restoration
- Enlargement of Sherman's Student Attendance Zone
- Creation of "Book Works:" story writing & illustrating project for students
- Identification & outreach to Sherman alumni

As a result of Principal Roberts' leadership and SNIA's active involvement, Sherman is more secure. But the Committee's efforts must continue. We must vigorously advocate for needed capital improvements at Sherman. We must also encourage parents to tour the school and consider enrolling their children in Sherman. Only an increase in enrollment will guarantee that Sherman stays open.

by Lawrence Johnson

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New Community Garden Blooms on Busy Shaw Corner

There was an alderman, a priest, a teacher, and 30 kids standing around in the mud... This sounds like the first line of a bad joke, but it actually describes the scene at the groundbreaking for an exciting new addition to Shaw Neighborhood. Work is underway on a new St. Margaret of Scotland (SMOS) community garden at the northeast corner of Shaw and Lawrence. The groundbreaking ceremony for *The Dragon's Grove*, named by an SMOS student, took place in May.

The garden was created with the help and support of Aldermen Steve Conway of the 8th Ward and Joseph Roddy of the 17th Ward.



Alderman Steve Conway at the groundbreaking ceremony.

The formerly blighted corner once housed a decrepit gas station and was a magnet for activities that were a threat to public safety. The City of St. Louis recently demolished the old building and cleaned up the corner. St. Margaret of Scotland Church is now leasing the land from the City. The garden will be a child-focused, outdoor learning community managed by a committee of St. Margaret of Scotland parents, teachers, and interested Shaw neighborhood residents. Membership is open to all who are committed to helping the garden “grow.”

The new garden will join the many gorgeous neighborhood green spaces already in existence in the area, beautifying the neighborhood and providing opportunities for further community building. Future

plans for the garden include building raised beds, a shed, a shade structure, and a green house. The garden will provide exciting new learning opportunities for students in areas such as science, math, social studies, and environmental awareness as it is integrated into the school curriculum. Also, there will also be extra bed space available to members of the community for their gardening use. The Dragon's Grove is already a wonderful addition to our school, the parish and the surrounding neighborhood.

Additional information can be found on the garden's Facebook page, The Dragon's Grove, or by contacting Emily Edgell at emily_edgell@yahoo.com or 314-578-8898.



Children planting pumpkin seeds.



Community organizers at the groundbreaking ceremony.

Historic Shaw Art Fair, cont'd. from cover

Sherman School, St. Margaret's, and others showing and selling their art.

Hands-on demonstrations of arts and crafts will be conducted by local artists such as Cbabi Bayoc. There will be storytelling and puppet shows presented by local performers including storyteller Daniel Romano.

The Shaw Neighborhood Housing Corporation will be presenting their Fall Shaw House Tour on Fair Weekend, highlighting available housing opportunities in our neighborhood

The Historic Shaw Art Fair is a presentation of the Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association. The purpose of The Fair is threefold. It's a fundraiser for SNIA, it acts as a showcase for our lovely neighborhood, and it unifies our neighbors in a common project.

The funds generated by the Fair finance the Helping Hands Grants awarded to various charities and projects in the Shaw Neighborhood. Such grants have gone to Bike Works, Byte Works, Sherman School, Cornerstone, and Shaw Ave. Childrens Center. Additional funds are used to maintain Juanita Park, the Garden Club's garden at Thurman and Shenandoah, and maintain various sculpted lots in the neighborhood.

Producing the Art Fair takes 300 volunteers. Jobs include set up, take down, admissions, poster distribution, food court, and clean up. You'll find a volunteer form in this issue of the bulletin. Please help out your neighborhood by donating some hours of your time. You'll be rewarded with an invitation to the Volunteers' Party Saturday night at the fair grounds, where you'll be able to eat, drink and dance for free, a 2010 Historic Shaw Art Fair T shirt, a really cool name tag, a ticket to the Fair that you're already at, and most importantly the satisfaction of helping out on the Shaw Neighborhood's biggest annual Showcase Event.

