



NEIGHBORS NEWS

5 - LANE CHURCH STREET ?

An issue which is beginning to attract more attention in Decatur is the possibility of widening Church Street (see map this page) from Scott Blvd. to E. Ponce de Leon.

According to information provided to us by Sen. Bud Stumbaugh (at our request), DeKalb County and the City of Decatur have requested the Dept. of Transportation to look into the feasibility of making this section of Church Street a five-lane highway!!

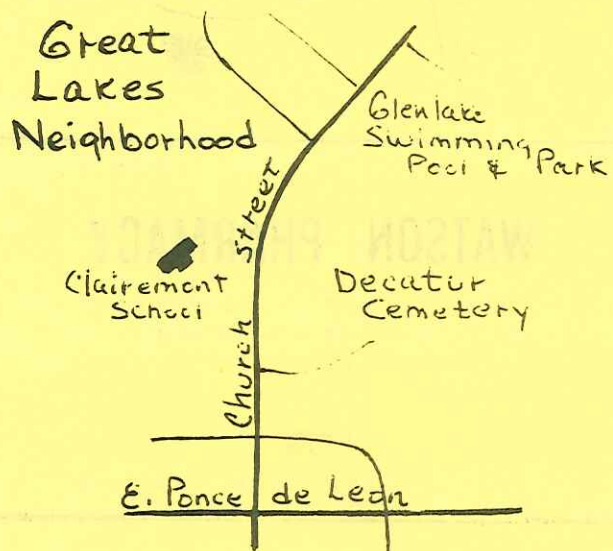
Questioned about this at the May 17th City Commission Meeting, the commissioners pointed out that this is a preliminary investigation and that no final decision has been made yet.

However, its fairly common knowledge that DeKalb County is looking for a thoroughfare through Decatur and is pushing this idea.

Meanwhile, opposition in Decatur is growing as the word spreads. The Decatur Neighborhood Alliance (DNA) has expressed their concern in a letter to the City officials pointing out that less drastic measures (such as the intersection improvements recommended by the Transportation Task Force) should be tried before resorting to a 5-lane highway (see DNA article).

Rumblings have also been heard from the Great Lakes Neighborhood, which is one of the neighborhoods most directly affected (a petition opposing the widening is being circulated and residents are beginning to show up at commission meetings).

Watch the Newsletter for updates on this issue.



NEXT MEETING: JUNE 24



Winnona Park Neighbors Association will have a pot luck dinner on Thurs. June 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Decks' backyard (440 Avery).

Bring a covered dish and we furnish plates, drinks and silverware.

We also are inviting all candidates in contested DeKalb races, so don't miss this opportunity to meet informally with the folks who will be representing us.

DNA URGES MODERATION

In a May 3rd letter to Decatur officials, the Decatur Neighborhood Alliance urged the City to use moderation in its handling of the Church Street traffic problem.

In the letter, DNA Pres. Valeria Maier (Sycamore) reminded city officials of the Transportation Task Force's recommendations of intersection improvements which, though never implemented, would have a relatively low impact on surrounding neighborhoods but could significantly improve the flow of traffic on Church Street.

The Task Force had made the following recommendations for Church Street:

Re: Church St. at Columbia Drive:
"...that the intersection be designed to accommodate turn lanes from all four directions along with the necessary left turn indicators timed to assure that left hand turn traffic is not impeded."

Re: Church St. at Forkner & Medlock:
"The intersection...needs to be redesigned so that the streets are better defined. This could be accomplished with the use of traffic lines, signals, widening in some areas or by cutting corners to allow for less hesitation in assessing right of way."

Shearer Postscript

By: Gus Cochran (Avery)

Speaking at Agnes Scott College on May 19, California economist and activist Derek Shearer described the policies and politics of the community-based coalition in Santa Monica that elected Shearer's wife (Ruth Yannatta Goldway) mayor and won a majority of the city council.

Santa Monica, long controlled by developers and real estate interests, now practices a philosophy that "cities are for people; people have to come first, then buildings, businesses and cars". Developers are required to make contribution to the community, such as recreation facilities, in return for the privileges of using city services and making money in the community. The city has also initiated steps to foster a more 'human' city (open-air restaurants, weekly farmers market, etc).

Shearer advised community groups to go beyond narrow interests to form broad coalitions and to enter electoral politics. While backing the best politician running for office can produce some benefits, Shearer said that Santa Monica's neighborhoods never accomplished much in city politics until they developed their own candidates and ran a whole slate for all vacancies on the city council.

THE SURVEYING

According to information provided to us by Sen. Bud Stumbaugh (at our request), the reason D.O.T. has been surveying in Decatur is twofold: 1) "...because DeKalb County and the City has asked the State to look into the feasibility in making Church Street five lanes between E. Ponce de Leon and Scott Boulevard" and 2) "On Howard Street, they are conducting a property survey to see if the right-of-way that MARTA owns can be used to lengthen Howard Street".

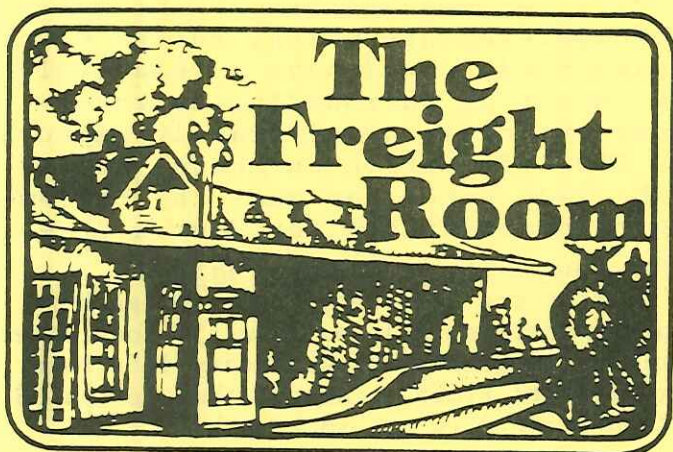
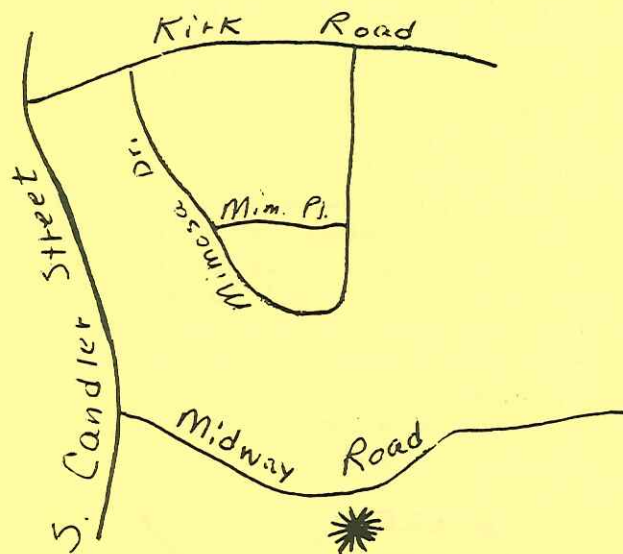
DEARBORN PARK OPENS

Saturday, May 22nd, marked the formal opening of a beautiful new seven-acre neighborhood park on Midway Road (See map below). The park has a basketball and multi-use court, picnic areas, a nature area and lots of play equipment.

The idea for the park came from the folks living in the area and through their neighborhood association (Midway Manor). They were able to find a donor (Dr. & Mrs. C.C. VonGrep), get funding and work with the DeKalb Parks and Recreation Department to actually get the park set up.

The May 22nd ceremony was the culmination of their hard work and was attended by such DeKalb notables as: DeKalb County Commission Chairman Manuel Maloof (who cut the ribbon), Commissioners Brince Manning III, Garry Moon, Jean Williams and Liane Levitan, and House Rep. Eleanor Richardson.

