



FOPARSE NEWS & VIEWS

FOREST PARK SOUTHEAST

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THIS ISSUE: CAT DIES, McCOY REPLIES, PRICES TO RISE

SUMMER PROGRAM ENDS by JACKIE JACKELS

On August 15th the permit to use Adams School's gym expired. The last day brought iced soda, lots of pizza, chips and cookies. The kids had a ball!!! First, second, third and participation ribbons were awarded; everyone left with some remembrance of the summer program. The kids had fun and their parents kept their sanity knowing that the children had a safe and supervised place to play. Even the young men of the neighborhood enjoyed the basketball facilities provided in the summer program. Concerned Citizens supports the efforts of those trying to maintain Adams School. It would be unfortunate to lose this vital education center in our neighborhood. We do not want to see Adams School become a school of the past.

HOUSING CORP. NEWS by KARL CHAUFFE

Newton McCoy, the recently elected acting-president of F.P.S.E. Housing Corp., resigned at the August meeting of the corporation's Board of Directors after it was brought to his attention that he had served on the board longer than allowed by the corporation's by-laws. McCoy, who recently moved from the neighborhood, was the representative for the Samuel McRee Redevelopment Corporation. He is currently succeeded as president by Bernice Matlock.

In an unrelated matter Mrs. Ida Fields, president of the New Boyle Neighborhood Association, resigned as its representative to the Housing Board. She appointed Tom Goshem as her successor.

Finally, it has been proposed that the Board of Directors be expanded to include developers who are working within the F.P.S.E. neighborhood. Because this is potentially a controversial topic, FOPARSE NEWS & VIEWS interviewed several residents. Phil Heagney, past president of Block Unit 5, stated that although he felt developers could provide expertise needed on the Board, conflicts of interest could arise if they were voting members. Richard Sandall, president of Block Unit 6, also was opposed to developers as voting members. A representative from the St. Margaret of Scotland Housing Corporation stated that they do not have developers on their board or as advisors. "Developers not on the Board might feel as though they were being discriminated against and this might deter them from working here," the representative stated. It should be noted, however, that very few developers are presently working in our area and a position on the board might encourage them to become more involved with the neighborhood.

INFORMAL GROUP PROPOSED

Richard Sandall, president of Block Unit 6, has suggested that neighborhood unity could be encouraged by having informal meetings of the presidents of the various block units. At these meetings, common problems and concerns could be discussed. If your block unit is interested contact Richard Sandall at 4424 Arco Ave.

SOUTH-OF-FORTY SECURITY ASSOCIATION by MAUD ESSEN, Treasurer S.F.S.A.

Last summer, a non-profit group was formed in Forest Park Southeast. Its purpose was to administer a privately funded security patrol in our neighborhood. Since its inception, the South of Forty Security Association patrol has conducted fall and spring campaigns, making nearly one hundred arrests for drinking in a public place, public indecency, curfew violations, and trasspassing.

The focus centers on these violations for two reasons: first, to be a complement to the activities of regular police patrols, which normally are staffed so low that they have time to work only on major violations, and second, to address the kinds of activities that lower the quality of life for area residents and discourage redevelopment of homes and businesses.

Funding for the S.F.S.A. was donated by individuals, developers, business associations, block units and educational institutions. The Board of Directors was assembled from representatives of active local organizations. It defined the patrol's boundaries as the area bounded by Clayton Avenue, Kingshighway and Manchester to Vandeventer. In addition, certain areas south of Manchester were added as needs arose.

The security patrol consists of two uniformed off-duty St. Louis officers in an unmarked car, plus a supervisor. The officers are empowered to make arrests and bookings. They follow the same procedures and points of law.

Through the efforts of the Security Association patrol, the citizens of F.P.S.E. have demonstrated that they don't want to give up their neighborhood streets to people who break the law. Next month, I shall report on the arrest statistics as well as the meeting of neighborhood leaders and Third District Police Captain Gary Perkins.