More information and samples of the artists works, schedules of the music and menus of the food vendors can be found at our website shawartfair.org.

See you at The Historic Shaw Art Fair!

Programs Continue at BWorks

BWORKS, as always, is looking for volunteers, primarily to instruct neighborhood kids in its three areas of expertise: bicycle safety and maintenance [BicycleWORKS], computer literacy [ByteWORKS], and writing and illustrating books [BookWORKS]. But there are other, non-teaching volunteer opportunities as well, including one-day-only affairs. Everything you need to know about volunteering can be found at <http://www.bworks.org/>.



Recent graduates of BWorks proudly show off their diplomas.



BWorks depends on the kindness of volunteers.

BicycleWORKS has just begun adult classes on Tuesday nights! Classes are free to volunteers or a \$5 donation. Class are about an hour long, starting at 7 p.m., leaving plenty of time to try volunteering from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. One topic will be covered in each class.

1. Flat tire fixes
2. Adjusting brakes
3. Adjusting headsets
4. Adjusting hubs
5. Overhauling bottom brackets
6. Adjusting front derailleur
7. Adjusting rear derailleur
8. True a wheel

For more information: http://www.stlbikeworks.com/wp/?page_id=24

2010 Historic Shaw Art Fair Volunteer Form

- You must be at least 16.
- Please select as many shifts as you can.
- Runners must provide their own vehicles, insurance and cell phone.
- Shuttle drivers must provide their own minivans or SUV, insurance and cell phone.
- All volunteers receive a HSAF '10 T-Shirt, free admission to the event and an invitation to the Saturday night party, to enjoy free food, drink and music.

Last Name:

First Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone #:

Cell #:

Email:

Shirt Size: Sm M L XL XXL

	Fri	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun	Mon
	11:30A	6A	8:30A	1P	4:30P	4:30P	7A	9:30A	1:30P	4:30P	8A
	5P	10A	1:30P	5:30P	6:30P	9:30P	10:30A	2P	6P	9P	12P
Set Up											
Kids' Area											
Admissions											
Food Court											
Alcohol Booth											
Runner											
Shuttle											
Breakfast											
Hospitality											
Party											
Cash Runner											
Booth Sitter											

Will you house an artist?

Please 'X' the shifts (white areas) you would like to volunteer and return this form to:

Thurman Grill

4069 Shenandoah Ave

-or-

SNIA Office

2211 S 39th St

Tel: 314.771.3101 Fax: 800.430.2376 E-mail: shawartfair@aol.com

Bridges Across Racial Polarization

Would you believe that casual conversations over dinner at a friend's home make a difference in communities that are deeply racially divided? That is exactly what we've found through people's experiences with the Bridges Across Racial Polarization® program.

Shaw neighborhood is relatively racially diverse. The 2000 Census found that approximately 40% of Shaw residents were White, while more than half of them were African American. Shaw also has small percentages of residents of other racial groups (Hispanics: 2%; Asians: 1.6%, Native Americans: 0.1%; Other races or multiple heritages: 4.1%). But, do you know any of these neighbors of other racial groups on a personal level? Can you freely have conversations with your neighbors about how race affects you and the community?

If you answered to either of these questions with "no" and want to change it, consider participating in Bridges.

Bridges is an initiative organized by FOCUS St. Louis, a not-for-profit organization striving for positive changes in the St. Louis metropolitan community through civic engagement, leadership development, and policy change. Started in 1993 by two alumni of Leadership St. Louis, Bridges now has about 250 active members meeting in each others' homes, building relationships across racial lines.

Ron Jackson, executive director for St. Louis for Kids, and long time Bridges group member says of his participation, "I have become friends with wonderful people who really care about the local community. That has really been an asset to me and my life. The conversations, both serious and whimsical, have added a great deal to my understanding of issues and people."

