



BPWNA

Board Members

This edition meet **Member at Large - Jason Hillman**. Watch for future biographies.

Jason Hillman

Jason grew up in Dyersburg, TN. After graduating from the University of Tennessee-Martin in 2005 with a degree in Accounting, Jason moved to Jackson, TN.

Jason has worked at various CPA firms around the city since arriving in 2013. He has over 10 years' experience in public accounting.

With his wife Alison, Jason can be found frequenting the local craft beer scene, volunteering for local dog rescues' events, attending area concerts, enjoying the many area patios with their pup Riley, and found at most Cardinals games cheering loudly.

He is a HUGE Tennessee Volunteer football fan. The Hillmans are also members of Messiah Lutheran Church near Tower Grove Park.

Jason's favorite thing about Benton Park West is the cultural diversity.

Fall 2017

Vol 17, No. 3

The Porch Review

BLAZING FORWARD, PLANTING SEEDS, WIDENING PERSPECTIVES

**Benton Park West
TRUNK OR
TREAT**

Sun, October 29 at 4 pm
Salvation Army Parking Lot
2720 Arsenal

Please join us for a safe trick or treating followed by a carnival with ghoulish games, freaky fun, and frightening food!

Children ages 14 and younger and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

All are encouraged to dress up and have fun!

To volunteer or have your vehicle participate, contact Darren Young at 661-289-1403

BPWNA Board Elections - 2018

The board for BPW continues to be diverse and focus on ensuring safety and growth in the neighborhood.

A neighborhood board includes committees which are the "work horse" of the neighborhood. While the BPW Elected board is a "working board", it takes additional residents to plan and execute the work. It takes YOU to make the neighborhood - Benton Park West.

The officers for 2018 are as follows:

President - Scott McIntosh

Vice-President - Allison Hillman

Secretary - Ashton Baldas

Treasurer - John Simons

Member-at-Large - Tim Thomas

Member-at-Large - Jason Hillman

(Continued on page 5)



BPWNA Meetings

Five Star Senior Center,
2832 Arsenal (at Oregon)

Join us and help Benton Park
West move forward.

All residents and businesses
are welcome! Hear details of committee activities and engage
on decisions concerning **your neighborhood**.

Board Meetings, 6:30pm, 2nd Monday each month:
Nov 13th, Dec 11, Jan 8, Feb 12, March 12

General Meetings, 7:00pm, 3rd Thursday each Month:
Nov 16th, No meeting in Dec, Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 15

*Don't miss the annual Neighborhood POTLUCK
on November 21st at 6:30p.*

Make your favorite family dish and share with your friends and neighbors.
Maybe share more than just the dish? Bring copies of the recipe!

Thursday, November 16th,

POTLUCK STARTS AT 6:30p

Five Star Senior Center

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to each of you
from the Board of Benton Park
West Neighborhood Association

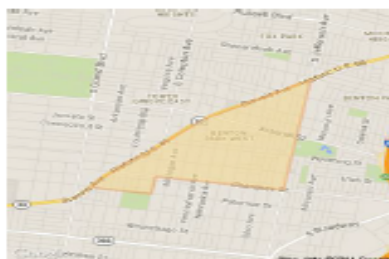
 **Nextdoor**

What a great way to keep up with
neighborhood news/safety issues.
Need a sitter or report strange be-
havior, this is the place. **ONLY BPW**
members can see, or send to sur-
rounding neighborhoods as well.

