


DISCOVERING THE
NORTHSIDE

HAPPY
50th!



A Half-Century Celebration:
The New Face of the
Northside Neighborhood Association's
Historic Walking Tour

Come Celebrate on
Sunday September 18 @ Atomic Café

2-3 Meet & Greet (with iPhone App* set-up)	5-7 Free Appetizers and Cash Bar	3-5 Walking Tour
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\$5 for adults, children are free

Poster design by Egg Design www.scrambledegg.com

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding
of the Northside Neighborhood Association,
the following **NORTHSIDE DIARY**,
a collection of thoughts and memories of former presidents,

Presented for the enjoyment and, perhaps even,
the enlightenment of NNA members and other interested parties.

September 18, 2011

September, 2011

A note from the “curator”, G. Philip Points.

This collection represents the first step toward the gathering of a history of the Northside Neighborhood Association. We welcome all entries into the diary, and any documentation anyone would like to offer. We are especially interested in asking members to search their closets for NNA records. We hope someday to get all these records in an archive.

In order to generate thoughts I presented to former presidents the following list of events, accomplishments, issues, celebrations, disappointments and general operations conducted in the first 50 years of NNA:

- Board meetings of officers and directors, semi-annual and annual meetings of the association
- 1965-67 survey of physical stock/structures – architectural and condition, during George Lamason’s presidency
- Removal of truck traffic from North Broadway
- Walking tours
- Yard sales
- Ice cream socials
- Northside Historic District
- Early 1970s, July 4th parade entry: Young Children from Old Houses
- NNA purchase, with Tim Cone’s leadership, of 423 West Sixth Street
- 1976 grant from Kentucky Humanities Council for one day conference *Downtown A Place To Live*
- 1986 commissioned a print in celebration of 25th anniversary of NNA
- Receipt of several LFUCG Action Match Grants
- 1986 dedication of Founders Park
- Demolition of buildings in the Northside
- 1995 formation of Northside Improvement Corporation
- Cooperation with and support of neighborhood non-profit organizations

What follows are their recollections, printed as we received them. We invite others to offer their perspectives.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATIONS: While we were digging about our personal files in our homes, we found a few examples of media coverage of the neighborhood over the years, as well as ephemera and keepsakes. We scanned some of these and include these as part of the record. Where possible, we noted the dates of the articles or images...but many run herein without a precise date. If you have insight about their age, do not hesitate to let us know.

This format is preserved for future entries. Electronic copies of narrative can be obtained by contacting Al McIntosh at College and School Planning Services: 859-254-1256 or al@csplan.com

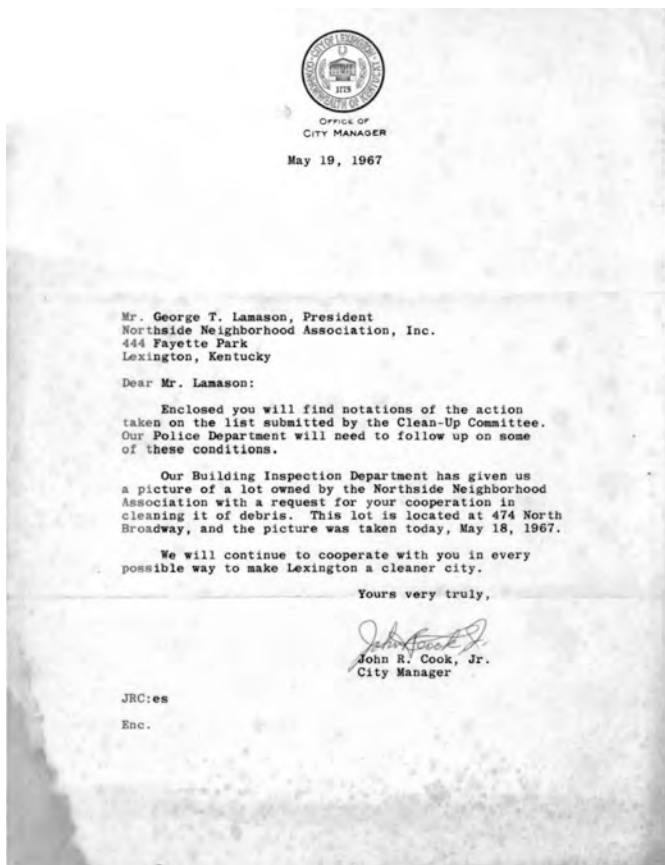
PHIL POINTS

Loris and I moved to 424 West Sixth late summer 1964. We were awakened about 6 am following our first night's sleep on Sixth to the sound of squealing pigs on the way to the stock yard and crowing chickens at the Adam's house, along with the aroma of fresh bread coming not from the homes around us but from Rainbow Bakery down the street. Initially we did not know that the bakery was there. We attended our first Annual Meeting of the Northside Neighborhood Association that November. It was in the chapel of Old Morrison; there were over one hundred persons present with Bill Axton presiding. Fanny Gratz, Lucy and Larry Crump, George and Francis Lamason, La Grand Briggs, Rose Buckner, Shelby and Harriet Shanklin, Ann Winn were among those I recall attending. There were, no doubt, other founding directors in the company. One issue discussed was heavy and noisy truck traffic on North Broadway. Loris and I had learned the value of neighborhood associations while living on the south side of Chicago. We chose to live on West Sixth when we learned that there was a recently formed association in the area around Transylvania. Our first meeting in Old Morrison confirmed that we had chosen well.

According to the local newspaper, there was a walking tour in 1964. A 1967 article describing the design for a survey of the physical stock within the boundaries of our Northside cites George Lamason, then President, saying that the survey would provide information for "a much more interesting and significant" house and garden tour than their first tour. The aim of the survey was to record condition and current use of the property, name and address of the owner, as well as architectural and historic value. Eventually this survey provided support for the application for recognition in the National Historical Registry. Lamason said that in 1964 "we just did the best we could."




Fourth of July parades attracted entries from the Association in the 1970's. One such entry featured "young children from old houses." Fortune, Cone, Wellons, Johnston, Points, Reeves children, among others, rode in the back of Bill Johnston's WWII weapons carrier with the rather large Fortune doll house (Victorian). Loris and I have not been able to find our photograph of this entry as it made the turn at Broadway and Main.



Others have noted the venture of NNA in "saving" 423 West Sixth. From the beginning of our living at 424, Loris and I admired the deep front yard across the street, with its giant trees dwarfing the classic frame house at the foot of the sloping lawn. We became good friends of Anne and Chuck Case, and in the 1990's we enjoyed Christmas Eve dinners with Aril and David Lowry at 423. Ann and Bob were regulars for those occasions, along with others who came as special guests. On Christmas morning all of us shared brunch at 424, as had been our delight in the 1970's when the Fortune's came for brunch. I will add George Lamason to the list of those who signed the note for the purchase of 423, and I thank Loris for walking across Sixth Street to introduce herself to Aril Lowry that afternoon when she entered the drive with a realtor.

