

# M center city ©

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Cultural events are rare enough in Memphis, especially in the field of the performing arts, but rarer still is the birth of an on-going professional organization, the product of private initiative, created to bring continual theatre to Memphians. Playhouse on the Square is such a god-send and one of several harbingers of better days for Memphians desirous of the finer things. Playhouse on the Square is a welcome sign for Downtown, too, for as the saying goes: "What's good for Midtown's good for Downtown."

Playhouse on the Square, located at 2121 Madison Avenue, opened the doors to its first production, "Godspell," on November 12th. Performances are scheduled for Wednesday, Friday and Sunday nights at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday's at 6:30 p. m. and 10:00 p. m. through December 14th.

Playhouse has announced auditions for its next two productions. Auditions for "A Shot in the Dark" are scheduled for 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, November 16th, and 7-10 on Monday, November 17th. Auditions for "Tobacco Road" are set for Sunday, November 16th from 2-4 p. m.

In addition to the theatrics, the Playhouse facilities will also host a

## GOOD MUSE FOR OVERTON SQUARE

series of chamber music concerts every Saturday, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., from November 12th through May 2nd. Designed both to give exposure and performance experience to the musicians and to better acquaint Memphians with chamber music, the programs for Chambermusik on the Square will be co-

ordinated by Bindy Snyder and will be free to the public.

For information regarding Playhouse on the Square call 725-0776. Anyone interested in participating in the Chambermusik on the Square should write: Bindy Snyder, 4167 Chanwil Pl., Memphis, 38117.

*Photo: Sometimes the pieces just don't fit. This building on Poplar Avenue was demolished this summer — occasionally it does make sense.*



Give the  
People a  
Light &  
They'll  
Call It  
a UFC

If anyone hasn't noticed, there's an interesting phenomenon developing in this country's politics: there is a political philosophy that is ever so gradually evolving in the mouths and notions of an unlikely combination of people. The various concepts of this philosophy are not novel ones, but perhaps their constellation is original—most certainly the attitudes behind them are. This philosophy is as yet an inarticulate infant; its doctrine is spreading rapidly by the mere spontaneity of its discovery and the inherent reasonability of its precepts to contemporary Americans. Politics for the average person are ceasing to be party badges and are instead becoming, simply, various representative styles of existence—as daily as going to the market, turning on the heat, or just walking down the street.

Apparently, dissolution of the old, strong political alliances is <sup>im</sup>minent, especially if this trend takes on more of the conscious determination of a movement. A new delineation is ahead. Liberals are being left to their self-righteous standardizations, and Conservatives are finding their cushy axioms stolen right out of their pompous jowls. The more independent sympathizers of the old creeds can now be seen supporting a wide variety of previously considered unimportant issues. Of course, there is one basic alignment that has not altered and is not likely to—BIGNESS versus smallness. But the new approach at least promises some inventiveness and a diversity of solutions.

Let's call this new political philosophy *Radical Localism: Localism* because there is a stress given to reorganizing the political structure to function fundamentally for and within the actual life-sphere of the individual so as to make the operations of government more nearly simultaneous with his requirements and tangible to his living unit. Rather than facing an immovable, monolithic system only in times of confrontation—when there is some bureaucratic interference or thwarting of one's needs and goals—the individual is being offered the opportunity to take responsibility for planning and monitoring the management of his most elemental life-objects at close range. And where does the individual come into contact with the systems of his existence—locally: his bank, his property, his garbage pickup, his utilities, his doctor, his neighborhood, his cultural opportunities, his transportation, his personal safety, his schools, his stores, his parks, his work, etc. So in this brand of decentralization a race for city mayor or city council is actually of more immediate importance than, say, a Presidential race—that is unless a Presidential candidate was to focus on rectifying local governments and advocate programs which would create effective home-rule at the expense of the national bureaucracy.

And that's where the *Radicalism* comes in: this is a radical departure from our political experience. Perhaps instead of the word *radical* we could substitute the word *emphatic*. Where national patriotism may have become stale and stagnant, a new animation of American energies could be born of a spirited over-emphasis of community loyalty and communal competition—communities waging war with one another, vying for the more salubrious life.

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Memphis' health and greatness is not in its past, nor are these characteristics prevalent today—however, not, as one critic called our deficiency, because of any lack of "class". Our sanity, our genius rests within ourselves—our latent capacity to be a corporate and dynamic body instead of a giant corn field. But too often in this city of ours there is a frightful absence of local self-respect and an almost unforgiveable negligence in the development of local resources and the human potential of Memphis. And this neglect and self-contempt is most evident in areas of public service beyond the bare necessities of sanitation and safety, such as the area of cultural enrichment. As this city is unproductive and overly dependent on outside guidance, it is helplessly dead; as it is massively insensitive and arrogant in its strivings for mimicry, it is reckless and chaotic; as it is detailed, open, heterogenous, energetic and communicative, it should command its own destiny in good grace and autonomy.

# Bring the Kids Down, too!

*Carol Coletta*

Another attempt is being made at determining interest in a downtown day care center. The City of Memphis and the Downtown Council have distributed surveys to all major employers in the area asking specific information about the children of interested employees and their needs.