TO JOIN VISIT:

nextdoor.com/join/NMEMMK

Benton Park West



2017 Board Members

President - Scott McIntosh
719-6507(c) president@bentonparkwest.org

Vice-President - Alison Hilman
296-0078(c) vice-president@bentonparkwest.org

Treasurer - Vacant
treasurer@bentonparkwest.org

Secretary - Liz Gerard
309-4460 secretary@bentonparkwest.org

Members at Large:
Jason Hilman and Eddie Schmid

Beautification - Stephanie McKinney
beautification@bentonparkwest.org

Block Link - Chris Schmidt
blocklink@bentonparkwest.org

Dog Park - Jeni Poole
dogpark@bentonparkwest.org

Facilities - Bill Byrd
billb051563@yahoo.com

Membership - Charlene Young
membership@bentonparkwest.org

Communications - Scott McIntosh
scottwmcintosh@yahoo.com

Quality of Life:
•Carrie Sleep cesleep@yahoo.com
•Dan Geary aging.hippie@hotmail.com

Youth - Darren Young
youth@bentonparkwest.org



BPWNA is a 501(c)3 organiza-
tion registered with US IRS and
Missouri Secretary of State

The Porch Review: A Publication of the
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Design/Editor: Bill Byrd

Proofreaders: Scott McIntosh and Linda Hen-
nigh

Contributors/Writers: Jessie Martinez, Bill
Byrd, Jason Hillman, Anne McCullough, Scott
McIntosh, and City of Saint Louis.

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 18671
St. Louis, MO 63118
Phone: 314-881-8048

E-mail: info@bentonparkwest.org
On the Web at: www.bentonparkwest.org

Advertising Information:
communications@bentonparkwest.org or
314.881.8048.

BPW Meeting Discussion Topics

YOU are being heard through the survey and “questions” at monthly meetings.

FEBRUARY: What can be done to make Benton Park West a safer neighborhood?

- Greater focus on job training and resume writing
- Organize a resource fair. Distribute information about rent and utility assistance, employment opportunities, transportation and social services
- More foot traffic
- Community garden involvement
- Witness and victim protection/advocacy
- Distribute crime and camera maps
- Porch light project
- Planter adoption
- Police joining dog walking groups

How should BPWNA improve neighborhood meetings?

- Change the narrative of meetings. Focus on positive things happening in the neighborhood, innovation and idea sharing
- Structured discussion time

APRIL: Continued Crime and Safety Discussion

- Real-time cameras will soon go active on Jefferson
- Part of Alison's petition, Lights Camera Action, involves a petition that will be given to Cherokee business owners for improved lighting
- Alison believes motion lights create an “element of surprise” and will be effective in reducing crime

JULY: What does neighborhood safety mean to you?

- “Neighbors knowing neighbors” “I want to feel safe walking home at night”
- Greater community involvement, especially among minorities. The neighborhood association is not representative of the population it serves
- No racial profiling
- Police responsiveness
- Proper screening of tenants and fewer problem properties
- Beautification

AUGUST: How can we encourage a diverse representation at our meetings?

- “We’re not talking about diversity for the sake of quota. We’re talking about relationships.”
- Try to engage renters. Meetings are not just for homeowners
- Post flyers in Spanish on Cherokee Street d) Share meeting topics with friends and family
- Adhere to the time limit
- Low participation among young families may be explained by lack of childcare options

- Host an offsite meeting at a visible location, such as Love Bank Park. Make it known that decisions aren’t made behind closed doors
- Host an offsite social hour after meetings. Encourage friendship building
- CSBA is scheduled the same time. Consider other times and locations

SEPTEMBER: What do you get out of BPWNA meetings?

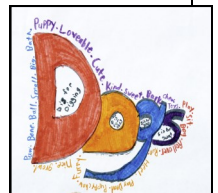
- Summary of last month’s discussion topic: How do we encourage a diverse representation at our meetings?
- Meetings help residents feel more connected to the community
- Guest speakers help attendees feel more informed about St. Louis politics
- Residents would like to hear what the neighborhood association is doing to address crime
- Residents enjoy information about new businesses and upcoming events on Cherokee Street
- Real estate listings are very useful

BPW Dog Park 3300 Nebraska

Join Now!

1. Submit application — available at BPWNA meetings & www.bentonparkwest.org
2. Your pet must be neutered or spayed
3. Your pet must be immunized against rabies, distemper, and Bordetella.

