

MARQUIS

DECEMBER 2005

Founded by the residents of Lafayette Square

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 12

Tour set to draw thousands to Square

By John Herlihy &
Mary Ann Goodson
Lafayette Square

The 2005 Lafayette Square Holiday Tour is now upon us. We're all set to welcome our guests into our neighborhood. The tour will take place on Sunday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15.00 by calling 314-772-5724. Operators are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Nov. 21 through Dec. 10. Ticket Vouchers are also available at SqWires Restaurant & Market, Perc on the Park, Ricardo's Restaurant, and the Albert Hall Emporium. On the day of the tour, tickets will be \$18.00 each or 2 for \$35.00. Groups of 20 or more can obtain the very generous



Submitted by John Herlihy

This home at 1815 Lafayette will be included on the tour this year.

discount of \$10.00 per ticket.

The tour will feature 11 homes decorated in their holiday finest. Complimentary carriage rides will be available, and carolers will be singing holiday tunes throughout the neighborhood. The tour will also feature some of our neighbors and friends dressed in Victorian Attire, to add to the ambience of the tour. Many of our neighborhood businesses will also be open to welcome our guests.

Posters are available at Perc on the Park. If you can hang one at your workplace, or if you're interested in distributing them throughout the city, stop by Perc on the Park and ask for some posters. We appreciate your help in spreading the word about the tour.

We have reserved the "Window on St. Louis" for Friday, Dec. 2. This is the last day before the Window closes for the winter. We'd like to see a big crowd on hand to help market the holiday tour. We need to be there from 5:50 a.m. to 7:10 a.m. If you can be there, please send an email to John.Herlihy@nestle.purina.com.

Also, the Lafayette Square Holiday Tour is currently featured in the November/December issue of *St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles*, as the event of the month. In addition to the magazine cover and the event of the month, *St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles* also featured two ads for the tour on Dec. 11 and the pre-event on Dec. 10. *St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles* is the sole marketing source for the holiday tour pre-event. For additional information on the holiday tour pre-event, refer to the current issue of the magazine. Reservations for the pre-event can be made through



Submitted by John Herlihy

The Park Avenue Mansion Bed & Breakfast will also be available on the tour.

our advance-sales number (314-772-5724) and will be limited to the first 100 paid attendees at \$75.00 per person.

We'd like to thank our homeowners, sponsors, and volunteers in advance for what we hope will be another fantastic tour. A lot of work has gone into planning the tour, and we have more than 85 volunteers signed up to help make it a success. If you would still like to volunteer for day-of-tour sales, merchandise sales, or as a docent in one of the homes, please email John Herlihy at John.Herlihy@nestle.purina.com. Volunteers will receive a complimentary ticket to the tour and will be invited to the Post-Tour Party on Sunday evening. Once again, SqWires Restaurant and Market has very generously volunteered to host the post-tour party, so we know it will be a fantastic party.

New microbrewery to open in January

By Eric Winters
Marquis Editor

After being boarded up for more than a year following an extensive fire, the former Lafayette Pub & Grill will reopen as Square One Brewery in January.

Located at the corner of 18th Street and Park Avenue, Square One Brewery will be a microbrewery featuring up to 10 microbrews on tap, alongside an eclectic array of food options.

Steve and Molly Neucomm, who have owned the building for many years and previously ran a restaurant at the location in the 1970s, have completely rehabbed the interior, opening up the kitchen and creating space for the brewing equipment. The Neucomm's currently own and operate Augusta Brewing Company in Augusta, Missouri.

Molly Neucomm explained that the resurgence in the neighborhood was the impetus for their desire to operate once again in the area. "It's phenomenal," she says. "The neighborhood has shown consistently the ability to support more restaurants." She credits the close proximity to downtown, as well as the growing number of residents, as the



Eric Winters photo

The new Square One Brewery will feature a number of beers brewed in-house.

primary reasons for the neighborhood's economic potential.

The Neucomm's previous success with microbrews combines with the growing trend for hand-crafted beers led to their decision to go with a microbrewery at the location. In addition, Molly Neucomm feels this type of neigh-

borhood establishment will find its own niche alongside the other area restaurants.

Square One Brewery will host a mini-open house during the Lafayette Square Holiday Tour.

For more information on the opening date, visit www.squareonebrewery.com.

PRAXAIR
www.praxairwatch.com

Praxair update

The Board of Building Services committee will meet on Dec. 8, 2005, at 1 p.m. (in Room 208 of City Hall) to deliberate regarding Praxair's prior appeal for a building permit to resume operations at their Chouteau facility. This is an open meeting, which anyone can attend, though further testimony will not be heard. The Praxair Neighborhood Task Force strongly encourages people to attend. For more details and updates go to: www.praxairwatch.com. For a timeline of the Praxair explosion and subsequent events, go to page 5.

New bridge may better link the Square and McKinley Heights

By Eric Brende
McKinley Heights

I live in McKinley Heights, but was surprised to learn two years ago when I bought my house that the deed states I live in a "Lafayette Square addition." This was a nice discovery. I had only decided to buy because the property was about three blocks from Lafayette Park, and now I felt even more connected to this beautiful section of the city.

Today there is an opportunity for McKinley Heights and Lafayette Square to become even more connected. The Mississippi Avenue bridge, which joins the two separated sides of "Lafayette Square" over Interstate 44, is now slated for renovation. Plans include a new, curving pedestrian fence. In addition, the Missouri Department of Transportation is open to ideas for enhancements – historic lighting, banners, or other features that may make the bridge more inviting to pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as motorists.

The only catch is that MODOT does not appear to have funding for these enhancements, so the money would have to come from neighborhood associations or other sources. Anyone who would like to get involved, or who knows where money can be had, may call Eric Brende at 773-6227. The engineer at MODOT overseeing the design is Deanna Venker at 877-0118. Contact must be immediate because plans are already under way.

The Marquis is published monthly by Virginia Publishing Company on behalf of the Lafayette Square Restoration Committee. Originally founded by Lafayette Square Restoration Committee as a small newsletter, the paper has grown into the voice of St. Louis' strong near southside neighborhood groups, serving Benton Park, Compton Heights, Fox Park, Gate District, Lafayette Park, LaSalle Park, McKinley Heights and Tiffany neighborhoods.

Submissions, including articles, photos and story ideas, are highly encouraged, but the editor reserves the right to edit for grammar, space, clarity and appropriateness. Deadline for submissions is the 18th of the prior month. Contact the editor at info@westendword.com or call 314-367-6612 x27.

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Season's Greetings

By Houston Smith
LSRC President

Once again, the gavel has been handed over without a coup, bloodless or otherwise. I thank Jim Wilmore for his able guidance of the LSRC through explosions, storms and other catastrophes. Through it all, we still love our neighbors. I also want to thank Jim for his handling of the Praxair incident. The resolution of this issue will affect all the neighborhoods of Near South City.

There are several other issues on the table for this LSRC year. As a community, we must decide how the LSRC, Lafayette Park Conservancy and the TIF will work together to promote the continued restoration of Lafayette Square and Lafayette Park. The LSRC Development Code will also need to be updated and clarified to meet the needs of the Square during this time of rapid development. Now that the city has delivered the check for their portion of the Park House restoration (thanks to Pete Snyder for his work there), we will need to finish plans and complete the second, third and fourth phases of the Park House restoration. We will also need to begin creating plans for the Boat House project.

Luckily, I do not have to do this work

alone. I have been blessed with a great Board and a neighborhood full of great volunteers. As an introduction (drum role please), here is your new LSRC Board:

- Houston Smith, President
- Dane Drefke, VP President-Elect
- Jane Blackwell, VP Development
- Matthias Washchek, VP Development-Elect
- Erin Budde, VP Community Affairs
- Sandy Herde, Board Secretary
- Dave Diehl, Membership Secretary
- Jean Steck, Treasurer
- Susan Sauer, Asst. Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect
- Nick Colosi, Board Member (1yr)
- Chris Westmeyer, Board Member (2yr)
- Julie Drefke, Board Member (2yr) & Welcome Committee
- Linda Weiner, Board Member (2yr)
- Pete Snyder, Board Member (1yr)
- Paul Doerner, Board Member (1yr)

So come and help us with these tough decisions. The membership meetings occur every second Tuesday at the Lafayette Square Methodist Church (near Lafayette and Jefferson). For a mere \$10 per year membership dues, you get a feeling of civic pride, eleven fun gatherings with your neighbors and a great party after each of the meetings to hug and make up.

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Kreikemeier Real Estate has sold homes, condominiums, land and multi-family investment properties throughout St. Louis, including in these areas: the City of St. Louis (including Lafayette Square, the Central West End and South Hampton), Webster Groves, Kirkwood, University City, Creve Coeur, Brentwood, Chesterfield and Ballwin, including homes in excess of \$500,000. Kreikemeier Real Estate's clients have included business owners, doctors, attorneys, accountants and other professionals.