GIBSON HEIGHTS RECIPE

\$1.00 CHOCOLATE CAKE

Sift together the following ingredients: 2 cups flour, 1 cup sugar, 2 teaspoons baking soda, and 3 teaspoons cocoa. Add 1 cup Miracle Whip salad dressing, 1 cup water and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Blend these well and pour into a greased cake tin. Bake for 25-30 minutes at 350 degrees.

Send your favorite recipe to us and we'll share it with the neighborhood.

NEWS & VIEWS EXPANDS CIRCULATION

Through conversations with several aldermen it has been brought to the attention of Concerned Citizens that the aldermen frequently vote on matters important to our neighborhood without having such information about us or the area where we live. This is unfortunate, but not surprising. The primary concern of an alderman is his own ward and the

neighborhood contained therein. As the best aldermen explain, this is a full-time job. Several aldermen, however, have indicated that they are eager to learn about other neighborhoods, so as to cast more knowledgeable votes. Towards this end, Concerned Citizens will expand its circulation of FOPARSE NEWS AND VIEWS to include the mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis. The more the mayor and the aldermen learn about F.P.S.E., the better they will be able to work with us to improve our neighborhood. Next time you send a letter to NEWS AND VIEWS, not only will it reach all of your neighbors, it will also be read by the most important officials in the city.

MEMORIAL TO A CAT

by JACKIE JACKELS

On August 23rd, a Tuesday morning about 9:30, I stepped out of my yard into a story. I noticed on my left a cat. She, I believe, was brindle in colour and just sitting there, on all fours, hunkered down. She didn't move. As I approached within a few feet of her, she turned her head towards me. I knelt down to look closer at her. "How sad", I thought. Her eyes were so infected that they were rotting away in the sockets. One had deep holes in the area of the pupil and the other one was brown and mushy-looking. There was no way she could see. She had heard my approach or had excellent senses. She was so sorrowful looking. She wasn't complaining though, not a whimper! She just rested there. She was dying, while I watched. I called the Humane Society and asked for someone to come and get her. She had suffered long enough.

This poor cat and others like her are left to a fate worse than death when they have no home or love. She was probably born in someone's back yard, up under a porch, in the basement steps or wherever you might imagine. She was a victim at birth. Left to fend for herself out on the streets and in the alleys, she ate food not fit for human consumption, never saw a vet or had a vaccination. She was left to live and die alone.

A situation like this makes me wonder about people and the motives behind their behavior. If someone is going to keep an outside pet or one that is allowed to go unattended, they should do the right thing to prevent unwanted pregnancies, SPAY AND NEUTER. If the cat in my yard had not been born, it would not have suffered so needlessly. Maybe she left a message?

FOR A MORE DEMOCRATIC HOUSING CORPORATION

by STEVE SORKIN

The Forest Park Southeast Housing Corporation is the most important organization in our neighborhood. It serves as the major marketing agent for F.P.S.E. and is the umbrella organization for the block units. All residents of F.P.S.E. are members of the Housing Corp.

The Housing Corp. is governed by its Board of Directors, which consists of elected representatives from the block units, an at-large member who is elected by the Board, and representatives from the Samuel McRee and Washington U. Medical Center Redevelopment Corporations. All matters concerning the Housing Corp., such as elections of officers, buying and selling of real estate, etc. are determined by the Board.

Block unit representatives are virtually the only communication link between the Housing Corp. and neighborhood residents. Unfortunately, this link is only as good as the representative. If the representative misses a meeting or fails to mention a decision of the Board, that block unit will be in the dark. For some block units poor representation has been a chronic problem.

The present self-contained system under which the Board and the Housing Corp. operate has led to their isolation from the residents. Important information is not exchanged. This prevents residents from working directly with the Board and limits the Board's ability to fully utilize the resources of the neighborhood. The present system also denies residents the right to express approval or disapproval of the actions of the Board or its officers.

We need to reform the system to provide new channels of communication between the Housing Corp. and residents. The officers and the Board need to be made directly accountable to the residents they represent. Below are five proposed changes to the by-laws of the Housing Corp. These proposals will not interfere with the daily activity of the Housing Corp., but will make it a more democratic and accountable organization.