Downtown: A Place To Live



Downtown: A Place To Live

Should there be more opportunities for downtown living? This is a question asked ever more frequently in cities around the nation. Some persons live downtown or near downtown by free choice among alternatives; some because they had no choice; some would not think of living downtown. Prevailing attitudes seem to see downtown as a place to work, to visit, to shop -- but limited human and natural resources suggest that in the near future downtown must be seen as a place to live.

Fuel costs and energy supplies, costs of new housing, transportation problems, growth in environmental and fiscal concerns leading to increased regulation of suburban development, growth in office and service employment in central cities, demographic trends and increasing appreciation for the pleasantness of inner-city neighborhoods, all appear to have pressed upon us the necessity of planning for downtown living.

Developers, preservationists, financial institutions, planners, government officials at all levels, and all of us as citizens face issues which converge and direct us to common concerns.

Lexington-Fayette Urban County is among the fifteen fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation. The number of people moving into the County, net of those moving out, over the first five years of the present decade exceeded the number of net in-migrants over the entire decade of the 1960's. We have experienced more net in-migration in half the time. The Planning Division's current projection is that in the year 2000 the population will be 350,000, which would be a nearly 75% increase over the early-1975 population.

The conference on September 10, 1976 will be an opportunity for public discussion of public policy issues affecting downtown and the entire Lexington-Fayette Urban County. These issues are very much the same as those faced in other cities of the nation.

designed by: Art Dept., Inc. 307 W. Short Street Downtown Lexington 254-1096

In 1976, NNA received a grant from the Kentucky Humanities Council for a one day conference focusing on Downtown A Place to Live. Joining us in planning were several departments of the Urban County Government. So much of the talk in those days was downtown a place to shop, to work, to visit. Why not a place to live? In our Northside we wanted others to see that downtown is a place to live. Among the featured speakers was Bill Axton (a Dickens scholar and second President of the Northside Neighborhood Association). Bill had earlier moved to Louisville where he joined the faculty at the University of Louisville. The evening of his presentation was a time of celebration as well as scholarly engagement with Dickens' London. Much of what was presented in that day-long conference is as

relevant today as it was then. Perhaps that conference contributed to our current move toward downtown a place to live.

For the 25th Anniversary of NNA, we commissioned a print celebrating the preservation of houses which are historically and architecturally significant and a residential neighborhood which enjoys the vitality of living with them. We recognized joyfully the end of thru trucks on North Broadway. In April 1986 Founders' Park was dedicated. A newspaper article on that occasion quoted Catherine Dunne. "We've fought more than we've achieved, but we've achieved quite a bit." A fair estimate would be that during our first five decades the Northside Neighborhood Association has spent \$100,000 for legal expenses. Fortunately, neighbors in the association have provided an equal amount in pro bono litigation services.

TIM CONE

423 West Sixth Street

This lot, which was quite deep and contained a one story frame house which was not in great shape, was owned by Tillie Geddes, who had determined to move. The future of the property was very uncertain, and there were rumblings it might be redeveloped for apartments. Several of us who lived on Sixth Street, and others who didn't but were equally concerned, thought this was perhaps a project for the NNA. I was then president of the NNA, which had meager resources at that time, with its minimal operating expenses covered by dues and the annual or bi-annual tour fund-raiser. We were able to strike a reasonable price with Ms. Geddes, and we obtained a loan for virtually the entire purchase price from Second National Bank, although Pete Cassidy, Phil Points, (and perhaps Bill Fortune) and I had to personally guarantee the loan. We did some improvements to the property and leased it to Don Paris for a couple of years. Chuck and Ann Case then bought it, with a decent profit to the NNA, and they performed major renovations to the house. There has been a succession of owners since the Cases, all of whom have further improved the property to the point that it is really a showplace.

Miller Street Properties

Our goal had been to try and acquire all of the property on the east side of Miller Street behind our house at 474 West Third Street. We were only able to acquire two. The house immediately behind my residence was occupied by a Mrs. Mitchell, but she simply did not want to sell, and I believe the house is still occupied by a member of her family. The other properties were owned by slum lords who were profiting handsomely. We were able to buy 244 Miller Street and another lot (the number of which I don't remember). The former contained a one story brick duplex which I believe dated to the mid-1800's and originally had been an office related to the hemp fields. The latter had a two story frame duplex that was in terrible condition. The brick structure did not have any working plumbing, and we never rented it. We rented the frame building for a while, but it was simply more trouble than it was worth, and we eventually just boarded it up. When we left the Northside, we offered the lot with the brick house to the NNA because it had some historical significance. We initially offered the other lot to Habitat for Humanity, but it declined because the property was located within the historic district, and it could not get a demolition permit. We then offered the property to the NNA which thought it might have better success in dealing with the Historic Commission. Obviously, it did.

Hopefully the NNA has profited from its ownership of these two properties.

WIN MEEKER

Miller Street

Tim Cone gave the NNA 244 Miller Street and another Miller Street house to Habitat in 1993. Miller Street is one of the most historic streets in Lexington. The small, tumbling down houses were built for workers at the Third Street hemp factory right after the Civil War. NNA decided to rescue and rehab the house for resale to a first time low to moderate income family. At the time we had \$0.

We established Northside Improvement Corporations so that we could apply for grants, make donations to the project tax deductible and use the proceeds from the Miller Street house sale for other housing improvements within the Northside boundaries. We obtained grants from HUD (John Heinz Neighborhood Development Fund), the Kentucky Heritage Council, and the LFUCG Neighborhood Action Match program.

NNA members were incredibly generous with tremendous volunteer worker efforts and funding. Almost every company or entity we dealt with gave part of purchases as discount. The Jefferson Street fire house let us use water and kept an eye on the project. The residents of Miller Street also made sure that we never lost a thing during the two years of construction. Dave Gyor obtained donations of \$500 from every bank in Lexington (but one, who said Miller Street would never change!).

The project took two years. NNA members tore off the back bathroom addition to the house (we were chased down the street by thousands of bumble bees), cleaned all the rubbish out of the back yard and house. Phase IV did all the construction (at cost), and NNA volunteers did all the painting inside and out and landscaped the finished product. We won awards from the Downtown Lexington Corporation, the LFUCG Historic Preservation Commission, and the Blue Grass Trust. In the meantime, Habitat gave us their house (they did not want to do rehab), and we were also given the house next to 244. We then purchased the lot behind Miller Street as parking for future redevelopment of the whole east side of the street and demolished the two gift houses which were in deplorable condition. Eventually, our properties were sold to a developer who built the town houses in place now.