Whether you need assistance with buying a home, selling a home or both, please call for a free, no obligation consultation regarding your real estate needs.

652 Charleston Oaks Dr.
4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Bathrooms
Ballwin, \$369,900

Only about 10 years old, this home features wood floors throughout most of the first floor, a master suite with adjoining full bathroom, a professionally finished basement, an open floor plan and a great location with easy access to Highway 44. Please see REALTOR.COM MLS #571189.

1030 Glenmoor
4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms
Glendale, \$299,900

This 1 1/2 story Glendale home is ideally located near the end of a quiet cul-de-sac street within a short walk of N. Glendale school. With two additions, including second floor bedrooms and a huge rear family room (approx. 21 x 17 feet with vaulted ceiling and skylights), as well as a partially finished basement, this home is much larger (over 1950 sq. ft., per County, excluding the finished basement) than it appears from the curb. Add to all of this a large level back yard and deck, a large kitchen and wood floors throughout most of the first floor. Please see REALTOR.COM MLS #558637.

RECENT SALES:

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Possibilities for new legislation abound

By Jeanette Mott Oxford
State Representative, District 59th

As we move into the holiday season and prepare for the new year of 2006 to arrive, it's a good time to reflect on the rhythms that mark our community life together. Most of us become accustomed to the patterns that make up our weeks, months, and years. Among the events that are likely to go onto our calendar are neighborhood association meeting nights, family reunions, company picnics, the holy days of our faith communities, the birthdays of our loved ones, and civic holidays around which we have developed family or community rituals (Memorial Day or July 4th for example).

Our lives as citizens in a democracy have a rhythm too, and our active participation is needed if our society is to be healthy. Among the state level political events that mark this rhythm are:

- All members of the Missouri House of Representatives run for re-election every two years, with a primary election in August and a general election in November
- Half of the Missouri Senate runs each two years (as state senators hold four year terms)
- The Missouri General Assembly meets in Session from early-January through mid-May of each year
- Legislators can begin pre-filing bills on Dec. 1

How do legislators get ideas for the bills that we file?

- Some of us have expertise about certain fields from employment that we have held (real estate, law enforcement, medicine, teaching, social work, etc.).
- Advocates for citizens groups and a variety of business and municipal interests bring ideas to legislators.
- We attend professional conferences with other legislators and hear about ideas that have worked well in other states and want to try them in Missouri.
- We read, see, or hear investigative reports in the media that alert us to a problem.

But one of the most important ways we form ideas about legislation to introduce

is through listening to our constituents. Last year I filed several bills based on ideas that our neighbors brought to me. The concept that a Benton Park family brought to Sen. Maida Coleman and me related to lead poisoning did become law in 2005!

Perhaps you have an idea about legislation that I should file in 2006. If so, now is the perfect time to share that idea with me. Bills that are pre-filed in December are in a better position to receive early hearings in committee and advance to floor debate in the House and Senate.

I wish each family in the 59th District the happiest of holiday seasons and a peaceful, healthy, and happy New Year!

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Business Association hosts "Deck the Square"

The second annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony ... officially kicking off the Holiday Season in Lafayette Square ... will be on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. by the fountain in the Park Avenue Plaza.

This is "THE" holiday event for kids ... and for the kid in all of us.

Refreshments, donated by SqWires and Perc on the Park, will be served. And there's rumor that the jolly old man in red will take time out of his busy schedule to visit us.

According to sources close to Santa,

the tree lighting in Lafayette Square is as important an event to him as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, so we're sure to see him.

The event is co-hosted by the Lafayette Square Business Association and the Near Southside Improvement Corporation (the TIF). The two organizations wish to thank Adams Nursery for donating the tree.

LSBA General Meeting

The Lafayette Square Business Association is holding its next general membership meeting on **Monday, Dec.**

12 at 2:30 p.m. in SqWires Annex, 1415 South 18th Street, at the corner of Park Avenue. Please note that this is a new, later starting time so as not to interfere with an earlier-scheduled holiday lunch.

The meeting is expected to last one hour. All members and those interested in membership are invited to attend.

Attention: New Lafayette Square Residents

Has someone new moved onto your street? If so we want to make sure they are officially welcomed into the neighborhood. Please contact Julie Drefke at (314) 588-8189 or djdrefke@yahoo.com and we will get a Welcome Packet to them.

If you are a new neighbor and have not received a Welcome Packet, please contact us and we would be happy to bring one over to you. Also if you are new to the neighborhood please join us at the monthly LSRC meeting and social. Both are great ways to find out what is happening in the neighborhood, get involved and meet new friends!

Thanks for your help!

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Mary One & Roz Real Estate Tip of the Week



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Mary 1 Johnson
Home Team Realty

Mary, we are looking to buy a home. We decided one weekend to go drive through the neighborhood where we wanted to live. After seeing some "for sale" signs, we called the agents listed to ask to see the homes. Some agents would come show us the homes, and others would not. Why is that?

That's a great question. All licensed real estate brokers or agents must or should follow the guidelines and rules of the Missouri Real Estate Commission and agency laws for the state. Each state has different laws when it comes to transfer of real estate. An example with buying and selling property is that Missouri agency law says that a realtor must make sure you are ready, willing and able to buy before showing you the home. That means the buyer should have a pre-approval in writing, or if paying with cash, they need a bank statement, 401k or credit line. Agency law was made to protect the buyer and the seller before they enter into a contract.

What is underwriting, and why is it important to be done In-House?

Underwriting is the process of fully approving a mortgage loan from the time a purchase contract has been accepted. It includes verifications of employment, assets, rent/mortgage history, along with an appraisal of the subject property. In-House underwriting is important because it makes the loan process more efficient by not having to ship the loan to outside sources, unfamiliar with the borrower, for approval. This helps to ensure that loan commitment and closing dates are met, taking the stress out of the approval process for the borrower.

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Timeline of Praxair explosion and events

By April Breeden & Greg Yin
Lafayette Square

Editor's Note: As many visitors to the area join Lafayette Square for its annual holiday tour, they may notice the many signs against Praxair. To facilitate a better understanding of the issues surrounding the matter, this timeline has been submitted.

6/24/05 – At approximately 3:15 in the afternoon, a fire starts at the Praxair facility on Chouteau Avenue in the Lafayette Square neighborhood. Shortly after, huge explosions occur, sending flames hundreds of feet into the air, and metal canisters into the surrounding streets and neighborhood. Portions of the neighborhood are evacuated as fire crews attempt to prevent the fire from spreading into the surrounding historic district. Numerous homes and cars suffered damage. Following the incident, debris and asbestos are found throughout the neighborhood. The facility is hosed down with water for weeks and air quality is monitored.

6/30/05 – The Lafayette Square Restoration Committee (LSRC) hosts a meeting to address residents' concerns and questions regarding the explosion at the Praxair facility and safety issues. Attending were the mayor, fire chief, police chief and various other city officials. The neighborhood expressed their appreciation to the emergency workers who put themselves in harms way to help battle the fire and limit the damage to the neighborhood. Praxair officials assure neighbors that they will work with the city to relocate their St. Louis operation to another site.

Summer 2005 – Praxair officials attend monthly LSRC meetings throughout the summer, providing updates on cleanups and insurance claims. In the meantime, interim operations for Praxair have been shifted to other locations around the area.

9/29/05 – Praxair issues a press release and letter to Lafayette Square residents stating that:

1) They believe "the premature release of a safety relief valve on one or more gas cylinders containing flammable gas may have contributed" the St. Louis fire.

2) They plan to resume "interim" operations at the Chouteau facility (pending being issued a building permit by the city) while they continue trying to "identify" another site for operations.

9/30/05 – Praxair meets with officials to request a building permit to re-open their Chouteau facility. The city denies the building permit. Mayor Slay and Alderman Reed state their support of this denial and concern for neighborhood safety.

10/1/05 – The Lafayette Square Restoration Committee (LSRC) applauds the city's decision to deny Praxair the building permit and re-state their position that Praxair's operations are "not compatible with a residential neighborhood."

10/4/05 – Mayor Slay states that the City will work with Praxair to find a more suitable location but will not support their plans to re-open at Chouteau unless and until:

1) They "provide documented evidence that residents and businesses in the Lafayette Square neighborhood are comfortable with their interim plans for limited operations at the Chouteau facility."

2) They "provide detailed plans to the City outlining exactly what they plan to do at their Chouteau facility."

