

ON THE FRONT PORCH



Neighborly News and Views from Uptown • March 2007

Welcome to *On The Front Porch*, the newsletter serving the Uptown community!

We've put together this publication for many and varied reasons, but primarily it is meant to serve as a communication tool between all of us here in Uptown, to inform, to educate, and hopefully at times, to entertain.

The ongoing success of *On The Front Porch* rests in all of our hands; the residents, the businesses, the new and the old. We want to hear from you - your thoughts, your ideas, your wishes for *your* neighborhood. If you're having an event, a yard sale, a community soccer game in the park, let us know! We have set up a general email at OnTheFrontPorch@gmail.com where you can contact us!

We also want to include information about the programs going on in the neighborhood that are being spearheaded by non-resident groups, development activities, and not-for-profit initiatives, in order to keep you well-informed about the changes being made every day in Uptown.

We hope that in the coming months *On The Front Porch* will continue to get bigger and better - we want to add a community classified section, we encourage submissions for stories, articles and photos from everyone. Let's take advantage of everything we have in Uptown and make 2007 the year to really *build* this community - in more than just the bricks and mortar sense of the word!





THUMBS UPTOWN



Thumbs Up to the **Service Over Self (SOS)** organization for expanding their homeowner rehab program into Uptown starting this weekend! Their Spring campers this March will make a huge difference in Uptown homeowners' lives!

www.sosmemphis.org



Thumbs Up to **Humes Middle Principal Michael Bates** who is such a positive influence in our children's lives, working tirelessly to show them how to change their future through hard work and determination!

www.memphis-schools.k12.tn.us/schools

If you would like to contribute to Thumbs Uptown, please email your submission to OnTheFrontPorch@gmail.com.

Of course, we reserve the right to edit any submissions for either content or length.



Thumbs Up to the Memphis Police Department for reassigning **Officer Love** to the Uptown neighborhood! Officer Love has been a great asset to Uptown since 2003 and we're all so glad to have her back with **Officer Willis**.

www.memphispolice.org



Thumbs Up to the **Community Foundation of Memphis** for a grant enabling eco-friendly trees to be planted in Uptown yards during 2007! Look out for a door-hanger regarding your free tree this Spring!

www.cfgm.org



Thumbs Down to the **person who stole my UPS package** off my front porch last week! I hope you enjoyed my Valentine's Day gift! However, I bought myself a replacement gift, so next time we'll be watching and waiting!

www.surveillance-spy-cameras.com



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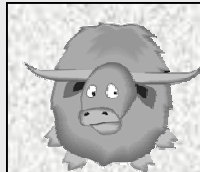
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On The Front Porch has a monthly distribution of over 1,200 copies throughout the Uptown area. If you are interested in advertising, please email us at OnTheFrontPorch@gmail.com.

Advertising Rates and Sizes:

1/8 page (3.75" x 2")	\$20
1/4 page (3.75" x 5")	\$30
1/2 page (5" x 7.5")	\$55
Full page (7.5" x 10")	\$100



GO AHEAD ... YAK IT UP!
UPTOWNYAK.COM
YOUR COMMUNITY WEBSITE

UPTOWN PROFILES

Uptown Residents - In Their Own Words



In the Spring of 2000, I opened Café Francisco in the Pinch, just near an old residential neighborhood called Greenlaw. I had always wanted to live in an older home in downtown Memphis, but there were so few. And they were very expensive. But in the summer of 2002 I got an opportunity to purchase a home in Greenlaw built in 1912. I learned the area was soon to become Uptown with many improvements such as infill where the homes had once stood and fallen to disrepair. It seemed a good thing. I would get my older home; just minutes from work. I would live in the downtown area. And I would get to watch the metamorphosis of a neighborhood. I became fast friends with my wonderful neighbors and joined in the community group efforts through Uptown Alliance and Reverend Moore at Community Methodist Church at the end of my block. Over the last five

years I've watched the neighborhood change right before my eyes. I've also worked with neighbors in a struggle to define a project this unique, in terms of people, not housing. Uptown IS unique. That's what has been, in my experience, our greatest asset and our biggest hurdle. People looking in from the outside see the packaging, but when you are on the inside of Uptown looking out, it's the most incredible display of community effort I have ever been fortunate enough to be a part. It's funny really. Uptown has the diversity of a dense urban area with the most delightfully rural feel of an old country neighborhood.

- **Julie Ray, Uptown since 2000**



Mother of Ryan Sebastian and Maxine Simone; Office and Catering Manager for A & R Bar-be-que. Part-time Community Builder for Uptown Alliance. I fell in love with Uptown when I first saw the plans during my tenure with Housing and Community Development (HCD). I guess the universe heard me when I said, "I'm moving Uptown." That was in 1999. What do I like most about Uptown? The people. Uptown is a very diverse community. I'm a fan of diversity. Uptown is also beautiful. From my apartment I have a great view of the new houses, the city line and the top of the Pyramid. In the fall, when the trees are bare, I can see the Memphis Bridge. I have a contract on an Uptown home that will give me an even better Memphis view. I'm very impressed with the commitment of the developers. I know personally it's not a hit and run deal. The Uptown Partnership is equally concerned with both the newcomers and the existing residents; those

who have been here. What would I change about Uptown? If I had a magic wand, I would change the mentality of those that are resistant to change. I would make them realize that we all are now part of a progressive community ... that's a good place to be. Uptown is a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

- **Tanja Mitchell, Uptown since 2004**

UPTOWN TOP TEN

The Top Ten Reasons To Move To Uptown

10. Close enough to catch a trolley to your downtown entertainment destination (built-in designated driver!)
9. Where else in urban downtown can you have a pet chicken? Or squirrel, or purple martin?
8. Only a bridge and a couple of red lights away from Wal-Mart (not to mention a great river view!)
7. EcoBUILD - why pay MLGW more than you need to? Uptown saves 38% on electricity and 56% on gas!
6. Your own little slice of Uptown - a front porch perfect for a swing!
5. Convenient to good Downtown, Harbor Town, Uptown and Midtown schools!
4. Café Francisco - where else can you get Elvis' Last Jelly Donut flavored coffee (and free wireless)!
3. Make an investment in your future - buy while the market is heating up (not cooling down!)
2. Community - live in a real one, with people who understand the meaning of the word!
1. I mean really, who doesn't want to be (or be seen with) an Uptown Girl?

UPTOWN CONNECTIONS

What's On and What's Up in Uptown

Saturday, March 3 - Uptown Neighborhood Watch Meeting

10:00 a.m. Uptown Square Apartments Leasing Office, 252 North Lauderdale.

Come and Meet your neighborhood Memphis Police Department officers. Girl Scout Cookies will also be for sale!

Saturday, March 3 - Downtown Night at the Memphis Grizzlies.

4:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Pre-Game Party at the Gibson Beale Street Showcase. 7:00 p.m. Game vs. Detroit Pistons.

For information on ticket prices (the pre-game party includes free food and beer!) call 901-888-4667 ext. 2

Monday, March 5 - Problem Properties Collaborative Meeting.

5:30 p.m. Urban Child Institute, 600 Jefferson Avenue.

Thursday, March 8 - Uptown Neighborhood Meet And Greet / UCA Meeting

6:30 p.m. Café Francisco, 400 North Main Street. The best way to keep up with What's Up in Uptown!

Saturday, March 10 - Josh Threlkeld & The One Night Stand Band

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Café Francisco, 400 North Main Street.

Sunday, April 29 - EJ's Building Bridges for Kids 5K Race in Uptown

3:30 p.m. Bridges HQ, 477 North Fifth. To Register and learn more - go to www.ejs5k.com.

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