

RESEARCHED BY JUSTIN WATKINS

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207

47x150

002430A000

6-009D-B030-00-9

Robert A. and Sheila A. Schuette

First Capitol Trading Post

Built: 1850

Book 1345, p. 1242, 1 October 1990

Osmund Haenssler Estate to Robert A. and Sheila A. Schuette

Book 213, p. 65, Warranty Deed, 30 March 1945

Mary Mittrucker (STL), Louise Moeller (STL), Joseph Reichert (STL), Benjamin L. and Emma Reichert (STL), and Thekla and Edwin H. Barklage (St. Charles) to Osmund and Evelyn Haenssler

\$4,000

A lot of ground, part of Block no. 30 of the City of St. Charles, MO, fronting 47', more or less, on the western side of Main St and extending westwardly, with even width and parallel with Madison St, 160, more or less, to the center of an alley, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the western line of Main St distant northwardly 154'5", more or less, from the northern line of Clay St and which beginning point is the NE corner of a lot of ground formerly owned by Huber or Bohnert and now owned by Heye; thence northwardly with the western line of Main St and which point is the SE corner of a lot of ground formerly owned by Meyer and now owned by Hackmann; thence westwardly, with the southern line of the lot of Hackmann and parallel with Madison St, 160' to the center line of an alley; thence southwardly, with the center line of said alley and parallel with Main St, 47', more or less; and thence eastwardly, with the northern line of the lot of Heye and parallel with Madison St, 160' to the point of beginning

Book 43, p. 115, 27 February 1888

Thomas and Nancy C. Watson, Samuel C. and Lucretia McClure, and Samuel C. and Lucy Muschaney to Mrs. Maria Reichert

\$4,000

A Lot of ground (with a three-story Brick Building thereon) situate and being in Block 30 ... fronting 47' more or less on Main St and running back in a Westwardly direction with the width 160' more or less to the center of an alley

N Meyer

E Main St
S Huber or Bohnert
W W _ of said Alley

Thomas and Nancy C. Watson, Samuel C. and Lucretia McClure, and Samuel C. and Lucy Muschaney inherited the property from Sophia C. McClure

Book K, p. 178, 19 September 1835

William G. and Caroline Pettus to Sophia C. McClure

\$1275

Three lots in the town of St. Charles adjoining each other and all part of square no. 30 in said town which was confirmed to **James Morrison**

One of said lots was sold to George H. Powell by said James Morrison on 16 August 1825 and by the heirs of said Powell conveyed to said Pettus on 16 May 1835 containing 22' front on Main St and running back 135' to an alley English measure

S part of same square still owned by James Morrison

N next described lot which was sold by said Morrison to John Lilly, Jr.

The second lot was sold by James Morrison and Parsons Wetmore to John Lilly and by said John Lilly and wife sold to said Pettus by deed recorded in **Book H, p. 395**

containing 22' in front on Main St and extending back 135' to the alley above named

N Mrs. Easton

S foregoing lot which was sold to George H. Powell

On said lot is the Brick house erected by said Lilly and in which said Pettus formerly resided

The third lot is the northern corner of said square and was sold by said Morrison and wife to said Pettus by deed recorded in **Book H, p. 379**

N Madison St which separates it from the public square formerly owned by Antoine Reynal

S part of same square still owned by James Morrison

W Second St

E alley 20' wide which separates it from the two former lots and lot occupied by Mrs. Easton said third lot contains all that part of said square W of said alley and in the rear of the three lots sold by said Morrison to Postal, Powell, and Lilly

HERE WE HAVE TWO PARCELS THAT MERGED INTO THE PARCEL WE HAVE TODAY VIA THE ABOVE DEED

PARCEL ONE

Book K, p. 55, Deed, 16 May 1835

Ebenezer Powell, Henry Powell, Alexander Massey, Maria Massey, and Charity Massey to William G. Pettus (STL)

\$75

A certain lot of ground which descended to them from their brother **George H. Powell** Containing 22' front on Main St and running back 135' to an alley 20' wide all English measure

E Main St

S James Morrison

W 20' alley
N John Lilley

Book K, p. 54, Deed, 16 August 1825

James and Emilie Morrison to George H. Powell

\$154

22' front on Main St and running back 135' to an alley 20' wide, all English measure

N John Lilly, Jr.
E Main St
S James Morrison
W 20' alley

CHAIN OF TITLE IS CONTINUED UNDER 201 SOUTH MAIN ST

PARCEL TWO

Book H, p. 395, Deed, 6 April 1829

John, Jr. and Jane Lilly to William G. Pettus

\$500

One certain lot or parcel of ground, with a brick house and other outhouses thereon erected situate lying and being in the said Town of Saint Charles

N originally sold by James Morrison to William Postal, and now owned by James A. Quarles
W alley
S George H. Powell
E Main St

Book G, p. 498, Deed, 20 July 1823

James and Emilie Morrison to John Lilly, Jr.

\$28

4' English measure in front and 135' like measure deep

Beginning on Main St in a direct line with the front of the house now owned by William Postal and running back to an alley of 20'

N purchased by Parsons Wetmore from James Morrison
W alley of 20' deep
S James Morrison's lot and house
E Main St

Book G, p. 500, Deed, 12 July 1823

Parsons Wetmore, Jr. to John Lilly, Jr.

\$126

Containing 18' English measure in front and 135' like measure deep

Beginning on Main St in a direct line with the front of the house now owned by William Postal and running back to an alley of 20'

N William Postal
W alley 20' deep
S James Morrison's lot and house

E Main St

Book G, p. 437, Deed, 4 February 1823

James and Emmiline Morrison to Parsons Wetmore, Jr.

\$112

Situate in the Village of St. Charles

Containing 18' English measure in front and 135' like measure deep

Beginning on Main St in a direct line with the front of the House now owned by William Postal and running back to an alley 25' deep

N Mr. Postal

W alley 20' deep

S James Morrison's Lot and House

E Main St

CHAIN OF TITLE IS CONTINUED UNDER 201 SOUTH MAIN ST

St. Charles newspaper, 19 October 1967

"To Celebrate Opening"

The First Capitol Trading Post, 207 South Main St., will celebrate its grand opening Friday and Saturday.

The new gift shop is located across the street from Missouri's First Capitol building in the Old Historical District of St. Charles.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schuette, 800 Tompkins St., are the owners and operators of the new business.

St. Charles Post, Friday, 22 June 1984

"Dusting Windows"

Mostly dry weather can cause dirty windows. And when the dust got a bit thick on the windows of the First Capitol Trading Post on South Main Street, Henry Schuette, the operator, was moved to take action.

St. Charles Post, Friday, 22 October 1988

"Letter Perfect"

Nathan Hastie spray-painting black letters that spell First Capitol Trading Post. Hastie, who owns N.C. Painting Co. of St. Charles, is renovating the front of the Trading Post building at 207 South Main Street. The letters hang above the first-floor windows.

PHOTO

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MO) - October 28, 1988

Caption: Photo

PHOTO by L.T. Spence/St. Charles Post ... Letter Perfect ... Nathan Hastie spray painting black letters that spell **First Capitol Trading Post**. Hastie, who owns N.C. Painting Co. of St. Charles, is renovating the front of the Trading Post building at 207 South Main Street. The letters hang above the first-floor windows.

Edition: ST. CHARLES

Section: NEWS

Page: 3

Index Terms: PHSPENCE L T LT PXHASTIE LETTER NC N C RENOVATION 207
SIGN

Record Number: 8802030879

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Lenora E. Townley, 64, Of St. Charles

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - April 24, 1989

The funeral for Lenora E. Townley, 64, of St. Charles, will be held at 11 a.m. today at St. John United Church of Christ at Chamois, Mo. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery in Chamois.

Mrs. Townley died Thursday at her home. She was a retail clerk at **First Capitol Trading Post** in St. Charles. She was also a member of the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in St. Charles and the Censor Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star at Macon, Mo.

Surviving are her husband, William Townley; two sons, Steven D. Townley of Rocheport, Mo., and Glenn D. Townley of St. Charles; a daughter, Lynn Jane Norman of St. Charles; a brother, Arthur Helle of Chamois; and six grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, or the American Cancer Society in care of Baue Funeral Home, 620 Jefferson Street, St. Charles.

Edition: SC

Page: 2

Column: OBITUARY

Index Terms: death e

Record Number: 6890027104

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Henry F. Schuette, Bertha Sophia Schultz, Nora E. Schuermann, Melvin V. Thoele, Sister Robert Joseph Sikorski, Beverly M. Reiling, Joan Poindexter - OBITUARIES

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - September 22, 1998

Henry F. Schuette

Henry F. Schuette, 73, of St. Charles, died Sunday (Sept. 20, 1998) at his home.

