Unfinished Business

City has revitalization plans for East Fourth Street as well

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

East Ward Alderwoman Joycelyn Johnson sees the heart of Fourth Street as a mountaintop. She says when people look down from the mountaintop, either to the west or the east, they should have a beautiful view.

The western view is not too shabby already. There are several eateries, shops and ritzy apartment buildings. The view to the east needs some work. There are few businesses and some housing, but nothing that mirrors the other side.

Johnson believes a planned facelift for the portion of Fourth Street from Main Street to Patterson Avenue is a good first step toward leveling the playing field.

"We need to look at what happens on the east side of Fourth Street, and we need to bring that same type of energy to the east side," Johnson said.

The city held a highly successful grand opening for the revitalized core of Fourth Street last week. Between 15,000 and 20,000 people attended the Rock the Block event Friday, taking an up-close look at the new trees, benches and shops that now line Fourth Street between Spruce and Main streets.

Aesthetic improvements such as the benches and eye-catching light fixtures also are planned for the stretch of Fourth from Main Street to Patterson Avenue. Johnson successfully fought for East Fourth Street to be included in some way in the city's lofty revitalization, although some members of the Board of Aldermen said improvements to the eastern side of Fourth were not necessary.

Mayor Allen Joines said last week that he has always believed that improvements should extend into Johnson's ward. With the recent announcement of the expansion of Downtown Research Park, Joines said the improvements on East Fourth Street cannot come at a better time.

"I think it was important that we make a firm linkage to the East Winston community," he said. "We have residential development going on there and now the research park that is coming."

Johnson says the improvements also will accent the work that Goler Community Development Corp. is planning. The CDC plans to construct new dwellings and a seniors facility along Patterson Avenue. Johnson says other coals are also in the fire for East Winston.

The improvements to East Fourth Street will begin immediately, Joines said.

Photo by Kevin Walker

Cars make their way toward East Fourth Street over the weekend.

Photo by Courtney Gaillard

East Ward Alderwoman Joycelyn Johnson greets residents at New Jerusalem Baptist Church.

Talk

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One resident voiced her concern about the Research Park creating "a traffic nightmare" in the East Winston area, but Dean said project planners "are not planning to use the new facility as a densely populated research park." Dean anticipates that once Research Park is constructed, there will be a "campus atmosphere with walking lanes to make it a destination site for people to come and congregate."

Alderman Johnson said the expansion of Research Park to "the other side of Fourth Street" will impact the residents of that area due to the number of jobs that could become available.

Another attendee questioned how the creation of a biotechnology facility would create jobs for local people not trained in the field. According to Dean, educators are already "piquing the interest" of students in science locally in schools and universities with the hopes that they might pursue careers in the biotechnology field in the future. Forsyth Technical Community College is also creating new curriculum to train a work force for low level jobs in biotechnology, said Dean.

Dean said that while many are "committed to making the Research Park project a reality," they want to so with the advice and guidance of the residents who will be directly affected by it.

Safety, crime patrol, speeding cars and drug houses were the topics of concern for many East Ward residents. Many expressed disdain and frustration over what they say is the police force's diminishing presence in their neighborhoods. Several residents wanted increasing drug trafficking on their streets.

Winston-Salem Police Chief Linda Davis said that law enforcement officers are working on initiatives geared toward area youths as well as deploying more patrol officers on the streets.

Yard cart fees were also brought onto the table after a number of residents indicated they were unhappy with the annual fee charged to them for a service they say they wouldn't be utilizing. Mayor Joines explained that the yard cart program was started as a way to generate revenue when millions of dollars were cut from the state.

After being asked to discuss his stance on a state lottery, the mayor stated that he supports the citizens voting on the matter.

"It seems to be what ought to give the people an opportunity to say yes or no whether or not they want (a lottery)," Joines said. That comment drew applause around the room.

The forum was one of eight forums the mayor will hold in each ward throughout the city. The next "Talk of the Town" forum will be Oct. 24 in the North Ward.