Interested individuals are put into groups of 8-15 racially diverse members who periodically meet for at least one year to discuss race relations in the community and build relationships with one another. Groups meet in places of their choice, but most commonly group members visit in each other's home.

If you are interested either in participating in the program to interact with people from other communities in the St. Louis area or in developing a group within the Shaw neighborhood, or if you would like to know more about the program,

please visit the FOCUS St. Louis website (<http://bit.ly/2jspLE>) or contact Christine Chadwick, Executive Director, at (314)622-1250 x118 or chris@focus-stl.org.

*by Takahiro Nakamura,
Program Intern*



Your Neighborhood Bistro

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at the corner of Shenandoah & Thurman Aves in the
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Saturday
12PM - 1AM
Food served till 11 pm

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Keeping Shaw Clean and Safe

The Shaw neighborhood continues with its Clean Streets program, where the Garden Rangers from Covenant House walk our streets and collect trash and litter to maintain the integrity and appeal of Shaw. The generosity of many of you is the reason the Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association was able to continue funding this program for another year.

It is important to maintain our neighborhood, and litter on the streets is a gateway to a poor reputation, leading to an increase in criminal activity as it denotes an unwatchful and uncaring neighborhood. It is also demoralizing to current residents of Shaw who find the act of littering

disrespectful to both residents and the neighborhood.

Please donate toward the Clean Streets Fund. All money donated to this fund is dedicated solely to Shaw trash clean up. To donate, either go to ShawStLouis.org and use the PayPal option for Clean Streets or send a check clearly marked as a (tax-deductible) Clean Streets donation to: SNIA, 2211 South 39th St., St. Louis, MO 63110

If you have any questions, please call or email SNIA at 314-771-3101, shawneighborhood@sbcglobal.net.

☀ Shaw is filled with stories of neighbors helping neighbors, but recently two Shaw teens went above and beyond to prevent crime

in Shaw. On June 17th, Jarrett and his younger brother Kendall noticed that a car door on their block was open and a purse was left on the seat of the car. They immediately alerted a neighbor and called the police and then stayed with the car until the owner returned.

When word spread of their good deed, several Shaw residents wanted to do something to show their appreciation.

Their good deed was recognized publicly at the Shaw Neighborhood meeting in July and they each received a small cash award donated by neighbors. Thanks Jarrett and Kendall for being such great citizens and watchful neighbors!

**2010
2011
SEASON**

**STRAY DOG
THEATRE**
unleashing the art


 at
**TOWER
GROVE
ABBAY**

and * **INSERT NAME HERE** theatre project

Master Class
September 16 - October 2, 2010

Evil Dead: The Musical
October 14-30, 2010

As Bees In Honey Drown
December 2 -18, 2010

Distracted
February 3 -19, 2011


You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
March 17 - April 9, 2011

Dark Matters
May 5 - 21, 2011

The Visit
June 9 - 25, 2011



2336 Tennessee Avenue Saint Louis, MO 63104
From Grand Boulevard: 8/10 mile south of I-44; east on Sidney; left on Tennessee. Gated Parking



*St. Margaret of Scotland
Catholic Church*


We are a Catholic and Christian family that knows how to pray, play, work, learn, build, serve and grow together. If you have yet to discover us, we invite you to become a living, growing part of who we are.

All are welcome!



Please join us for Mass on:

Saturdays: 4:30 PM
Sundays: 8:00 and 10:00 AM
Weekdays: 6:30 AM



Grand South Grand House & Garden Tour Scheduled for April 2011

The 18th Grand South Grand House and Garden Tour is scheduled for April 16 & 17, 2011. The 2011 Tour will again attract visitors by featuring the magnificent Magic Chef Mansion on Russell Blvd just east of Grand.

