9-1963

Munjoy Observer

Portland Renewal Authority

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Editorially Speaking

The Neighborhood And You.

They say that life was once simple and that we have complicated it today.

It just isn't so! We have many of the same problems our grandfathers had; only our problem is we keep blaming others for what we should be doing ourselves. We need to wake up and ask ourselves the most important question we can raise today: How can I help?

You have to begin somewhere; and there is no better place to start to build for the future than with your own home, and in your own community. Of course you need to have pride in yourself, and you have to understand that your efforts at times will have intangible rewards. Often it may be a case of knowing that what you have done is the best job under the circumstances.

Naturally, it is easier to place a dollar value on property and other visible things; yet a true neighborhood can have a lower dollar value than its neighbor but an untold wealth in true value.

It is the kind of place we live in that is important. Of course it is essential that the house be sound and safe, as well as decent. As you must put more than repairs in a building to make it a home, you need to put more than physical improvements in a community to make it into a community. The community (You) has to demonstrate its belief in the future by developing a neighborhood conscience.

On Saturday, September 7, an open house was held at the PRA Office at 200 Congress Street.

Howard U. Heller and staff members of PRA planned a special program of interest to Munjoy Street residents. Either too good a day or lack of interest resulted in a smaller turnout than anticipated.

Mr. Heller, when asked if he was disappointed in the turnout at Saturday's meeting replied, "No. Of course I would like to see everyone take advantage of our services; but you must recognize that people are busy and can't find time to go to meetings. We are open every Saturday and anyone in the Munjoy Project can contact us anytime. We can't do more than make our services known. Renewal is a two way street. We offer the technical knowledge to help the owner. The owner must demonstrate his belief in his area by a show of initiative. Many people on Munjoy Street are doing an excellent job of repairs; and the project plans for new manholes, elimination of old catch-

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basins, street, curb, and sidewalk repairs, will put the area in top-flight condition."

Mr. Robert Ballew of the Edward Jordan & Co., reported (although manholes and catchbasins will be completed in the near future) that his firm will have the completed improvement plan for Munjoy South ready within a month. The next step is to review their findings. Installation of sidewalks, curbs and streets will then take place in the Spring of 1964.

Paul M. Folan, Commissioner of the Portland Renewal Authority, and resident in the project area remarked: "The concept of this project is to upgrade to the highest possible level consistent with budget requirements. We don't want a peacemeal job. We want to insure that when the Munjoy Project is completed that it has been done with an eye to the future, and with an awareness of the needs of the residents."

What has 14 letters and means a better home for you.

Munjoy Office Open
Every Saturday

The Portland Renewal Authority announced that its office at 200 Congress Street will be open every Saturday commencing with the special meeting for the Munjoy Street residents on Saturday, September 7.

Homeowners and tenants can meet the staff representatives and discuss how they can accomplish rehabilitation of their homes.

This is the time to discuss your problems. If you need help on what is expected of you; where to go for loans; what you can do for yourself; in fact any and all questions from moving houses to renovation, call at 200 Congress Street any day from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and Saturdays from 9:00 to 12:00 Noon. Or telephone 774-6278.

Vesper Street Sewer Job
Awarded To Di Biase Co.

Bids on Vesper Sewer Rebuilding were opened August 30. The results were as follows:
C. Di Biase Co. $8,414.10 Terms 12 days.
Palmer Construction $8,476.00 Terms 20 days.
Ralph Romano Jr. $8,598.80 Terms 12 days.
Sam Aceto Co. $10,635.50 Terms 15 days.
Permanent Roadway $15,789.00 Terms 30 days.

Landscape Service
Provided By PRA

A new service offered by PRA was announced. Henry Willette, landscape architect for the city's Planning Department, will advise on landscape planting. Mr. Willette will draw plans for gardens, walks, and advise on shrubbery. The homeowner can arrive at a distinctive design for his home by carefully planning a landscape program for the grounds. This service, as are all others, is free to owners of property in a renewal area. If anyone wishes to consult with Mr. Willette call 774-8221 Ext. 629 or clip the attached form and mail.