REMEMBER - BPW Dog Park is open to furry friends from Benton Park, Fox Park, Gravois Park, Marine Villa, McKinley Heights and Tower Grove East



Five Star Senior Center

Ph.314-664-1008

Fax.314-865-2900

E-Mail fcoac@swbell.net



Meals-Transportation

Social Activities

Mon.-Fri. 9:00-3:00

2832 Arsenal St. Louis, MO 63118-2317

Michael W. Howard

Executive Director

Tell Others
about

Benton Park West

What better way of telling others about how great of a place we live, than promoting our homes for sale.

Check on the website for the NEWEST BLAST at www.bentonparkwest.org.

Love Fest: A Celebration of

P Love Bank r k

By Anne McCullough

A community celebration of our collective mission to provide safe, inclusive space for all.

Saturday, November 11th 1pm to 6pm

Two years ago, Cherokee Street business owner William Porter, Cherokee Liaison Anne McCullough, and Business owner Jason Deem partnered with neighborhood youngsters to turn a once-vacant lot at the corner of Cherokee Street & Nebraska Avenue into a public-use play space. The group installed a permanent basketball hoop (and later, a fire pit and picnic tables) which has grown to become a symbol of the inventive, collaborative, and DIY nature for which Cherokee Street is known. Since then, "Love Bank Park," has played host to a sports tournament, pop-up art making days, a weekly healthy food marketplace, summer camps, community art festivals, birthday parties, an interactive art installation and social programming space, video projection, and more.

To commemorate the anniversary of its inception, Cherokee Street Development League's Love Bank

Committee would like to welcome everyone to come help re-active the space, at Love Fest; a day of music, fellowship, love, and food. Participating Cherokee Street restaurants will be providing free food, BYOB, and smores by the fire. Live music and tunes by Jack Grelle, Bates, Out Hrr Events. Got something to say? Anyone with a positive message to share can take to the stage during open mic with Pacia Anderson.

It is our goal to make this festival one where people of all creeds and beliefs will feel welcome to experience the park, meet some of the youth who play there, and some of the curators who seek to keep the space a safe, welcoming, and active part of our community.

Cherokee Street Events

**Trick or Treat on Cherokee Street
Tuesday, October 31st 5pm-7pm.**

Cherokee Street Development League, along with support from community members and Cherokee Street Reach will host a Trick or Treat on Cherokee Street between 5pm to 7pm on Tuesday, October 31st. Families and kids will be able to pick up a treat bag at locations throughout Cherokee Street and trick or treat at participating businesses along the street from 5pm to 7pm.

**2017 Print Bazaar on Cherokee Street
St. Louis' Largest, Local, Handmade
Holiday Shopping Event**

The 10th Annual Holiday Print Sale on Cherokee Street will take place on Saturday, December 2nd, 10:00AM - 6:00PM and is a great way to find one-of-a-kind creations by local artists - no two prints are exactly alike! Print Bazaar on Cherokee provides holiday shoppers with the unique opportunity to complete their shopping lists, support both artists and the local economy and celebrate the singular joy and intimacy of the rigorously handmade.

Featuring over 100 artists inside businesses and venues along Cherokee Street, Print Bazaar on Cherokee transcends conventional boundaries, transforming storefronts and sidewalks into artistic venues. If you want a truly intimate and exciting shopping experience this holiday season, look no further than Cherokee Street- the perfect place to do your holiday shopping!

Holiday Shoppers will find many unique items available for purchase, including posters, cards, calendars, ornaments, hand-bound journals, comic books, clothes and fabrics, as well as handcrafted jewelry, clothes and designs. Cherokee Street will be buzzing with pop up shops and local makers of all kinds. Come enjoy the antiques, books, great food and drinks, and variety of galleries, print shops, and venues that make Cherokee Street one of the most interesting and creative corridors in the Midwest.

Maps will be provided at each venue, artists and businesses will be equipped with personalized stamps. The first five shoppers to collect 30 stamps will win a prize from local businesses and artists.