Mr. Schuette was retired as a self-employed owner-operator of a gift shop. He belonged to the American Legion, Moose Lodge and the Historical Society. Mr. Schuette was

owner of Henry's Grill from 1948 to 1955; he owned St. Charles Insurance Agency from 1955 to 1967; and **First Capitol Trading Post** . He was also a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. today from 3 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Baue Funeral Home, 620 Jefferson Street, St. Charles, and from 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John United Church of Christ, Fifth and Jackson streets, St. Charles. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John United Church of Christ. Burial will be at Friedens United Church of Christ Cemetery in St. Charles.

Among survivors are his wife, Wilma M. Schuette of St. Charles; two sons, Stephen H. Schuette of Quincy, Ill., and Robert A. Schuette of St. Louis; three sisters, Clara Highland of Nashville, Ill., and Alvera Rodak and Nola Kraft of Centralia, Ill.; a brother, Arvie Schuette of Newport News, Va.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions to Emmaus Homes or Evangelical Children's Home, St. Louis, can be made in care of Baue Funeral Home, 620 Jefferson Street, St. Charles, Mo. 63301.

OBITUARIES

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - September 22, 1998
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DISTURBING THE PEACE - SOUTH MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - March 28, 1999

Author: Lorraine Kee ; Of The Post-Dispatch

* Lambert Field's expansion will likely mean more air traffic over historic South Main Street in St. Charles. The city objected to the expansion, but South Main merchants say they have grown accustomed to the noise.

South Main Street was still rousing from its overnight slumber when Richard House slid the "open" sign into the slot next to the door to "Pop's General Store."

Close to 10 in the morning in the St. Charles historic district, merchants such as House were stocking shelves, hosing down the brick sidewalk or sipping a cup of coffee. The sun shone. Birds twittered. A few people window-shopped. And the Missouri River flowed by it all.

A marker on House's store at 322 South Main said it had been the residence and business in 1820 of Sir Walter Rice, a former county surveyor, recorder of deeds, postmaster and justice of the peace. Twenty years at this location, House has been here longer than most of the other proprietors.

"It's quiet and peaceful," House said.

But nowadays, something threatens to disturb that peace. Namely, noise from Lambert Field.

In September, the Federal Aviation Administration approved a plan to expand Lambert. The expansion, called W-1W, calls for construction of a third runway southwest into Bridgeton by 2004.

The new runway will wind up within five miles of St. Charles. That prompted the city of St. Charles and St. Charles County to file separate objections to the project in the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis.

The city and county's main objection is that the FAA didn't fully consider the impact that the expansion would have on the ambience of St. Charles' historic districts. They objected to the agency writing them off as outside W-1W's "area of potential effect."

Merchants along South Main say that after a while you don't notice the airplanes flying over the shops, restaurants, museums and wineries.

But the planes are there, incongruously flying over Frontier Park, where nearly two centuries earlier Lewis and Clark launched their famous expedition. You hear their growling engines -- sometimes a faint whine, sometimes as loud as the heaviest delivery trucks trundling over the brick road.

Some merchants along South Main Street are more worried about plotting a course for profits than the noise from the planes. W-1W's on automatic pilot anyway, they say,

whether they object or not.

Robert Jansen stood on the step of his clocks and collectibles store at 608 South Main and soaked in the sunshine. Figurines of pink-winged angels posed in the window. Jansen and his wife Mary opened the shop in 1983. Every year since, business has been looking up.

Jansen rarely if ever looks up at the planes.

"People just like to worry," Jansen said. "It doesn't do any good to worry. It's progress. That's the way life is. If they didn't go over us, they'd have to go over somebody else."

But some South Main merchants are worried about future noise. The planes already disrupt the carefully-crafted ambience of the historic district, said Stephen Powell, director of the Greater St. Charles Convention & Visitors Bureau. Powell's office is at 230 South Main.

The district tries to re-create "a quaint, quiet Missouri river town" between 1800 and 1880, Powell said. The Lewis and Clark expedition is re-enacted annually on the riverfront. In September, there's a Civil War reenactment and a Daniel Boone Festival.

"We ask visitors to step back in history to see the sights and sounds of what it was like," Powell said. "Then the whole thing is drowned out by airplanes."

The St. Charles Municipal Band plays summer concerts under the gazebo in Frontier Park. The park is between the river and Main Street. "Sometimes you can't even hear the band because of the planes," said Mimi Jackson, director of the Lewis & Clark Museum at 701 Riverside Drive.