Relocation of LFUCG mounted patrol from the Horse Park to Coolavin Park

The police wanted to move the mounted patrol into the city. NNA wanted the Mounted Patrol to serve as buffer between the Hope Center and the neighborhood. We were told that it would take years to get the land released in Coolavin from the federal land and water trust. Thanks to the ingenuity of NNA treasurer, Molly Patchell, and a major assist from Senator Wendell Ford, the land was released in six weeks, and the horse patrol construction started.

Northside Most group homes on city's north, west ends

By Jim Niemi
HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

When the Hope Center was proposed for north Lexington in the early 1990s, it brought forth objections from northside neighbors who argued that their area houses more than its fair share of group homes.

That the shelter and treatment center for homeless men was built there anyway is an example of a fact of life for residents of northern, western and downtown Lexington.

Historically, residents of those neighborhoods have not been powerful enough to keep group homes out, say residents and city officials.

Lexington's 34 group homes are clustered around downtown, mostly on the north and west sides. In fact, more than half of the 34 homes are found in the 40508 ZIP code, which flanks the immediate downtown area on three sides.

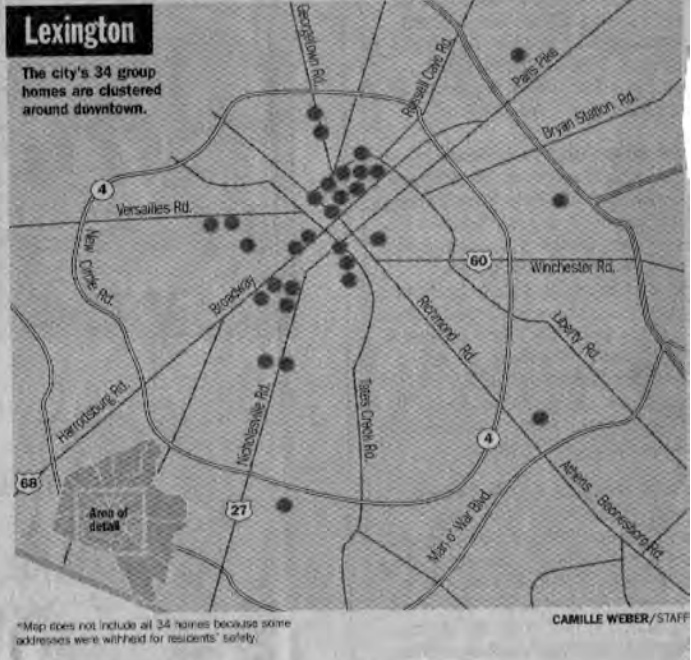
On the other hand, nine of the city's 17 ZIP codes include no group homes.

"In general, people seem to look in our area first," said Urban County Councilman Robert Jefferson, whose 2nd District houses many group homes.

Other factors — property prices, zoning laws and the availability of city services — also play a role, city officials and residents say. Still, neighborhoods on the east and south sides of Lexington have largely succeeded in keeping group homes from locating there "through the zoning process and through the whole issue of political fabric," said Barbara Curry, commissioner of the city's Department of Social Services.

"They resist them through elected officials who represent them. They say, 'It's fine to have these services, but not in my neighborhood.'"

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled
See **HOMES, A6**



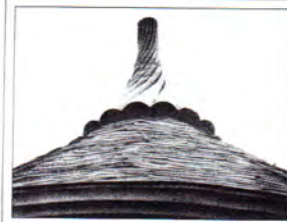
Group Homes and Halfway Houses

In the mid-1980's, more than 40 social service facilities were placed in the Northside with more looking to be established. Essentially, we were the city dumping ground for these uses. We mounted a campaign on many fronts to share with the rest of the city. City Division of Planning was a great help offering us downzoning which was done for the 400 block of West Sixth, the 500 block of West Third, and, eventually, Maryland Avenue. Over the years, our efforts paid off as our position became well known, and legislation limiting locations in concentration passed.

Downtown Living Conference

NNA was a sponsor for the DLC conference held in early 1994 and various members served on panels for this valuable exercise.

COY



Former deanery, above, for Christ Church Cathedral. It became the rectory when rest of the bishop was moved. (Don't look for this on Sixth Street, once site of the Ben-voth House.)



Chairs of hooks, or belfowers, decorate building listed as Ellis before Falls in 1903.



This terra-cotta band adorns the entrance home of a Lexington mayor whose body is left in courthouse yard. There's a cotton Hogge for mayor 1864-26. Set on a frame to pose for an statue of Gen. John Hunt Morgan.



Cheryl Leonard added new gingerbread trim to it, and built after the Civil War on land owned by Henrietta Morgan, daughter of John Wesley, mother of John Hunt Morgan.



Columns with look of Deep South on one of Lexington's first luxury apartment buildings, left, called "Flats," which began in 1913 for Bluegrass honoree Col. Milton Young.



Above, site where several of Lexington's best known doctors practiced from 1923 to 1958.



Guests West Third Street to be the location of this big house, right, and you are seeing by a block.



Jeweler Chip W. Snyder built this house in 1885 or 1886 and sold it in 1895 to Thomas A. Hornum, silvermith, gunsmith, locksmith and bell hanger.



Enormous house built by woman who married up at Loudon. Her husband, however, was one began in 1879.



Romantic Revival House built after 1880 by a Union veteran, a former officer in the 13th Kentucky Cavalry who became wholesale grocer and Lexington's 12th postmaster. Three-story tower, rock-faced stone in massive arches, smooth stone in columns and corbels. Interior with dramatic staircase that "cascades down five walls."



Longtime home of fun-loving cabinetmaker, preacher, teacher and second president of the College of the Liberal Arts College of what then was Kentucky University. Six-story dormers probably went on after 1900 for Sallie E. Woodard and horseman W.T. Woodard.

A DAY TRIP TO LEXINGTON

A WALK ON THE NORTHSIDE

If you go

The Northside neighborhood, that, which covers 30 acres, will be from 1 to 2 p.m.

Tickets, \$6, will be available at Empire Park and at Morrison College at Transylvania University.

Tour includes an outdoor gazebo, Fountains Park with fountain and walk, and a lake. Tickets will be available in the lobby of Great Park Inn.

How did you score? If you already know the answers, you get to register next year.

If you didn't get any of the answers, you moved home and saved \$6. Checkmate.

If you saved all 30 sites to answer the quiz, you're a northside lover.

By Betty Lee Mastin

Free tricycle service will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 277 West Third Street.

For the quiz, complete photographs and facts in houses you see in Northside Neighborhood Tour.

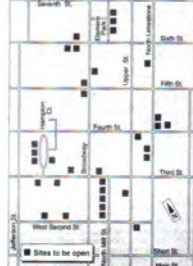
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For the quiz, complete photographs and facts in houses you see in Northside Neighborhood Tour.

Free tricycle service will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 277 West Third Street.

For the quiz, complete photographs and facts in houses you see in Northside Neighborhood Tour.

Northside tour



House and garden sites

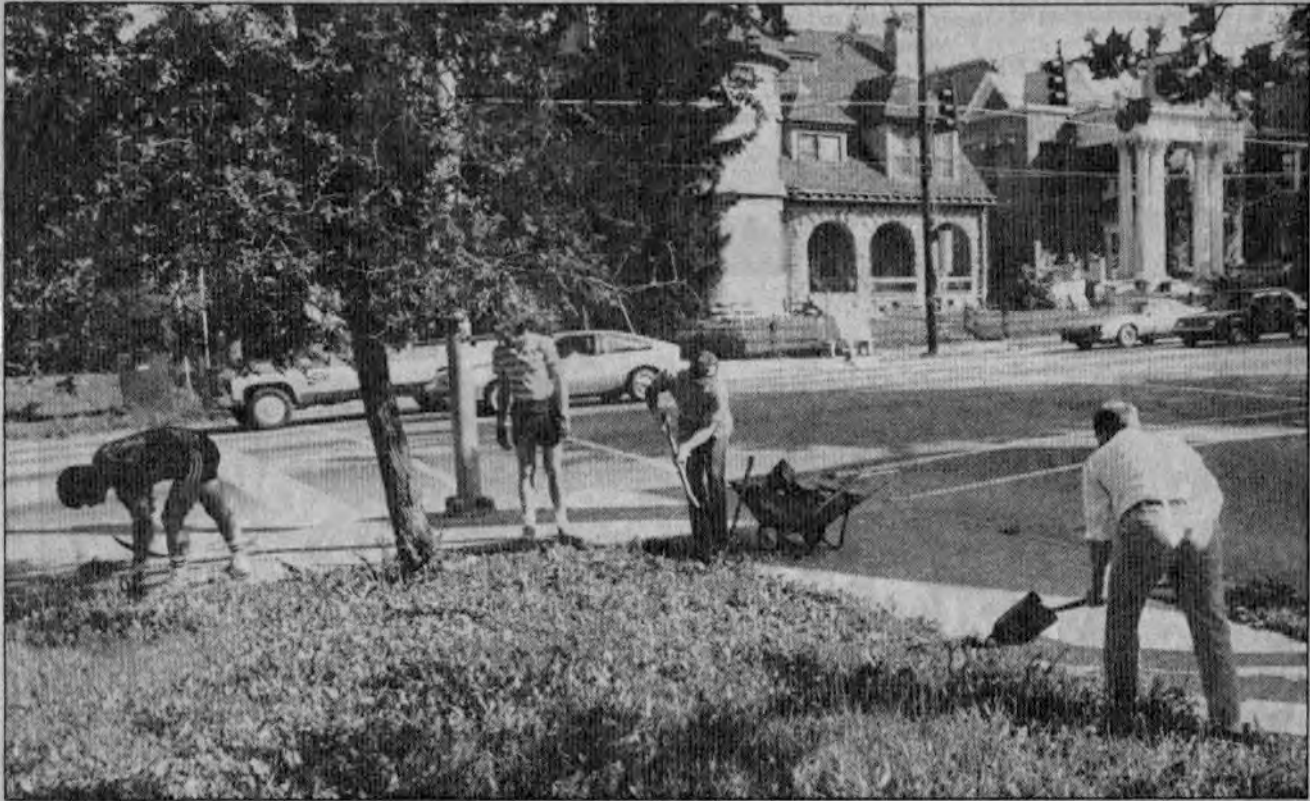
Here are the addresses for Sunday's tour. Address denotes garden site.

- 409 North Broadway, Givens Cottage
- 201 North Broadway
- 310 North Broadway, No. 1
- 210 North Broadway, No. 2
- 640 Empire Park
- 640 Empire Park
- 686 Empire Park
- 25 Hamilton Court, No. 8
- 25 Hamilton Court
- 310 Hamilton Court, Apt. 3
- 210 Hamilton Court, Apt. 4
- 343 North Limestone Street
- 202 North Limestone Street
- 400 North Limestone Street, Bluegrass House
- 414 North Limestone Street
- 218 North Limestone Street
- 201 North Mill Street, Hunt Morgan House
- 718 North Mill Street
- 234 North Mill Street
- 341 North Mill Street
- 210 North Upper Street, St. Paul A.M.E. Church
- 150 West Second Street, Great Park Inn
- 417 West Second Street
- 443 West Second Street
- 300 West Third Street, Hagermanville House
- 308 West Third Street
- 413 West Third Street
- 450 West Third Street
- 450 West Third Street
- 111 East Fourth Street
- Fourth Street 101 House
- 288 West Sixth Street
- 413 West Sixth Street
- 420 West Sixth Street

PHOTOS BY DAVID PERRY HERALD-LEADER PHOTOGRAPHER

STEVE BROWN

Although early unique wood framed housing existed on Miller Street, the NNA Corporation could not justify the extreme costs versus benefits to preserve this housing type, and the houses were subsequently demolished for new development. However, 244 Miller Street was the brick cottage which was taken down on three-sides (due to out of plumb, collapsing and bulging masonry walls), leaving the front facade intact; the other exterior masonry walls were reconstructed from existing face brick veneer with insulated wood stud walls; interior spaces were enclosed with wood stud/gyp bd; roof framing was all new, based on the original rake slopes and covered with asphalt shingles. This cottage reconstruction received a major grant from the John Heinz Foundation. This cottage rebuilding and reconstruction project established a baseline improvement that stabilized the existing Miller Street neighborhood, which was supported further by new townhouse construction on the NNA Corporations recently cleared lots by David Doucoumes.



Herald-Leader/Ron Garrison

A neighborhood dig

Members of the Northside Neighborhood Association began planting flowers, shrubs and trees last weekend for a park at the corner of

Fifth Street and North Broadway. The project is part of the Lexington-Fayette County Environmental Commission's beautification drive.

ROSE MOLONEY LUCAS

Over the past 50 years, I have memories, some snippets and some full blown, of happenings in the Northside. An early conversation with my mother, Mildred Moloney, brought the first news of an organization. Shortly after the founders organized, they began looking for more people, and Mother was one of those who began a long tenure of service – mostly as treasurer, until her death in 1986.

Mother told a wonderful story of the efforts to get trucks banned from travel on North Broadway. Misses Catherine and Mary Dunne, Mother and other ladies appeared in front of the city council (before LFUCG merger), complete with hats and white gloves (somehow the gloves were the most important element in the telling of this story) to lobby the council about truck traffic. As the story goes, the ladies sat in the front row, unbowed or unmoved, until they received the appropriate support for their cause.

When Northside was formed, I was a recent graduate of Transylvania, and I was not as aware of the local issues as much as the national issues, since the recent presidential election of John F. Kennedy was the most exciting part of my life. As the 1960s ensued, I married, moved back to Elsmere Park from West Second Street, and began raising our family. Again, the local issues were not as foremost for me, but I do remember the neighborhood struggles against Baker Iron and Steel and the subsequent success of having the company restricted to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. steel compacting. Prior to that effort, Baker operated 24 hours a day – speaking of noise, which is such a current topic for the Northside!

