

# FOPARCE NEWS & VIEWS

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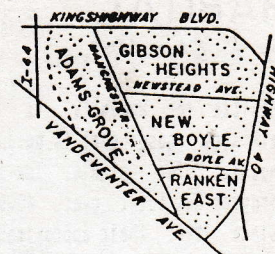
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FOREST PARK SOUTHEAST  
"IN THE CENTER OF ST. LOUIS"

## IDEAS CONTEST, NIGHT OUT, HABITAT, PARTY-FAIR

### N & V MAKES NICE

by M. Essen

NEWS & VIEWS is sponsoring a Neighborhood Ideas Contest/Exchange (NICE) to generate ideas for the improvement of Forest Park Southeast. NICE ideas can be in any category, including neighborhood marketing, crime, beautification, traffic patterns, publicity, landlord relations, fund-raising, capital improvements, etc. Anyone can enter any number of NICE ideas.

NICE ideas must be specific. When thinking about our area's problems, for example, have you ever asked yourself questions that begin with: "Why doesn't the city..." or "If only they'd give us..." or "Why can't we have..."? If you've ever asked the rest of these questions, then you're halfway to entering NICE.

In fact, you're just about there if you can complete the following: "One improvement that would really make a difference in FPSE is..." or "...would really improve FPSE."

All you have to do is write down your idea(s) and send them to N&V NICE, c/o Features Editor Maud Essen, 4522 Gibson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110, by November 30, 1989. All entries become the property of N&V. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, so N&V can get back to you in case you win a prize.

NICE prizes will be awarded for both the best idea and the runner-up. The prizes are handmade stained glass windows.

NICE ideas will be judged for their ability to deliver FPSE the biggest bang for the buck. In the event of duplicate ideas, the earliest postmark takes precedence.

The NICE judges are:

Kathleen Becherer, Exec. Dir. Operation Safestreet  
Pat Griffin, Neighborhood Liaison Office

Richard Mauer, Boatman's Bank

Donald Royse, Past Pres. Heritage and Urban Design

Carole Rulo, Operation ConServ

Richard Yehling, Einig & McGuire Realty

William Young, architect, St. Louis Public Schools



### SENIOR CITIZEN, JULY 29

by R. Sandall

Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church, 1075 S. Taylor, sponsors its second Senior Citizen Social on Saturday, July 29th, at 1:00 PM. All FPSE seniors, regardless of religious affiliation, are invited to attend. Guests will dine on chicken casserole, fresh fruit and dessert. The fun will include a sing-along and full-length movie. The social is free to senior citizens. Although reservations are not required, the church requests that those planning to attend call 531-0640. Messages may be left on the answering machine. Senior Citizen Social is part of Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church's outreach program.

BU6 Treasurer Richard Sandall has served as twice as BU6 president. He has lived in FPSE 3 years.

### NIGHT OUT

by M. Essen

This year, National Night Out is scheduled for election day, Tuesday, Aug. 8, at 9 PM. Neighbors are encouraged to turn on their porch lights, get out of the house and meet each other.

National Night Out is the perfect opportunity to get to know your neighbors. In some neighborhoods, people have block parties or put on plays. In FPSE, BU5 is planning a party and BU6 is following their lead. Other groups are planning activities, which may include potluck meals or picnics for the occasion. Others take walks and visit with neighbors who are doing the same. The end result is an enhanced feeling of community, because we find out how much we have in common when we get to know each other.



All NICE ideas will be submitted to the people whose job it is to turn good ideas into reality: Alderman Joe D. Roddy, the FPSE Housing Corp. Board, Operations Safestreet and ConServ, and the Neighborhood Assistance Office. A NICE list will be published in N&V's December issue.

So be nice and make NICE! The sky's the limit! Send in your NICE idea(s) today!

### PARTY-FAIR

by M. Essen

Mark Aug. 5 on your calendar so you don't miss the Second Annual Party\*\*Fair. The place is the 4300 block of Gibson, between Boyle and Tower Grove. The time is 11 AM to 6 PM. Anyone and everyone is invited to participate.

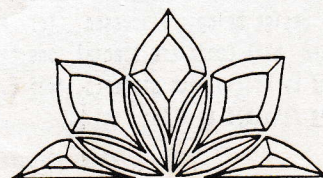
The Party\*\*Fair is sponsored by BU7 New Boyle and Ranken East Neighborhood Improvement Associations. In preparation for the festivities, the block units have held city supported "mini-Brightsides" to clean up alleys and streets. Cash prizes donated by Ace Maintenance's Bill Souders and by Alderman Joe D. Roddy will be awarded for the best clean-up efforts on the day of the Party\*\*Fair. Various prizes donated by area businesses and organizations include a stained-glass window from NEWS & VIEWS.

The results of these labors can already be seen in BU7, says Pres. Ida Fields, who challenges all neighbors to join in. Says Fields, "It just takes work - people all working together. We want you to get with us." Twenty-eight children were recently rewarded with a dollar each from the group's treasury for their help in alley cleaning.

The event's unusual name can be explained by the fact that this Party\*\*Fair offers more than bar-b-que, games and contests. There will be information booths providing help with health, housing, job training and education. So the event is really a combination of a Block Party and a Job Fair, or Party\*\*Fair.

Ida Fields feels that the Party\*\*Fair helps people unite to work on common goals like neighborhood beautification. She states, "This is what a Block Unit's about. We've got to stand together so we can ask for what we want."

For information call Ida Fields (531-7693), Ben Corbin (531-8116), or Tom Goshen (534-6348).





# HABITAT

by K. Chauffe

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian housing ministry whose goal is building basic, affordable houses for stable low-income families. The program has built over 4000 houses nation-wide since 1976. Their approximate purchase price is about \$33,000. This is \$7,000 below the median price for a home in our area, according to THE WASHINGTON POST WEEKLY. Habitat receives no government funding and reportedly seeks no tax abatements.

In our city, Habitat has built several houses in north St. Louis over the last four years and now plans to expand into FPSE. They are currently seeking land in Adams Grove near Adams School and Lighthouse Free Methodist Church. Habitat Southside intends to dedicate its first house on October 14 and eventually construct 24 dwellings in FPSE. Although Habitat does some rehabbing, only new construction is presently planned in FPSE.

The typical Habitat dwelling is a small, wood-framed structure with vinyl siding and a low pitched roof. Floor area is usually about 900 square feet and is designed for a family of five. Because cost must be kept low, only minimal consideration is reportedly given to adapting the habitat buildings to area architecture.

Habitat Southside has formed a Forest Park Southeast Project Committee, whose May minutes state, "Pat Griffin from the Mayor's Office and Kate Roth from Forest Park Southeast were both eager to help with the Project, along with Adams Grove Neighborhood Association." Adams Grove Neighborhood Association President Bernice Matlock had, according to the same minutes, "encouraged Habitat to send representatives to their June meeting" At BUS's July meeting a representative of Habitat stated that they only enter neighborhoods where they are wanted. (see BLOCK UNIT NEWS).

Habitat for Humanity's selection committee considers low-income applicants from both the city and county according to their ability to pay the \$125-150 mortgage and maintain the building. Reportedly they will give no priority to present low-income residents of FPSE. Interested parties should phone 385-2117 for more information. Residents interested in serving on Habitat committees such as site selection or applicant selection may call the same number.

To see existing Habitat housing in College Hill, go north on Grand to left on W. Florissant (before the water tower) and turn right on E. College. 1506 E. College and 5327 Conde are the typical design being discussed for Adams Grove. 5339 and 5345 Conde are special one-time designs provided by Rankin Tech students. 1436 E. College is being rehabbed as a two-family.