The survey reflects the continuing effort to make this a more complete central city, to make downtown more responsive to the needs of the people who inhabit it, and to make it possible for people of all ages to share in the urban experience downtown offers. When the surveys are collected, they will be coded by the Policy Planning and Analysis Bureau of the city, and the results will be made available to those groups wanting to use their resources for day care development. There is at least one such group at work now, capable of making this dream a reality.

A well-supported day care center could pave the way for the development of a school downtown. The survey takes several steps in that direction by exploring the desire and need for after-school care and a summer program for children 12 and under. With more and more Memphis mothers taking jobs, a huge gap has developed in child care for school age children. It is an area with which the State Department of Human Services, the licensing agency for day care centers, is particularly concerned.

Surprisingly, early results of the survey indicate almost as much concern among men as women in a center downtown. For readers who have not received a copy but are anxious to be included in the drive for day care, the survey is reprinted here. Complete the form and return to the Downtown Council, P. O. Box 224, 38101.

1. How many of your children would use this facility?  
(1) one                      (3) three  
(2) two                      (4) more than three
2. Please list their age(s) beginning with the youngest. (Only list up to three children)  
(1) 1 month - 23 months  
(2) 2 years - 3 years      (4) 5 years - 10 years  
(3) 3 years - 5 years      (5) 11 years or older
3. (1) 1 month - 23 months  
(2) 2 years - 3 years      (4) 5 years - 10 years  
(3) 3 years - 5 years      (5) 11 years or older
4. (1) 1 month - 23 months  
(2) 2 years - 3 years      (4) 5 years - 10 years  
(3) 3 years - 5 years      (5) 11 years or older
5. How many months each year would you use this facility?  
(1) 3 - 6                      (2) 6 - 9                      (3) over 9
6. If you are presently using day care, how much do you pay for this service per week?  
(1) Under \$10 \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \$10 - \$15 \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) \$15 - \$20 \_\_\_\_\_  
(4) \$20 - \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
(5) Over \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
(6) Not using service \_\_\_\_\_  
(7) Services provided free \_\_\_\_\_
7. In the last year how many times have you missed work because of child care problems?  
(1) 0 \_\_\_\_\_              (3) 5 - 10 \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) 1 - 5 \_\_\_\_\_        (4) 10 or more \_\_\_\_\_
8. Would you be interested in a summer program at this facility for children up to 12 years old?  
(1) Yes \_\_\_\_\_        (2) No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Would you like transportation from your child's school to the day care facility to be provided in the afternoon?  
(1) Yes \_\_\_\_\_        (2) No \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# earthy delights

## DOWNTOWN EXHIBITS

### First National Bank Building (Lobby)

November—Cartoons by Draper Hill & paintings by Lyle Ward\*

### National Bank of Commerce Building (Lobby)

November—Sculpture by David Day\*

### Sterick Building (Lobby)

November—Work of Mrs. Katie Wallace\*

## FILM

### Lyceum Film Theatre

November 18—"The Magnificent Ambersons"—First National Bank Auditorium—7:30 p.m.

### Center Film Society

November 21—"O Lucky Man"—UT Student Activity Center Auditorium—7:30 p.m.

## LECTURES—REVIEWS—DIALOGUE

### The American Issues Forum

November 18—"Equal Protection Under the Law"—discussion led by J. Richard Rossi, Attorney—First National Bank Auditorium—12:15 p.m.\*

November 20—"Equal Protection Under the Law"—Cossitt-Goodwyn Library\*

### Trinity Lutheran Book Reviews

November 19—Rev. Roy Dobbins, D.D., Editor of *The Cumberland Presbyterian* reviews The Pro and Con of Religious America—Trinity Lutheran Church—12:15 p.m.\*

## THEATRE

### Playhouse on the Square

November 12 thru December 14—"Godspell"  
(see front page for details)

### Circuit Playhouse Theatre II

November 14, 15 & 16—"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"—8:30 p.m.

### Circuit Playhouse Workshop

November 14, 15 & 16—"Dracula"—8:30 p.m.

### Theatre Memphis

November 13—29—"Desire Under The Elms"—8:00 p.m.

\*FREE

# Center city

166 Poplar  
Memphis, Tenn. 38103

Second-class  
postage paid at  
Memphis, Tennessee

## CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY CULINARY CLUB

Serving from 11:30 to 1:15  
First Presbyterian Church, 166 Poplar Avenue  
PRICE: \$1.50 per serving, including drink

### MENU FOR NOVEMBER 13 – NOVEMBER 24

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

*Fried Chicken, Cream Corn, Squash, Rolls*

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

*Meat Loaf, Whipped Potatoes, Turnip Greens, Corn Bread*

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

*Roast Beef, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls*

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

*Beef Stew, Salad, Corn Bread*

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

*Spaghetti, Cole Slaw, French Bread*

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

*Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Squash or Green Beans, Rolls*

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

*Ham, Blackeyed Peas, Corn, Corn Bread*

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

*Chopped Steak, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls*