



NEIGHBORS NEWS

DECATUR CITY COMMISSION MEETING: MARCH 15

For many years Decatur has fought any major thoroughfare through Decatur. Opposition has been stated officially by the Decatur City Commission (by unanimous vote) and by every neighborhood association in the city. At present, a citizens Task Force appointed by the City Commission is in the process of developing a plan for the development of downtown Decatur, including recommendations regarding traffic and roads.

In spite of all this, the Dept. of Transportation (D.O.T.) headed by Tom Moreland (from Tucker) has been more than persistent with its plans for a major highway through Decatur. If one plan seems doomed, they always have five more to take its place. It is a continuing battle and it is important for Decatur to stand firm in its opposition to such highways. The March 15th City Commissioner's meeting agenda includes a motion to reaffirm this opposition. Four out of five commissioners are opposed to these highways. However, Mayor Carpenter has publicly stated that he is privately rethinking his position. Every neighborhood in Decatur, as well as our plans for downtown development, will be affected by such highways. It is vital that we express our opinions about this issue.

"THANK YOU"

"Thank you" to those who made contributions to the newsletter this year. And a special "thanks" for the nice comments.

It is never too late to help out. Send all contributions to WPNA President, Jo Deck, 440 Avery Street, Decatur, GA 30030.

LAST MEETING:

Winnona Park Neighbors Association has elected its officers for the coming year:

- Pres: Jo Deck (back by popular demand)
- V. Pres: Penny Wistrand (Avery)
- Sec: Lynne Rosner (Inman)
- Treas: Chuck Walker (Inman)

Chuck Walker was also selected as the official representative of WPNA on the South Decatur Community Center Board.



Community Center

The South Decatur Spring Festival is an annual neighborhood event, held at the Community Center (old Scottish Rite Hospital). This year it will be held on Saturday, May 1st.

Each year at the festival, the Community Center sponsors a 'silent auction'. Items are donated, put on display at the festival, and written bids taken on the items all during the day. At the close of the festival the highest bid gets the item. All proceeds go to the Community Center. If you have an item to donate, please call Susan Purdom at 377-5531 or 378-2931, or Terry Balof at 373-2606.

COMING SOON...

Also, Kelly's Feed & Seed Marching Abominables will perform at a sit-down benefit concert for the Community Center at Agnes Scott on April 18th. This is a must for old and young alike. Watch for more information in the next newsletter.

CRIME UPDATE

Mimosa is having trouble again. This month a woman was attacked in the early a.m. as she was leaving for work and was robbed of her purse.

Various incidents have also been reported of cars being locked or the lights turned on -- possible to lure owners out of their houses or to delay them as they leave for work to give the prowler time to attack.

An arrest was made in the Agnes Scott rape case, however the person arrested was not indicted when lab tests proved that the suspect could not have committed the crime.

The City Commission has appointed a Task Force to study crime in Decatur and to make recommendations to the commission. Winnona Park's representative on this task force is the Rev. Hugh Ward (Avery). Initial recommendations are expected by the 1st week in March.

Crime statistics for Winnona Park and other Decatur neighborhoods are not available from the police department, evidently on the theory that release of these figures will "create fear and anxiety". However, Winnona Park's crime rate is said to be "low"

Further organization of the Neighborhood Watch is in the works. Watch the newsletter for further details and meetings.



Congratulations to the Cochrans on the birth of their baby boy, Augustus Miller Cochran. Miller was born Feb. 5th, weighed 8 lb, 2 oz, and was 20 and 1/2" tall. He is welcomed by his parents, Martha & Gus and by his sister, Molly.



WE'D LIKE TO MAKE OUR PLACE YOUR PLACE
TRY OUR SALADS, SANDWICHES, BEER AND WINE
RELAX IN OUR AUTHENTIC PULLMAN CAR ATMOSPHERE

The Old Decatur Depot
378-5365

HOURS: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. MONDAY - THURSDAY
11 a.m. - 2 a.m. FRIDAY
4 p.m. - midnight SATURDAY
TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

February gave Decaturites an opportunity to see on paper and in model form the plan that is beginning to shape up through the Downtown Redevelopment Task Force. The six-firm consulting team that is working with Decatur's 26 - member Steering Committee has taken three months of citizen input and lots of time and data in fact-finding to put together what is hoped will be a feasible and desirable plan.