# CRACK HOUSE BILL

by P. J. Shilcrat

On June 16, 1989, Alderman Joe D. Roddy introduced into the Board of Aldermen a bill that would give the City the power to prosecute landlords and management companies who fail to stop the use of their rental property for illegal drug activity. Bill #186 allows for this prosecution by declaring the occupancy and continuing use of a residential rental dwelling for illegal drug activity to be a public nuisance.

The ordinance provides that the police must post a notice visible from the street for 30 days on a residential rental dwelling where an arrest has been made for illegal drug activity which occurred in the dwelling. The City must also notify the owner in writing about the arrest, and that the continued occupancy of the unit is a public nuisance.

The notice would create a legal presumption that the owner has knowledge of the use of the rental unit for illegal drug activity. A second arrest will be used by the City as evidence that the owner has failed to stop the nuisance. The City could then file suit against the owner, who would face penalties of a fine up to \$500 and/or a jail sentence of up to 90 days. To avoid conviction, the bill states that the owner must prove that the person arrested has been evicted.

The bill also provides that the Health Commissioner can condemn for occupancy any dwelling found to be a nuisance under the ordinance.

Bill #186 will probably undergo rewriting and changes while in committee at the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Roddy has said that the bill is based on, but is slightly different than, an ordinance used in Miami. The purpose of the bill is to give the City a way to close down "crack houses" -- several of which are known to exist in our neighborhood. However, the bill will not help when arrests are made in the streets; it only applies to illegal activity occurring inside a rental unit. (Another City ordinance is being used to deal with illegal activities in owner-occupied properties.)

Some people have pointed out possible constitutional problems with Roddy's proposed ordinance. For example, there is no requirement that the arrest result in a conviction; the landlord is required to evict even if the person arrested is found to be innocent, or if the charges are dropped. Tenants may be required to be evicted even if they were not the persons arrested or involved in the illegal activity. Also, the only defense available to the owner is the eviction of the person arrested. What is the owner to do if the person arrested was not the tenant -- as happened in June at 1084 S. Taylor?

P.J. Shilcrat is a lawyer living in FPSE.

# NEWS NOTES

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US

NEWS & VIEWS is now one year old. Concerned Citizens of Forest Park Southeast organized the paper in June of 1988 and distributed its first issue on July 4th. Over the year the paper has nearly tripled in size and the number of regular contributors doubled. N&V strives to inform residents of what is happening throughout FPSE. With present funding and continued neighborhood interest, N&V should be here for many more years.

## WELCOME BACK

Mark Jefferies, one of the founders of N&V, past secretary of BU6 and author of our neighborhood's name, "FOREST PARK SOUTHEAST", has returned to FPSE. During his 10 month absence, he continued to submit articles to N&V. Mark will reside in the New Boyle area.

## COME TO THE CONCERT

Metro Ministry is sponsoring a concert at Rainbow Park on Saturday, July 29th, from 4 to 6 PM. Gospel music will be performed by Rev. Kevin Kosh and singers from New Mission Church.

## HOW TO BUY A HOUSE

Commerce Bank at Vandeventer and Chouteau is hosting a seminar for first-time homebuyers. It is scheduled for Sept. 26, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Call Dolores Johnson at 726-4003 for details.

## ARCO EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NETWORK BEGINS

Increasing drug traffic on Newstead is prompting neighborhood action. Seventeen households in the vicinity of Newstead and Arco have established an emergency telephone network to respond to drug and other problems along their street. The network will report activity, license numbers and descriptions to the police and request police assistance when necessary. If you are interested in joining the network, phone 658-3143. All inquiries are confidential.

## GRAFFITTI REMOVER

A new product, VGR Graffiti Remover, is revolutionizing graffiti removal from brick, stone and wood. Previous methods were hazardous, costly and could damage the defaced material. In contrast, VGR is said to be nontoxic, non-carcinogenic, non-corrosive, water soluble and biodegradable. Its cost is \$36.00 a gallon (which cleans 900 sq. ft.) from VGR Inc., 3660 North Third Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85012. (602-246-3560)

## COMING SOON! WE HOPE.

According to FPSE Housing Corp. Dir. Kate Roth, the much anticipated Operation ConServ Plan being prepared by the Planning and Real Estate Subcommittee is scheduled to be completed in early fall. N&V will publish excerpts of the plan when available.



# FPSE HOUSING CORP.

by K. Chauffe

## JUNE MEETING

Board members submitted ideas for capital improvements. A partial list included closing Gibson in the 4200 block, installation of handicap inclines at street corners, new trash dumpsters, alley repairs and more street lighting. The deadline was extended because it was felt more imaginative ideas were needed.

President Jerry Scherer requested Board members begin searching for candidates for the non-voting Board positions that may soon be created. Expansion of the Board will require revision of the Housing Corp. bylaws.

## WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME

To Todd Bohrer, 4422 Arco, and to Vera and Brian Smith who will be moving into 4427 Arco.

## NOTORIOUS 12-FAMILY SOLD

The notorious 12-family at 1042-92 S. Taylor has been sold again. Recently bought by Milton Rothschild of Rothschild Antiques, who made several superficial improvements to the property, the building has continued to be a center of neighborhood complaints. FPSE Housing Corp. attempted to purchase the building with ConServ funds, but was out-bid by an unknown party.

## FIRE HYDRANTS AREN'T FOR PLAY

St. Louis City Water Division warns that open fire hydrants lower water pressure so there is not enough water to fight fires. On average, an open hydrant wastes as much water in 1 hour as 182 homes use in 24! Call 771-4880 as soon as possible to report open fire hydrants.

## CITIZENS SERVICE BUREAU (CSB)

You don't need anyone to intercede for you with City Hall. To report streetlight outages, alley potholes and obstructions, storm sewer blockage, and other problems which should be corrected by the City, call the CSB at 622-4800. Your request will be assigned a number, routed to the proper agency and confirmed by letter if it requires above-normal followup. If dissatisfied with the response, call N.L.O. Pat Griffin (622-4661) or ConServ Officer Carole Rulo (622-4634) for those in the 44-4500 blocks north of Manchester.

## IT'S REALLY COMING SOON!

Remember the FPSE Housing Corp. House Tour is coming in October. Keep watering your flowers and improving your property for your own benefit and that of your neighbors and the visitors who are coming to see our neighborhood.

## SYMPATHY

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of the late Vivian O. Beard of the 4500 block of Gibson.

Exec. Dir. Kate Roth reported the annual barbecue grossed \$1383 and netted \$879. Suzanne Goodman, WUMCRC, noted that a better blend of residents attended than in the past.

Roth also announced that a developer is interested in renovating 4529 Arco and 4548 Wichita as single-family houses, pending CDA funding. The Board approved allocating up to \$71,500 of the expected \$110,000 FSIP (For Sale Incentive Program) money for these projects. FSIP money is used to lower the purchase price and pay points.

President Scherer announced subcommittee changes:

- Recommendation for acquisition of buildings in the Conserv District is the responsibility of the Landlord Relations Subcommittee.
- Newsletter Subcommittee to consist of McCoy (SMRC) and Goshen (BU7).
- Fund-Raising Subcommittee to consist of Matlock (Adams Grove), Sheets (at large), Scherer (BU5) and Goodman (WUMCRC).

The Board contributed \$100 to the Adams Community Center operated by Jackie Jackels, but declined to endorse a Goshen proposal pending his providing more detailed information.

## JULY MEETING

Tim Meyer, Sales Manager for Coldwell-Banker, addressed the Board on neighborhood real estate development. He urged for development along Taylor and Chouteau, the two busiest residential streets, so as to provide maximum exposure to the public. "Most of Manchester", he stated, should be demolished because half residential-commercial streets have been a failure in other areas. From a developmental perspective, Meyer suggested saving the architecturally important buildings along Manchester for conversion into small office buildings, and razing the others to make way for

landscaping and parking. Meyer continued. "The number one dollar return on an investment is landscaping. Curb appeal is most important for selling".

To make FPSE more marketable, Meyer said we must do something about the crowds of hostile youths, litter, the perception of crime and incompatible land usage. He cited the recent expansion of Ace Maintenance (Bill Souders, owner) in the 4300 block of Chouteau and the dilapidated condition of the Moynihan & Assoc. building at 4400 Chouteau as detrimental to development. Meyer stated that multi-family buildings should be rehabbed into single family houses because of the glut of multi-family buildings on the market. Whenever possible, garages should be part of the renovation plans because they provide a greater sense of security for buyers. Meyer said that one of our greatest assets is the large number of free-standing two-family buildings which can be easily converted into attractive single-family homes.

Meyer spoke against the Habitat for Humanity's plans to build low-cost housing in Adams Grove. He said, "It is incompatible to rehab \$70-90,000 homes here and on the other side of Manchester to create a low-income shanty town. The two are not compatible."

President Scherer informed the Board that McCoy (SMRC) had not completed a final draft of the amendment to expand the Board to include invited, non-voting members. He also announced that Monsanto will be sending a representative to the August meeting.

Exec. Dir. Roth reported that Southwestern Bell Telephone Corp. and the city are jointly offering an \$80,000 grant for the best economic-commercial development idea. She requested suggestions from the Board, but suggested that it may be too early in our development for the neighborhood to apply.

## MONSANTO

by K. Chauffe



FPSE is fortunate to have the Monsanto Environmental Health Laboratory to our north at Newstead and Clayton. Recently, Monsanto showed its concern for FPSE by providing a tour of this facility to FPSE Housing Corp. Pres. Jerry Scherer and N&V Editors Karl Chauffe and Jackie Jackels. The tour was in response to concerns expressed by an uninformed resident about the nearby facility.

Monsanto's built the Newstead facility in 1978 at a cost of 12 million dollars. It contains the Mid-west's largest industrial-use solar collection system, which supplies about 1/3 of the facility's hot water. The lab has over 100 employees and is currently building more office space.

The facility's primary activity is

toxicology, the study of the degree of hazard associated with various substances. All materials, even air and water, contain potential hazards. The lab conducts tests on laboratory mice and rats to determine safe levels of exposure to Monsanto's products, especially insecticides and herbicides. Some tests last for a year or more. Data is collected and processed on their state-of-the-art computer system. This is all part of the extensive and expensive program Monsanto operates to ensure that their products are safe for all of us to use.

Following the tour, lead by Dr. Roger Folz, Monsanto held a working luncheon with their guests. Topics discussed included past and present perception of the neighborhood, neighborhood development and the possibility of Monsanto's becoming more involved in FPSE. Last year, Monsanto was a major contributor to the Adams Community Center.



# BLOCK UNIT NEWS

by K. Chauffe

## BLOCK UNIT 5: GIBSON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORS

### BUS MAY

Presidents Wurm and Levin established the following rules to govern behavior at monthly meetings:

1. Anyone, including non-members, may participate in discussions.
2. When speaking, participants should stand, address the audience and be brief.
3. Topics which generate long discussions should be placed on the agenda in advance.

Vice-Pres. Korndorfer reported that BU5's Kingshighway Park Committee is planning a low maintenance park and has begun contacting various city agencies for suggestions. She also announced that the committee is calling itself a neighborhood garden club which anyone can join.

FPSE Housing Dir. Kate Roth reminded the BU of the annual Housing Corp. picnic. She reported that developer Mike Curran would not do work in FPSE this year because CDA funding was not yet available. Finally, Roth announced that Citicorp has funded a porch light installation program.

Co-Pres. Levin said that the new FPSE banners would be installed soon. Because many of the original brackets are useable, additional banners would cost less per unit.

Alderman Roddy explained that last year he blighted 4400 Oakland-Manchester for the eventual expansion of Renard Paper. He stated that current plans for the expansion would not relieve truck traffic on Taylor or Oakland and may lead to its increase. Residents questioned why curb cuts were not planned for Manchester so as to eliminate trucks' use of residential streets. They also inquired as to who would review the plans for the expansion. Roddy said he thought Samuel McRee Redevelopment the proper group to represent the neighborhood. Steve Sorkin noted the need to keep residents informed. Roddy said he'd bring a Renard representative to the BU.

Maud Essen stated that Neighborhood Watch needs Block Captains. Additionally, she explained that Metro Ministry's pre-school program needed funds. BU5 donated \$100 to the program.

Steve Sorkin, who is leaving FPSE, was honoured by the BU for his many years of service to the neighborhood.

### BUS JUNE

BU5 held a short meeting so as to allow members to participate in the LIGHT UP THE NIGHT kick-off. Maud Essen announced that Philip Wurm volunteered to survey and map the Kingshighway park area. She stated that contrary to rumor, there are no plans to remove the cobblestones from the park. Essen requested that members submit ideas for her monthly crime report.

BU5 voted to donate \$160.00, the cost of a porch light and installation, to the LIGHT UP THE NIGHT program.

### BUS JULY

Representatives from Habitat for Humanity addressed the BU, showing slides of their work in College Hill and fielding questions from the audience (see HABITAT FOR HUMANITY). Following the discussion, the BU decided to allow the executive board decide if BU5 would organize a neighborhood-wide meeting on Habitat.

Maud Essen reported that a new neighborhood group, GNAT (Greater Neighborhood Action Team) was organized in co-operation with Operation Safestreet. The group plans to study our crime problem and hopes to organize Neighborhood Watch.

The garden club displayed a model of and briefly discussed plans for the Kingshighway Park and was voted a \$100 project budget.

## BLOCK UNIT 6: GIBSON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

### BU6 MAY

At BU6's informal meeting, Alderman Roddy announced that FPSE will be a trial area for the Habitat for Humanity housing program. Selected low-income families will be given materials to build their own wooden houses in our neighborhood. Roddy stated that he forgot to tell any of the neighborhood organizations about his two bills to blight the Renard property at 4400 Oakland, which Renard reportedly has no current plans to use. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the problems of truck traffic from Renard Paper and potential problems that may develop from the closing of the Kingshighway Viaduct. Roddy stated that he would make no commitment regarding possible traffic changes until studies were complete, but that he would represent the interests of the residents at that time.

FPSE Housing Corp. Exec. Dir. Kate Roth announced that developer Mike Curran will do no additional development in FPSE because CDA funding was still not available.

Cate Dolan reported that the Housing Corp. plans to expand the Board to include non-voting members. She also stated that everyone must work together for the neighborhood to progress. Alderman Roddy responded that he wants to work with everyone, but that he finds BU6 the most hostile group in the ward and that many of the people seem to be "out to get me". Roddy also complained that he never knows what the agenda is for the meeting. President Jane Sykes agreed henceforth to publish the agenda.

### BU6 JUNE

Cate Dolan provided news from FPSE Housing Corp. (see FPSE Housing Corp News). She informed the BU that letters from WUMCRC and the Housing Corp. were sent to Milton Rothschild, owner of 1042-82 S. Taylor because of problem tenants. In the last ten weeks, police answered 18 complaints against Rothschild's tenants. Dolan also

proposed that the BU present 3rd Dist. Capt. Gary Perkins with a work of children's art rather than a plaque in recognition of service to the neighborhood. The BU voted for the presentation to be held in September.