10/11/05 – LSRC Meeting:

1) Residents of Lafayette Square vote (150-1) stating that they oppose the issuance by the City of St. Louis of any building, occupancy or other permit that would enable Praxair to resume or continue operations at the existing Chouteau site.

2) The Praxair Neighborhood Task Force is created to address neighbors concerns regarding Praxair's attempts to re-open at their current location.

October-November 2005 – Anti-Praxair signs are soon displayed in yards throughout Lafayette Square. The Praxair Neighborhood Task Force also creates a website: www.praxairwatch.com

11/10/05 – The Board of Building Services hears Praxair's appeal regarding their request for a building permit being denied. 49+ letters of opposition were received by the board stating that resi-



Photo by Eric Winters

Praxair's Chouteau facility has yet to resume operations.

dents do not want Praxair re-opening in Lafayette Square. 40-50 residents were in attendance at the hearing, as were all major media sources (radio, print, TV). Praxair stated that they have a good safety record and deserve the permit. They also accused the city of not helping them find an alternative location. Residents (who were organized by the Praxair Neighborhood Task Force) showed video footage and pictures of the June explosion, addressed physical and mental health safety concerns, and pointed out that Lafayette Square is a protected historic district unlike any other in the United States. They insisted that Praxair is still a "public nuisance" (one of the reasons they were denied the permit in the first place) and asked committee members if they would feel safe with Praxair operating in their back yards.

11/17/05 – It is announced that the committee which heard Praxair's appeal will deliberate on the matter at 1 p.m. on Dec. 8, 2005 in Room 208 of City Hall. It is an open meeting and anyone can attend

to observe, but it is the understanding of the Praxair Task Force that further testimony will not be heard. The Task Force encourages all neighbors to attend this meeting.

**This document is meant to provide a general overview and to the knowledge of the authors presents accurate information. For additional information please also research other media sources and records.*

Additional updates will also be posted at: www.praxairwatch.com

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As winter arrives, move your garden indoors

By Linda Weiner
Lafayette Square

Quote of the Month:

At the moment of planting a bulb, All is hope, no dismay.

Then there is surely something hauntingly symbolic about burying a living thing toward a sure resurrection, at a moment in the season

When everything else is dying or on the way out.

May Sarton (1912-1995)
American writer

Final spring bulbs planted at the Park House

On Saturday, Nov. 5, the final bulbs were laid out in hopeful patterns around the Park House by volunteers Erin Budde, Don Heus, Carolyn Willmore, Ruth Kamphoefner, Mike and Sue Reardon, Tim Gore and others as we bid farewell to most outdoor gardening activities around the square. Spring

bulbs will also welcome us in April and May along Park Avenue, and on the Jefferson median, thanks to Operation Brightside grants and willing gardening volunteers. Thanks to all who helped!

Things to grow indoors now

Those of us who find growing things restorative throughout the winter make the following suggestions:

1. Pick up some spring bulbs such as paper whites which are ready to bloom by placement in a light window with the addition of water just to the bulb base. Tulips and other types of spring blooming bulbs can be chilled in the refrigerator for 4 weeks or so and then "forced."

2. Pick up some amaryllis bulbs in a variety of colors and sizes. Nothing says "the holidays" like an awesome red lion amaryllis! Unfortunately there is nothing "blue" for the Jewish holidays, but you can add a blue ribbon!

3. Consider a blooming plant such as

Christmas cactus or a fragrant blooming extravaganza such as my all time favorite, gardenia.

Things to do in the garden and around the Square on nice winter days

1. Volunteer to cut down the rest of the perennials on the Jefferson median that have now died

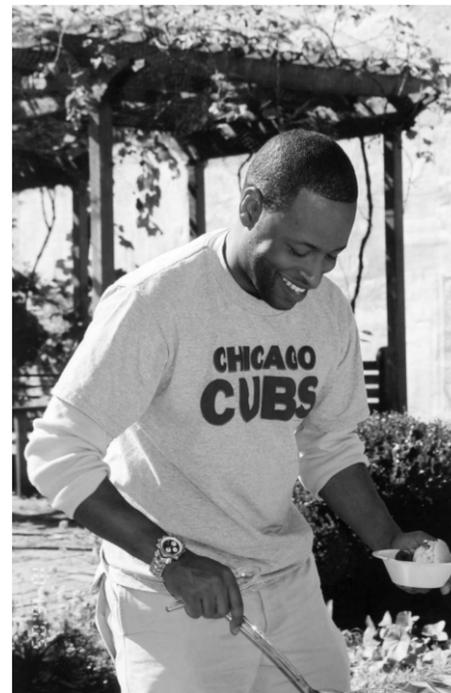
2. Cut down and discard spent perennials in your yard

3. Mulch rose bushes and beds, especially those containing bulbs so the temperature changes this winter don't cause them to "heave" out (mulch will be available all winter at the community garden at Park and Dolman)

Muchas muchas gracias

To Katherine Drinen for planting the mini-park with pansies. Many thanks!

New Lafayette Square community gardener Lloyd Burton "digs in" at the Fall Harvest Gathering.



Linda Weiner photo

ON SALE JUNE 19

Satisfy Your Literary Sweet Tooth

In *Sweetness Preserved*, folklorist **Dr. John Oldani** tells the tale of St. Louis' best-known confectionery, **The Crown Candy Kitchen**. With stories and recipes, from the Chocolate Easter Monkey to the Uncle Sam Sundae, Oldani fills us with longing — if not for an earlier era, then certainly for the finest sweets this side of the Mississippi!

Available in fine St. Louis bookstores June 19. Book Debut Party: 1-3 p.m. Sunday, June 18 at **Crown Candy**, 1401 St. Louis Ave. Meet the family and be the first to get a signed copy of *Sweetness Preserved*.

Tanner B's offers fundraising martini for Fox Park support

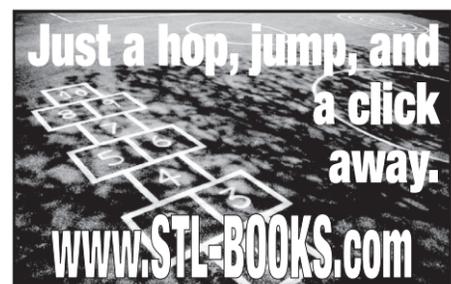
Tanner B's on Shenandoah, the favorite eclectic restaurant in Fox Park, kicked off the FoPa (Fox Park) Martini on Martini Monday, Nov. 14. The cocktail consists of Pearl Pommegrante Vodka, Lemonade, Soda Water, Midori & Blue Curacao, with Pommegrante Pulp. \$1.00 from every FoPa Martini sold at Tanner B's Shenandoah will be donated to the Fox Park Park Fund.

The Fund was set up to raise funds for the facelift project of Fox Park. Progress started in 2000, when the nonprofit De Sales Housing Corporation bought an old grocery building that had become a magnet for trouble. Alderwoman Phyllis Young found city money to buy the lot from the housing corporation and make it a park addition. Residents raised money to commission H3 Studio to do a master plan. Workshops were held through the summer of 2004, shaping a common vision for the park, and H3 presented a sharply contemporary design, tearing down the metal fencing that had cross-hatched

the park and opening the space into a gathering place for the community.

The plan breaks into three sections: for vigorous activity, an upgraded baseball field, basketball courts and a dog park; for casual fun, an adventure playground and spray pool; and for a community gathering place, a more formal seating area where bands can perform and tents can be set up on the lawn.

Fences have been removed and planting has begun, as neighbors raise funds to complete the master plan, making the park a fitting centerpiece for a revitalized neighborhood.



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Local artist works her magic on Shenandoah

By Stacey Rynders
Marquis Contributor

In the last three years, Shenandoah Crossings has attracted a number of diverse upstart entrepreneurial businesses. Among them is an artist, Carol Carter, who adds a storefront of evolving intrigue at the corner of Shenandoah and Compton Avenues. During traditional work hours, Carter sits in view of passerbys and works her magic with watercolor and acrylic, painting to the northern light that fills her studio space.

While traditional exhibition galleries are not at all uncommon in St. Louis, Carter's work-in-progress studio is a bit of an oddity. Works in progress remain hanging for days alongside finished pieces. On any given day, Carter's studio is not particularly well kempt with a workstation mounded with paint, paint supplies, and the multi-colored remnants of working.

After 20 years of moving from one Washington Avenue studio loft to another as buildings were bought and sold, Carter relishes her non-proverbial studio.

"I wanted to be the neighborhood artist," said Carter. "I had this notion that if I could see people, I wouldn't be so lonely

when I work. At first it was hard to have people watching; art is such a private thing, but now I don't think about the fact that people might be watching.

"The motive was one-sided, but I got so much more. I didn't count on people wanting to see me. Very rarely does someone pop in off the street, but I don't mind if people come in."