1. Complete minutes of each Board meeting will be posted in the window of the Housing Office and a copy of the minutes will be sent to the presidents of each block unit.
2. President and Vice President of the Housing Corp. must live in the F.P.S.E. neighborhood.
3. Officers of the Board of Directors of the Housing Corp. will be elected by the Board; however, block unit members will vote to determine the candidates for whom their representatives shall vote.
4. Proposed changes to the by-laws of the Housing Corp. must be presented to the block units. Members of the block units will vote to instruct their representatives to support or reject the changes.

5. Members of any block unit may vote to nominate one of its members for the at-large position on the Board. Members of each block unit shall vote to support one of the candidates. The candidate receiving support from the majority of the block units will be the at-large member to the Board. The at-large member will be required to attend two of the monthly meetings per year for each block unit.

The above proposals should solve much of the isolation and communication problems that have developed. It will also make the Housing Corp. and its Board more directly accountable to the neighborhood.

LETTERS TO FOPARSE
P.O. Box 15060 Chouteau Station
St. Louis, Mo. 63110

LETTER FROM ALDERMAN

I was recently visiting friends in the Forest Park Southeast Neighborhood when I came across one of your newsletters. I must say I am very impressed that a neighborhood association would prepare such an informative newsletter. It certainly shows that your neighborhood organization is working hard to revitalize an important part of St. Louis. I congratulate you for your accomplishments and hope your efforts continue.

Again, allow me to extend my best wishes to you and your neighborhood association. I'm sure you have a glorious future in the years to come.

James F. Shreusbury
Alderman, 16th Ward

MANCHESTER METERS

I agree that more no-charge customer parking should be added to the area surrounding the Chouteau Station Post Office (63110) on Manchester.

It is absurd to hear of the antics of the St. Louis City Police. It is my understanding that they "hide out" around the corner of the post office at about 8:28 AM during the week with tickets in hand, awaiting to catch a postal patron as they step inside for a few minutes to pick up their mail. Is the intent of the police to just make everyone in the neighborhood who picks up their mail mad at them, or do they feel that they are truly catching parking violators?

By removing more of the parking meters in the area, then assigning these spaces as "10 minute parking for postal patrons only" the spaces surrounding the area would be better respected and utilized. Moreover, the city Police could then spend more time ticketing true violators.

Dan Busse
Tina Heischmidt

Editor's Note: At the last mayor's townhall meeting the mayor said that he would be looking into the problem of parking meters on Manchester. Concerned Citizens join with the businessmen and residents in urging the mayor to take prompt action and study the necessity of these meters.

McCoy REPLIES

I am in full agreement that the president of the corporation should be a resident of the area. For that reason, when I was elected, I insisted that the minutes reflect that I became acting president. As I explained to those present, including one of the editors of the paper, I intended to serve as president only so long as I remained a resident, and agreed to serve temporarily as president only because there were no other nominations. The corporation will need to choose a new president at its next meeting.

The concerns raised by my temporary service as president, however unfounded, reveal the sincere and deep differences that exist between people in the neighborhood. In my judgement, those differences have a direct relation to the progress, or lack of progress, made on housing issues. There are two facts of life, two realities, about development that people need to think about.

The first is that the cost of rehab or new construction combined with probable top sales prices mean that significant development will not take place in Forest

Park Southeast without substantial assistance from the City of St. Louis in the form of incentives and direct financial support. That assistance is a limited and scarce resource. There is competition from all over the city. Winning in that competition requires unified effort from the neighborhood involved, plus support from elected officials. The Oakland Rowhouse and the Lambskin Temple show what can happen when these factors come together. But when neighborhoods, this one in particular, cannot put their differences aside long enough to find common objectives that win the support of elected officials, those neighborhoods lose the competition.

Second, developers look for some degree of stability and predictability. They are business people. They do not have the time or the inclination to tip toe through the minefield of a neighborhood where conflicts they do not understand and cannot anticipate or control can arise without warning and jeopardize their substantial investments. In my judgement, this is a factor which helps deter developer interest in this neighborhood. Developers prefer areas where they can make stable and reliable arrangements and don't have to worry about surprises.

