

NOTES AND ISSUES

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NO. 3

Parking and Traffic Master Plan for Parkview Discussed at April Meeting

Neighbors Meet New State Senator, Edwin Murray

The membership of the Parkview Neighborhood Association began the long process of developing a master plan covering traffic and parking issues at the Association's general meeting, held April 13 at Vincent Hall at Holy Rosary.

The 16 members of the Association who attended the meeting also got an opportunity to meet Parkview's new State Senator, Edwin Murray, who was recently elected to replace Paulette Irons, who is now a Civil District Court Judge.

State Representative Peppi Bruneau attended the meeting, as did Nicole Webre, of City Councilman Jay Batt's staff.

As at previous meetings two issues dominated the discussion: parking and crime. Regarding parking

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FSJ Residents Express Concerns Over Fair Grounds' Slots Proposal

Residents in Faubourg St. John, fearing a full scale casino is in store at Fair Grounds, have organized formal opposition to Churchill Downs' stated plans for a 24 hours a day slot machine facility at the Gentilly track.

On April 20 a meeting of concerned residents, organized as a Task Force, took place at the former Lutheran Church on Grand Route St. John,

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Spanish Customs House for Sale for \$3.4 Million

A shopper looks at tools at a final garage sale at the Spanish Customs House in preparation for the house being put up for sale. The asking price for the home is \$3.4 million, according to Talbot Historic Properties.



Booklet on Parkview Produced by PRC

Recommends Walking Tours

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just two blocks from the track's paddock. Over 70 residents were present, along with City Councilwoman Jackie Clarkson and Nicole Webre of City Councilman Jay Batt's office.

Councilwoman Clarkson told the crowd, according to *The Times-Picayune*, "What you agree to is what I commit to. They will not be given anything you will not have."

Organizers of the Task Force made it clear that they are not anti-horse racing nor anti-Fair Grounds or even anti-Churchill Downs; however, they do want politicians to understand that there is huge neighborhood opposition to increased gambling at the track. A survey of 186 residents was cited that showed 91 percent of respondents opposing 24 hour a day gambling. While a third of those who responded said that they would accept limited slot machine gambling, a clear majority said that they oppose all casino gambling at Fair Grounds.

The survey also showed that many in Faubourg St. John, 45% of those who responded, feel that the casino issue is such a threat that they have considered moving or selling their property.

Tommy Usdin, President of the Faubourg St. John Neighborhood Association, explained his organization's understanding of the issues. Representatives of Fair Grounds were invited to attend but were unable to do so. ■



The Greves, who have lived on Leda since 1968, listen at the meeting.

Dreyfous Family Website Will Please Fans of City Park History

Felix J. Dreyfous, considered to be one of the founders of City Park, is the subject of a website put together by his descendants. Dreyfous, who was born in 1857, was a member of the generation that grew up during Reconstruction, and who later were responsible for the building of the foundation of modern New Orleans, being involved in the development of parks, streets, drainage and modern legal systems.

Besides biographical information, nearly a hundred letters of Dreyfous' are transcribed.

The site can be found at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/jeiseman1/fjd.html>

Problems Reported By Members

NOTE: If you have a problem to report that you'd like for the Association to take action on, please let us know either at 483-0733 or marktullis@bellsouth.net.

DATE PROB- LEM RE- PORTED	DESCRIPTION OF PROBLEM	STATUS OF RESOLUTION
Feb. 2003	Parking of vehicles on the banks of the Bayou, especially near the Magnolia Gardens/Harding Bridge.	The Association has exhausted nearly all options in trying to discourage vehicles from parking on the Bayou. The next step is to work with the City in erecting granite curbing to physically prevent vehicles from parking on the Bayou.
March 2003	Roosevelt. Automobiles parked improperly make it difficult for large emergency vehicles to travel down the street.	Ideas needed by members on how to address this problem. Another Roosevelt resident has recently brought this matter to the Association's attention. More members from Roosevelt are needed.
June 2004	Improper parking on Dumaine near Carrollton making entering and exiting driveways difficult.	All members who need or desire street marking will be contacted. Board is embarking on a project to ask the City to strip areas around driveways to give guidance to drivers. This will be included in the parking and traffic master plan.
Oct. 2004	Commercial flyers being placed on doors, creating litter.	Businesses are contacted, asking them to patrol areas to look for litter.
Oct. 2004	Condition of street on St. John Court	Will target this as a street to repair after Olga and Picheloup work is completed.
Oct. 2004	Empty lot on Moss and St. John Court needs attention	Owner of record will be notified. Letter sent to lot owner in April 2005, asking for attention to the matter.
Jan. 2005	Speeding on Harding Drive	