Jackie Jackels reported that Adams Community Center was forming a Board of Directors and that the Center's "Summer of Fun" will run from July 3 to August 18. Hours will be from 8 AM to 4 PM. BU6 donated \$50.00 to the program.

Alderman Roddy reported on the much publicized "Crackhouse Bill". He stated that the bill "is in the gray area of the law" and may be unconstitutional. He said, "I know that the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union, an organization dedicated to preserving our constitutional rights) will have problems with it". Roddy also attempted to explain the complex Billy Boykins debacle and the city's response to it.

### BU6 JULY

Kate Roth discussed recent Housing Corp. developments (see HOUSING CORP. NEWS). She informed the BU that representatives from Habitat for Humanity would be attending BU5's July meeting and that interested parties could obtain more information there. Following a discussion on Habitat, the BU voted to support BU5 if they decided that a neighborhood-wide meeting to discuss Habitat was desirable.

Cate Dolan displayed several works of art by kindergarten students and the BU selected one to have mounted and presented to Capt. Gary Perkins, in appreciation for his service to the neighborhood. Presentation will occur at a pot-luck dessert that will be held in lieu of the regular September meeting.

BU6 voted to hold a block party for National Night Out, but abandoned plans when no one volunteered to organize the function.

Alderman Roddy explained that he allowed a 3-year, non-transferable permit to be issued to Ace Maintenance, 4399 Chouteau, to build an open storage area in the 4300 block of Chouteau because of BU7's endorsement for the project. He also stated that nothing could be done to prevent OT Hodge from opening a chili outlet at the present location of the Panda Bar at 4060 Chouteau. Following his announcement that Alderman Kinealy's anti-loitering bill had passed, Roddy distributed relabelled copies of the GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDE.

## BLOCK UNIT 7:

NEW BOYLE NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION and

ADAMS GROVE

NEWS & VIEWS is forbidden to report on these meetings.

RANKEN EAST

No information is available at this time.



## SECRET PLANS

by K. Chauffe

NEWS & VIEWS' June editorial asked Alderman Joe D. Roddy to inform the neighborhood what he plans to accomplish while in office. We also asked him to address important questions related to the redevelopment of the Manchester Ave. Enterprise Zone and FPSE at large.

The editorial pointed out Roddy's 1988 campaign promise to publish an aldermanic newsletter, as many other aldermen do, informing the neighborhood of his official activities and plans. N&V offered to provide Roddy space in this issue for his reply.

Alderman Roddy has ignored this offer. Thus, in the absence of an aldermanic publication, FPSE remains ignorant of what he plans and where he stands.

## FORMULA TO KILL

by M. Jefferies

If you want to kill yourself, you'll have to take action. If you want to kill your neighborhood, the fastest means is INACTION.

Few FPSE residents are willing to spend one hour a month to meet with neighbors and discuss ways to improve their neighborhood. They want someone else to do it for them. As one official recently noted, "Go to a meeting in this neighborhood, and regardless the topic being discussed, you only see the same five or ten people. Where is everyone else?"

By their inaction most residents have made FPSE a neighborhood where drugs are openly sold on street, where prostitutes offer themselves to passersby, where absentee slumlords control large sections of the area's housing, where street gangs vandalize buildings and where no effective pressure is placed on city officials and local politicians for improvements.

Each election FPSE elects the same type of people. They promise us nothing before the election and that is what they deliver after we elect them. The old adage is true, "The squeaky wheel gets the grease". If our neighborhood is going to survive, we need to become the "squeaky wheel". People are going to have to become involved in a positive way.

Neighborhood meetings are as enjoyable, entertaining and informative as we make them. Over time they can improve an area, but it takes people who are interested in where they live, who are not afraid to turn off the TV and who are willing to become involved.

Remember, the formula to kill a neighborhood is just to sit back and say, "I don't want to get involved". This is the same as saying, "I don't care what happens to my neighborhood". If you don't care, no one else will.

Environmental geologist Mark Jefferies, former secretary of BU6 and 7-year FPSE resident, has returned after a 10-month sabbatical.

## POWER WITHIN US

by C. A. Stevens

Not long ago, I joined with several neighbors in their stance against the drug dealers who have come into our neighborhood. The crimefighters I joined were not college graduates out to protect their homes and families. They were senior citizens and single parents courageously resisting the drug traffic being forced down our collective throat.



Another impromptu gathering of the Newstead Ave. Businessmen's Association

## POWER VOTING

by K. Chauffe

The June issue of the NEW BOYLE AND RANKEN EAST NEWSLETTER (T. Goshen and D. Corbin, ed.s) urged residents to register to vote so as to bring more attention to their respective block units. This is good advice for all FPSE residents. Low voter turn-out and numerous unregistered, yet eligible, residents weaken our area.

Typically, only a small percentage of citizens elect our public officials and decide important tax and bond issues. For example, in the last aldermanic-mayoral election, only about 30% of FPSE voters cast ballots, and in the recent school tax issue only 17% voted. These percentages would be even smaller if based upon total neighborhood adult population because so many are unregistered.

It is important for all eligible residents to register to vote. It is equally important for voters to learn about candidates and issues, and then vote independently in all elections.

Residents of St. Louis City can register at any city library or at the Board of Elections at 208 S. 12th Street. For more information, phone the Board of Elections at 622-4201. REMEMBER TO VOTE ON AUGUST 8!

After dealers on numerous occasions used the yard and front porch of a young working mother to transact drug business, she confronted them directly to request they no longer take the liberty of using her space. This young woman told the drug people to leave her yard and quit selling their drugs at her residence.

By accident I happened to be watching and afterwards congratulated this courageous person for her spirit and involvement. As I talked with her, several of our older neighbors came over to offer their support. As we talked, she told us her landlord had not responded so far to her requests that he fix the fence or put up a gate to prevent easy access by criminals.

People young and old, black and white came over to show support and concern for their new neighbor. We all implored her to keep calling her landlord and promised we would also.

Our phone calls worked. Within that same weekend the landlord came over. Spontaneously we gathered to thank him for responding to the calls from his tenant and the neighbors. The gate was soon put up, weeds cut down, and the area cleaned up so it could no longer conceal drug dealers and their wares.

These occasions of support and concern are happening more frequently now as neighbors work together to form emergency telephone networks to exchange phone numbers and addresses. These small groups are organizing spontaneously throughout FPSE to give support to one another. By doing so, they are fighting against the powerlessness that the government structure seems to promote. By joining together, people become more powerful than one person can be alone. By giving each other support, each person has the power of the group behind him or her. It is this power that will unite FPSE in its war against crime and drug trafficking. It is this power and this unity that will cause us to triumph over the negative forces that bring us down and tear us apart.

Carole Anne Stevens is a former BU6 president. She teaches Spanish and actively promotes United Nations projects.



## THOUGHT ON CHANGE

"There is a certain relief in change, even though it be from bad to worse; as I have found in travelling in a stage-coach, that it is often a comfort to shift one's position and be bruised in a new place."

"Tales of a Traveller" (1824)

by Washington Irving (1793-1859)



## EDITORIAL: HABITAT— ASSET OR LIABILITY FOR FPSE?

Habitat for Humanity has announced plans to begin a housing program in Adams Grove (see "Habitat for Humanity"). NEWS & VIEWS supports the Habitat Program because it assists worthy low-income families to buy a house. If Habitat follows its customary process for selecting participants, FPSE may gain stable, reliable homeowners. Although we have no misgivings about the people who may move here, we are greatly troubled by the structures Habitat may build.