ACCU WEATHER® Forecast for Winston-Salem

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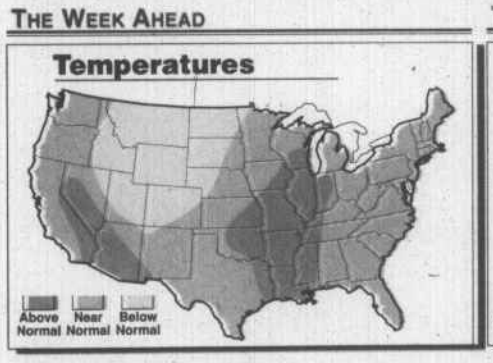
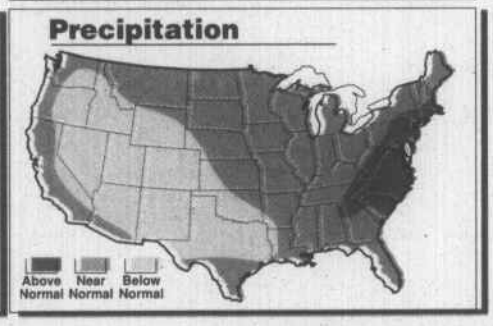
LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Rather cloudy and humid.	Rather cloudy with rain.	A few t-showers.	Clearing.	Mostly sunny.	Abundant sunshine.	Sunny.	Brilliant sunshine.
76	63	75/59	71/46	68/48	71/44	67/45	69/47

THE WEEK AHEAD



THE WEEK AHEAD



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	W	Friday Hi	Lo	W	Saturday Hi	Lo	W	Sunday Hi	Lo	W	Monday Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	80	67	r	80	65	t	74	53	pc	72	54	s	77	48	c
Boston	69	56	pc	70	55	c	64	48	r	60	49	s	64	43	s
Chicago	70	46	sh	66	40	c	64	42	pc	61	49	pc	69	48	pc
Cleveland	72	58	pc	67	46	r	62	43	pc	60	47	pc	67	46	pc
Denver	66	38	pc	74	42	pc	66	43	pc	75	48	s	61	41	pc
Des Moines	58	39	pc	62	40	s	64	45	s	70	51	s	60	38	s
Detroit	72	52	pc	68	44	sh	66	42	sh	61	47	pc	67	46	pc
Houston	86	72	pc	82	60	s	80	56	s	84	58	s	86	59	s
Indianapolis	75	52	c	67	43	r	68	42	sh	65	46	pc	62	39	pc
Kansas City	63	43	c	65	43	pc	65	48	s	74	53	pc	62	41	s
Los Angeles	82	62	s	80	60	pc	80	60	pc	80	60	pc	78	58	s
Miami	89	79	pc	90	78	pc	89	75	pc	87	74	pc	90	78	c
Minn.- St. Paul	58	38	pc	54	34	pc	54	38	pc	65	46	pc	67	54	s
New Orleans	82	77	r	82	68	t	77	62	s	78	61	s	84	63	c
New York City	75	64	pc	73	64	pc	71	58	r	68	55	pc	67	47	s
Omaha	61	38	pc	64	41	s	63	47	s	73	50	s	61	37	s
Phoenix	102	76	s	102	75	s	100	74	s	99	73	s	98	63	s
San Francisco	70	56	pc	68	56	pc	68	56	pc	70	54	pc	72	50	s
Seattle	73	46	s	68	46	s	68	48	s	65	50	pc	65	40	pc
Washington	72	62	r	74	58	r	70	52	c	70	53	s	71	47	s

THE NATIONAL SUMMARY

Cool weather will be the rule across the northern Plains, Midwest and Northeast during the period. The rest of the country will be near normal for this time of year. Tropical moisture will keep wet weather across the Gulf Coast and Southeast, while most of the Northern states will see little in the way precipitation.