When our family moved to Ohio, I became more aware of how important local issues are, and more cognizant of the Northside as Phil and Loris Points came as guest speakers to Oxford to discuss forming neighborhood groups. Returning to Lexington in 1983, I was thrust into the Northside in order to help Mother with the treasury, with the membership drive (netting in those years between 400 and 500 members) and then as the first Executive Director of the Northside Neighborhood Association, assisting then president, Loris Points. Pounding away at a manual typewriter, taking direction from Loris and the Historic District Committee, I helped as we mounted the successful campaign to create the Northside

Historic District Overlay Zone, adding to the districts already in place in the Northside: Gratz Park, Elsmere Park, Fayette Park. Later the Mulberry Hill district came into being as well.

Always an active group with many projects and many hands to help, about the same time as the Northside Historic District endeavor was underway, the Northside assumed ownership of the property on the southeast corner of North Broadway and Fifth Street and commenced to build Founders Park, guided in part by Chuck Mallory who helped with the design and building of the park. Kudos, though, go to the neighbors who helped maintain the park, to the lovely Miss Catherine Dunne, longtime secretary of NNA, who allowed us to run a water hose to the park from her property two doors away to keep the newly planted park alive, and to the ongoing efforts over the years to plant perennials from neighborhood gardens and annuals to keep the park vibrant for passersby.

A new kind of city growth — trees

By Brian Johns
Herald-Leader staff writer

Jet down Newtown Pike, cruise Loudon Avenue or stroll Rosemont Garden and you'll see something new — more trees.

And those aren't the only places.

The city, the University of Kentucky and neighborhood associations have been making beautification a major priority. In the last year alone, the groups have spent more than a half-million dollars, said William Carman, park designer for the city Parks and Recreation Department.

"The state of our urban forest has never been better," Carman said. "Even though some of the older trees are dying, our urban forest is looking good."

The goals are to create a less stressful urban environment, enhance neighborhood pride and maintain Lexington's unique feel, said Councilwoman Fernita Wallace.

Tourism is another factor.

"We are making a major push in tourism right now," Councilwoman Pam Miller said. "It requires marketing and making the city pretty to look at."

"It's all part of an ongoing effort," Carman said.

The council has passed a number of ordinances facilitating the new approach, Miller said. The ordinances have reduced the number of billboards in the city, required private developers to "screen" commercial projects with more trees, and required that trees be planted in front of new houses, she said.


"They're all efforts to green the city up," she said.

The Newtown Pike Corridor, with its flowering pears, red oaks, honey locusts and crabapples exemplifies the new outlook, she said. "The aim was to draw attention away from the industrial area and make visitors aware that this is an attractive city."

The project was coordinated by the Urban County Corridor Committee, of which Miller and Wallace are members.

Coordinating other projects are groups like the Northside Neighborhood Association. The association, which has 400 members, developed Northside Founders' Park, planted trees along Sixth Street property lines and developed a North Broadway tree-planting effort.

(Turn to OFFICIALS, B2)



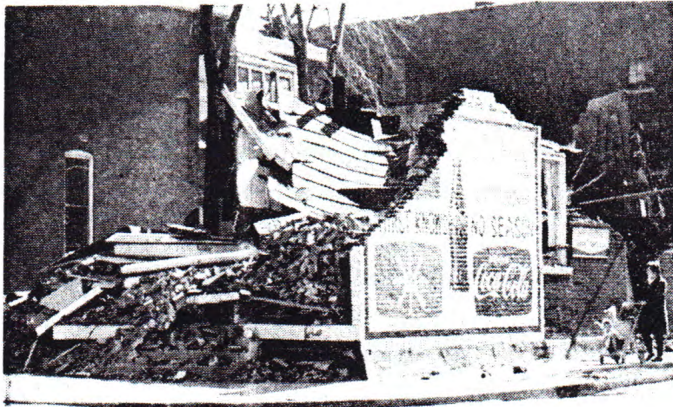
Herald-Leader/Stephen Castleberry

Rose Lucas, James Evans, both active in the tree-planting effort, look over new plant on Broadway near Transylvania.

Founders Park and the North Broadway tree planting project, in memory of Mildred Moloney, and funded partly by memorials for her after her death, were two of the earliest Action Match Grant Projects approved by LFUCG in 1988. James B. Evans designed the tree project, and more than 70 street trees, maple, oak, London plane and Aristocrat pear, were planted from Second Street to beyond Loudon Avenue to keep the tree canopy along this main entrance into downtown Lexington. Previously, a number of flowering trees along the 400 and 500 blocks of Broadway were planted in memory of George Lamason, founder and a past president.

Without question, when I speak with my family about Northside memories, the exciting house tours of the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s come up. We remember gathering up to 35 people who opened their homes on one tour — neighbors who lived in the Headley subdivision, along North Upper Street, North Broadway, all the numbered streets and cul-de-sacs participated. Following an early tradition started by Elsmere Park neighbors, children of the neighborhood dressed in period clothing and served lemonade under shade trees. On Elsmere Park, each house was marked by a sign mounted on a post giving some history of the home and its inhabitants. Early on those Sunday tour mornings, men on the Park were out pounding stakes in

the ground, and the atmosphere was one of excitement reminiscent of early American stories. One of the highlights of any neighborhood tour during those years was the tour of Maurice (Rece) and Lydia (Lottie) Clay's yard. Terraced with boxwoods almost one hundred years old and lovingly tended forget-me-nots and other early perennials, the garden was one of pride not only for the Clays, but for Elsmere Park and the entire Northside.



THIRST KNOWS NO SEASON—Transylvania College students will not slake their thirst another season at Transy Den, Fourth Street at Broadway. The old-time soda shop, short-order restaurant and pizza parlor has been razed and campus building is expected to expand to the cleared property. The "den" had recently become unsafe as a fire hazard and

because of "general rundown conditions." The brick structure fell with a loud crash, spewing bricks over the street and a dust cloud that was visible for several blocks. Students said the "Den" used to be a "real hang-out" but patronage had recently dwindled to a few. (Staff photo).