Every neighborhood has a distinctive architectural style and flavor. Most buildings in FPSE are the type for which St. Louis is famous: red brick accented with ornamental brickwork. In Adams Grove, there are a few small clusters of modest wooden houses. Some are plain but others show a great attention to detail.

In contrast to the existing houses in FPSE, the planned Habitat buildings are no more than vinyl-covered boxes with roofs. They strongly resemble mobile homes. Although these structures may be acceptable in rural Georgia, their architecture and building materials are very inappropriate for St. Louis and our neighborhood.

According to real estate agents from Coldwell-Banker, Einig & McGuire and Voges, such buildings may lower FPSE property values. They may also discourage developers from working here, especially in Adams Grove where the Habitat structures may be built.

In addition to the inappropriateness of the planned Habitat houses, we have several other concerns. Wooden buildings, even with vinyl siding, require more maintenance than brick buildings. Wooden houses also have lower resale value. Families buying the Habitat buildings may find that they have invested their limited income in a house that does not appreciate in value and which no one will want to buy.

At the July Housing Corp. meeting (see "Housing Corp. News") Tim Meyer of Coldwell-Banker predicted that in a few years the buildings are likely to deteriorate into "shanties". He noted that similar housing has done so elsewhere. Meyer also pointed out the incompatibility of marketing \$70-90,000 houses in

one part of FPSE while building new low-cost low-income housing in another.

FPSE is not the only neighborhood to have faced the prospect of inappropriate Habitat buildings. De Sales Neighborhood was interested in the program until they saw the type of houses Habitat proposed. De Sales encouraged Habitat to rehab available structures, but they declined. Because there is ongoing development there, De Sales did not need Habitat to give the impression of progress. De Sales' leadership decided the Habitat buildings were incompatible with their long-term plans for the neighborhood. No Habitat houses are planned to be built there.

Unlike in De Sales, no developers are currently working in FPSE. There has been little quality redevelopment here for over two years. When no development is occurring, it is understandably tempting to take whatever is offered. FPSE has repeatedly made this mistake. That is why, for example, we have so much Section 8 housing and why Samuel McRee Redevelopment Corp. approved construction of the only one-story stucco commercial building on Manchester.

This desire to show accomplishment may be why Alderman Joe D. Roddy has endorsed the Habitat Program at block unit meetings. Privately, however, he has assured some residents that no Habitat houses will be built north of Manchester. This implies Roddy's awareness of the potentially negative impact of Habitat's standard architecture on resale values and neighborhood redevelopment, but does not explain why he is willing to risk Adams Grove's future.

Though organizations in other neighborhoods feel the standard Habitat houses can endanger their future, our own Housing Corp., whose job it is to market FPSE and encourage developers to work here, has never held an in-depth discussion on the Habitat Program and what it builds.

For the Habitat Program to be successful for both participants and neighborhood, it must not jeopardize the value of nearby homes. Habitat houses should blend into the neighborhood, not be a proverbial "sore thumb". Unfortunately, they have achieved the latter in the College Hill

Neighborhood. The style of Habitat houses there clashes with the surrounding architecture and makes future neighborhood restoration impossible.

It is not enough to provide people with a clean and safe place in which to live. Habitat should be providing dwellings of which the owners and the neighborhood can be proud. Acceptance of the new owners will in part depend upon the housing Habitat provides. Neighborhood homeowners are not likely to be very friendly if they see their property values decline because of the Habitat houses.

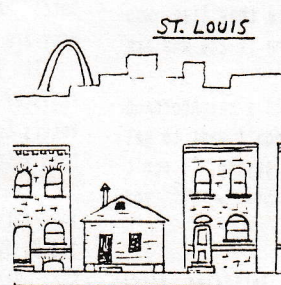
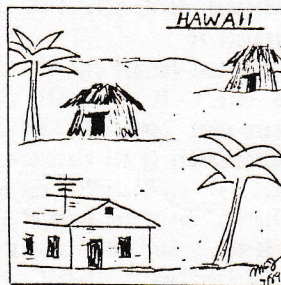
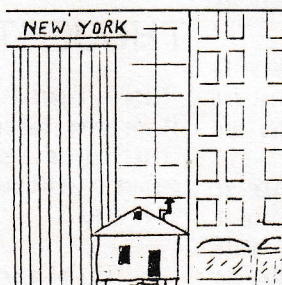
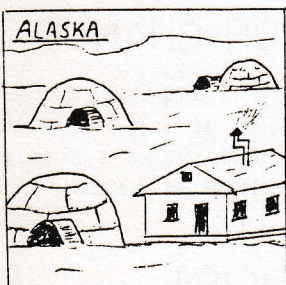
FPSE has an abundance of vacant buildings that would be appropriate for Habitat to renovate. In particular, Habitat could redevelop the many brick bungalows which developers claim are too small for their use. Most bungalows are about the size of Habitat houses. By renovating these structures, Habitat would utilize classic neighborhood buildings which are in danger of being razed. This would help revive FPSE, and provide not only excellent housing but also a more secure investment for the Program's participants. Habitat has not yet looked for buildings in FPSE to rehab.

Clearly, the best interests of FPSE lie in convincing Habitat to change its plans. We strongly urge the Housing Corp. and Alderman Roddy to work together to convince Habitat that everyone's interests can better be served through renovation.

N&V suggests that Habitat adopt the motto "ADOPT, ADAPT and IMPROVE". They should ADOPT the architecture of the neighborhood, ADAPT existing buildings to meet the program's needs, for by doing so they will IMPROVE FPSE.

*Karl M. Chauffe*

Dr. Karl M. Chauffe, St. Louis University professor of geology and former vice-president of BU6, has lived in FPSE for 9 years.



Can you pick out the "Habitat" houses in these pictures?



# LETTERS TO EDITOR

NAME AND ADDRESS MUST ACCOMPANY EVERY LETTER, AS WELL AS A TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR VERIFICATION ONLY. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY. THE ADDRESS:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
FOPARSE NEWS & VIEWS  
4522 GIBSON AVE.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63110



The Friday, May 26, 1989, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH article titled "Woman Had Sex With 6 Boys, Police Say", quoted Detective Cliff Sasenger of the St. Louis Police Department as saying, "There is a lot of dope in the neighborhood". He was talking about our area.

The Thursday, June 8, 1989 ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH article titled "Suits Filed to Halt Drug Activity", quoted Joseph D. Roddy as saying, "We want an all-out attack on those houses and residences used in the area to conduct illegal drug activities." The particular residences being addressed are at 4432-34 McPherson Avenue and 3583 Cook Avenue.

My question is that if our neighborhood has such an obvious drug problem, why aren't the houses in this neighborhood being targeted for an all-out attack? Why are the police and our alderman so much more concerned about McPherson and Cook than about Manchester, Oakland, Arco, Gibson, Chouteau, Newstead, and Taylor?

According to the May 26 article, the police department is aware of the drug problem. Why aren't they doing more? Why isn't our alderman going all out to target houses in this neighborhood where drug activities are taking place? Drug activity in this area is no secret, and the people involved in the drug activities don't try to hide their involvement.

Only 35% of the city neighborhoods had a decrease in property value after the last assessment. This area was one of them. What is being done to stop the devaluation of our property?

I would like to suggest that efforts would be a lot more productive for the neighborhood if they were not spent trying to "get even" and were spent correcting the problems we have.

Remember that we are a neighborhood. What is good for the 44xx blocks is good for the 45xx blocks, and what is bad for the 44xx blocks is bad for the 45xx blocks.