Carter has been painting for 30 years, 20 of which she dedicated to painting visions of her childhood in Florida. Her perspective evolved as she realized that her nostalgic memories of Florida no longer exist. She now also paints landscapes of Savannah, Georgia, Napa Valley and Italy. However, she also does a lot of figure painting, though these are still influenced by the same vistas that inspire her landscape paintings.

"In much of my work, water, either literal or suggested, provides the setting for anonymous figures," writes Carter in her mission statement.

Yet it is duality that she strives most for in her work. "Clarity and ambiguity, sanctuary and threat, pleasure and pain," writes Carter.

But really, Carter's subject choice is molded by her own reaction to a place, a person, or an idea.

"I try to paint things that are evocative and have some sort of mood, whether pleasant or dark," said Carter.

In recent years, Carter's successes have included expanding to more national as well as international exhibitions. Her work has also been featured on the covers of some art books and as a puzzle. Samples of these are housed on a tall, but narrow bookshelf toward the back of the studio.

"One thing that stands out as a pivotal



Stacey Rynders photos

Carol Carter (above) takes a break from one of her works. Many of those completed works (bottom left) lay strewn about the gallery.



point of departure in my career is when I started representing myself in 1998," Carter said. "It's very motivating and as a result, I did better. It all snowballed at one time."

Yet, Carter rarely uses her studio/gallery space to hold her own showings. In fact, she hasn't done so for a couple years, though she still beams as she thinks back on the moment.

"About 200 to 300 people showed up," said Carter. "It was packed all night long with people from the neighborhood. I could never have imagined."

Yet, despite her neighborhood success, Compton Heights and Fox Park residents will have to wait about another year or so for another extensive showing from Carol Carter. For now, Carter's focus is on concluding a body of work for a showing. Her next will be in Belleville, Ill., this spring.

"I still feel like I'm always trying to create that level of achievement," said Carter. "You're never quite as good as you want to be."

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Local nonprofit kicks off 120th year

By Michelle Kowalski
Marquis Contributor

Getting back to its roots.

That's how SSDN (formerly called Southside Day Nursery) CEO Marlene Levine characterizes the progression of her organization in the last five years amid a flurry of revitalization in its community.

"People understand the benefit of the care that we provide and that the care needs to be educational," Levine said. "You have to start at the beginning to [prevent poverty]."

SSDN was founded in 1886 by 15 Unitarian women committed to the prevention of poverty. The organization allowed poor women to have a safe, educational environment in which to leave their children while they went to work.

The concept was very progressive for its time; not only did the organization offer childcare, but also operated as an employment agency. From the outset, the organization knew that to promote healthy child development, the needs of the family and the community as a whole needed to be addressed at the same time.

"It's important to make a positive difference in children, families and the community," Levine said. "We offer opportunities for support for families, businesses and the community."

SSDN's revitalization was sparked in part by the area's regrowth. With new businesses moving in and companies relocating to the area, in addition to people moving in and using community services, Levine said the organization began

meeting with community leaders to see how it could better serve the community, while continuing its successful nursery programs.

"The community has been very supportive," Levine said. "The residents are very involved in making this a good place to live."

Jaclyn Jones, SSDN development director, echoed Levine's comments saying that the community has recognized the need for jobs in the area and is searching for ways to reinvest in the area. While Jones said that the organization's revitalization is not in direct relation to the area's, she acknowledged that Levine and SSDN have been looking forward to offering more services for some time.

"I think that the climate in the city is tending toward revitalization," Jones said. "The environment and the timing were right."

As a result of those meetings within the community, SSDN now partners with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center to create a micro enterprise resource center. It has also founded an Economic Development Center and business incubator, all the while offering other economic development resources aimed at boosting the area's economic and business growth. In the future, Levine said the organization plans to create a Hub Zone within the resource center that will help train minority businesses to compete for federal contracts.

SSDN's business incubator

Cherokee Place Business Incubator Center operates much like a traditional incubator. Its main difference is that it is focused on neighborhood businesses, especially retail, Levine said. Through the incubator, start-up companies receive assistance with development, operations and planning. Companies are offered retail space at rates dramatically below the market—54¢/sq. ft. Potential business owners need to have a business plan or a good idea, Levine said, and the incubator



Submitted photo

One of SSDN's largest activities and one that has maintained throughout its history is serving as a neighborhood nursery and daycare.

will help with the development. Start-ups can also use the resources of the SBDC's on-site counselor.

The incubator provides hands-on management assistance, access to financing and orchestrated exposure to critical business or technical support services, offers shared office services, access to equipment, flexible leases and expandable space. Staff also counsels business owners on financial management, professional and staff development, and also provides referrals to training organizations. The ultimate goal is for an incubator client to move out on its own within five years.

"It's a way to get started with a small investment," Levine said.

The incubator's first graduate will be Proper Shoe, a company that sells name brand shoes (mainly athletic shoes) at 50 percent off the market rate. Proper Shoe has been an incubator client since September 2003 and recently purchased its own building.

Another up-and-coming company working through the incubator is Quick Movers. The owner, who is a refugee from Nigeria, came here with his seven children and needed to find a way to support his family. Levine said the owner goes out of his way to employ people from the neighborhood.

The Southside Outlet Store, another incubator client, sells name brand clothes at outlet prices. The company is getting close to making a profit and is expected to start selling stock soon, Levine said.

The incubator, which opened in September 2002, has helped create 42 jobs within its walls and more than 200 jobs outside its walls, Levine said.

Also through SSDN's Economic Development Center, the organization offers Individual Development Accounts, which is a matched savings account program that helps families with limited incomes save money to repair or buy a home, pay for job training or education, start or enhance a

Continued to page 13

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PEEK INTO THE PAST: WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by Cara Jensen

What a better way to learn the history of a city than through the names of her streets? Take a walk, enjoy the fall colors, and absorb a piece of the St. Louis experience. Here are just a few local tidbits to start your on your way.....

Lafayette Avenue: So named in the original 1836 platting of the St. Louis Commons because it formed the southern boundary of Lafayette Park. It honors the Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834), the French general and statesman who aided George Washington in the American Revolutionary War.

Rutger Street: Named for Arend Rutgers, an early landowner in St. Louis. His widowed daughter-in-law Pelagie was considered one of the wealthiest people in 1840's St. Louis.

Geyer Avenue: Commemorates Henry Sheffie Geyer, a prominent St. Louis attorney, who defeated Thomas Hart Benton for the United States Senate in 1851. Arriving in St. Louis in 1815, he became a strong pro slavery Whig. He gained a national reputation when he argued against the cause of Dred Scott before the Supreme Court in 1854. Geyer also fought a duel with merchant George Kennerly in 1816, Kennerly was wounded.

Pestalozzi Street: Named to honor Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi (1746-1827),

a Swiss educational reformer whose theory and methods laid the foundations for modern elementary education.

Menard Street: Honors Pierre Menard (1766-1844), a pioneer settler of Kaskaskia and first lieutenant governor of Illinois. Menard made his fortune through friendly dealings with the Native American tribes.

Eighteenth Street: Originally named Tayon Avenue in the mid-1830s, after Joseph Taillon, an original French settler who in 1765 built a dam to power the city's first flour mill at the east end of Mill Creek Valley.

Please read more about these and other St. Louis street names in *The Streets of St. Louis* by William and Marcella Magnan (available from Virginia Publishing at www.STL-BOOKS.com), and *St. Louis Street Index* by Dr. Glen Holt and Thomas A. Pearson.

Cara Jensen is the founder of Sherlock Homes, a historical research company, and is also an independent public relations and marketing consultant. She is the past president of the Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association, is on the board of the 8th Ward Independent Democratic Association, and serves on the Grand South Grand House Tour committee. Contact Cara Jensen at 773-2881 or carajensen@sherlock-homes.us for information about your historic property.

Holiday opportunities abound at Lafayette Park United Methodist

By Debra Crowe
Lafayette Park UMC

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Lafayette Park United Methodist Church. The season was officially kicked off on Sunday, Nov. 20, with the annual Hanging of the Greens. And now that the decorating is done, it's time to get on with the celebration of the season. Please join us as we gather for fellowship and join together to help those who are in need.

On Dec. 10, the WCDANS will host the annual Breakfast with Santa. Kids of all ages—as well as those who feel like kids again at Christmastime—are invited to Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the church for breakfast, games and other activities and the chance to share your secret wishes with Santa. Remember to bring your camera! Breakfast starts at 9:00 a.m. Santa will arrive shortly thereafter.

On Sunday, Dec. 11, LPUMC will serve as a "warming station" for those attending the annual Lafayette Square Holiday Homes Tour. Stop by the church between the hours of 11:00 am and 7:00 pm for a hot drink and a warm welcome in from the cold.

On Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10 and 11, the church will host its second annual Nativity Display. If you had the chance to visit last year, you'll want to come back for another look at the many wonderful Nativity sets on display in the gymnasium at the back of the church. Ranging from the simple to the elaborate; from the cute to the ornate; from the traditional to the unexpected, you're sure to enjoy the variety of sets on display. If you didn't make it last year, come see what you missed! The display will be open from noon to 7:00 p.m. both days. There is no charge for admission.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 18

and plan to attend the annual Children's Christmas Pageant. During the 10:00 am worship service, the children of the church, along with their teachers, will stage a live telling of the Christmas Story. It's always sweet and touching—and very often has a few lively and humorous moments, as well.

Christmas Eve at Lafayette Park UMC offers a variety of options for worship and celebration. Come early and bring the children for a family service at 4:00 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of the season at the 10:30 p.m. Christmas concert, then stay for a candle-light worship service at 11:00. Christmas day, please join us for morning worship at 10:00 a.m.

If you'd like to celebrate this season of giving by sharing your blessings with others, consider participating in the Adopt-a-Family-for-Christmas Program. Again this year, LPUMC will partner with Epworth Children's Home and Kingdom House social services agency to brighten the holiday for children and families in need. Kingdom House provides information about members of families (number of people in family; age and gender, clothing sizes, etc.) and lists specific needs. These needs range from basic household items like blankets and towels to boots and coats to toys for the children. Epworth provides the same type of information for kids in residence there. If you'd like to participate in the program this year, please contact Brenda at 314-882-6766 for information about Kingdom House families and Ruth at 314-892-8862 to learn about Epworth children's needs/wishes. Give yourself the gift of knowing you helped make Christmas bright for someone less fortunate.

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church is located at 2300 Lafayette Avenue, one block east of Jefferson. You may reach us by phone at 314-771-9214 or by email at lpsecretary@sbcglobal.net. YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

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Walkers in "Shaw's Garden" – as old-timers call MoBot – share different options and some restrictions. Good news for walkers: *the admission charge is waived on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to noon for persons with a St.*

Louis City or County I.D. Early morning is best for walking – before the arrival of tourist busses, school children on field trips, and wedding parties with photographers. Occasionally summer evening hours are available also. Walking through the Garden, rather than seeing it as a series of snapshots, is to marvel at the artistry of landscape design. One vista gives way to another - Rose Garden to English Woodland to Boxwood Maze to Japanese Garden to the new Carver Garden to... - each a self-contained environment, enfolded within 79 acres of former prairie.

Walking in winter has its own charms. There are fewer people (but of course we need those hordes to contribute to our local economy and go home to tell their friends how surprisingly beautiful St. Louis is). The sidewalks are always clear (many of our City neighbors neglect theirs). Without foliage, the dramatic architecture of trees becomes visible, like the blueprint of your old house before colors and personal comforts are added for enhancement. Everything out-of-doors is reduced to the common denominator of a dull, damp, chilly Missouri winter – which makes the renewal of Spring, with the Garden's extensive diversity of flowering plants, especially miraculous.

Winter is the best time to visit The

Climatron, when you can walk from a bitter snowstorm into a steaming jungle! You may feel shrunk in size to be walking under huge fronds beneath a glass dome, like an insect in a terrarium. A visit to the "Mediterranean House" – the old-timers name for the Temperate House – is a return to a familiar scale, where dry warmth prevails and the dusty yellow blooms of the Acacia tree, usually in time for our New Year, signify that somewhere there is Spring, *right now*. A rest stop in the Moorish Garden is a reminder of the amenities of Arabic civilization.

Henry Shaw's Tower Grove House is open this winter (\$ 3 admission, 10 a.m.). The Victorian artifacts have been restored to what Shaw lived with when it was his country home. New displays describe St. Louis as Shaw knew it and the people who enabled his vision to become reality: the slaves, immigrants, groundskeepers, gardeners, and scientists of a busy and progressive 19th-century city. All walks of life had something to contribute to a legacy which all walks of life can enjoy.

Melanie Harvey is an urban enthusiast, avid walker, and independent tour guide. She can be reached at www.DaytripperMO.com or 314-367-3098

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LSRC October Membership Meeting Minutes

LSRC MEMBERSHIP MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2005

President Jim Willmore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The September minutes were read and approved with one correction. New residents were asked to introduce themselves, and one couple did so.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Safety – Lt. Ron Oldani reported that September was a relatively quiet month. A composite drawing of an armed robbery suspect was distributed; residents were advised to call 911 if they saw him. The email that has been circulating about a carjacking scheme is a hoax and has been going around nationwide. Residents were reminded to always be conscious of their surroundings when entering and leaving their vehicles. Unity Night will be held from 7-8:30 on Thursday, October 13 at North Patrol Station at 4014 N. Union.

Finance – Jean Steck asked for budget requests.

Development – Jane Blackwell, the incoming VP of Development, informed residents that changes will be made to the Development Committee. Two individuals who do not yet own property made presentations at last month's meeting of the Development Committee and were advised that they need to actually own the property before seeking approval of the committee. The committee is looking for someone to fill the position vacated by Houston Smith.

Park Conservancy – Tim Gore reported that the Gala was a huge success. One hundred forty people attended and raised approximately \$5700 (after all bills are paid). This money will enable the conservancy to move forward with some

projects. Many thanks go to Greg Plattner for his efforts in lighting the park for the event. The exterior renovation of the Park House is complete and final approval has been received for the landscaping plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

President's Awards – Matt Brazelton, David Diehl, Kerry Brooks, Steven Davis, Greg Plattner, Lewis Reed and Wardwell Buckner were all honored with President's Awards at the dinner last month. Peter and Karen Snyder received the Elizabeth Cook Newcomer's Award. Tonight John Herlihy was honored with the Community Service Award and Mary Ann Goodson received a President's Award.

Praxair – Copies of the letter Praxair had mailed to all residents were available at the meeting. Jim Willmore commended the mayor for his position on Praxair. Jim announced that April Breeden will be chairing a Praxair Task Force to bring together the energies and concerns of the neighborhood in general to generate an official response to be directed toward the appropriate officials. Several residents expressed interest in being a part of the Task Force. The Task Force will report directly to the membership and will use the e-group as one means of communication.

Holiday Tour – The Holiday Tour will be held on December 11 from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. (an extra two hours over last year). Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$18 on the day of the tour. Eleven homes, primarily situated on the west side of the park, will be represented. John Herlihy reported that committee chairs are in place, venues have been arranged, the budget has been revised, the sponsorship campaign is underway, volunteers are

needed and the proceeds will go toward finishing the interior renovations of the Park House and beginning the work on the Boat House. The pre-event is expected to bring in \$7500.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Business -- Delaney Mann-Johnson announced that she has a new business, Mobile Medicine, Inc., in which she will basically be doing house calls, with a focus on the elderly.

18th & Chouteau -- Michael Lance stated that the plan for 18th and Chouteau is consistent with that laid out in the Urban Plan.

Salama Market – Pete Snyder strongly urged the LSRC to put Salama Market on its radar screen. Pete reported that the market has applied for a license to sell beer and said that this market is not what residents want in or near this neighborhood in terms of a grocery store. No hearing has been set regarding the liquor license. The city is seeking a strong voice of opinion from the neighborhood on this issue. Chris Goodson has spoken directly to the commissioner of the Excise Board.

Traffic Law Enforcement – Dane Drefke said that while he is pleased to see enforcement of the speed limit and stop signs in the evening, he would like to see patrols in the morning as well. Sue Pinker-Dodd reported that she has already spoken to the Traffic Division about these and other relevant traffic issues.

Holiday Wreaths – Walter Moody announced that the Boy Scouts are selling wreaths and roping. Contact him if you are interested.

LPUMC Issues – Kathleen Wilder announced that the pumpkins are arriving on Friday and volunteers are needed to

help with the pumpkin patch, which will be open from Saturday until Halloween. LPUMC will adopt families for Christmas again this year. Jim Willmore expressed interest in continuing to meet in the sanctuary.

St. Louis Tea Guild – Bethany Spaulding announced that the St. Louis Tea Guild will be meeting at her house at 1:00 p.m. on October 30.

Praxair Motions – Jane Blackwell made a motion that the Lafayette Square Restoration Committee go on record as opposing the issuance by the City of St. Louis of any building, occupancy or other permit that would enable Praxair to resume or continue operations at the site on Chouteau Avenue. The motion passed; one member voted in opposition to the motion. Walter Moody made a second motion that the LSRC is opposed to Praxair reopening in any residential area in the city. This motion carried with five members voting in opposition to the motion.