Everyone has the right to express their political views. I do not claim that those who oppose the current elected officials in this ward do not have the right to carry on their fight 365 days a year. But I do suggest that it is not wise and has a detrimental effect on prospects for development. If those opposed cannot find ways to have working relationships with elected officials to present a unified front to developers and the city, that is their right, but they must also bear the share of the blame if the result is a stalemate.

Newton McCoy

Editor's note: Newton McCoy is a city judge and member of the Samuel McRee Redevelopment Corporation. He has been an active member of the F.P.S.E. Housing Corporation and served as treasurer for Citizens' Committee to Elect Joseph D. Roddy.

NEIGHBORHOOD LOYAL OPPOSITION

Our neighborhood has many problems, but the biggest is the continuing domination by a political machine which has no comprehension of the term "loyal opposition". The term refers to the fact that two groups with opposing views can both be working for the common good, as both Democrats and Republicans work for the common good of our nation.

Both the people in power and their loyal opposition need to work together if our neighborhood is to survive. This, however, is difficult when the primary elected official refers to the loyal opposition as "the enemy" or "trouble makers", or when he lists anyone who has politically opposed him or his machine as part of the "undesireable element of the neighborhood." Great statesmen of history have frequently been personal friends with their political opponents. These men had the maturity to realize that to oppose someone in an election does not mean that you are declaring war on them or that you consider them an enemy. It only means that you believe someone else may do a better job at serving the people.

There is an old saying, "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely." This is evident in our neighborhood. The political machine has controlled this area for so long that its vision has become distorted. It spends less time serving the community as a whole and more time maintaining its power. Ironically, it no longer serves the vast majority of people in this neighborhood, and for that matter, in this ward. The machine still does much good in the community, but if it helps you its

assistance has a price that must be repaid at election time.

To maintain power, the political machine must control everything- block units, church groups, health centers, schools, housing corporations, even a citizen-based neighborhood security patrol. This domination destroys the vitality of organizations and in turn limits their ability to serve the neighborhood. This domination merely draws on the same limited politically-approved pool of people and alienates innovative people, people who can approach problems from a different perspective with new ideas. Thus, a valuable and much-needed resource is lost. As a result the neighborhood stagnates.

Neighborhoods surrounding the 17th Ward are continuing to develop without people being forced to sell their homes. But for years now, and well before the loyal opposition began speaking out a few months ago, this area has experienced continued economic decay and a frightening level of disinvestment. Although the Lambskin Temple and the Oakland Rowhouse represent positive signs for the area, the application rate for CDA funding in this ward remains one of the lowest in the city. The residents of this area who pour their income, their time and their lives into their property deserve a greater voice in its future.

Unless the elected officials learn to work with the loyal opposition (those who oppose their desire to control everything) the neighborhood will continue to suffer. It is apparent that the political machine here is afraid to relinquish any control for fear of losing power. The loyal opposition refuses to follow them blindly. This is the problem as it stands; meanwhile the neighborhood continues to fall down around us.

M.J.
Gibson Heights

GAY BARS

I want to know why there are so many queer bars in this neighborhood. Over the last few years, most of the normal bars have been forced to close down. This summer Fudpuckers was closed. But now we got all these queer bars opening up. It seems like they were thrown out of the West End and are moving here. With this aids thing going round I don't think its safe to have those people here in a neighborhood with kids. I was told that no new bars could be open up here on Manchester and now another one is. We need more normal bars in the area and not another queer one. Some one down town must be making lots of money.