Trying to "get even" with an individual results in the whole area being hurt.

I would like to see our alderman working to stop the drug activity in his own area as actively as he is working in the Central West End.

Sharon Bowie  
Gibson Heights

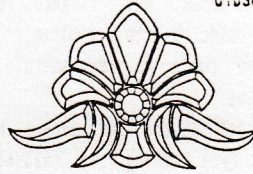
I liked your editorial in the June 1989 issue of FOPARSE NEWS AND VIEWS.

The main interest of all of us is to keep this neighborhood as residential and family-oriented as possible.

In order for all of us to be really enthusiastic about our neighborhood we should be regularly informed about any changes affecting the future of our neighborhood, by our alderman, Joseph D. Roddy.

With the right kind of information we can help to slow down the creeping industrialization that is a constant threat to neighborhoods such as ours.

Sylvester Berg  
Gibson Heights



## BUYER BEWARE: FPSE PROSTITUTES & AIDS

by M. Essen

In a recent letter to N&V, a local man asked us to share his story, saying, "I can't do nothing for me now but maybe I can help stop some Bro from getting AIDS like I did." This man says he is dying of AIDS he caught through sex with a female prostitute in our neighborhood.

He says he has had two cases of pneumonia and has skin cancer all over his body and face, writing, "I don't even like to have people look at me anymore. All I'm doing is waiting to die. I'm never going to have a family and get married and my son is going to have to grow up without his daddy."

Any man or woman (straight or gay) can get AIDS. You may have AIDS if, within the last 15 years, you have had sex or shared a needle with a person (male or female) with AIDS. Pregnant women with AIDS will infect their unborn babies, who will die after birth. For anonymous testing, call St. Louis Metro AIDS Program, 634 N. Grand, 658-1159. For answers to questions about AIDS, call the National AIDS hotline (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) at 1-800-342-7514 or the St. Louis Effort for AIDS hotline at 531-7400.

If you have AIDS and need an affordable place to live, call Doorways at 771-1719. If you need food brought in to you, call Food Outreach at 367-2112; they provide such a service for \$25/week.

Protect yourself and your partner or friends from AIDS by using condoms during sex and by sterilizing needles prior to use. Do it or die; there is no cure for AIDS. Like the man says, "All I'm doing is waiting to die."

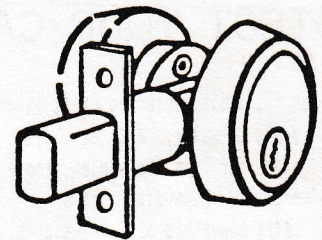
# A GOOD FRONT DOOR

by K. Becherer

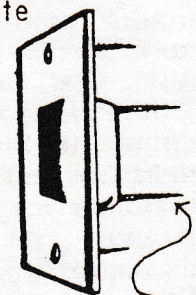
Effective home security relies on proper exterior doors and locks. Exterior doors should never be hollow-core; rather, solid or wood-core at least 1 3/4" thick. A thinner door may fail at the lock when kicked unless strengthened with a metal sleeve.

Many doors on homes in FPSE have glass panels. It is essential that such doors be outfitted with double cylinder deadbolt locks, which require a key on both sides. This type should be used even if the nearest glass is 40" away. The deadbolt lock, which cannot be pushed in with the palm of the hand when locked, should have at least a 1" throw (the bolt extends 1" when locked). Keep a key handy in the event an emergency exit is necessary, but do NOT keep it in an obvious place or you may give a burglar an emergency exit.

## Double Cylinder Deadbolt



## Strike Plate



2 1/2 in. long

A lock is only as good as the strike plate the bolt passes through, because that's what prevents the door from being kicked in. The screws which attach it to the door frame must be no less than 2 1/2" long. Not all manufacturers provide screws this long, so check before you bring a new lock home from the store.

If your door happens to swing out, replace the hinges with the type with unremovable pins.

Operation Safestreet (622-3444) installs double cylinder deadbolt locks on exterior doors for \$30. There is no charge if you are 62 and retired, over 65 or disabled, or the victim of a reported burglary or attempted burglary.

Operation Safestreet Executive Director Kathleen Becherer is actively working with FPSE residents to bring Neighborhood Watch to our area.



## LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

by M. Essen

A June 15 gathering at Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church kicked off the Light Up the Night! (LUTN!) program in FPSE. In attendance were representatives from Citicorp, whose Urban Renaissance Grant provided major funding for LUTN!, as well as supporting organizations such as Union Electric, Philips Lighting, Auto Air, Washington University, and the Ranken Businessmen's Association. Also present were 3rd District Police Capt. Gary Perkins and other 3rd and 9th District staff.

Operation Safestreet's Kathleen Becherer, Operation ConServ's Carole Rulo, NLO Pat Griffin and FPSE Housing Corp.'s Kate Roth presented a skit which starred Operation Safestreet Exec. Dir. Suzanne Hart and Alderman Joe D. Roddy, who threw the switch which activated LUTN!

## PROTECT YOUR CAR

by M. Essen

If your car has tilt steering, kiss it good-bye if it's a GM, Chrysler, AMC or Jeep Cherokee. Although any car can be stolen, these are the most vulnerable, according to St. Louis Police Det. Sgt. Larry Liggett's official statistics.

Liggett was referring to vehicles without deterrent devices, of course. Those he most strongly recommends are the passive type, set automatically without driver intervention. They include the \$93 alarm package available through Operation Safestreet (622-3444) and the \$50 stainless steel Too Tough Theft Guard steering column collar, available from many local car dealers and parts stores.

Liggett also encourages Neighborhood Watch as a deterrent to auto theft (see "It Really Does Work!"). Concerned neighbors should watch for cars without license plates as well as cars with broken windows (especially driver's vents) or broken steering columns (especially on the turn-signal side). Suspicious activities to watch for include exchanging license plates and an apparently aimless, repeated cycle of cruising and parking.

Liggett says today's car thieves are a new breed. In the early 1970's, over 9000 cars were stolen per year in our city, mainly by some 100 professionals working for parts re-sale operations. At that time, cars could be easily "hot-wired". The 1978 introduction of the anti-theft steering column lock challenged thieves to discover the use of the auto body dent puller to gain access to ignition wires. However, stronger legislation enacted from 1980-86 forced most pros out of business and resulted in a 1985 low of about 5400 stolen cars.

According to Liggett, GM issued car thieves a new challenge by redesigning the ignition

LUTN! provides funding for porch light installations by Senior Home Security as follows:

100% funding -- all HUD low-income

owner/occupants

-- HUD moderate-income

owner/occupants:

-- 55 or older

-- disabled

-- previous crime victims

50% funding -- all other owner/occupants:

-- 55 or older

-- disabled

-- previous crime victims

at cost (\$160) -- all other owner/occupants

-- all owners of rental properties

LUTN! participants may finance related charges via UE's Protect-O-Lite program, which will include the costs on your monthly bill at 10% over 12 months.

Interested renters and owners may contact Kate Roth at FPSE Housing Corp. (533-6704).

switch and steering column in 1982. With the addition of a case-hardened steel bolt through the switch, the dent puller technique became obsolete. Today's tool of choice is the screwdriver, and the vulnerable spot is the left side of the steering column.

The screwdriver technique was introduced to St. Louis in the winter of 1983-84 by a young Chicagoan who moved to Laclede Town and tutored his local friends. As this knowledge spread from neighborhood to neighborhood, St. Louis auto theft rose steadily through 1988, when about 7000 cars were reported stolen. Of those, roughly 90% were recovered after being used for joy rides or for transportation to the next stolen car. Many were partially stripped of easily sold items like radios, tires and wheels. Some were demolished at the end of the ride for no other reason than "the fun of it".

Liggett is concerned for the thousands of young St. Louisans who are being introduced to crime through auto theft. He states, "When you look at the records of the majority of prison inmates, you see that most got their start by stealing cars." He says children as young as 8 years old have been arrested in stolen vehicles they can barely see out of to drive. Although their juvenile criminal records are wiped clean when they reach 18, these children have been introduced to a criminal way of life that they may never escape. Neighbors can help protect them from this fate by making car theft harder through the use of Neighborhood Watch techniques and passive theft-deterrent devices.

Maud Essen, former president and vice-president of BUS and Treasurer of South of Forty Security Association, is a marketing course developer for a major regional telephone company.

## CRIME BEAT IT REALLY WORKS!

by M. Essen

How many times have you read about Neighborhood Watch (NW) and thought, "Let the police do their job. They don't need me." A few weeks ago, an event occurred here that should change your mind.

On a recent Saturday afternoon, several neighbors saw some young strangers repeatedly driving several sports cars around the block. One car had no front license plate. The young men would park and hang out for awhile on the block. Then they'd drive away, only to return later and repeat the process.

Later that night, a neighbor noticed a young man riding a bicycle much too small for his tall frame. The young man inspected the neighbor's own van. Then he checked out a custom van parked in front of it, and actually got in the driver's seat before riding away on the too-small bike. The neighbor suddenly realized that the custom van, which he'd never seen on the block before, might be stolen because its back window was broken. So he called the police.

The officer who responded found that not only the custom van was stolen but also its plates were stolen from another vehicle. He had the van towed away.

Five minutes after the city tow truck left, the same neighbor, now on edge, noticed one of the sports cars had returned. He called another neighbor to discuss the situation. The second neighbor verified it was the same car she'd seen before and called the police. While awaiting their response, she realized that there were several of the sports cars on the block as well as another custom van, in which a number of young men were testing the radio.

When an officer arrived, the young men bolted from the van and disappeared through an unsecured gangway with the officer in pursuit. Seeing this, the neighbor called the police again to request further assistance. Reinforcements arrived and through a coordinated effort directed by the police dispatcher, 3rd District officers arrested four suspects.

Four more stolen vehicles equipped with stolen plates were recovered: a second custom van and three Pontiac Fieros. All five vehicles had a value of at least \$75,000.

Although three of the suspects were juveniles, one was an adult with 9 warrants in 3 municipalities against him. He was finally confined to await trial after being released and subsequently re-arrested in yet another stolen car.

None of this would have happened if the neighbors hadn't noticed the unusual activities that Saturday afternoon and called the police.



## FLOWER POWER: BEAT HEAT WITH VINES

by C. Korndorfer

Although St. Louis summers are always hot and humid, you can help cool your house with plants. Just as it always feels cooler standing in a tree's shade than in the sun, a house in a tree's shade will be cooler. A large deciduous (leaf bearing) tree shielding your home from the glaring sun will help decrease cooling costs. Trees such as thornless honey locust, willow oaks, and white ash grow rapidly and within a few years will be large enough to shade your house.

A faster growing alternative or supplement to trees are vines. Vines planted in the spring can start to give shade by early summer. They are especially useful in areas not large enough for a tree. Vines planted close to the walls of a house should be trained on trellises, so that air can circulate freely and prevent damage from moisture. When trained along porches, vines can create pleasantly cool areas for sitting and visiting with friends.

The vines best suited for shady areas are bittersweet, morning glory, grapes, clematis, silver lace and climbing roses. Edible vines such as pole beans, scarlet runner beans, cucumbers, climbing squash and cantaloupes can also be used, but need very sturdy trellises to carry the extra weight of their fruit. These vines are best because they can be cut back in the winter when extra sunlight is beneficial for warming the house.

Evergreen vines such as English ivy should not be allowed to grow directly on the sides of buildings because they have aerial roots which can damage paint, wood, brick or shingles.

Homeowners and renters alike can derive many benefits from knowledgeable landscaping. Plants can beautify your house and increase its value. By including vines and trees, plants can help cool it as well.

Claudia Korndorfer, Manager of Microbial Research at HemaGen Associates and Vice-President of BU5, has lived in FPSE for 6 years.

## JJ'S CORNER

by J. Jackels

My hat's off to the FPSE Housing Corp. for LIGHT UP THE NIGHT. They've arranged free porch light installation for qualified residents. Bringing light into our neighborhood will be an asset to residents and a deterrent to criminals.

While driving on Magnolia the other night, my husband and I encountered a pregnant woman who was acting strangely and having trouble standing. We asked if she needed help; she said she needed a ride. As we drove along she would periodically

## FLEA WARS

by K. Chauffe

My Dog Has Fleas was the first tune I learned to play on my great grandfather's mandolin. As I grew older, I learned that not only my dog, but also my cat, house and yard can become infested with fleas. They are not easy to eliminate.

Fleas lead an amazing life. They spend only 5% of their life on a dog or cat, and survive up to 125 days without eating. Additionally, a flea can alter its life cycle so as to assure survival of its offspring. Typically, a female flea feeds on a dog or cat for 2 to 3 days, hops off and then lays hundreds of eggs in the grass or your carpet.

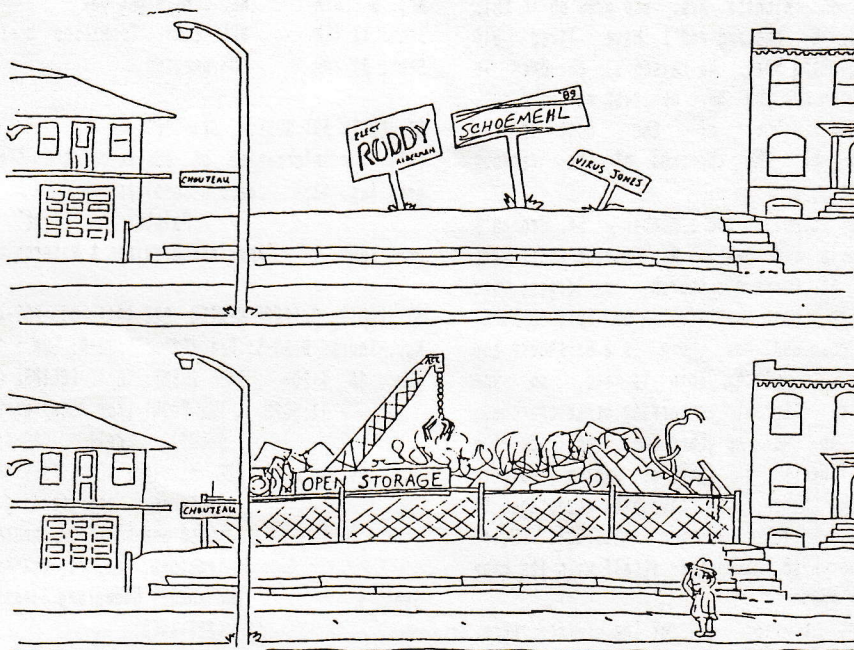
Fleas can injure your pet in several ways. Their bite causes pain and scratching, they may infect your pet with tapeworms, and their saliva may cause allergic reactions in some pets. This may result in inflamed red spots and hair loss.

Had Sir Winston Churchill spoken on the flea war he might have said, "We shall meet the enemy on the pet, in the home and in the yard." These are our three major battle fields. Your pet should be treated with a good quality dip, spray or powder. Follow the directions carefully and keep the product away from the animals eyes, nose and mouth. If you have a cat, be certain that it is safe for cats; not all are!