Last Call for Membership Dues

If You Haven't Paid Yet, Please Do So

Mail Dues to P.O. Box 791577, N.O., LA 70179

EDITORIAL

**LACK OF ENFORCEMENT BY CITY
SOURCE OF MANY URBAN WOES**

Many of the problems that New Orleans is now facing are the result of a longtime practice of the City to ignore its own ordinances. Whether the problem has to do with zoning or parking or even property assessments, all have their roots in the City's continuing to look the other way.

Take parking on the Bayou, for example. For years neighborhood groups have complained about individuals parking on the banks of the Bayou, a direct violation of a posted city ordinance. The City responds by doing nothing. Yet, each year during Jazz Fest, the same City sends out tow trucks by the dozen to tow tourists who park in much the same way that locals do all year round without any punishment.

Permits are rarely applied for by residents seeking to add apartments or driveways because these residents are well aware that zoning laws are generally not enforced in the City. Thus, the City is full of examples of illegal non-conforming uses.

Currently Uptown, neighbors surrounding Audubon Park are being told that they have to remove fencing and other encroachments on the Park's property. Yet, elsewhere in the City there are many examples of encroachments onto City property.

A major purpose of all laws is to give notice to citizens of what is unacceptable behavior. When laws are not enforced citizens respond by deciding themselves what is right and what is wrong. Petty crimes go unpunished and civil wrongs go unaddressed, all leading to chaos.

Markets may drive up the price of homes, but it is the enforcement of a City's ordinances that will keep those values from sinking.

LETTERS

Policy Regarding Letters

Letters from members to *Notes and Issues* are welcome with the understanding that there is no vested or absolute right to have letters published. Letters may be edited to reduce length or for reasons of style or content. No letter will be published that attacks another member or attempts to bring a personal disagreement between two members before the membership at large. Letters that might discourage or disparage membership in the Association will not be published.

Libelous material is never allowed. A letter containing information which could be construed as libel will not be printed.

Letters may either be e-mailed to marktullis@bellsouth.net or simply mailed to Parkview Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 791577, New Orleans, LA 70179.

Bayou St. John Neighborhood Security Program Holds Annual Meeting; Sentry Security Welcomed as New Patrol Provider

On April 11 at Vincent Hall at Holy Rosary the Bayou St. John Neighborhood Security Program held its annual meeting. Fourteen members of the organization attended the meeting, which was chaired by President Ruth Stone.

Sentry Security, the new patrol provider, was introduced to those in attendance. Sentry's owner Russell Wojdoc answered questions about problem areas, crimes and preventive measures.



Cathy Pacyna said that "the new patrol service was bending over backwards to accommodate" the organization. She said that she has heard from members that the officers are very visible and attentive while on patrol.

New patrol signs have been ordered and soon each member will receive one to display on his property. These new signs are larger and brighter than the older model, and it is hoped by the Board that the signs themselves will help to deter crime.

There has been a slight increase in the quarterly fee for membership in the program. Because of increased costs the fee had to be increased from \$66 per quarter to \$80 per quarter. It was noted that this was the first fee increase in over ten years.

Some members of the group discussed the creation of a special crime prevention district. During the discussion members were reminded that a number of years ago a group tried to start just such a crime prevention district; however, in surveying the neighborhood, it was discovered that there was not sufficient support for a program. ■

Tour of City Park's Historic Live Oak Trees

The Friends of City Park have available a color brochure that outlines a walking tour featuring its majestic live oaks. Complete with map, the booklet points out many of the more interesting oaks, including the Morel Oak, site of many duels.