March 6, 1968

In making a list, it is always a risk that something will be left out, but I will take that risk and try to relate what I remember of the streetscapes of the Northside, from my childhood, my days in school and the more recent past: Ollie's Trolley replaced the Transy Den at Fourth and Broadway (actually it was originally proposed as a Burger Queen!); the grocery at the corner of Fifth and Broadway became a vacant lot, then Founders' Park; the barber shop in the mid-400 block of North Broadway became a junk store and then was razed for Transylvania parking; the Hinky Dinky Market, Fourth and Broadway, was one of the last commercial buildings along this stretch and was razed for a green space. On the opposite, southwest corner of Fourth and Broadway, the Colonial Inn stood for many years, replaced by the W. T. Young Center. Ruggles Sign Company and the dairy on the corner of Third and Lime were razed to make room for the Transylvania ballfield. St. Catherine Academy became a bus station and then reverted to school status with the building of the new Sayre Upper School, and Sayre School has added volumes of built environment on its campuses. Reuses for commercial buildings at Third and Lime have boosted the area as an exciting center, and further north, the resurgence of North Limestone currently makes its mark. We still suffer from inconsistent zoning (from Elsmere Park to Seventh Street, there are three different zones on five properties along North Broadway), but we are more vigilant. Yet, we miss Criswell's Grocery (Seventh and Broadway, later Northside Pharmacy and Roberts Health Food Store), French-Bauer Ice Cream (Jefferson Street and also North Broadway), but welcome new restaurants and enterprises.

As the Northside has aged, its population has evolved. It is no longer just a neighborhood of close proximity to downtown, and thus housing many people who worked there. Today its residents are a collection of professional people, descendants of original home owners, young families getting started, students at Transylvania and the University of Kentucky, and transient residents. No longer is the neighborhood as dependent on public transportation, and the preponderance of automobiles presents a multitude of issues. But, in all things, it is still the Northside, near to downtown, central to almost everything, and a great place to live.

LINDA GODFREY

Reprinted from a story which ran in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* by Connie Holman

Some time ago the Northside Neighborhood Association had a tradition: If you were elected president, you had to volunteer for a second term. It was a lot to ask of anyone, so the practice fell by the wayside. Until Linda Godfrey. Godfrey, 42, a registered nurse at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, will wrap up her two-year presidency in November. Meanwhile, she has continued to teach part time at Kentucky State University. She also is the president of the Bluegrass Black Nurses Association, the Northside representative on the Urban County Historic Preservation Commission and a member of the Dunbar Center board of directors.

During her Northside presidency, Godfrey has devoted a day and a half each week to neighborhood association business.

She has found that neighborhood leaders need certain qualities.

“You have to be alert to and in tune with the types of things that are going on in your neighborhood. You must really care about the quality of your neighborhood and where you live.”

“You’ve got to have the energy to go out and find answers to problems. You have to set priorities because you can’t chase every problem.”

You need solid communication and diplomacy skills.

“You’ve got to be willing to work with people at Urban County Government as well as your neighborhood people. “

You should have a job with flexible hours.

“You need an appreciation for people and the diversity in people; you have to accept that.”

Diversity is one of Northside’s assets, Godfrey said.

“If you come into the north side, at some point in the day you’ll run into most nationalities, elderly, young, professionals... “

The neighborhood, which has more than 500 homes, lies from the railroad tracks on North Broadway to Second Street and from North Limestone Street to Jefferson Street. It includes five historic-overlay districts: Elsmere Park, Fayette Park, Gratz Park, Mulberry Hill and Greater Northside. Its neighborhood association, which will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year, is the oldest in Lexington.

Godfrey grew up on the north side. As college students, she and husband James rented their 1015 brick cottage in 1971, with an option to buy, which they did. She thinks that the neighborhood, known for its large lush backyards and many gardens, offers a food lifestyle.

“When you go out the front (door), it’s the city; when you go out the back, it’s almost rural. You have the best of both worlds. “

Godfrey gained her extensive knowledge of the neighborhood and its needs by working as block leader, secretary and board member. “She has definitely been dedicated,” said Steve Brown, association second vice president. “It’s a tough position to be in. She’s done a really swell job, given it’s an all-volunteer organization.”

“Linda is energetic and organized,” agreed Ann Malin Newby, chairwoman of the home tour committee. “Those are probably her two biggest assets in bringing the organization together and getting people involved.”

Highlights of Godfrey's presidency have included:

Increasing association membership to 260 households.

Building patron and business sponsorship.

Publishing a quarterly newsletter.

Monitoring zoning issues and housing maintenance concerns.

Increasing contact with city police on crime-related problems.

Supporting homeowners' refurbishment efforts in restoring houses to single-family use.

Adding input to the city's long-range historical preservation plans.

Helping members attain seats on the city's board of architectural review, the historic preservation commission and the planning commission.

Sponsoring the 1990 home tour, which raised more than \$5,000.

Awarding \$300 to the Lexington Public Library to buy materials for its historic preservation section.

"We've been busy," Godfrey said.

In fact, she is convinced that the neighborhood association needs a part-time paid executive director. And as soon as her presidency ends, Godfrey plans to go to work to find grant money for the position.

PATRICK LEE LUCAS

When I think about all the places that I have lived in my life, none stirs greater emotion than the Northside – its diversity of neighbors, the historic street patterns and development schemes that yielded such splendid housing stock, and the celebrations in the lives of people who have called this place home for a short or long period of time. As a third generation officer of the NNA, I recognized the work of many who came before me, fighting important battles to stave off inappropriate development, curtailing crime, increasing awareness of planning and zoning issues, and advocating downtown as a place to live.

Some of my earliest memories of the special people who live in the Northside was an ice cream social in the Harrison yard on Sixth Street in the 1970s. Surviving as a link to social custom of the previous century, I felt sure the meticulous gardens, the dapper men and women, and the delicious ice cream all stood as proof of this special place. As a teenager one summer not many years later, I remember being drafted by Phil Points to attach tags to much donated merchandise for one of the NNA's super-sized yard sales. Unless I am conflating that earliest sale with later ones, Fayette Park's green space was more than amply filled with treasures waiting for a new owner...with the treasury of the association a little more green.

For over forty years, I have witnessed a neighborhood in transition facing the myriad of issues any part of a city faces. I feel particularly indebted to the founders of the NNA, who engaged in the fight against the Baker scrap/junk yard, and other issues of the neighborhood in the 1960s. Like my neighbors, I

mourned some of the tragic losses of neighborhood buildings (in the Transy area and elsewhere) in the 1980s and 1990s.



I felt a kinship with other leaders of the NNA when asked to chair the house tours of the 1990s. One of my favorite memories as the tour chair (this one is for you, Win) was the deluge of rain that plagued the NNA tour of 1996. I can't write here what Win and I stated at observing the buckets of rain falling from the sky, but I am happy to report on the perseverance and creativeness of the property owners to forge ahead despite the monsoon, making the tour one of the most financially successful.

Before I was president, I remember the lengthy neighborhood meetings that contained heated and protracted conversations around the placement of the Hope Center and related agencies at the periphery of our homes....and recognized the good we were doing for the city by adopting these agencies in our own back yard.

I must say I don't recall much specifically about my year as president, except for the establishment of the NO PIZZA ZONE in the delivery area for Papa John's. I found it appalling then, and I do now, that businesses and people do not recognize the special qualities of this place....and I can say that I haven't eaten at Papa John's in Lexington or elsewhere since.