Components of the plan include:

- 1) the "core" area around the MARTA station emphasizes retail, with preservation, rehab, and new building, including a proposed MARTA market on the MARTA mall.
- 2) The core area would be "ringed" by office development and parking which is typical of the current development there along with a proposed new hotel and office building.
- 3) The central area would be served by a "ring road" concept of basically using the Oliver/Columbia Drive roads which would also serve to buffer neighborhoods from traffic. Better signalization, intersection improvements, etc. would be used to move traffic more efficiently, along with bikeways, landscaping, etc.
- 4) Expanded landscaping, pedestrian "entrance points" and pedestrian paths to and in the commercial area would build the inner area into a more pleasant, traditionally accessible area for the shopper and visitor in the core retail area.

Over 100 Decaturites (many from Winnona Park) attended the two nights of meetings and provided a generally positive response to the concept, along with comments to be incorporated into the final plan. The March 18 meeting will be a working session of the Steering Committee to finalize details of the plan. The April 15th meeting of the Steering Committee will be a public presentation of the final plan and report. Both meetings, as usual, are open to the public.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ATTIC REOPENS MARCH 2
Previously Owned Clothes
For The Entire Family
Also: WANT TO BUY direct or on consignment--good, clean children's clothes to size 14, and maternity
Joan Ballard
Tues-Sat 12 Noon to 4 pm
N. McDonough across from Decatur Hi



SCHOOL NEWS

Winnona Park

The Winnona Park PTA will meet March 11th at 7:30 p.m. at the elementary school. On the agenda will be election of a nominating committee to select officers for the next school year.

On Saturday, March 27th from 11:00 a.m. - approx. 3:00 p.m., the PTA will sponsor its annual Spring program. The festivities will include a "fun run" (for info, call Gordon French) and a carnival (for info, call Betty Collins at 377-9447).

SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Spring holidays -- April 5 - 9.



Interested in co-op child care? Local group is getting together a proposal for a co-op child care center to be submitted to the Community Center Board. If interested, call Terry Balof at 373-2606 or Liz O'Brien at 373-1961.

WIDEN CHURCH STREET?

In the Feb. 18, 1982, business section of the Decatur, DeKalb News/Era an article appeared entitled "Moreland, Evans Bring Good News". Part of the "good news" presented to the DeKalb County Commission was that the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) plans to widen Church Street between Ponce de Leon in Decatur to Scott Boulevard. When asked if citizen protest would be a problem, Bill Evans stated that he had heard no opposition to the plan.

Apparently, neither Evans nor Moreland was aware that there have been several studies done regarding Decatur traffic plans and that currently the Downtown Development Task Force is in the final stages of a process for developing a plan for the redevelopment of downtown Decatur -- including proposals for traffic and streets. Under their proposal unveiled at the Feb. 10th hearing, the developers are not recommending widening any streets. They say such widening is not necessary and that traffic can be handled more effectively by other, less drastic, ways.

Widening roads does not necessarily cut down on traffic. Roads often fill up to whatever capacity you provide and, once built, are impossible to take up. Ever hear of a road going from a four lane to a two lane?

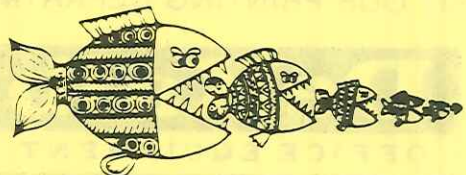
This proposal for Church Street could be an expensive, unnecessary & unwanted intrusion in Decatur. For the children who use Glen Lake Park, it could be a death trap. It certainly will cause problems for our downtown development plan.


who is Bill Evans?

In a heated contest, Bill Evans was re-appointed to serve as DeKalb's representative to the board of the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.).

His appointment was strenuously opposed by DeKalb County neighborhood groups who claim that Bill Evans is too tied up with Tom Moreland (head of D.O.T.) and that he does not represent neighborhood interests.

Regardless of your views on the widening of Church Street, Bill Evans should hear more from Decaturites. He can be reached at 377-1962 (ask for Bill Evans, Sr.





Discover

decatour emporium

ANTIQUES
COLLECTOR'S ITEMS
BUYING & SELLING

425 Church Street
Decatur, Georgia

Shop: 373-9109 Home: 373-1842

NEIGHBORS' EXCHANGE

SHARE YOUR TALENTS, SERVICES, PRODUCTS, ETC. Call Chuck Walker (378-1095) or Susan Purdom (378-2931 or 377-5531). There is no charge to anyone living in south Decatur for placing an ad in the Exchange. We will run it as long as space permits.

Needed: someone to keep 7 mo old baby Mon - Fri 7:30-5:00 while mother works. My home or yours. Call 636-6520 (day) or 288-2187 (night).

Massage: Give yourself a gift of a caring therapeutic massage. You deserve it! Call today for appt. \$15/session. Gloria McAndrew, Massage therapist, 378-4801.

Volunteer needed: to tutor a Cambodian grammar school student in English. During school hours. Call Elizabeth Neil at 373-6523 or 377-1097.

Looking for some "Do-it-Yourself" job security in these uncertain times? Local AMWAY distributor will show you how to get it with income-producing, part-time business of your own. Phone 378-9870 for interview.

Neighbors who care: the Cavenders were espec. touched during Sarah's recent recuperation from surgery by the thoughtful get-well card from the Decks -- which included offers of meals by eight of their neighbors.

Neighborhood Playhouse at North DeKalb Mall (a non-profit theater group) gets high ratings from Chuck Walker (Inman) for good, inexpensive theater entertainment.

Vegetable Garden Class conducted by DeKalb Extension Service Urban Gardening Program on Sat., March 13, 11:00 a.m. at the Decatur-DeKalb Extension Service office, 321 W. Hill Street, Decatur. Free. Call Mary Singleton at 371-2821 for more information.

Babysitter/housekeeper needed: 2 to 3 days per week in Winnona Park. Call 378-2673.

Carpentry services available. Call Tim Seaton at 378-0702.

**FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS.....
VISIT OUR PRINTING DEPARTMENT**



701 CHURCH STREET DECATUR GEORGIA 30030

377-4231

Licensed Hairdresser: Cut hair in your home or mine. Call Holly Ball at 373-6346.

Painting, carpentry & repair. Special rates for senior citizens. References upon request. Call Charles Braucher at 378-0255.

Interested in working on the July 4th celebration? Call the city manager's office at 377-9911.

Need your dog walked? Call Craig Hall at 373-6187. Price negotiable.

For Sale: '74 Pinto Stationwagon. One owner. Stick shift. Price negotiable. Call Nancy Leitch at 377-0856.

Lost: American Staffordshire Terrier. 24 wks old. about the size of a bulldog. white head w/ black patch over eye. red collar. male. white tip tail. overall color is dark brown/black. REWARD. Call Hartwell Quinn at 378-4974 or 243-3860 (work).

LIQUOR LICENSE GRANTED

The Decatur City Commission granted a tentative license for the sale of "spirituous liquors by the drink", i.e. hard liquor, to a business soon to open at 313 East College Ave.

The new venture will be called "Trackside" and, according to its owner Elizabeth Aldrick of East Lake, will sell sandwiches and drinks from 11:00 a.m. until midnight six days a week.

According to city manager Curtis Branscome, such a license is only granted to restaurants with seating capacity of 50 and is tentative subject to final count.

There are only two other restaurants in Decatur who currently have hard liquor licenses -- Conversations & Claudette's, although others like the Freight Room (in the old depot) and Pizza by Candlelight ("P by C" to the younger set) serve wine and beer.

S
T
A
F
F

Editor: Susan Ellis Purdom

Distribution: Liz O'Brien, Brenda & Allen Price, Whit Smith, Karen Purdom, Chuck Walker, Frank Bartkus, the Deardorff family, Catherine Carter, Kimberly Hall, Donna Harper, Edith Hambie, Shandre Hambie, Julius Avruch, Jason Deck, Bettye Manson, the Manfredi-Petitt family, Penny & Harry Wistrand, Gus & Martha Cochran, Margaret Kavanaugh & Anselm Atkins, Louise Hall & Carol Gray.