[Parkview News]

(Continued from page 1)

members continue to express their displeasure of the number of cars that park on the Bayou. The feelings of the members have been made known to the City since 2003; however, the City has not addressed these problems. The members continued the discussion of placing paving blocks on the edge of the Bayou's levee in order to physically prevent vehicles from driving onto the levee.

Two other parking issues concerned cars illegally parking on the Orleans neutral ground and abandoned cars on Orleans Avenue.

Developing a master plan for Parkview that would cover parking and traffic issues was again discussed at the meeting. Members were asked to fill out a brief survey on their feelings regarding one way streets and the use of four way stops at intersections. Eleven surveys were returned at the meeting. The questions in this survey will be incorporated into a much longer and detailed survey that will be distributed to the full membership. Members who are interested in working on the master plan are invited to do so.



A number of recent crimes were reported and discussed. Many of these crimes included car burglaries and car thefts. It was suggested that all of the crimes reported in Parkview be published in the newsletter.

A member brought to everyone's attention a couple living in Parkview both of whom just returned from active military duty overseas. It was suggested that a piece profiling the couple be written for the monthly newsletter.

State Representative Bruneau, who spoke at the end of the meeting, commented on two issues that were mentioned. First, he spoke in favor of Parkview forming a Special Crime Prevention District, citing the success of Lakeview's program. Second, he commended the City Park Board for its work in developing a master plan, noting that the process has been fair and open.

Mr. Bruneau next introduced State Senator Murray, who said that he was very pleased to be representing Parkview and invited members to call his office with any problems or concerns. His office number is 945-0042. ■

Whole Foods Shuttered on April 20; Residents Now Focus on What is Next

With shelves empty and produce bins covered in paper, Whole Foods shut its doors on April 20, putting an end to a retail outlet that many believe was most responsible for turning Faubourg St. John into one of the most desirable to live in neighborhoods in New Orleans. In the days leading up to the closing long-time customers hugged equally long-time employees, with tears seen on many faces.



All thoughts now turn to who will buy the building and what the new owner will do with it. For months now a group of concerned residents have been surveying the neighborhood to find out what kind of business is most needed. Not surprisingly many of those surveyed want a grocery store similar to Whole Foods to stay at the location. According to news reports Whole Foods accepted bids on the building. It is the hope of the organized group of residents that it will have some influence over this bidding process, and that ultimately Whole Foods will want to pick a buyer who will meet with the neighborhood's approval.

Meanwhile, the new Whole Foods Market in Metairie is set to open in mid-May. Later this year the first Louisiana store outside of the New Orleans area will debut in Baton Rouge. ■

Neighborhood First Dodged Bullet to Close Store Back in 1993

As early as 1993 there were signs that the Esplanade location was too small to fit into the Austin-based company's plans.

On November 11, 1993 a story in *The Times-Picayune* announced that two new stores were planned for the metro area and that the Esplanade store would be downgraded to a bakery. The stores would be located Uptown and Metairie, exactly in the areas where the new stores are located today.

Two days later the project was abandoned, with the company saying "There's no guarantee we'll open any new stores in New Orleans. We are totally location-driven. If we can't find the right location, we won't open a store." ■

*Editor's Note:
Thanks to Gloria Becnel
who submitted the original
newspaper article.*

Olga Street Work to Be Delayed Because of Other Problems

More Than Just Re-Paving Needed, Says City

Residents of Olga Street will have to wait longer than expected to have their street repaired, thanks to preliminary examinations that revealed other problems, including drainage, according to representatives of City Councilman Jay Batt's office. Now, under the new plan, all of the problems can be addressed at one time, rather than doing re-paving work which would then have to be torn up to deal with draining issues.

Olga as a street predates Parkview as a neighborhood, and as such has some of the oldest drainage and sewer systems in Parkview. Installed nearly 100 years ago during the Behrman Administration, the City's drainage and sewer systems are now being replaced all over the City.