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday Hi	Lo	W	Friday Hi	Lo	W	Saturday Hi	Lo	W	Sunday Hi	Lo	W	Monday Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	61	51	c	61	46	pc	62	48	pc	63	52	pc	66	59	t
Berlin	56	49	r	56	49	pc	62	48	pc	59	47	c	67	59	pc
Buenos Aires	72	56	pc	69	63	c	75	63	c	70	50	sh	69	46	pc
Cairo	99	70	s	100	70	s	97	68	pc	94	70	s	91	68	pc
Jerusalem	89	62	s	92	64	s	89	59	s	84	59	s	84	59	s
Johannesburg	81	59	pc	87	60	s	89	61	s	90	59	s	90	59	s
London	61	47	pc	64	48	s	66	50	s	69	61	pc	69	60	t
Madrid	68	49	c	78	56	pc	67	56	c	70	52	c	76	53	pc
Mexico City	67	61	r	71	54	c	62	55	c	62	46	sh	70	49	pc
Moscow	56	42	c	45	40	sh	43	37	c	51	37	r	46	43	r
Paris	54	43	r	60	44	pc	65	47	s	66	55	c	68	59	c
Rio de Janeiro	68	58	s	68	57	s	67	58	pc	69	60	pc	73	64	s
Rome	65	51	pc	61	47	t	68	47	pc	67	48	s	67	50	s
San Juan	89	77	c	90	78	c	90	77	pc	89	77	pc	88	76	pc
Seoul	75	59	c	75	63	pc	71	63	r	77	60	c	74	58	pc
Sydney	78	53	s	83	60	s	75	49	c	72	44	s	65	48	pc
Tokyo	67	57	s	70	63	c	72	67	c	75	74	r	83	72	pc
Toronto	72	54	s	65	38	sh	66	34	r	56	32	pc	58	43	c
Winnipeg	42	20	s	40	23	pc	44	38	c	67	47	pc	48	26	pc
Zurich	47	41	r	54	43	pc	63	46	pc	66	49	pc	65	53	pc

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu., Sep. 26	7:12 a.m.	7:12 p.m.
Fri., Sep. 27	7:13 a.m.	7:11 p.m.
Sat., Sep. 28	7:13 a.m.	7:09 p.m.
Sun., Sep. 29	7:14 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Mon., Sep. 30	7:15 a.m.	7:06 p.m.
Tue., Oct. 1	7:16 a.m.	7:05 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 2	7:17 a.m.	7:04 p.m.

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu., Sep. 26	10:03 p.m.	11:43 a.m.
Fri., Sep. 27	10:41 p.m.	12:42 p.m.
Sat., Sep. 28	11:26 p.m.	1:42 p.m.

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
Sep. 29	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 21

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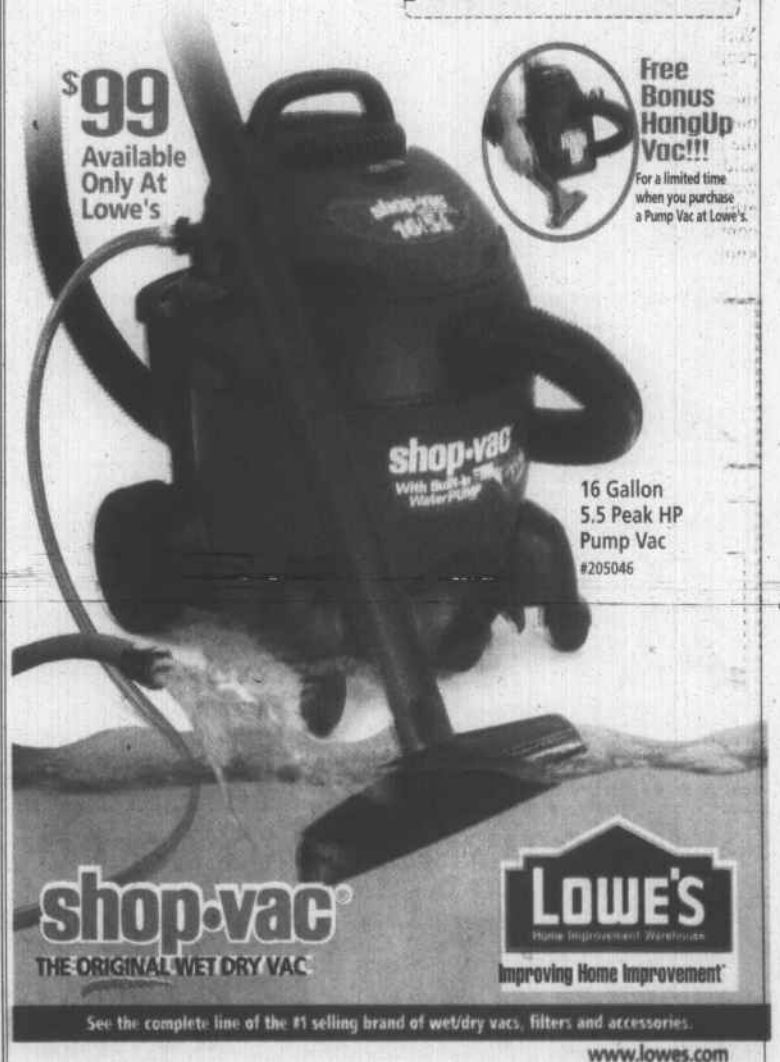

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