Elections: The motion to approve the following slate of candidates carried unanimously: President – Houston Smith, VP Elect – Dane Drefke, Membership Secretary – David Diehl, Board Secretary – Sandy Herde, Treasurer Elect – Susan Sauer, Directors – Julie Drefke, Linda Weiner and Chris Westmeyer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mark Ferris thanked Jim Willmore for an excellent job as president.

The meeting was adjourned by Houston Smith at 7:50 p.m. The social was hosted by Jamie and Cheryl Andrews.

Submitted by Michelle Yin, Membership Secretary

LSRC November Membership Meeting Minutes

The following minutes have not yet been approved, but are being provided to facilitate better communication between the LSRC and community residents.

LSRC MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOVEMBER 8, 2005

President Houston Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. The October minutes were read and approved. New residents were asked to introduce themselves, there were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Property-18th and Chouteau: Chris Goodson gave a report on the TIF tax and the property located at 18th & Chouteau. Chris stated the TIF money is running

approximately a year behind schedule. Chris proposed 3 options for the membership to take a straw vote to see how the membership felt about the property.

Option A : Deed the property to the TIF for the amount of \$1.00.

Option B : Deed the property to the TIF and with a clause to revert the property back to the LSRC at the end of the TIF tax which is approx. 20 years.

Option C : Outright sell the piece of property for a specific price.

The membership took a straw vote and Option B was chosen with 22 votes. Option A has 14 votes and Option C had 1 vote.

Paul Doerner gave a presentation on the La Salle Plaza area talking about the

parking, the entrance to the area, and other issues concerning the plaza.

Safety - Sue Pinker-Dodd advised there will be a Block Captain meeting in the Park house Wed. Nov. 16th at 7pm.

The sixth ward has a new NSO - Jimmie Miller 613-7149 and Carolyn Halyburton is the NSO for the seventh ward 613-7148.

Officer Simonds advised there are car clubs available for \$10.00 each and license plate covers available for \$4.00 each. Contact Officer Simonds at 444-2564.

Officer Simonds also advised there were 2 auto thefts, and 4 larcenies last month in the neighborhood.

Finance - No report.

Development - Jane Blackwell advised there will be changes in the Development policies and for people to come to the committee to talk about what you what to have done at least 2 weeks before to get on the committee's agenda.

Also, Jane talked about the problems the committee is having enforcing the code and the process of appealing a denial from the committee.

The Development committee recommends a zoning change for property at Jefferson & Rutger see old business.

Park Conservancy - No report.

Community Affairs - An oversight committee to review the Marquis and its future next Tuesday at the park house.

OLD BUSINESS:

Praxair - April Breeden advised the task force for the neighborhood concerning Praxair is going extremely well. There is a website now :www.praxairwatch.com for everyone to review. There now are display signs for your windows and yards. Everyone was encouraged to attend the City's Hearing on Praxair Building Permit Denial

Appeal Thursday, Nov. 10th 1pm, City Hall Room. 208.

Holiday Tour - John Herlihy and Mary Ann Goodson gave reports on the progress of the up-coming Holiday Tour. Mary Ann announced the sponsorship campaign is going extremely

well. John Herlihy announced the arrangements for the pre-tour and tour are on track and ready for the house tour.

Boy Scout Project - Walter Moody no report.

Zoning Change - Stacy Smith and Roy Fanning gave a report on the project they are working on at the Davis Trailer site at Jefferson and Rutger. The property is currently zoned multi family and after a meeting with the development committee will apply for a type F commercial zone permit. If the property is sold, the permit reverts back to a multi family zone.

The project will have 17 office spaces for rent, 12 parking spaces on their lot for parking and 5/6 spaces street parking on Jefferson and some on Rutger.

Jane Blackwell advised the couple did discuss the project with the development committee and advised the F-zoning is probably the best zoning for how they want to use the building.

Motion made by Dane Drefke and seconded to accept the request for zoning change. Motion accepted.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Dr. Crystal Peairs announced she will be opening a chiropractic office at the M-Lofts building.

Social held at Steve & Rita Kelly home.

Submitted by Dave Diehl, Membership Secretary

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Time to read.....

SSDN

Continued from page 8

business or purchase a car. A participant saves \$10 to \$50 a month, and the savings are matched one to one by the United Way or two to one by Assets For Independence based on income and household size.

The Child Adult Care Food Program, also available through the Economic Development Center, improves the meals and snacks served to children enrolled in childcare settings. The Home Daycare Business Program assists home daycare businesses in becoming licensed or moving from licensed to accredited status. Members of the Lending Library network have the opportunity to borrow childcare equipment, supplies and screening materials.

Celebrating 120 years

Although SSDN has taken quite a lot under its wing in the last few years, it's not done yet. Future projects include the Center for Comprehensive Pediatric Care. The Center will offer health, dental, mental health and social services thanks to a group of providers who represent those disciplines. The project was endorsed by the Sustainable Neighborhood Leadership Team (SNLT), which is composed of residents from the Benton Park West, Fox Park, Gravois Park and McKinley Heights neighborhoods. SNLT will assist in forming an advisory group.

Levine said the group hopes to have the center operational by the end of 2006. They have a location chosen should they decide to build a new facility, but are also looking at alternative, existing sites, Levine said.

As the organization enters its 120th year of operation, there are a number of events scheduled to celebrate its successes and continued growth. The official kickoff for the special events is March 15, 2006,



Submitted photo

when SSDN will hold its annual meeting to which all members of the organization are invited. Throughout 2006, SSDN plans to have alumni events for people the organization has helped; alumni will be able to revisit and share their experiences.

The organization will also be collecting oral histories. Jones said a number of people have been involved with SSDN for decades and have seen the area and the organization change.

"We're trying to look into a lot of different histories of how we affected the community," Jones said.

While SSDN continues to offer new services, Levine said that overall she hopes it continues to promote community well-being.

"My vision is that we will continue to be a community anchor that is responsive to the needs of the community, that we will work with people to come up with solutions and provide opportunities," she said.

For more information about SSDN, visit their website at www.ssdn.org.

LSRC November Board Minutes

The following minutes have not yet been approved, but are being provided to facilitate better communication between the board and community residents.

LSRC Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2005

Members present: Houston Smith, Jane Blackwell, Susan Sauer, Pete Snyder, Jean Steck, Sandra Herde, Chris Westmeyer, Nick Colosi, Julie Drefke, Dane Drefke, Paul Doerner, Erin Budde; **Absent:** Matthias Washcheck, Dave Diehl, Linda Weiner

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Minutes from October reviewed and accepted.

Presentations

Virginia Publishing proposal for the Marquis for 2006: Jeff Fister & Eric Winters

- LSRC remains the owner of the Marquis
- The core and focus of the Marquis will continue to be the Lafayette Square community
- Virginia Publishing will pay the LSRC 10% of gross revenues exceeding \$30,000

Introduction

Legal Counsel: Mark Etling & Stephanie Karr

Mark Etling introduce Stephanie Karr for consideration for as LSRC legal council

- Stephanie Karr provided overview of her and her firms experience in Municipal Law

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Jean Steck
Review of 2006 Budget – one change to remove Park House landscaping from budget

- Motion – To accept budget as corrected.

–Nick Colosi; Motion Passed

Welcome Committee: Julie Drefke
Welcoming continues and supplies are running low for welcome package

Development Committee: Jane Black-

well

- The Development Committee continues their work on strengthening the historic code
- Recommends that presentations to the Development Committee be scheduled at least one week prior
- Development plans need to be provide prior to meeting to allow time for review
- Development plans need to be provided to scale vice artistic or PowerPoint presentations

Community Task Force: Chris Westmeyer

- www.praxairwatch.com provides up to date information on the Praxair hearing
- Notification of the November 10th hearing should be received this week

Community Affairs: Erin Budde
Erin will provide in-depth review of Marquis at December membership meeting

- Motion – To authorize Houston Smith, LSRC President, to approach Virginia Publishing to obtain a mutually agreed upon extension of current Marquis contract. – Jane Blackwell; Motion Passed

Old Business:

Boy Scout Project: Payment to be made upon delivery of inventory from Walter Moody

Salama Market: Susan Sauer
Susan Sauer & Susan Pinker-Dodd visited and documented all Salama Markets

Urban Plan Chouteau/18th Parking

Lot: Houston Smith

- Legal council to provide proposal for transfer of property
- Results to be brought before the membership

New Business: None

Meeting adjournment at 8:30 p.m

Submitted by Sandra Herde, Board Secretary

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The former Eden Publishing building at Truman and Chouteau is currently being renovated into 40 condominiums, starting in the mid-\$100s. Including both modern loft configurations, as well as more traditional condominium layouts — all with amazing views of the Arch and the City.