Vacuuming your house frequently will help control fleas inside, but even in the cleanest homes an infestation is possible. If this occurs, use a flea bomb. These are sold at most grocery stores. Again, follow the instructions carefully. Your yard should be sprayed periodically throughout the spring and summer with Diazinon or other insecticide. You must meet the enemy on all three battle fields if you want to win the war.

Before beginning any flea eradication program, talk with your vet. He may be able to offer advice on your specific pet or problem.

## MORTIMER®



... When he spoke about development

I had something else in mind.

*Mortimer*  
7/77

open a bottle of strong smelling liquid and inhale from it. I asked her what it was, but she told me that if I didn't like the smell, I could get out of the car. I asked if she knew what she was doing to her baby, but she ignored me.

After we dropped her off, we found a policeman and told him about the woman. He informed us that she was probably sniffing liquid airplane glue, but he could do nothing. He suggested that we form a group to push for legislation that will protect unborn babies from their mothers' drug addiction. Several groups in Florida are presently working on these problems.

I have spoken to Alderman Roddy about the need for this type of legislation. It is my feeling that a pregnant woman who is obviously abusing her unborn child should be incarcerated for the remainder of her pregnancy so as to provide a safe environment for the child and needed food and medical attention for the mother.

Jackie Jackels has lived in the area for 18 years. She is the founder and co-ordinator of Adams Community Center.



## CLASSIFIEDS

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## CHURCH MEMORIES

by M. Berg

I have long believed that the churches in our neighborhoods were our most important assets. I was born on Wichita Ave. and grew up in this neighborhood. My husband and I have lived all our married life here. We raised six children in this neighborhood and have observed many changes, good and bad. One of the best is the rejuvenation of the churches of the various denominations.

I am a Catholic and a member of St. Cronan's Church on Boyle and Swan. My husband and I were married at St. Bernard's Church, the largest and one of the most beautiful in our neighborhood. It was torn down and now there is a warehouse and factory in its place. This is sad, so you understand my interest preserving other churches. As I walk in the neighborhood and see the colourful flowers in front of Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church, I have been encouraged to write this article. Wagoner Memorial (Metro Ministry) has also committed itself with its many programs for youth.

I cannot mention all of the churches here, but I can tell you what I felt as a child growing up here. Sunday mornings were special. People dressed in their Sunday best and worshipped at the services of Sunday Schools of churches of various denominations. Neighbors exchanged greetings with neighbors along the street as they walked. We knew each other.

If we are to preserve our homes and neighborhood, we need our churches. Let us support the churches in their efforts to survive. The children need this heritage and they need us, for no one is "an island entirely unto himself."

Margie Berg has lived in FPSE all her life. She serves on the BU5 Garden Club and is active at St. Cronan's.

## N&V CALENDAR

The FOPARSE NEWS & VIEWS calendar is a feature we plan to include in each issue. We wish to inform FPSE residents not only of local activities but also of the wealth of free and low-cost events scheduled at nearby cultural centers. Because information available to us is prepared so far in advance, it is best to call to verify dates and times. If your group has events which should be included here, contact N&V Features Editor Maud Essen, 4522 Gibson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110.

### FOREST PARK SOUTHEAST

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| July 29 1PM     | Gibson Hgts Presby. Church<br>Senior Citizens Social                             |
| July 29 4-6PM   | Methodist Metro Ministry<br>New Mission Church gospel<br>singers at Rainbow Park |
| Aug. 5 11AM-6PM | BU7/Ranken East PARTY**FAIR<br>43xx Gibson                                       |
| Aug. 7 7PM      | FPSE Housing Corp. meeting   |
| Aug. 8 6AM-7PM  | St. Louis City election  |
| Aug. 8 9PM      | National Night Out   |
| Sept. 13 7PM    | BU5 Exec. Committee meeting  |
| Sept. 21 7PM    | BU5 meeting  |

### ST. LOUIS ART MUSEUM 721-0067

Call for information on admission and times.  
ends Aug. 13: "Joaquin Sorolla:

Painter of Light"

ends Sept. 4 "American Drawings & Watercolors"

### ST. LOUIS SCIENCE CENTER 289-4444 or 289-4400

Mon.-Thurs: 9:30-5; Fri./Sat.: 9:30-9; Sun.: 11-5

Aug. 16 9:20-11:56PM RARE EVENT: TOTAL ECLIPSE OF  
THE MOON! (for "star party"

details, call 289-4453)

Aug. 26-Sept. 4 BIG Machines Week (289-4464)  
lectures, storytelling, a

rodeo and hands-on tours of  
tractors, dozers, cranes...

Sept. 9 2nd Annual Boomerang Classic  
(289-4462)

### ONGOING EXHIBITS:

through Sept 8: "It's a Gas"

through Dec. 31: "Electricity: a Spark of  
Genius"

Sept. 11-30 "The Liquid Air Show"

### HISTORY MUSEUM 361-1424

All concerts, lectures & exhibitions are free.

Aug. 6 2PM Tiger Rag Forever Jazz Band

Aug. 13 2PM "Fashions and Fashionability  
in Creole St. Louis"

Aug. 19 10:30AM "The 20th Anniversary of the  
St. Louis Rent Strike"

Aug. 20 2PM "The French Revolution: Was It  
All Really Worth It?"

Aug. 27 2PM "St. Louis Union Station:  
1894-1989"

## SPLENDID PICNIC

by M. Essen

The FPSE Housing Corp. picnic was held in Forest Park on June 3. About 35-40 area residents, politicians, and officials of local organizations attended the annual event. Chefs Newton McCoy (Samuel McRee Redevelopment Corp.) and Helen Sheets (Adams Grove Improvement Ass'n.) slaved over hot coals to provide the group with succulent bar-b-que.

Among the highlights of the day were a croquet game which included Rankin East Pres. Dan Corbin's daughter Jennifer and WUMCRC's Suzanne Goodman. BU 5 Pres. Allen Levin silkscreened the FPSE logo onto tee-shirts removed for the occasion. BU 7 Sec'y-Tres. Tom Goshen's exuberant tee-shirt removal dance was received enthusiastically by family and friends alike. FPSE Housing Corp.'s Exec. Dir. Kate Roth pronounced the event a success. It netted \$879 for the Housing Office.

## RICE CRUST PIZZA

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Combine and press into greased pizza pan or 2-9" pie pans:

- 3 c. cooked rice
- 3 egg whites
- 4 oz. grated mozzarella

Bake crust for 20 minutes.

Top with:

- 1 c. tomato sauce
- 1 t. oregano
- 1/2 t. garlic powder
- 1 lb. ground beef, browned/draind
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 c. mushrooms, sliced
- 1 c. cherry tomatoes, quartered
- anything else you like

Bake for 10 more minutes.



### MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN 577-5125

OPEN 9AM-8PM TO LABOR DAY, 9AM-5PM THEREAFTER.

Call for information on admission charges.

Most events are free with a regular admission.

Aug. 5 12-5PM Urban Gardening Fair

Aug. 6 9AM-4PM Urban Gardening Fair

Aug. 26-Sept. 3 "East Meets West"

15th annual Japanese Festival (577-5198)

Sept. 1 Children's Day

Sept. 2 Suzuki violinists

### ONGOING EVENTS:

Walking Tours: Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1PM  
Sundays, 2PM

1st & 3rd Monday Plant Clinics: 9AM-12PM

### TOWER GROVE PARK 776-2227

Aug. 7 7:30PM The Compton Heights Band  
Henry Shaw Bandstand