WARNING

Make sure that the contractor you use has workmen's compensation and liability insurance. Ask him to sign a paper to this effect if you have any doubts. Otherwise, if a workman is injured you may be held responsible, because it is your property.

Your site office can determine this for you if the contractor is unwilling to give this information to you.

If you sign a contract read the contents. If you don't understand it consult your lawyer, banker, mortgage company, or the PRA.

Be careful of the "free deal" man. He will tell you that he will make your house a "model" and you will receive money, or a fantastic discount.

Watch out for sales tricks and gimmicks such as "if you do it right away you will get a special discount".

A reliable contractor doesn't need to have these built-in deals: chances are he is very busy, and in demand. Select wisely. If you want a list of reliable contractors, call Bertrand Fournier at the Munjoy South office of the PRA: telephone 774-6278.

It Takes Time
Rome wasn't built in a day .
In fact it took longer than it takes for a marble to roll across the U. S.
Urban Renewal Specialist

The recent staff appointment of Roland Rose as an Urban Renewal Specialist in community relations seems particularly appropriate. Mr. Rose has a diversity of experience ranging from Public Relations for a hospital to the development of the Arundel Pottery in Kennebunkport.

While a student at New York University, Mr. Rose sought summer employment in Maine. Recognizing a way of life worth cultivating, Rose followed his first summer with five others, and has now been a permanent resident of Maine for five years.

Mr. Rose received his undergraduate degree with a major in Government and minor in English from New York University. He also did graduate work in Public Administration at the same school. An interest in planning and design lead to graduate study at the National Academy of Design, and the Ecole Superieur des Beaux Arts, Paris, France. While studying in Europe, Mr. Rose met and married a Swedish-born ceramicist, Britt.

Munjoy residents will have an opportunity to review one of Mr. Rose’s “extra” talents. Starting with this issue of the Munjoy Observer a cartoon strip will be written and drawn by Mr. Rose.

Mr. Rose is a serious type who gives as thorough consideration to the problems of others as he gives to his own. Meeting and working with the public is not a new experience for Roland who insists that if he can manage to keep the peace between his three daughters, he can meet any problem head-on.

by Howard U. Heller

Bids On Demolition
Contracts To Be Open Sept. 20

Demolition Site building in total demolition area Munjoy South Project.

A total of 71 buildings are to be demolished in the Bayside and Munjoy South renewal areas. Scheduled for clearance in Munjoy are the following buildings:

**MUNJOY SOUTH** properties:
Rear 95 A Munjoy St.; 87-89 Atlantic St.; 7-9 Monument St.; 113-115 Monument St.; 192 Congress St.; 194 Congress St.; 67 Mountfort St.; 59-63 Mounfort St.; 2 Ponce St.; 4 Ponce St.; 14 Ponce St.; 16 Ponce St.; 12 Dresden Court; 17 Carey Lane; 26 Carey Lane; 85 Adams St.; 65 Adams St.; 20 Adams St.; 56 Adams St.; 66 Adams St.; 70 Adams St.; 82 Adams St.; 86 Adams St.; 31-33 Newbury St.; garage at 31 Newbury St.; 29 Newbury St.; and 21 Newbury St.

**BAYSIDE PROPERTIES:**
163-167-169 Anderson St.; 46 Hammond St.; 43 Hammond St.; 27 Everett St.; 14 Greenleaf St.; 25 Cleave St.; 78 rear Anderson St.; 56 Anderson St.; 54½ rear Anderson St.; 71 Smith St.; 48-50 Smith St.; 47 Mayo St.; 9 rear Mayo Street; 168-170 Cumberland Ave.; and 175-177 Cumberland Ave.