BPWNA Community Survey Results

Survey was online Dec-Jan and paper at January meeting

1. 30 unique responses
2. BPWNA will primarily focus on the top two priorities:
 - a. *crime and safety*
 - b. *beautification*
3. Interest in new business development, education and job opportunities virtually tied
4. Community members commented on the need to:
 - a. Maintain cultural and economic diversity
 - b. Encourage positivity and civic pride
 - c. Educate about home ownership
 - d. Engage residents who aren't active in the neighborhood
 - e. association
 - f. Increase collaboration with CSBA
5. In addition to existing activities, respondents expressed interest in:
 - a. Social groups (coffee, movie, home improvement)

Committee Chairs Benton Park West

These six elected positions are the official elected board, however, many more individuals are needed to do the work of the association; these additional positions are committee chairs who organize and ensure work is completed.

We must always remember the neighborhood mission:

“Enhance and strengthen the neighborhood and its residents by promoting beautification, commerce, communication, diversity, and safety. The neighborhood association makes efforts to support, renew, and sustain Benton Park West’s unique human and physical resources, serving as a voice for the neighborhood, and helping to ensure quality living.”

The committees for Benton Park West are as follows:

Block Link

Communications - Newsletter, Website and PR Mktg

Finance

Membership

Beautification

Fundraising

Dog Park

Quality of Life - NOM

Community Gardens

Facilities

Youth Outreach

Many committee chairs will be open for 2018. If you have an interest in any of the work for YOUR neighborhood, ask any board member.

For information about any of the committee chairs or committee work, check out the Benton Park West website at: www.bentonparkwest.org.

If you would like to be involved, contact Scott McIntosh (314-719-6507) or Alison Hillman (314-296-0078).

Nader and Sons, Inc.

**Repairs American and Foreign Cars
and Body Shop**

Maroun

Eddie

Monir

2863 S. Jefferson

Phone: 771-9141

St. Louis MO. 63118

Phone: 773-1776



Gravois Park Trash Pickup and Social Hour - *Sundays from 9:30-10:30 am, Gravois Park, 3200 Potomac*

Each Sunday, get to know your neighbors and help make YOUR neighborhood park a better place to play! We'll pick up litter in and around the park while talking and getting to know each other.

Laughter Club - *Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 pm, Thomas Dunn Learning Center, 3113 Gasconade*

This is a meet up practicing laughter as a tool to reduce stress. It is without charge and lasts from 6-7p on Tuesdays. Visit www.tdunn.org for more info or contact Sonia at sonia@tdunn.org

Howl-O-Ween and Shoe Drive - *Saturday, October 28 from 1-3p, Benton Park West Dog Park, 3300 Nebraska*

BPW Dog park's annual Howl-oween party! Open event for everyone to come visit. We'll have treats and of course a costume contest and photos! Plus a shoe drive to collect new and used shoes to go to Shoes for Shealters program to raise funds for #mominpinrescue

Sheppard Studios Open House - *Saturday, October 28 from 2-5p, Sheppard Studios, 1925 Cherokee*
The Art of Mark Sheppard: Visit my art studio at 1925 Cherokee St. for an open house. Free and open to the public. (or stop by any time during regular open hours Thurs-Sat 10:30a-5p)

Casa Loma Ballroom's 90th Annual Halloween Party - *Saturday, October 28 from 8p-Midnight, Casa Loma Ballroom, 3354 Iowa*
Be a part of Halloween history!

Join us at Casa Loma Ballroom for the 90th Annual Halloween Dance and Costume Contest. Admission is only \$15 per person. Reserved seating available with pre-paid tickets. \$500 in cash prizes for the best costumes. Casa Loma Cafe will be open. Doors open 7:00pm. Music 8p-Midnight. Call 314-664-8000 to order tickets now.

Halloween Dark St. Louis Seminar - *Sunday, October 29 from 1-7p, Lemp Grand Hall, 1817 Cherokee*

Just in time for Halloween 2017!! The St. Louis Paranormal Research Society is excited to present our third annual Dark St. Louis Seminar- held inside the famous (and very haunted) Lemp Grand Hall! Hear from real, local experts who know all about the Darker Side of the Paranormal! Reservations for the event are only \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at the door. This event is expected to sell out quickly as seating is limited to ensure a quality experience!