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City Living at its Best!



Learn the secret to 'spicing' up your holidays

By Dr. Crystal L. Peirs
Lafayette Square

When thinking of the holiday season, I am reminded of the many wonderful scents that fill my home during this time of year. The good news is, cooking with various spices not only offers pleasurable tastes and smells, it also provides many unrecognized health benefits for you and your family.

NUTMEG*

Nutmeg has a sweet, but slightly bitter flavor, with a distinct warm taste. Nutmeg is used in both Western and Chinese herbal medicine, and has been known to benefit the human body in a variety of ways. It is best known for its ability to combat severe pain such as rheumatism.

Nutmeg also supports the nervous system and helps:

- Improve circulation
- Calm muscle spasms
- Ease flatulence
- Diminish indigestion

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Combat nausea
Fight bacterial infections
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Combat frigidity and impotence
Minimize neuralgia and nervous fatigue
Ease toothaches (nutmeg oil)

For years, gardeners have used nutmeg as a prophylactic measure against the occupational hazard of backache. Folklore states that, as late as 1966, a Hampshire coalman who suffered from lower back pain was told to carry nutmeg, and when he did so, swore he never suffered from it again.

*Nutmeg's flavor and aromatic fragrance come from oil of myristica, containing myristicin, which is actually a poisonous narcotic. Myristicin can cause hallucinations, vomiting, and epileptic symptoms. In large dosages, it can even cause death. These effects will not be induced, however, even with generous culinary usage.

VANILLA

Much more than just another ingredient in baked goods, vanilla is a magical flavoring that can do wonders for most foods and beverages. Since early times, the indigenous people who cultivated vanilla have also used it as medicine. This trend has carried into recent history when Coca-Cola syrup has been used to ease nausea. The reason this works? Coca-Cola contains a large amount of vanilla.

Vanilla is also an aromatic stimulant, with the ability to positively impact the nervous system. This fact explains the popularity of vanilla as a scent in candles and aromatic oils.

Vanilla can be used to:

- Calm the mind and body
- Sedate the stomach
- Ease stomach ulcers

Treat asthma
Reduce congestion

CINNAMON

One of the oldest recorded herbal medicines; cinnamon has been clinically proven to have antibacterial and anti-fungal properties. Popular since ancient times, its sweet, woody fragrance helps stimulate the senses, yet calms the nerves. The mere smell of cinnamon has been reputed to attract customers to places of business.

Recent studies have indicated that cinnamon helps people with diabetes metabolize sugar more efficiently. The journal, *Diabetes Care*, states that just half a teaspoon of cinnamon a day significantly reduces blood sugar levels in Type 2 Diabetics. The journal also reports that cinnamon offers additional benefits, such as lowering blood levels of fats and "bad" cholesterol and neutralizing free radicals in test subjects.

Other medicinal uses for cinnamon include:

- Fighting tooth decay
- Soothing upset stomachs
- Treating urinary tract infections
- Relieving pain and stiffness in muscles and joints
- Lessening infantile diarrhea
- Increasing peripheral blood flow

GINGER

Its hot, its sweet...ginger is the spice lover's spice. Its flavor is peppery, with a pungent and spicy aroma. Most of us are familiar with ginger's ability to calm an upset stomach, as our mothers and grandmothers often kept ginger ale around the house solely for this purpose.

Preliminary studies suggest that ginger may lower cholesterol and prevent the

blood from clotting. Each of these effects can protect blood vessels from blockage and the damaging effects of blockage such as atherosclerosis, which can lead to a heart attack or stroke.

Ginger is also useful in:

- Reducing motion sickness
- Relieving pregnancy related nausea and vomiting (i.e. "morning sickness")
- Decreasing inflammation
- Regulating menstrual cycles
- Easing menstrual cramps
- Treating first and second degree burns
- Reducing fever
- Relieving ulcers
- Relieving constipation
- Easing gas or flatulence

Keep in mind that, in the United States, over 65 million pounds of spices, herbs and dry ingredients are irradiated each year. This process may alter their nutrient value thereby reducing or eliminating many of the benefits mentioned previously. Fortunately, these spices have to be labeled with the international "radura" symbol, so be sure to look for spices that have not been irradiated—organic varieties are the best.

There are many benefits to adding spices to your diet, but they should not be treated as a "cure" for any specific health ailment. Rather they should be incorporated as an essential part of a healthy diet and lifestyle. I hope that this column has provided you with some fun and useful information. In future months I will address other issues relating to nutrition, health and wellness. I wish each of you, as my neighbors, a healthy and happy holiday season!

Dr. Crystal L. Peirs recently opened Lafayette Square Chiropractic Centre in the "M Lofts" (Suite 103). For more information, call (314) 762-0669 or visit www.LafayetteSquareChiropractic.com.

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Lafayette Square Restoration Committee 2005 Membership Form

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name(s)
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MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

- _____ General (\$10 per person)
- _____ Renovationist (\$35 per person)
- _____ Restorationist (\$60 per person)
- _____ Preservationist (\$150 – Individual or Family)
- _____ Marquis Circle (\$250 – Individual or Family)
- _____ Friends of LSRC (Non-resident – \$10 per person)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- _____ I am interested in volunteer opportunities (e.g. House Tour, Bike Race).
- _____ This donation is eligible for a corporate matching gift. (*Please submit a matching gift form from your company.)
- _____ I am a new resident and would like to receive a Welcome Packet.

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LAFAYETTE SQUARE – BEAUTIFUL duplex - 2 BR, 1.5 bath in historic brownstone near SqWires. Marble kitchen countertops & all appliances. W/D in unit, skylights, hardwood floors, deck & yard. \$950/mo. Call **780-0097**.

Residential For Sale

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YARN DONATIONS - Cathedral Parish group needs washable yarn to knit prayer shawls. Call Eileen at Cathedral, 373-8204, to drop off donations.

MARQUIS NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS! Please send us your announcements; let your neighbors know what you're up to when you're too busy to say "hi!" Email Eric at info@westendword.com or call 314-367-6612 x25 or 27.

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 Judith E. DuChateau
 Maureen Dwyer
 Mary Kay Jung
 Tom Modglin
 William D. Odman Jr.

S. Bridgid Simpson
 Ed Steck
 Jean Steck
 Tricia Woo

PRESERVATIONIST

Gail, Max & Daisy Cassilly
 Sherman & Jane Crites
 Glenn & Pat Eckert
 Mark & Terry Etling
 Mark Ferris, Diana Gray,
 Katie & Wyndham
 Dave & Carol Fisher
 Sue Gibboney & Sandy Herde
 Chris & Mary Ann Goodson
 Kati Guerra & Felicia Foland
 Charles & Patricia Hoffman
 Wayne & Cheri Jones
 Marilyn & William Kincaid
 Tony Malench & Steve Wilson
 The Ploch Family
 Jon Ritter & Hannah Krigman
 Martin & Darlene Schwartz
 Joseph Seria & Dian Davitt
 Suzanne Sessions
 Ed Smith & Sarah Duffy
 Otis & Gwen Williams
 Greg & Michelle Yin

MARQUIS CIRCLE

Jamie & Cheryl Andrews
 Tom & Merry Dahms
 Paul Doerner
 Steve & Rita Kelley
 Jim & Sarah Kimmey
 Charles MacKay
 Cam McCluskey
 Anne Perkins & Mary Sale
 Jim & Carolyn Willmore

FRIENDS OF LSRC

Richard A. Murray
 Janice Rea
 Rick Rea
 Merrell A. Wiegalle

LAFAYETTE SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ~BLOCK CAPTAIN LIST~