That's the Northside for me – good people working to bring positive change to the place that they live – even if we didn't win on the pizza. From my earliest recollections to my more occasional visits these days, I know that the neighborhood has imprinted on me a deep love and understanding of the intertwined relationships of us all as we live in community.

LARRY RAGLAND

The city was seriously considering closing Vine Street in front of the Civic Center behind the waterfall fountain. We attended several meetings in opposition to that since we believed it would negatively impact traffic in our neighborhood.

Also, the state was practically ready to begin construction on a juvenile detention center fronting Newton Pike on Eastern State Hospital Grounds when it became public. We opposed that, and there were several meetings with folks downtown from vested groups.....the ultimate decision was to construct the facility on the grounds of Blackburn Correctionalwhich was a consensus among all parties.

Also, I do not remember the specific issue but we hired an attorney to represent our viewpoint at council regarding one matter.....as I understood it, that was one of the few times if not the first time that NNA had hired an attorney to represent us.....

We had some really successful tours in those early 2000 years...

Please Support the Sponsors who help make the Northside Neighborhood House and Garden Tour possible.

The Tour is underwritten by LYNN IMAGING, Power's Transmission, Hart's Drycleaning, Hutu-Inson's Drug Store, Morgan Worldwide Consultants, Atomic Cafe, Bank of the Bluegrass, Kentucky Lighting & Supply, Bank of the Bluegrass, Paint by Len, Sullivan Insurance Agency, Frances Babbs-Bick, Frances & Associates, Isle of You, Greg Fitzsimon's Office of Architecture.

The NNA works to maintain the residential character of this downtown neighborhood. In such a densely built area a careful balance must be maintained between preservation and development. We have saved and moved 19th century homes on Miller Street in 1997, landscaped a park at Fifth Street & North Broadway, and plan to break ground on a second home this summer. We are also continuing a program to help residents with their restoration projects by paying for building materials. Your admission price goes directly toward these and other programs.

Thank you so much for spending the day in the Northside. We are so glad you're here!

Northside Neighborhood Association

507 N. Broadway Linden house

2004
Historic
House & Garden Tour
Sunday May 16, 12 - 5 PM

Welcome to the 17th Biannual Tour of Gardens & Homes in the Northside Neighborhood. Since May 17, 1964, Northside neighbors have opened their homes and gardens not only as our major fundraising activity, but as a way of sharing our corner of Lexington that we think is very special. We residents feel there is no place like Northside to live and we take this opportunity to show others the importance of historic preservation. Both the population and architecture of Northside are rich in diversity, and we feel this diversity is to be shared and celebrated.

We know you will enjoy the Northside Neighborhood; Our homes cover nearly 200 years of craftsmanship and range in styles from the spectacular three story Romanesque homes of North Broadway and Fayette Park, to Colonial Revivals on Third Street, to cottages dotted throughout the neighborhood. We have Dutch Colonial, Greek Revival, Federal style homes, there are lovely town homes in Gratz Park and several homes that started out as simple farm houses, from when Northside consisted primarily of farmland. It is with pride that we say that nowhere in Lexington is the history richer than along this Broadway Corridor.

We were the home of Kentucky's first Nobel Prize winner, Kentucky's first millionaire. Noted artist Henry Faulkner, many of Lexington's financial leaders during the turn of the last century, and John Hunt Morgan

JOE SCOTT

There are several things I remember—the most important to me was the stopping of the move to put a juvenile prison at Eastern State, the various ensuing committees and the final evolution of the swap to bring Bluegrass Technical and Community College out to the site and move the hospital out to Coldstream. I think, in the long run, that it will have a transformative effect on property located in the

NNA.

I also thought the cooperative project with other neighborhood associations to address the land use issues in our boundaries—such as Baker Iron & Metal—might bear some fruit in the future and help to get industrial uses out of our boundaries. Someday, I would hope to gain the cooperation of RJ Corman railroad to develop brownfield/land uses for the many abandoned or little used railroad sidings within our boundaries and also have the railroad bridges refurbished—like the one by Hart's.

I was on the board when the juvenile prison first came up. As I recall, a final public hearing was scheduled to take place on the placement of a juvenile detention facility on the grounds of Eastern State Hospital. The exact nature of the proposal had not been made public, but apparently it had been decided in Frankfort that it was a done deal. We got a lot of heavy lifting from Ernesto Scorsone, some help from the mayor, Teresa Isaac, and a number of letters were written to the governor. The idea was shelved, temporarily. Thereafter, Vice Mayor Mike Scanlon appointed a committee chaired by Foster Pettit/Rev. PG Peoples that included three representatives from state government, LFUCG, and I represented NNA. The committee met about six times, including an extensive tour of the Eastern State Hospital property. I ended up writing the committee report, and it castigated the state authorities for trying to force the prison on the Northside, while at the same time pointing out the many alternate uses available for the property. The UK Architecture school students prepared a number of presentations for proposed uses for the property. Either through the persuasiveness of the report or the muscle of the committee, or blind luck, the proposal to move Eastern State pick up momentum, and the trade of properties occurred leading to the present development of the property to house the Technical College campus.

While president, on behalf of the NNA, a committee was formed that consisted of all the neighborhood associations on the Northside; its purpose was to identify the properties within their boundaries that had industrial or other uses that are now totally inconsistent with the residential nature of the neighborhoods. We met monthly for about a year, including detailed meetings with Chris King and others from the LFUCG planning staff. A detailed proposal was presented to the planning staff that was initially unsuccessful; however, it has since led to permission to prepare a neighborhood development plan for our neighborhoods that would eventually permit the elimination of industrial and so many high density zones. A major benefit from this project was the development of a spirit of cooperation between the neighborhood associations

I also was president when the police department offered (and we accepted) to have an officer present at our meetings and to help address problems faced by the NNA. Sgt. Ricky Lynn was assigned to us, and, from my perspective, he personally dealt with scores of issues/problems, and helped us develop a cooperative relationship with law enforcement by providing reliable information on criminal activity in the Northside. He helped in an initial major cleanup at Coolavin.

Another Chinese fire drill came up when it was proposed to close off part of Vine Street in front of the Rupp Arena shops. Counsel was hired, and accusations of conflict of interest by Lexington Center Corp directors helped influence withdrawal of the proposal. (That topic has not yet died).

My final thought is the brownfields and R.C. Corman Railroad Co, and some or most of the sidings and dead ends, can eventually be reclaimed with the assistance of Corman.

Neighborly Get-Together

Elsmere Park Residents Throw A Block Party

Staff Dispatch

"Now wait a minute, wait a minute, let's get these peas even here — no handicaps," said the starter.

The youngsters, down on their hands and knees, tensed expectantly. At the starter's cry of "One, two, three, go!" they began to blow, ever so carefully, through their straws, wafting the peas down the pavement toward the finish line.

Their sport? Why, the First Annual Elsmere Park Block Party Pea-Pushing Tournament, of course.

