

stringent the standards established, they will have no impact on the neighborhood if they are ignored.

It is important that each of us learns what he can about proposed standards and that we share our views and feelings with those writing the legislation. For this reason, Concerned Citizens publically offers to assist our alderman in organizing a neighborhood meeting.

## LETTERS TO FOPARSE NEWS & VIEWS

P.O. Box 15060 CHOUTEAU STATION  
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63110

SORRY IF YOUR LETTER WAS RETURNED!!!!!! A change at the post office resulted in some letters being returned. We have a new post box so as to prevent a recurrence. If your letter was returned, please send it again or leave it at 4428 Arco.

POLICY: Space prohibits the publishing of long letters. Pertinent sections of long letters may be extracted for publications if intended meanings will not be altered. Names will not be published unless a release is signed.

### HISTORIC DISTRICT

Alderman Dee always held public meetings in the neighborhood whenever he wanted to do something that effected us. I did not always like what he did, but at least he told us and listened to what we had to say. I hope that I don't get disappointed with the new alderman.

Mr. S. V.  
Gibson Heights

Before I decide on anything like this historic district I need to know more about it. Politicians are always trying to slip things by the people. You just suddenly hear from them that they have passed this bill or that and how great it is going to be. Then suddenly you learn it is going to cost you

money. My boss lives in Hyde Park and he said the historic standards cost him a lot of extra money every time he has to repair his house. I want to know when this meeting will be cause I got some questions to ask.

Mr. J. L.  
Adams Grove

I aint having no city officials tell me what type of fence I can have on my property or where I can put my air conditioners. Why dont the alderman spend his time working to get businesses back on Manchester and some jobs for the young people of the neighborhood? Whats so dam historic about this area anyway? Most of the houses are just shacks. I think its just a plan to force us to sell our houses like in Tiffany. That way developers and the politicians can make big bucks selling our houses to county people.

Mr. B. H.  
Adams Grove

### NEWS & VIEWS

We have been needing this for a long time. I never know what is happening in the other part of the neighborhood. Years back when there was businesses on Manchester you use to see your neighbors shopping and you could learn things from them. Now no one seems to no nothing. The Post-Dispatch never mentions a small area like this and we dont even get the West End Word or the Southside Journal. I like the newsletter but I still rather hear news from people. Why dont the politicians do something about Manchester?

Mrs. L. G.  
New Boyle

It is really nice to get the news of the neighborhood. So many times I find out about things after they are over. If there are only three of you working on this paper, you are probably going to get tired of all this work

and quit after a while. While it is here, I plan to enjoy it. Enclosed is a small check as a donation. I don't know if you need it, but I wanted to show that your effort is valued.

Mrs. H. M.  
Gibson Heights

Who do people think you are? Ever since you come to this neighborhood you been trouble. First this Jackels woman runs against Joe Roddys son for aldermen and Joes got to spend a lot of money to get his son elected. All that Jackels woman did was complain about how bad it is here. Well I say if she dont like it she can move. This place is the way it is because of Joe and everyone should know that. What gives you people the right to pass this trashy newsletter to peoples homes. This aint Russia. All you want to do is cause trouble. You people are anarkists. And now that Jackels woman raises all that money to keep Adams gym open this summer. Dont she realize that all them kids will do is take drugs there and have prostitution.

Mr. H. S.  
Adams Grove

### FOPARSE CLASSIFIED

\$2.00 per add; Read in 1600 homes  
P.O. Box 15060 Chouteau Station  
St. Louis, Mo. 63110

FREE 2-HOUR SEMINAR: Commerce Bank is sponsoring a seminar for first-time home buyers on August 2 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. For more info call 652-1480.

WANTED: Are you a concerned citizen interested in serving your community? The Sam Mcree Redevelopment Corporation is searching for someone to fill a vacancy on its board. If interested, send us a letter and we shall pass it to the appropriate person.

WANTED: FoParSE NEWS & VIEWS is looking for a cartoonist. If you have the talent and wish to volunteer, write to us.

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## CONCERN FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS

by STEVE SORKIN

In late May a long-time resident of FoParSE was brutally beaten during a burglary in the 4400 block of Arco. For two days she lay bound and gagged on her kitchen floor slipping into and out of consciousness. None of her neighbors realized that anything was wrong. Her daughter phoned her daily, but when there was no answer the first day, she assumed that her mother was working in the yard. Only at the end of the second day, when there was still no answer, did concern prompt her daughter to drive to her mother's house to see if something was wrong. Seriously injured and weak from lack of food and water, her mother was rushed to the hospital. She will not be returning to our neighborhood after she recovers. FoParSE has lost another senior resident because of crime.

Unfortunately, we can not prevent all crimes or accidents to which senior citizens or anyone may fall victim. We can, however, help to avoid some of the needless suffering. If you live alone and are concerned for yourself or worry for an older or sickly neighbor, arrange a signal with someone you trust that will indicate if there is a problem. For example, one senior citizen uses a series of cards to indicate if there is a problem. She places a white card in her front window every morning if everything is all right. She adds a yellow card in the afternoon and removes the cards at night. Two



neighbors who lived across the street were alerted when the yellow card failed to appear one day. They found that the lady had fallen and was unable to reach the telephone.

Any of us could be the victim of an accident or crime and be in need of help. By getting to know our neighbors, especially the senior citizens, we can make FoParSE a safer place to live.