SAV-THE-DATES

- Trick or Treat on Cherokee Street, Tuesday, October 31 from 5-7p, Cherokee
- Cherokee Street Community Dance Day, Saturday, November 4 from 11a-5p, 2720 Cherokee
- Cherokee Street Jazz Crawl, Saturday, November 4 from 12-11p, Cherokee
- BPW's Fall Alley Clean Up, Saturday, November 11 at 10a, Love Bank Park, 2853 Cherokee Love Fest: A Celebration of Love Bank Park, Saturday, November 11 from 1-7p, Love Bank Park, 2853 Cherokee

For more event info, please visit the **Events** page on Bentonparkwest.org

Join Jessie at *The Choice*

By Jessie Martinez

The Choice, located at 3265 Jefferson, is a soul food restaurant that specializes in creating home cooked buffets. With a funky little outside and a hard to determine experience, this place has been on my radar for a while. When this writing opportunity presented itself, I knew The Choice would be my *only* choice for the first edition of Under the Table.

Inside The Choice, the atmosphere is rich with a mixture of antique furniture and decor that might remind you of a visit to Grandma's house. A collection of dark mahogany dining room tables make up most of the space and there is something to look at in every part of the room. Also connected is a private dining room, a cigar room, a full bar (with live music on Fridays) and a B&B on the way.

Like Grandma's house, it smells amazing inside. Also like Grandma's house, there is a buffet to be had. The word "buffet" can be polarizing in some social circles, but The Choice still makes everything from scratch. Likewise,

a buffet is a great way to be able to try more than one option. Our buffet that day consisted of juicy & crispy fried chicken, roasted pork neck bones, homemade meatloaf and seafood stuffed sole filets for protein choices. For sides, there was a spot-on mac & cheese, sugared sweet potatoes, braised green beans with pork, buttery creamed corn and even more.

What to get - Go for the lunch buffet Tuesday - Saturday from 11am-2pm. You will have your choice of two meat options & three side options, which may be served by owner Lillian herself! Don't worry if your dining partner steals all your mac & cheese (like mine did), you can always go up for seconds. Just remember you have to eat what's on your plate, just like real home-cookin'! This is some of the best soul food I have ever had, and I cannot wait to go back.

Keywords - Soul Food, Small Business, Live Music, Relaxed Atmosphere, Buffet

The Choice

3265 S. Jefferson Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63118
St. Louis - South City
314-776-5700

OPENING HOURS

Tues. - Sun: 10am - 12midnight
Happy Hour: 4pm - 6pm
Martini Special: 9pm - 12midnight

Single-Stream Recycling

Rinse containers. Discard caps and lids. Labels do not need to be removed. Do not include food contaminated materials. If in doubt, leave it out.
No Plastic Bags



The CITY is here for YOU!

Citizen's Service Bureau is for issues or concerns. Request City services:
314-622-4800

Barb Potts, our NSI is always there for YOU!

314 - 397 - 1091 (c) pottsb@stlouis-mo.gov

Curby Memorial Presbyterian Church

2621 Utah Street Saint Louis, MO 63118

We invite you to come and worship with us as we grow together in Jesus Christ and realize a change in our lives.

Children & Adult Bible Study Worship service

9:00 - 10:00 AM 10:30 AM Fellowship every 2nd Sunday



Benton Park **WEST** Neighborhood Association

PO Box 18671 • St. Louis, Missouri 63118 • 314-771-0803

Email: membership@bentonparkwest.org

Membership Application Resident or Property Owner

Effective for 12 Months from date of payment

ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD

Please print **CLEARLY**

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Occupation _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Occupation _____

Number of Children (under 18 yrs. in the Household): _____ Ages: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone # (____) _____ Cell Phone # (____) _____

Email: _____

☐ **Include me** on the BPWNA list serve ☐ **Do not include me** on BPWNA list serve

