

## Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting

June 25, 2013      7:16 p.m.      28 attendees

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA) meeting was chaired by President Jim Zakibe. New residents were introduced.

Dana Sherman, Director of Operations for [Eagle College Preparatory School](#), discussed this new charter school (she and her husband also operate [The Gelateria](#) on Grand.) The school is on Chippewa and Morgan Ford Road. They are renovating what used to be the St. John's Lutheran Church school building and it is almost finished. They currently are enrolling kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and they plan to add a grade each year up to 8th grade. They hope for 149 students the first year and have 85 enrolled already. They are also opening a preschool this year through a separate organization, as well as offering before and after school programs. She invited us to attend an open house/building tour on Thursday, June 27, 2013 from 6 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. They are also having a party in Tower Grove Park for kids on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

Captain Dan Rechtein, of the Fraud Prevention Task Force, spoke on "Identity Theft" He distributed a pamphlet entitled "Power Against Identity Theft". Captain Rechtein started the fraud prevention task force which goes out to neighborhood groups to try and educate residents about preventing fraud. They have a hotline to which he personally responds—[314-612-1412](tel:314-612-1412). Captain Rechtein outlined several suggestions from the pamphlet such as depositing checks electronically, not carrying your checkbook in public, shredding all documents before disposing of them and checking your credit report on a regular basis.

Officer Joseph Calabro, Community Outreach Officer of the 3rd District ([314-444-0169](tel:314-444-0169)) reminded us about fireworks being illegal in the city. The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Child Safety Day will be held Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at the Police Academy at 315 S. Tucker from 10 [a.m.to](#) 3 p.m. The event will include free child fingerprinting. Officer Calabro reported that six criminal cases are being cleared by the recent arrest of one individual. Two of these cases were robberies in our district. The suspect is being held on a \$150,000 cash only bond. Officers will try to get to as many neighborhoods as possible for National Night Out. Local business owners may also attend. [SImpd.org](http://SImpd.org) has crime statistics.

State Representative [Mike Colona](#) gave an update about this year's legislative sessions.

Jennifer Florida, 15<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman, noted that the Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance so that the city will now be controlling the Police Dept. as of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> as part of local control . A transition team has been appointed. Police reallocation is more about the different districts working more cooperatively together. [Papa Murphy's](#) just opened on Gravois and Mojo Tapas on Grand just closed although some other merchant is in line for the space. The Grand Blvd. Great Streetscape project has been completed and sustainability planning is now taking place. Let Jennifer know if you're interested in participating in this effort. The green alleys had lateral sewer issues that have been addressed and they hope to restart construction this week. They are getting bids for the prework on the next two alleys. Due to grant work, the project must complete by Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> or we lose the money. Reviews of the Community Development Blockwork Grants may mean there will be some changes in organizations like Grand Oak Hill.

Judy Lane, Neighborhood Stabilization Officer (NSO) for our 15th Ward, reported that the date of the [National Night Out](#) is August. 6<sup>th</sup> and the deadline for registration is on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Starting in May, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, we are sponsoring "Living Local with Heights Nights" parties at various local businesses and restaurants. The next event will be at [Mangia Italiano](#) on July 9<sup>th</sup>. We raffled three gift certificates tonight and will raffle two more at the door that night. We are trying to support our neighborhood businesses with these events.

The next TGHNA meeting will be on July 23, 2013 featuring Amanda Doyle discussing her new book [100 Things to Do in St. Louis Before You Die](#).

The meeting concluded at 8: 25 p.m.

Claudia Seifert, Secretary