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Fashion Week honors fashion-able natives

By ***Deb Peterson***

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

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ROCKIN' THE LOU: Three St. Louis natives are among the top fashion designers who will be in town this week to tout Fashion Week in St. Louis. Taking a cue from the big daddys of fashion weeks in New York, LA and Europe, many smaller cities have instituted their own weeks to showcase some of the less well-known designer names in the industry. Alive Magazine and Ecco Domani are hosting the week in St. Louis. The natives who will be on hand include Jesse Kamm, Nick Verreos (of "Project Runway" fame) and Tiffany Alana. The events begin Tuesday night with a fashion show on Washington Avenue, which will be closed to traffic for the event, and ends on Friday with clothing featured from 11 boutiques and a bang-up fashion show, "Liquid Style," around the Chase Park Plaza hotel pool. Proceeds benefit Food Outreach. For a full list of events and ticket info visit: www.stlouisfashionweek.com.

HUMPHREY'S HOOP-DE-DOO: Bob Mangelsdorf, eldest son of Jan Mangelsdorf, owner of the venerable Humphrey's pub, got married recently in Whitefish, Mont., to Sasha Dunlop, daughter of former Blues forward Blake Dunlop and his wife, Nora. On hand were Bob's brothers, John and Mark Mangelsdorf; Jan's friend Stanley Becchetti; Sasha's parents; sister Torri and brothers Connor and Cole; and friends Dan and Debbie Dierdorf and Kim and Sharon Tucci. The in-town party last weekend drew more than 600 people, with friends and family from eight countries. Among the revelers were: Al and Jackie MacInnis; Bruce and Ces Affleck; Joe and Phyllis Fresta; Pete and Donna Rothschild; Judge Ken Romines and his wife, Jane; Rep. Russ Carnahan and his wife, Judge Debra Carnahan; Joe and Lisa Roddy; Paul and Laverne Lorenzini; Dr. Robert Burdge and his wife, Lisa; Judges Joe Murphy and Jim Wahl; Dan Schulte; and Peter and Emily Huey.

NOT TOO SHABBY: It's high fives all around to John Porter, 1998 Chaminade Prep grad, who just found out that he has been selected to receive a Fulbright Graduate Research Fellowship for the upcoming academic year. The grant — which is given to only 1,300 people annually — will allow Porter to travel to Osaka, Japan, where he will serve as a special researcher ("tokubetsu kenkyuin") at the Osaka City University's Urban Research Plaza. His research is focused on urban poverty and urban slums in Osaka during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After graduating here, Porter got a bachelor's degree from DePauw University in 2002 and a master's from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2005. He is currently working to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Porter is the son of Lisa and Robert Porter of Town and Country. Robert is the executive veep for strategy and business development for SSM Health Care-St. Louis.

A GUNN DEAL: Kevin Gunn — an attorney with Sonnenschein, Nath and Rosenthal who formerly was chief of staff to Dick Gephardt — has tossed his hat into the political ring. The young Gunn is seeking the state Senate seat that will be vacated by Sen. Mike Gibbons because of term limits. Gunn picked up a big endorsement recently when his potential primary rival, Rep. Mike Vogt, threw his support to Gunn. Gunn is the grandson of Donald Gunn, who served as prez of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen.

CRISIS AVERTED: More than 650 guests raised more than \$70,000 through server tips, raffle sales and donations at the St. Louis Crisis Nursery fundraiser Thursday night at Monarch restaurant in Maplewood. A record number of celebrity servers — more than 55, including yours truly — jammed the restaurant and tried to stay out from under the feet of the real servers. Some of the big names who were in the house included: Bob Bagby, honorary chair of the event, prez and CEO of A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.; honorary corporate chairs Cindy Brinkley of AT&T; Pat Mercurio, prez of Bank of America; and nursery honcho Roberta Cohen and husband Allan. Some of the servers included: Larry Conners, Russell Kinsaul, Robin Smith and Jeff Skversky of KMOV-TV (Channel 4); Heidi Glaus and Rene Knott of KSDK-TV (Channel 5); John Carney and Paul Harris of KMOX radio; Matt Halverson and Meghan Riley of St. Louis Magazine; Arnie Robbins, Christine Bertelson and Joe Whittington of the Post-Dispatch; Melanie Moon of CW 11 News; Bernie Federko, St. Louis Blues Hall of Famer; Attilio D'Agostino and Jill Manoff of Alive Magazine; St. Louis Fire Department Chief Sherman George; County Executive Charlie Dooley; Victoria Babu of KTRS radio; Bill Seidhoff, St. Louis director of Human Services; and state Reps. Rachel Storch and Sam Page.

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