M.C.
Adams Grove

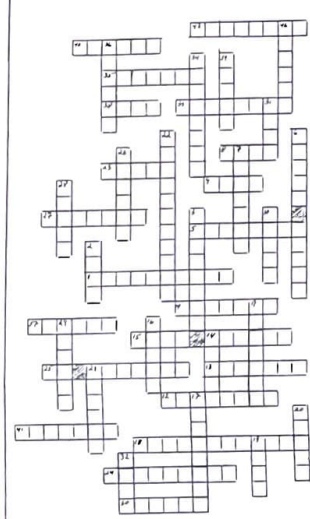
STREET-WISE CROSSWORD

The following crossword was submitted by a reader of the FoParSE NEWS & VIEWS who wishes to remain anonymous. The answers are street names from FoParSE and the surrounding area. The solution will be published in next month's issue.

ACROSS

- 1 Same name as famous English city.
- 4 Named for a type of tree and divides Shaw Neighborhood from Central West End.
- 5 Street eliminated by Villa Lighting.
- 8 Bird street.
- 9 Not named after Atlantic Ritchfield Company.
- 12 State Street.
- 13 A PLACE divided into two parts or a late 1960's rock singer.
- 15 A street for betting.
- 18 Royal Road or Rex Autobahn.
- 23 Extends from 13th Street to Tower Grove in four segments.
- 24 German street that leads nowhere.
- 25 Dog street or a sacred man.
- 27 Extends from the river to Sarah in three segments.
- 38 Once a street north of Hwy 40, but now

- part of a fenced-in parking area.
- 33 Drop the R and the T from the name and it would mean to see or observe.
- 35 "Meal tag" is an anagram for the name of this street.
- 37 Street shares its name with a neighborhood church.
- 38 Direction street.
- 40 Street named for hospital.
- 41 Street named for city just west of St. Louis.
- 43 Street named for a president.



DOWN

- 2 Rope street.
- 3 French street.
- 6 Name means a tall-standing orchard.
- 7 Street named for a city in the state where the WIZARD of OZ begins.
- 10 Street name means "a view".
- 11 Street from Virginia.
- 14 Student at a military academy.
- 16 Woman's name that in hebrew means princess.
- 17 Divides Gibson Heights from New Boyle.
- 19 Street to search.
- 20 Sounds as though needs medical attention.
- 21 Lower rank of royalty.
- 22 Extends diagonally from highway to highway.
- 26 Uses chalk, thread and a needle.
- 28 Cut in two by Hwy 40 and only has one residence. Rhymes with a term used to describe a shrewish woman.
- 29 Looks more like a short alley than a street and is almost lost among the highway ramps.
- 31 Street of grass.
- 32 Very prudent and knowing street.
- 34 Street named for a breed of English cattle.
- 36 Original name of Oakland in the area east of Kingshighway.
- 39 Man's first name.
- 42 Named after an ancient Greek who studied geometry.

PRICES TO RISE

The following is a memo sent to National employees by Al Cross. July 11, 1988

Dear Fellow Employees:

If you have read or listened to the news recently, you have heard about the drought conditions in farming.

Since you are in the food business-particularly those of you in the stores-we thought it would be helpful to give you the best information we have concerning the effects on food prices so that you can give your customers or friends correct answers when they might ask you questions.

The drought conditions which currently exist, and the anticipation that they will continue to exist, has caused some dramatic price increases.

- Flour up 10%
- Sugar up 8% and worse by September and we might be out of best sugar completely because of no moisture-we will have cane sugar.
- Margarine up 10%-soybean based.
- Pret foods up 3% and will go higher-wheat.
- Cereals up 8% and will go higher-wheat, corn, and oats.
- Canned vegetables up 12% and in short supply.
- We're on allocation.
- Canned fruits up 1% and again in short supply.
- We're out of peaches until 8/1/88.
- Coke mixes up shortly, with flour and sugar up now.
- eggs up 2%
- Tomato products up 10% and in short supply.
- Pret food up 7% and will go higher-wheat.
- salad dressing-mayonnaise up 7% now and will go higher.
- Jellies-preserves up 8%
- foam cups and plates up 8%
- paper products up 8% and will go higher.
- dried bean a up 1% and will be in short supply
- plastic bags up 1% and will go higher.
- detergents up 1%-plastic container meats
- shortage of boards for paper plates and cups due to selling of paper to European markets at higher prices. This means prices will go up, and worse, be in short supply.