☐ **New Membership** ☐ **Renewal**

☐ **Platinum** = \$100.00 per person x ____ = \$ _____

5 EXTRA tickets for Attendance Prize

☐ **Gold** = \$50.00 per person x ____ = \$ _____

4 EXTRA tickets for the Attendance Prize

☐ **Silver** = \$25.00 per person x ____ = \$ _____

3 EXTRA tickets for the Attendance prize

☐ **Bronze** = \$10.00 per person x ____ = \$ _____

2 EXTRA tickets for the Attendance prize

☐ **Bronze Senior** (65+) = \$5.00 per person x ____ = \$ _____

2 EXTRA tickets for the Attendance prize

☐ **Friend of the Neighborhood** (Non-Resident of BPWest) = \$20.00 x ____ = \$ _____

2 EXTRA tickets for the Attendance prize

☐ **Gift/Donation** \$ _____

1 EXTRA ticket for every \$5.00 Donated

Please check any committees in which you would like to become involved

☐ Beautification ☐ Block Link ☐ Communications ☐ Dog Park ☐ Facilities

☐ Garden ☐ Membership ☐ Publications ☐ Quality of Life/Safety ☐ Youth

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

↓ FOR OFFICE USE ONLY ↓

<input type="checkbox"/> CASH \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK # _____ or MONEY ORDER (Payable to BPWNA) <input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT CARD (In Person Only)	Rec'd By: _____ Date: _____ Total Pmt: \$ _____
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BPWNA membership: Have a vote, win prizes

Contact Numbers

Crime Prevention and Quality of Life

Emergency/Drug Activity 911
Non-Emergency 231-1212
Drug/Gang Hotline 241-COPS
Interim Chief O'Toole 444-5624
Major Caruso 444-2585

Shawn Dace, 3rd Dist Captain

444-2597 dsdace@slmpd.org

Patrick Clancy, 3rd Dist Public Affairs
 444-2564 pmclancy@slmpd.org

3rd District Nuisance Officers:

PO Daphne Allen 444-2563
PO Erin Hine 444-2564
PO Samantha Edwards 444-2572

Cherokee Beat Officers:

PO Devin Jackson 682-9734
PO Jazmin Garrett 682-9734

Citizen Service Bureau 622-4800

Alderman: Dan Guenther 304-6797

Neighborhood Stabilization Officer:

Barb Potts, pottsb@stlouis-mo.gov
 657-1370 (w) 397-1091 (c)

MISC:

Pothole Department 768-2805
Refuse/Recycle Dept. 353-8877
Illegal Dumping 911
 Then call CSB 622-4800

Lights:

Alley Lights (AmUE) 342-1000
Street Lights (CSB) 622-4800

Water:

Open Hydrant 771-4880

Animal Abuse Hotline 647-4400

Child Abuse Hotline 800-392-3738

EnergyCare 773-5900

Five Star Senior Center 664-1008

Operation Brightside 772-4646

Parents Anonymous

647-HELP or 866-492-0843

Parental Stress 800-367-3543

Free 2-1-1 Service 800-427-4626
 or (314) 421-4636



Report issues or request service in Benton Park (THE PARK) using the address

Know an alley that needs

We share alley locations needing attention, and Probation & Parole sends cleanup crews.



U.S. Department of Justice sponsored, community based effort to prevent, control and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity. Regular meetings with city and law enforcement officials are held at 2832 Arsenal.

The next Police Outreach meeting is December 14th, 7pm.

What do you love about Benton Park West?

Community events?
 Beautiful buildings?
 Great food?

Share neighborhood photos on social media with the hashtag **#BentonParkWest**

Your photo could appear in the newsletter or on

BentonParkWest.org

Show off BPW Get a T-shirt!

S, M, L, XL, XXL shirts
 Men and Women's styles

Sold at **STLyle House**
 on Cherokee at Compton

Proceeds benefit Benton Park West



Benton Park West
 Neighborhood Association
 P.O. 18671
 Saint Louis, MO 63118



On the Web at

www.bentonparkwest.org