## HOUSING CORP ELECTION RAISES QUESTIONS

by MARK JEFFERIES

Congratulations to the new officers of the F.P.S.E. Housing Corporation, the city-funded agency for neighborhood improvement. The officers are Newton McCoy - acting president, Bernice Matlock - acting vice president, Suzanne Goodman - secretary and Helen Sheets - treasurer. All have previously served on the board of directors of the Housing Corporation and are well qualified for their respective positions.

Questions have arisen regarding McCoy serving as president. Bylaws of the Corporation state that the directors of the board must reside within the geographic area which they represent. McCoy has announced plans to move from the neighborhood in the near future and has already placed his house for sale. The bylaws also state that no director of the board may serve more than two consecutive terms (4 years) as director representing any group. It has been reported that McCoy is now serving his fifth year as the representative of the Sam McRee Redevelopment Corporation.

At the last Housing Corporation meeting it was suggested by McCoy that the residency requirement be changed. This would allow him to serve as president after he moves. No mention was made that he may have already sat beyond the legal period allowed.

NEWS & VIEWS staff asked several area residents if they believed that residency in our neighborhood should be a requirement to be

president of our Housing Corporation. Many questioned McCoy's ability to "know what is happening here if he is living several miles away in another neighborhood." One resident on Chouteau stated her feelings as, "Look, there has to be a reason why the laws require the governor to live in Missouri, the mayor in the city and the alderman in the ward. It is only logical that the president (of the Housing Corporation) should have to live in the neighborhood." Two residents felt that if McCoy was the only person qualified for the job, he should be retained as president regardless where he lives.

At the July meetings of Block Units 5 and 6 members voted overwhelmingly to have their representatives to the Housing Corporation oppose the proposed change to the bylaws. Block Unit 5, which is part of the Wash U./ Medical Redevelopment area, also voted to encourage the W.U.M.R. representative to join with them in opposing the change.

## ADAMS SUMMER PROGRAM

by JACKIE JACKELS

Enough money has been raised from private donors to fund the Adams School summer program for the remainder of the 1988 session. Mr. Robert Carpenter from Mullanphy Community School is the co-ordinator of the program. Mr. Marquette Mason, past physical education teacher at Adams School, is the director and has planned numerous activities throughout the summer. I shall remain as treasurer.

Various city agencies are working with these two gentlemen to make the summer program a success. Several volunteers from the neighborhood have given of their time and talents as have the SLATE employees provided by the city.

I again wish to thank all those who have participated in the success of the program. A special thanks to Alderman Roddy who has been quietly working behind the scenes reviewing all requests.

There are a great many needs in our

neighborhood. The resources are there and I hope to work with other concerned citizens to use them for the benefit of the community. Neighborhood residents have been suggesting ideas for numerous projects to improve FoParSE.

## HISTORIC DISTRICT UPDATE

by KARL CHAUFFE

The WEST END WORD reported that work has been progressing toward the designation of FoParSE as an historic district. Questions still remain, however, as to the impact that this change will have on us, the residents. To better understand what changes may result, NEWS & VIEWS staff interviewed residents from Souland and Lafayette.

We encountered mixed feelings regarding historic designation in both neighborhoods. All of those interviewed said that the neighborhoods had improved after the designation, but several question the cost. Some older residents complained that the higher costs of repairs because of the strict historic standards forced neighbors to sell their homes. One lady said, "Mrs. Tasner lived in that house for thirty years. She raised her family in that house and buried her husband from there. But she just couldn't afford to have repairs made the way the city said they had to be. So, she had to sell the house to a developer. He made a mint and she got almost nothing." Another resident complained, "I had them aluminum awnings on my house for 20 years. They kept the sun out of my living room and the rain and ice off my steps. I took the awnings down to work on the windows and was then told by the city that I could not put them back up."

In contrast, an apartment building owner had nothing but praise for the historic district. He stated, "The people living round here were awful. Every house had a chain-link fence, plastic on the windows and the buildings were falling apart. I was getting almost nothing for rents. Now, most of those people are gone, the street looks great and my

rents have tripled. Plus, I saved a lot on taxes from improvements.

In Souland renters in two- and four-family flats had the same complaints." The landlord says he can't put storm windows in because they don't meet code and the type of thermal windows that do are too expensive. My heating and cooling bills are high because the old windows leak."

From our somewhat limited investigation into historic districts, we have identified the following advantages and disadvantages for residents:

### ADVANTAGES

- 1 Buildings are required to meet uniform standards, designed so as to preserve the historic architecture of the neighborhood.
- 2 Tax incentives to developers encourages redevelopment and offsets the more costly materials required.
- 3 Standards prevent low-cost rehabs which decrease the value of the adjacent buildings.
4. Over time, there is a gradual improvement of the neighborhood.

### DISADVANTAGES

- 1 Homeowners must meet the same historic standards, but without the tax advantages given developers.
- 2 A gradual displacement of those present residents who can not afford to maintain their buildings to historic standards or who cannot afford rent increases will occur.
- 3 Rental property is favored by tax advantages, resulting in a possible decrease in conversion of multifamily buildings to townhouses and a continued high population density.

Two important facets of historic districts are the "grandfather clause" and enforcement. Existing deviations from the historic standards will be "grandfathered in" and no major modifications will be required until other changes are made to the buildings. Enforcement of the historic standards is the key to success. Regardless how noble and