The folks who live along Elsmere Park, between Sixth and Seventh Streets, decided some time ago they ought to get together for a block party. Invitations were sent out. Chicken, baked beans, sand-

wiches, potato salad and all manner of edibles were prepared. Mrs. George Curran, a sprightly 94-year-old who has lived at 640 since 1904, set her stereo speakers out on the porch, and by Saturday evening everything was set for the party.

Bicycle Races

The pea-pushers were not the only athletes to take the field. There was fast bicycle races for the younger pedalers, and for the older contestants, slow bicycle "races" in which the last person to cross the finish line without losing balance was the victor.

Fran (Speedy) Scott, who wobbled to a triumphant last place in one of the slow heats, attributed his success to "years of effort and hard training" (he rides "17 hours a day."

Asked how he would describe his classy two-wheeler, Scott said: "It's slow."

Magnolia Sweeping

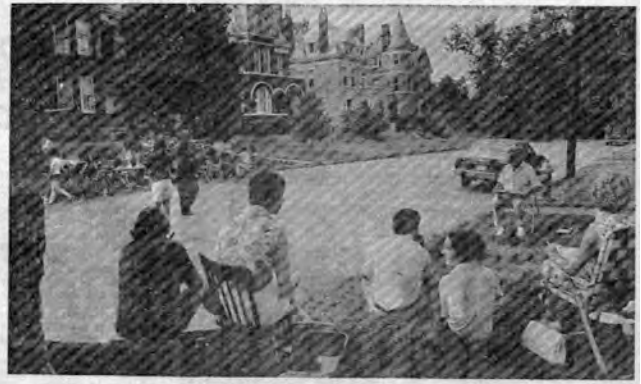
And then there was the Magnolia Leaf Sweeping Relay Race: Four teams of four, armed with brooms, intent upon sweeping dry magnolia leaves 30 feet down the street and 30 feet back to the next team member.

A variety of sweeping techniques was employed. The cautious, controlled bristle nudge was a steady but unspectacular ploy among older sweepers, while the air-current waft provided big gains but little control for others.

In the second heat, an all-female team struck a blow for women, sweeping past competitors and leaving them far behind.

The water-filled balloon toss was a photo-finish, with perhaps a dozen twosomes retiring soggy but undefeated from the field. Dancing in the streets was planned for later in the evening.

"Everybody just sort of enters into these things," said Mrs. John H. Clocker of 632. "Some of them are talking



Long-time Resident

Mrs. George Curran, of 640 Elsmere Park, provided music via her stereo for the neighborhood block party last night. Mrs. Curran, who is 94, says she has lived on Elsmere Park since 1904. Her husband built several of the houses on the street. (Staff Photo by Ron Garrison).



Partygoer

Mason Wilson, 2½, appeared to be enjoying himself last night at the block party staged by the folks who live on Elsmere Park. Cake was just one of the attractions. (Staff Photo by Ron Garrison)

Founding Directors of the Northside Neighborhood Association, 1961

GEORGE LAMASON d.11/11/77
Director of Information, Kentucky Utilities, 1961-1977, two terms as President of NNA, expressions of sympathy to NNA
George Lamason Memorial Fund

WILLIAM AXTON d. 1/25/00
Professor of English and Department Chair at University of Louisville prior to retirement, founder of the Dickens Society; his books include Circle of Fire: Dickens Style and Vision, Popular Victorian Theater. Before entering the faculty at Louisville in 1967 he had taught at University of Kentucky, Brown University and Miami University

H. PHILLIP BACON d.2/2/93
Trust Officer at former Second National Bank; wife, Naomi Wiedeman Bacon

WILLIAM RARDIN BAGBY d. 12/28/02
Lawyer in private practice; born Grayson, KY; Cornell University 1933, Michigan Law School 1936; member St. Hubert's Episcopal for 46 years; Chair, Board of Adjustment; founding member Blue Grass Trust, Northside Neighborhood Association, Gratz Park Neighborhood Association; Chair, Markey Cancer Center Board; Chair, Elizabeth Bagby Trust Board for the Headley Whitney Museum; two books – Tax Einstein Squeals on the IRS and Maggie Bailey: Queen of the Mountain Bootleggers

LUCY CRUMP d. 1/1/98
Native of Fayette County, city's "unofficial mayor of Gratz Park", 1997 received BGT Special Award for her "spirit of volunteerism" and her efforts toward improvement of the Old Episcopal Burying Ground on Third Street, 1994 received local historic preservation award for work on her home at 247 Mill Street, 1985 Garden Club of America zone award, 1987 Lexington Optimist Cup for efforts in historic preservation, 1984 Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission award for "almost 30 years of vigilant and vigilante activities". Her interest in preservation emerged out of the 1995 demolition of a house once inhabited by John Bradford, Kentucky's first printer, and the site of several historic meetings. She was a founder of the Lexington Children's Theater, past president of Lexington Junior League and member of the Garden Club of Lexington and the Iroquois Hunt Club.

JULIET GALLOWAY d. 12/30/95
Writer for the Lexington Herald-leader for 41 years, covered city hall 1945 until she retired in 1974, in 1961 Lexington City Commission wanted to rename Ayres Alley, between Main and Vine for Juliet Galloway in recognition of a veteran city hall reporter – she refused, for Ayres had historic ties. "I ask of you a commitment that you will not – now or ever – move to name a public facility for me", she wrote in a letter to the city. "I request this in all sincerity and humility."

FRANCIS M. MASSIE d. 12/30/95
Prominent surgeon and community leader; recognized for involvement in formation of University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Medical Center, his work at the Lexington Clinic 1924-1961 and 25 years on the Lexington Board of Education, chair for 12 years.

DOUGLASS RUFF d. 3/11/99
Physician

HARRY S. TUCKER, JR. d. 12/13/78
President, Taylor Tire; wife, Lillian Collins Tucker

RUTHERFORD WHITE d. 4/4/77
Son, Rutherford White, Jr.

LUCY Y. FISK d. 1/16 or 17/88
Lifelong resident of Lexington; taught English at Transylvania University 1946-1964

C. A. COLEMAN, JR
Architect

CATHERINE DUNNE, deceased
Longtime resident of North Broadway; teacher at Lexington Junior High School; longtime secretary of NNA

T. B. BIGGERSTAFF, deceased
Dentist

Presidents of the Northside Neighborhood Association

C. A. Coleman, Jr.
Bill Axton
George Lamason
Carl Cone
Bill Fortune
Phil Points
Tim Cone
Pete Cassidy
Frances Lamason
Evan Ray
Win Meeker
Steve Brown
Loris Points
Rose Moloney Lucas
Linda Carroll and John Morgan
Linda Godfrey
Cindy Leonard
Patrick Lee Lucas
Maury Offut
Jay Wightman
Dick Renfro
Ethel Bright
Larry Ragland
Joe Scott
Robo Sutherland
Seth Brewer