Dearborn Park is very attractive and we encourage Winnona Park residents to use it. When you go down, be sure to notice the dogwoods and bulbs (soon to be flowers) near the Park Drive Entrance. As part of a community service project, these were planted by Brownie Troop 548 and Junior Girl Scout Troop 151. They also sponsored a clean-up contest which was won by Marvin Goode, Charles Martin, Donnie Smith and Chavius Wilson. Scouts participating were Stacy and Michelle Keston, Shannon Bonner, Jessica French, Jeannie Johnson, Stephanie Fitzpatrick, Anna Lisa Silliman, & Julie Ripley.



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NEIGHBORS' EXCHANGE

SHARE YOUR TALENTS, SERVICES, PRODUCTS, ETC. Call Chuck Walker (378-1095) or Susan Purdom (378-2931 or 377-5531). No charge. We run them as space permits.

For Sale: Phone mate custom 400 answering machine. Good condition. \$110. Call Joe Adelson at 373-0436.

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

For Sale: 8' pool table, 2 cue sticks, all balls. New. \$125. Bar with stool and two chairs (leather). \$50. Call Ruby Peoples at 378-1873.

Keeping Bees in the City, the second in a summerlong series of Backyard Farmsteading Workshops sponsored by the DeKalb Urban Gardening Program, will be held Sat., June 19, 11:00 a.m. at the Urban Garden Center, 321 W. Hill Street, Decatur. The workshop will cover beginning bee-keeping, importance of honeybees in the vegetable garden and the uses and value of honey as a food. It is FREE but registration is required. For more info, call Mary Singleton at 371-2821.

New Amway Distributor Announced: Agnes Gear at 159 Inman Drive can supply your household, gift, and nutrient requirements. Call 373-2874.

Wanted: Babysitter for Occassional Use. Must be able to handle small child and large dog. Call Andrea Lee at 378-3385.

Wanted: Used baton (child's). Call Karen Carter at 373-6187.

For Sale: Kirby vaccuum cleaner, Model 560. This machine has received tender loving care, has all accessories, even instruction booklet. \$250. Call 378-5975.

Alzheimer's Disease Support Group: Meets third Thurs. of every mo. at Decatur First United Methodist Church. Activities Bldg., Room E, at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call Deborah Sullivan at 377-9901 or 378-4172.

Jazzercise: an exciting jazz dance fitness program for total body conditioning. Belevedere Church of God - Mon & Wed 5:40 p.m. Hillside Presbyterian Tues & Thur. 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ellen Kesler at 371-0559 or 294-3780.

Massage: Give yourself a gift of a caring therapeutic massage. You deserve it! Call today for appt. \$20/session. Gloria McAndrew, massage therapist. 378-4801.

Wanted: Typing teacher for 6th grader during summer. Salary negotiable. Call Jo Deck at 373-8148.

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

Need Carpentry Work? Call Tom Sabo (Mimosa Pl) at 378-9524.

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

Furniture refinishing by a trustworthy neighbor. Call Gene Hertzler at 377-7995.

Wanted: Someone to keep toddler in my home. Mon through Thurs. Call 378-2909.

Wanted: 2 or 3 bedroom house to rent in this area. Good Winnona Park references. Call Jim Hines at 378-8796.

GEARING UP FOR JULY 4th

It's almost time for Decatur's 4th of July celebration and we need your help!

In the past Winnona Park has had one of the largest groups of participants in the Pied Piper parade and we'd like to continue the tradition. Please mark your calendar and plan to march with us. The parade will begin at Agnes Scott (parking lot next to the tennis courts on Dougherty) at 5:30 p.m. Please plan to be at the college at 4:30 p.m. We will march to Decatur and join other neighborhoods for an evening of fun and entertainment. This year we'll have a hay filled wagon for those who prefer to ride.

We need musicians to volunteer to play in our marching band and volunteers to help create Winnona Park's winning float! We also need the following items donated to use in making band instruments for our children: tin pie plates, empty spools of thread, oatmeal boxes, plastic sour cream and yogurt containers w/lids.

If you have time, talent or items to donate, please call Elaine Mayer (377-7194).

Please support our neighborhood and our city by participating in this celebration.

Editor: Susan Ellis Purdom

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