BLOCK	RESIDENT	PHONE
2300 Albion Place	unrepresented	
2-38 Benton Place	John Bishop	771-1272
16-1700 Carroll	Kim Peterson	421-6272
18-2300 Chouteau Ave	unrepresented	
10-1300 Dolman	Gail Tate	588-8001
14-1600 Dolman	Cynthia McCafferty	436-0434
18-1900 Hickory	Ron Fagerstrom	421-3696
20-2100 Hickory	Denise and Russell Dow	436-7646
2200 Hickory	unrepresented	
2300 Hickory	*new Terry Winter	771-4438
1800 Kennett Place	*new Danita Davis	771-4929
16-1700 Lafayette	Diedre & Mike Gray	814-0654
18-1900 Lafayette	Alan Loehr	664-6554
2000 Lafayette	unrepresented	
21-2200 Lafayette	Dan Friehs	664-8186
2300 Lafayette	Mike Callaghan	772-7234
18-1900 Lasalle	Terry and Mark Etling	621-1437
11-1300 Mackay Place	Jeanette Wallace	772-7727
10-1100 Mississippi	unrepresented	
12-1300 Mississippi	Susan Pinker-Dodd	231-5367
14-1600 Mississippi	Paul Sauer	865-2566
1700 Mississippi	*new Monica Billingsley	772-8648
11-1300 Missouri	Julie Stone	865-5505
1400 Missouri	Pat Hoffman	771-4381
15-1600 Missouri	Tom Dahms	773-6436
1700 Missouri	Mike Callaghan	772-7234
1700 Nicholson Place	Alicia Von Stamwitz	772-9710
20-2100 Park Ave	Carolyn McAvoy	231-4937
2200 Park Ave	Wally Steinman	772-8104
2300 Park Ave	*new Don Owens	664-1264
1700 Preston Place	John Behl	771-8337
18-1900 Rutger Street	Sharon Hoffman	231-7202
2000 Rutger Street	Ron Taylor	421-1671
22-2300 Rutger Street	William Garcia	776-3778
11-1300 South 18 th	Walter Moody	421-3137
1400 South 18th	Tim Reedy	241-1484
1600 South 18th	Mary "One" Johnson	772-2499
1700 Simpson Place	Trace Shaughnessy	865-0539
1500 Vail Place	Lynne Keay	772-2790
1700 Waverly Place	Jay Divine	664-2984
2300 Whittemore Place	Dave Diehl	664-4840
Park Ave. Business District	unrepresented	

Block captains compile and update a "phone tree" for residents on their block (residents can help out and let your block captain know if you have recently moved in) and communicate with them and the police on safety issues which may occur in their areas. Block Captains are also available for their neighbors to contact if they are victims of crime to obtain info regarding crime prevention and resources to assist in solving neighborhood problems. (Of course, residents always need to call 911 and report all crimes also.) BC's communicate problems in their areas to the LSRC Safety Committee and to the Fourth District Police Dept., so that everyone becomes aware of safety issues and can jointly work to solve them. 10/12/05

McAVOY REALTY

(314) 531-1900



2806 McNAIR \$389,900
Complete rehab, 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath, 2800 sq. ft. of elegance. 2 master suites, 3rd-floor master includes laundry and deck. All appliances included (stainless). Granite countertops, 2-car garage.



3828 POINTE FOREST DR. \$369,900
Spectacular 4 BR, 4 bath two-story North County home with limestone fireplace. Spacious kitchen opening onto large deck. Three-car garage, finished lower level with atrium windows overlooking wooded lot in gated subdivision.



1922 SIDNEY \$369,000
Benton Park restoration. Over 3,000 square feet. Meticulous work. Huge custom kitchen with cherry cabinets. Hardwood floors. 3 bedroom/bathroom suites, 2 fireplaces. Wonderful 2-story rear porch. Victorian side porches and grand new mansard roof and cornice.



2109 LYNCH \$350,000
Dramatic Victorian replica in Benton Park historic district. Breathtaking spaces. State-of-the-art kitchen. Thermal windows. Brick construction. Exciting artist-designed interior. Completed soon, some interior choices still available to buyer.



2808 McNAIR \$349,900
Rehabbed 2250 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths; master suite with Jacuzzi. Gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and concrete countertops. Two-car secure garage, all-new mechanical systems and roof.



7 LADUE HILLS DR. \$345,000
Fantastic home on well-established cul-de-sac. Three bedroom, 2 bath house. Dining room floors freshly refinished. New dishwasher & new electric range/stove in 2003. New double-pane thermal windows. Call Karen Weiss 276-0476.



McAVOY REALTY

2118 Lafayette \$610,000

Beautiful painted lady in Lafayette Square. You will be amazed by all of the historic charm mixed with contemporary style. Custom kitchen, huge screened porch, hardwood floors, a must see!

CAROLYN MCAVOY (314) 531-1900 • (314) 757-1007



5133 IVONDALE LN. \$299,900
This South County home is situated on 2 lots comprising 1.6 acres total. Great established neighborhood. This spacious home features more than 1800 square feet, has a 2-car attached garage, large screened-in patio, covered breezeway.



4036 OSAGE RIDGE \$279,900
Spectacular atrium ranch with scenic overviews, two-level cedar deck on 6.5 acres. Master bedroom suite w/ walk-in closet and Whirlpool, five bedrooms, three baths, pleasantly landscaped, finished lower level and oversized two-car garage.



2029 RUTGER \$274,900
Gorgeously rehabbed two-family home in historic Lafayette Square. Ideal for an owner-occupant with a bottom unit available for rent, with 2nd and 3rd floor available for owners. Within walking distance from park on a quiet street.



2025 RUTGER \$269,900
Historic Victorian rowhouse pleasantly placed on cul-de-sac with very little traffic. Marked by predominately wood floors, three fireplaces featuring marble mantles. Antique light fixtures complete the first floor. Master bath includes separate shower and tub.



4149 CASTLEMAN \$267,500
Classic 2.5-story home in popular Shaw neighborhood. Unbelievable 100 x 114 lot, fully fenced w/ electric gate opening to drive & oversized 2-car garage. Open floor plan w/ beautiful natural wood staircase, original woodwork & exposed brick. Two patios for entertaining outdoors.



3220 INDIANA \$258,900
Outstanding brick manse in Benton Park historic district, 1/2 block from park. Completely rehabbed with new kitchen, zoned heating & cooling, stunning staircase, new wood floors, spacious rooms and off-street parking.



2120 PORTIS \$249,900
Rehabbed Shaw Gardens-area brick 2-family w/ new kitchens & baths, new furnaces & central air, thermal windows, refinished hardwood floors, new lighting fixtures, off-street parking, spacious rooms & enclosed porch.



4100 OLEATHA \$249,900
Commercial building at a great location at the corner of Oak Hill & Oleatha. Formerly occupied by the House of the Living Bread Church & Food Pantry. Two levels, central air conditioning, pastor's office, large parking lot set on a knoll above the street.



2115 WITHNELL \$249,900
Wow, this house has it all! Living room, dining room and parlor all on the first floor. Stainless steel and granite kitchen. The master bedroom suite includes a deluxe bath with 3 shower heads.



1909 CALIFORNIA \$239,900
Gorgeous gut rehab of this 2-story row home in desirable Fox Park. Meticulously maintained with beautifully updated kitchen. Nice entry with period staircase. Gorgeous brick and stone courtyard and oversized 2-car garage.



2322 LOUISIANA \$239,000
Amazing total rehab town home in Tower Grove East. Bamboo floors, ceramic tile, elegant woodwork, and exposed brick throughout! Spacious kitchen with 42" maple cabinets, center island. Beautiful master suite with additional sitting room, new systems! Two-car garage.



527 ANGENETTE AVE. \$229,000
Artist cottage on a huge corner lot. Quiet street near the heart of Kirkwood. Open floor plan, large master bedroom, wonderful back porch and patio overlooking a large fenced backyard.



2021 WITHNELL \$199,900
Totally rehabbed home featuring many updates. The kitchen is fun, bright and unique. The master bedroom features a sunny bathroom enclosed with glass brick. Lots of windows; lots of charm.



1304 MISSISSIPPI \$199,000
Beautiful Pottery Barn inspired townhome in Lafayette Square. Two bright bedrooms with lots of closet space, plus a full finished basement with large room for office or den and laundry.



3407 CHEROKEE \$169,900
Exquisite, modern Benton Park West home. Completely renovated fee-simple townhome with all new systems including electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling. New roof, all new wood windows and doors, new appliances. Tax abatement pending.



1926 PRESIDENT \$147,900
Charming Benton Park Victorian, nicely landscaped with new light maple kitchen and two baths, freshly painted interior with new flooring throughout, partially finished basement plus secret loft on second floor.

CONDOS/CLUSTER HOMES



J. P. WHITE



4250 LINDELL \$229,900
Gorgeous CWE condominium. Neutral décor, lots of natural light, crown molding, oversized fireplace, private balcony. Gated, secured parking with one garage space. Two bedrooms, two full baths, private laundry facilities in-unit.



5539 WATERMAN, #3N \$189,900
Unusually large! Wonderful Blenheim Court condo with natural millwork, beamed ceilings, bay window, gas fireplace, oak floors, newly remodeled kitchen with ceramic tile floors, big rooms filled with light. Secured assigned parking.



5817 NINA PLACE \$184,900
Welcome to one of the most spacious of all the Nina Place condos. This highly desirable 3rd-floor end unit provides tons of natural sunlight. Gated, secured parking. Bonus sunroom/office area.



1203 MISSOURI \$149,900
Victorian townhouse in Lafayette Square Historic District. Hardwood floors/woodburning fireplace. New Maple kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Two bedrooms plus attic potential. Includes small fenced patio courtyard.

www.McAvoyRealty.com