**ALSO,** 15 Newbury St.; 9 Newbury St.; 75 Fore St.; 75 Fore St.; 69 Fore St.; 8 Gallager Lane; 14-16 Newbury St.; 20 Newbury St.; 13 Mountfort St.; 11 Mountfort St.; 9 Mountfort St.; 91 Fore St.; 93 Fore St.; 85 Fore St.; 81 Fore St.; 51-53 Fore St.; 47-49 Fore St.; 26 Atlantic St.; 68 Munjoy St.; 71 rear St. Lawrence St.; 69-71 Waterville St.; 22 Waterville St.; 31 rear Sheridan St.; 49 Waterville St.; 198-200 rear Congress St.; 200-202 Congress St.; 76-78 rear Munjoy St.

PTA Fair Scheduled

Come one — Come all! Saturday, September 21 in the school yard at Marada Adams.

The Munjoy PTA is holding a Fair with 7 Booths — refreshments — sticky-apples — hot-dogs — lemonade — home baked goodies — grab bags — white elephant sale — and a MERRY-GO-ROUND.

With PTA BANNERS flying Munjoy Hill is in for a wonderful day, Saturday, September 21st from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Minimum prices apply. Rain or Shine.

The Stand Operators are as follows: Jane Anderson, Ruth McCusken, Peggy Daniels, Joy Richard, Joan Masisco, Ann Jordan, Winnie Gazzeloni, Eleanor Gauthier, Nancy Tuttle, Kay Weymouth. The teachers from the schools on the Hill are participating.

**WHO's SLOW??**

Remember the broken window in the Brewer Store at 68 Munjoy Street? Well don't be surprised if you find a new pane of plate glass just installed by the Soule Company. This building is owned by PRA and is to be demolished in the immediate future.

It seems that a year old insurance claim has been finally settled and the glass installed. To set the record straight, the Soule Company installed the glass. Now everyone is happy: the insurance company; Soule Co.; and PRA. PRA now has a new glass on the "old" Brewer Store. Just what PRA needed!
SCHOOL DAYS

That time of year is here again. School days, and Munjoy settles down to the long pleasant fall days and nights Maine is famous for.

Here at Munjoy we are fortunate as the staff teachers at Marada Adams are all with us again this year. This speaks highly for the school and its administration.

We do have a wonderful group of children in the kindergarten class, and we thought you might be interested in seeing a photograph or two of them (below). The teacher is Miss Edna Morrill.

SCHOOL DAYS!!

At the William B. Jack Jr. High School only one staff change was announced. Miss Catherine Bennett, formerly of the Westbrook School, is now teaching English and corrective reading. Miss Margaret Foley has assumed her new duties as librarian, and she informed us that considerable expansion of the library is taking place this semester. More than 500 new volumes have been added; also a portable television for use in educational communication, to supplement projectors and records now on hand. We also found a large new globe of the world with information as to longitude and latitude of any position on the map; and information of the stars and their relation to any spot in the world. A smaller new globe for classroom use had also been received. The expansion of the library by the new volumes will help the students secure information in fields such as Science and Technology; Literature; Sports; Art; American History; Poetry and Drama.

The area residents of Munjoy should support their schools as they provide the tools and instruction necessary to meet the challenging new requirements of citizenship.

TESTING A FUSE

If you want to test a fuse don’t put your finger in the socket; that is, unless you enjoy being knocked for a loop. Remember, more accidents happen at home than on the job. Be careful! If you don’t know ask someone who does.

Munjoy South

Association Meeting

On July 29 the Munjoy South Association held a meeting at the Portland Renewal Office at 200 Congress Street. Discussion centered around the need to move more rapidly and to complete demolition of PRA acquired properties in the “boot area” of the Munjoy South Project.

Mr. James Pleat discussed some of the problems which PRA is encountering in purchasing properties in the area.

Information Requested

There may be many more rehabilitation projects going on in Munjoy-South than the PRA knows about. Not all have occasion to consult the PRA if they are managing their own improvements independently.

Whatever your arrangements we are interested in hearing about your projects. They all contribute to the improvement of the neighborhood and we would like to make as complete a record as possible of such activity.

Please call 774-6278 and ask for Mr. Rose, if you have information of this nature.

MR. MUNJOY SAYS:

"FIX-UP PAINT-UP"