Councilman Batt announced at the October 2004 meeting of the Parkview Neighborhood Association of his plans to include Olga, as well as Picheloup, in the City's budget for street repairs. Nicole Webre of the Councilman's staff said recently that owing to the new problems that have surfaced, plus the complexities of the job and the additional costs, that delays should be expected. ■

Number of Streetcars on Carrollton Spur Reduced

Now Every Fourth Car Ends at City Park

Responding to complaints about the speed of the Canal Street line, RTA recently removed a number of cars off of the Carrollton spur and put them to use on the Canal line, according to an April 18 article in *The Times-Picayune*.

Rosalind Blanco Cook of RTA pointed out that "passengers have become more familiar with the new fare boxes, and the RTA reduced the number of City Park and museum cars that end their trip at Esplanade Avenue to every fourth car." Originally, every other car terminated at Esplanade, in part to serve tourists.

Parkview residents who catch the streetcar at Beauregard Circle may not notice the change, as generally a car doesn't leave that position until another car is coming in. Most of the time the City Park cars are approximately 30 minutes apart. However, unlike the Canal route, the Carrollton spur does not operate all night. The last City Park car leaves Canal and the river at just before 1:00 AM. ■

Parkview Featured in Preservation Resource Center Series

Booklet Invites Readers to Visit “20th Century Neighborhood”

The Preservation Resource Center (PRC) is currently underwriting a project that introduces visitors and locals alike to the many neighborhoods of the City. Called “Living with History in New Orleans’ Neighborhoods,” the PRC is publishing small colorful booklets that contain background information on each neighborhood, as well as points of interest and a walking tour. The February issue of *Preservation in Print*, the PRC’s magazine, featured the booklet on Parkview.

The booklet uses the National Register’s boundaries of Parkview rather than those of the neighborhood association, so the area covered is quite large, and includes the City Park Triangle. The park is featured widely in the booklet, including the cover photo, which shows a runner jogging past the Alexander Street gates. This life of leisure is emphasized in the text:

There’s a small town tranquility to Parkview caused in part by its irregularly laid out streets and hidden courts, such as St. John’s Alley and Bungalow Court. But, at the same time, Parkview is a vital neighborhood that holds on to its residents while also attracting new young families and singles. The 1500 acre park, with its tennis courts, golf course, museum, open air theaters, lagoons and jogging and biking trails, is a great attraction.

One of the two walking tours suggests that visitors “cross N. Claiborne Avenue to explore the warren of streets tucked between Carrollton Avenue and Bayou St. John.”

Sheltered beneath great shade trees only steps from the beautiful bayou, this area is one of the city’s secrets. Follow one of the presidential streets (Roosevelt or Taft Place) to Orleans Avenue or follow Harding Drive to the bayou, turn right and detour into St. John’s Alley for the feel of a 1920s Gulf Coast resort community.

Photos in the article include ones of the Can Company, homes on Allard, and a panoramic shot of homes on Moss Street, near Carrollton.

Members of the Preservation Resource Center receive *Preservation in Print* as part of their membership dues. The organization’s website, which often includes many of the articles in the magazine, can be found at www.prcno.org. ■

[Parkview News]

Spanish Customs House Offered for Sale at \$3.4 Million

One of Only Two 18th Century Homes Remaining on Bayou

The Spanish Customs House, 1300 Moss Street, the very first building to be recognized for its historical importance with a plaque by the Orleans Parish Landmarks Commission in 1957, is offered for sale for \$3.4 million, according to Talbot Historic Properties, which is handling the sale. Along with the Pitot House, which was extensively restored in the mid-1960's, the Spanish Customs House is believed to have been built during the Spanish Colonial Period.

If the sellers are successful in getting their asking price, they will have far surpassed the previous record for area residential property. The Parker House, 924 Moss Street, which would also be considered to be an important home, was purchased in 2000 for \$700,000.

Many believe that this house is the best example of West Indies style of architecture in the City. According to *Landmarks of New Orleans*, the official guidebook of the Louisiana Landmarks Society, "The French Colonial plantation type house was probably built or remodeled after 1807 for Captain Elie Beauregard by Robert Alexander who built the first United States Custom House in 1807-1809 on the Canal Street site of the present custom house. Alexander demolished the old Spanish custom house behind the Canal Street site and may have used its materials in this house at the

A Spanish Customs House Bibliography

All of the following titles are in print and discuss the Spanish Customs House.

Fred Daspit, *Louisiana Architecture, 1714-1830*. Center for Louisiana Studies.

The Architecture of Colonial Louisiana: Collected Essays of Samuel Wilson. Center for Louisiana Studies.

Herman de Bachellet Seebold, *Old Louisiana Plantation Homes and Family Trees*. Pelican.

Historic American Building Survey. The records of this Depression era project can be found on the website of the Library of Congress. Drawings and an architectural history of the Spanish Customs House can be found there.

time he built the bayou bridge here, resulting in the popular name of this house, the Old Spanish Custom House."

The house is mentioned frequently in scholarly publications on architecture and history, but as is often the case, it is the romantic versions of a history that are the most interesting. *Old Louisiana Plantation Homes and Family Trees* devotes three pages to the subject, including a description of the interior of the home and the paintings that adorned its walls in 1941, when the book was published. According to the book, "One of the traditions of the house is that Jean

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Book Review:

An Unnatural Metropolis: Wrestling New Orleans from Nature

Craig Colten's *An Unnatural Metropolis: Wrestling New Orleans from Nature* (LSU Press; 2005) is the third book published in as many years by university presses that examine the unique relationship between New Orleans and the water that surrounds it on all sides. And like the previous two books Colten's is a must have for those readers who are interested in the 300 year old struggle to create a city out of a swamp.

Colten, like most young geographers, accepts Peirce Lewis' argument that New Orleans is both an "impossible but inevitable city." That is while the site of the original city, between the river and the Lake, is at war with the elements, it is because of its situation on the river with easy access to the lake via Bayou St. John that it was the best spot for the French to establish the city.

In the 19th century Bayou St. John was used to drain rainwater into the Lake. Later, as the City struggled with ways to manage waste, the Bayou was used as a surface drain for sewage instead of as a source for much needed drinking water for the rear of the City. Colten notes that in 1835 an ordinance was passed mandating a cemetery to be built on the Bayou, although it appears that it was never established.

At times the book reads like a history of public engineering, but Colten's interesting narrative helps turn the pages through chapters on river flooding and the levee system designed to control it, on garbage and the struggle to dispose of it (often dumped in the river) and on the massive undertaking in the early 19th century to make drinking water available to everyone. An extensive bibliography compliments the text, with many obscure manuscript items listed.

The final chapter discusses wetland conservation and wildlife preservation, which while both noble subjects, really don't fit into the overall structure of the book. The maps, many of which are reproduced from Sewage and Water Board reports, are adequate. ■

Other Books Mentioned:

Transforming New Orleans and Its Environs: Centuries of Change. Edited by Craig Colten. University of Pittsburgh Press; 2000.

Ari Kelman, *A River and Its City: The Nature of Landscape in New Orleans.* University of California Press. 2003.

Peirce Lewis, *New Orleans: The Making of an Urban Landscape.* Second Edition. Center for American Places; 2003.

[Parkview Real Estate]

**Turnover Brisk with Faubourg St. John Real Estate
Nearly a Quarter of All 2004 Purchases for Sale Again in 2005**

In 2004 there were 47 home sales in Faubourg St. John. Nearly a quarter of these homes, eleven total, are now for sale again in 2005. And, with the year not even half over, there is plenty of reason to believe that this percentage will increase.

Parkview has not experienced nearly as many turnovers, owing mainly to fewer renovation possibilities in Parkview. Also, Parkview has a higher concentration of single family housing than Faubourg St. John, which again limits the options that a buyer may have when considering a renovation project.

The following table shows detailed information on the eleven homes. The asking price is the original asking price. Reductions in price have not been factored in, although four of these homes have already been reduced. Another five were only listed last month:

<i>House</i>	<i>Purchase Price (2004)</i>	<i>Selling Price (Asking) (2005)</i>	<i>Percent Increase</i>
Dumaine	\$140,000	\$210,000	50%
N. White	\$165,000	\$379,000	130%
N. Hagan	\$259,000	\$299,000	15%
DeSoto	\$275,000	\$589,000	114%
Ursulines	\$485,000	\$585,000	21%
Ursulines	\$60,000	\$359,000	498%
Esplanade	\$249,000	\$430,000	73%
Ursulines	\$275,000	\$438,000	59%
DeSoto	\$430,000	\$565,000	31%
N. White	\$215,000	\$263,000	22%
Gr Rt. St. John	\$270,000	\$545,000	102%

April proved to be an especially busy month for Faubourg St. John real estate as 17 homes were listed for sale. This includes four homes on DeSoto. A total of six

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[Parkview Real Estate]

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homes on DeSoto have now been placed for sale this year. This is significant as DeSoto was the most active street last year too with seven sales, four over \$400,000. If this trend continues, especially with the appreciation of these homes, it would not be surprising to see homes on DeSoto listed in the \$600,000's as early as next year. Already this year a home in the 3100 block of DeSoto is listed at \$725,000.

Meanwhile Parkview listings are few. At the end of April only three homes were for sale. This contrasts sharply with much of last year when usually there were at least six homes in Parkview available for purchase. In mid-December of 2004, for example, eleven homes were for sale. ■

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Lafitte made there his proffer of aid to the American army just before the Battle of New Orleans, submitting to a grilling interview with General Andrew Jackson and the territorial governor, Claiborne, who distrusted the sincerity of the buccaneer." According to lore Lafitte hid a treasure behind a heavy mantel-piece made of mahogany wood in an upper room of the house.

There have been a number of sales at the house. The most recent one featured tools, hardware and gardening equipment. An earlier sale included art work and books. Some of the books that were offered at the earlier sale included early Louisiana histories, travel accounts and other manuscripts. ■



Tax Assessor's Office Now On-Line

Information on tax assessments on nearly all of the City's 162,000 parcels of immovable property can now be found on-line at www.opboa.org. This database will quickly give a viewer information on the property, including the square and lot numbers, as well as the description of the lot. For those doing title searches the book and folio numbers for recordation are also given.

The database is searchable by property owner's name or address. The data is returned very quickly, pleasing those who have been frustrated with the Property Database that the City has put together on its own website. ■

Bayou Area School Celebrates 100th Anniversary

McDonogh No. 31, on N. Rendon at St. Ann, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this month. For it was on May 8, 1905 that Mayor Martin Behrman, along with School Superintendent Warren Easton, accepted the completed school building from the architect Paul Andry. The ceremony was quick and simple, as newspaper reports noted that the school was needed at once.

This was a golden age of the building of schools in the Mid-City and Bayou areas, then often referred simply as the Rear of the City. Crossman, on Carrollton, was opened in 1908. In 1909 Beauregard was built on Canal Street, while on Esplanade work was being done on what would become John McDonogh.

The school's architect Paul Andry is responsible for many buildings in the area, including St. Rose de Lima Church on Bayou Road and the Peristyle in City Park. In the Uptown area Andry's firm designed the Ursuline Convent on State Street and buildings on Tulane's campus.

McDonogh 31's name was recently changed to Morris F.X. Jeff. The school remains an elementary school with over 300 students. Before John Dibert was established in 1922, McDonogh 31 served as the primary public school for many of the children who grew up in the Parkview area.

The school was quickly built with the cornerstone having been put in place the previous November. It was at this event that the politicians celebrated the power of the public purse. *The Daily Picayune* of November 20, 1904 reported the event, which is reprinted here in its entirety:

The ceremony of laying the cornerstone of McDonogh 31 School was observed yesterday afternoon after the manner of such dedications. There were in attendance at the laying of the cornerstone, city officials, officers of the School Board, school teachers and children of the public schools. On the school front there had been erected a platform and on this were found, at the opening of the ceremonies, Superintendent Warren Easton, President Wilson, Secretary Williams, Directors Duffy and Frantz; Auditor Capdevielle, Acting Mayor Mehle, Mr. Andry, the architect and Mr. Moullet, the contractor.