The GSGHT committee's mission with the tour is to attract new residents and quality businesses to the participating neighborhoods. Tower Grove Park, fine restaurants, superb architecture, the Missouri

Botanical Gardens, the Water Tower, and access to public transportation are just a few of the common amenities we all enjoy.

Neighborhoods being showcased on the tour are: Compton Heights, Compton Hill, Shaw, Tower Grove East, and Tower Grove Heights. These participating neighborhoods bear no cost for the tour and do not benefit financially, but gain exposure to outside visitors and in the local media.

The GSGHT committee would like to secure display homes for the 2011 Tour by October of this year. Acting as a display homeowner or volunteering for the committee is a lot of fun. There are parties to attend, people to meet, and free tickets to the tour.

If you would consider acting as a display homeowner or would like to volunteer for the GSGHT committee, please contact Joan Jennings at 314-776-6657 or jjenn121@juno.com.

Here's to another successful tour!

News From SNHC

The Shaw Neighborhood Housing Corporation is very pleased to welcome Sean Spencer as its new Executive Director. Sean is an enthusiastic neighborhood resident and proponent. He looks forward to preserving and promoting the diverse housing and investment opportunities in Shaw, now in an "official" capacity. If you have questions about local real estate issues, please give Sean a call at the SNHC office, 773-SHAW (773-7429). ☀ Fall for Shaw, the annual for-sale property tour in the Historic Shaw Neighborhood, will take place Sunday, Oct 3rd, the same weekend as the fabulous Historic Shaw Art Fair. This year Fall for Shaw will feature guided neighborhood tours and, by popular demand, will also showcase rental property. For details about having your property included in the tourbook, contact the SNHC office at 773-SHAW. ☀ The SNHC is currently seeking an experienced developer to rehab a multi-family property in need of immediate attention. This once-beautiful property on the 4200 block of Russell has great potential and is an excellent candidate for a renovation using historic tax credits. SNHC is able to provide technical assistance.

Come join us for worship and these events:

Apple Picking—Saturday, September 11

Meet at the church at 10 am and we'll leave for Eckerd's Orchard

Blessing of the Animals—Saturday, October 2

Outdoors on church grounds at 2 pm

Holiday Bazaar—Saturday, November 13

In church library at 9 am

Sunday Worship Services

In the sanctuary at 10:45 am

Sunday School at 9:45 am

2149 South Grand Boulevard (at Flora)

Saint Louis, Missouri 63104

314.771.5071

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Serving the Needs of Our Seniors

The Grand Oak Hill Senior Center is located at the corner of Juniata and Bent, two blocks off Arsenal on the south side of Tower Grove Park, and is dedicated to serving the needs of senior citizens and the disabled in our community. The Senior Center is a place to go to enjoy the company of peers, play bingo, attend parties, and take part in many other fun activities. We offer services to people 60 years or older or disabled of any age. Services are offered throughout the month, Monday through Friday, including hot lunch meals at the center, home-delivered meals to our homebound community members, and transportation to doctor's appointments, shopping, essential business trips, and field trips.

Our center also serves as a cooling station where we provide an air-conditioned space and cold water to anyone on dangerously hot days. Feel free to stop by.

In addition to partial funding from the St Louis Area Agency on Aging and proceeds from fundraisers, we ask for donations from clients, as they are financially able to do so. However, no one is ever denied services.

In an effort to keep our community center exciting, we would like to inform our neighbors of some of our needs. If you are able to donate any of the following items, they will be of good use to your elderly and disabled community members.

We are in need of:

***Bingo and Door Prizes:** Non perishable food items (cookies, candy bars, etc), Gift Certificates, Toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, packs of toilet paper, etc.), Practical items (envelopes, stamps, umbrellas), and unwanted items that may already be in your house

***Snack Items:** for breakfasts and parties (coffee cakes, packs of cookies)

***Cans of Soda**

***Kitchen Items:** soap, dishtowels

If you have any questions or know someone who can benefit from these services, feel free to call us at 314-865-5530.