Shortly after 2 o'clock the exercises were begun by calling the teachers and children front facing the platform. Rev. Dr. E.W. Hunter was called upon for prayer after Superintendent Easton had announced that he would say no more than that the speak-

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[Parkview History]

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ers would tell all that was to be said concerning McDonogh and the new school.

Rev. Dr. Hunter uttered a prayer invoking the aid and guidance of the Divine Master in the building and conduct of the new school. He said it was imperative that education and religion should go hand in hand in the advancement of what was for the welfare of man and woman. He prayed the Lord to send down his benediction upon the institution and the children and those else who would attend it.

Auditor Capdevielle being called upon next, said he had been asked by Acting Mayor Mehle to attend the ceremonies and address the teachers and children on behalf of the city administration, and he was right glad of this opportunity to do so, for this school was close to his own home. He said he was glad to see that so many had come to witness the laying of the corner stone of McDonogh School No. 31. It was significant, he said, because it represented that the world's greatest benefactors had in this, provided the thirty-first McDonogh School, a wonderful tribute to a man who had deprived himself the necessities of life in order that he might leave an educative heritage to the children of this cit and Baltimore. Mr. Capdevielle said that all who had contributed towards the building of the McDonogh school were deserving of great praise, for a structure being reared was all that it should be, and would be a monument to education for the present and time to come. The Mayor then had a heart-to-heart talk with the children and told them what to do to become men and women of education. He told them it was everything in life and congratulated them that they had the advantages of the finest schools in the world, and instructors who were the equal of any.

Upon the conclusion of Auditor Capdevielle's address the children sang "America," and then President Wilson of the School Board, had his something to say. It was to the purpose that the Capdevielle Administration had much to its credit in the cause of education for during that period the La Salle and McDonogh 31, and the two Frank T. Howard schools had been erected. The laying of the corner stone was a significant event, instancing as it did the benefaction of John McDonogh, the world's greatest philanthropist, and after a talk to the teachers and children, closed his address.

Rev. Dr. Hunter closed with prayer, and the children sang the "McDonogh" songs and followed with "Dixie." Then all repaired to the lunch that had been tendered by Contractor Noullet and prepared by his neighbor Joe Abadie.

After Auditor Capdevielle closed his address he was handed a golden trowel with which he spread the mortar on which the corner stone is to rest. The stone was immediately set and was found to contain on the face the following inscription: Erected A.D. 1904 - City Administration of 1900-1904 - Paul Capdevielle.

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[*Parkview Events*]

PARKVIEW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday May 9 7:00 PM	Faubourg St. John Neighborhood Assoc. Vincent Hall, 1324 Moss St. Discussion of Fair Grounds slot machine proposal	
Thursday May 12 6:00 PM	Betsy McGovern City Park Botanical Gardens Soprano sings songs inspired by Irish poet Breden Kennelly.	
Saturday May 21 7:00 PM	Poetry of the Heart Fair Grinds Coffehouse Original poems read by Mary Feagan.	
Saturday May 28 10:00 AM- 4:00	Mid-City Art Market Monthly event moves to its new location in City Park, near the tennis courts. See story below.	

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The building is to be entirely of brick, having two floors and a basement, the face of the building to show either smooth brick or concrete face. The construction has advanced through the first floor. It is to be a twelve room building, one of the rooms to be large enough for the kindergarten. The building has been under the supervision of an inspector, who had followed every bit of the detail with the result that everything is as is best for the city and the contractor.

It will be some little while before the building is completed. The teaching staff has not been provided for yet. The school is to be for boys and girls, and will be occupied to the full when it is ready for occupancy. The members of the McDonogh Commission expressed themselves very well satisfied with the construction as far as it has proceeded. ■

No Parking on the Bayou

Small paper "No Parking" signs sprout up along the Bayou each year during Jazz Fest. Enforcement of parking restrictions is very strict during this two week period. City tow trucks with full loads can be seen everywhere heading to the pound underneath the overpass on Claiborne.