Last December, a plane interrupted Los Posadas -- a South Main re-enactment of Mary and Joseph looking for room at the inn, said Phyllis Muresan, former president of the South Main Preservation Society and proprietor of The Country Garden Colonials at 600 South Main. Muresan said the merchants and others work hard to preserve the feel of a historic district. Many of the events are held outside, from the carriage rides to the re-enactments.

"We have to protect and preserve this historic district," she added, "because nobody is going to do it for us."

A History Lesson

The pages of the FAA's voluminous environmental impact statement includes this: "The St. Charles Historic District was not preserved specifically in order to convey the atmosphere of rural life in an earlier century. The historic sites at issue are in daily use as commercial properties, government services, educational facilities, churches, and residences."

That description incenses Powell.

"For them to sit there and say we're nothing but commercial boils my blood," he said.

Powell knows different, even if he sometimes has to remind fellow proprietors of that fact. Main Street draws 1 million visitors a year. A quick check of the visitors bureau's guest book showed hometowns from New Hampshire to California, even Puerto Rico.

"They just don't come here because it's a shopping area," Powell said, noting that wagons set out on Boonslick Road for the Santa Fe and Oregon trails. "It's about people wanting to get in touch with their roots. It's shopping in the context of historic ambience."

There is a north end and a south end to Main Street in St. Charles. Both are listed on the National Register for Historic Places. But South Main's eight blocks tend to lean more toward antiques and collectibles shops and museums. The structures on the south end are older. Eighty-eight of them helped the district win the national register designation some 30 years ago.

The oldest still standing is Karen's River Cabin at 719 South Main, erected in 1790. It was built originally as a two-family, French-style home. Women come into the cabin now to buy country and primitive collectibles, their husbands to check out its brick and oak construction.

Near the other end of South Main is the most historic structure: the First Missouri State Capitol at 200-216 South Main.

On a recent morning, Bryon Garrison sat in a chair leaning against a wall inside the visitors' center. He held a book and was catching up on his history. Garrison works there as a tour guide. He easily recited the history of Missouri's first capitol:

The capitol ended up here because the owners -- brothers Charles and Ruluff Peck and craftsman Chauncey Shepard -- offered to let the state's first legislators meet here for free from 1821 to 1826 while the permanent capitol in Jefferson City was built. The Pecks ran a general store on the first floor.

Garrison, a 24-year-old college student a few hours shy of his degree, pointed to an arch in the building. He put his fingers on several grooves in the brick, worn by horse-drawn wagons turning under the arch.

The flight patterns don't get in the way of interpreters leading about 11,000 tours a year. Sometimes though, as Garrison guides a group of chatty schoolchildren over the grounds, he has to raise his voice to be heard.

"There goes one right now," Robert Schuette said, as a plane passed.

Schuette is proprietor of the **First Capitol Trading Post** at 207 South Main. Schuette's

father opened the store about 32 years ago, hoping to capitalize on the restoration of the First State Capitol in the 1960s.

The store sold mostly souvenirs, candy and cards. Schuette, who didn't care much for the business when he was growing up, bought it when his father retired 17 years ago. He switched from souvenirs to Hummels. The exterior of the store, built around 1850, hasn't changed much.

Planes have flown over this area for as long as he can remember. As a boy, he and his family lived a few blocks from here. To Schuette, the planes are just part and parcel of doing business here.

"But it really doesn't add anything to the ambience," he said.

That ambience is what Dave Campbell and his wife fell in love with a couple of years ago on a trip to St. Louis. They ate at the Winery of the Little Hills at 501 South Main. "We both liked the atmosphere," Campbell said. The restaurant was quaint, the location historic and the streets busy.

They bought it last year. They expanded the gift shop and banquet business. Campbell said he hadn't figured the planes into the winery's business plan. "Today, it's a non-issue," he said, noting that servers simply wait until planes pass before taking orders.

And tomorrow?

"It's the unknown that I'm concerned about," Campbell added. "I wish I had an idea of what the frequency was going to be."

House, who runs Pop's General Store, would like some answers, too. But with the tourist season fast approaching, it's back to business. The store, which carries everything from antique egg beaters to nickel candy to bars of lye soap, is also one of the oldest on South Main Street.

If the drone of the planes becomes unbearable, all he has to do is close the door. "This is like a fortress," House boasted as he closed the door, shutting out the street noise. "It was built to last. The stone walls are 24 inches thick."

Old and solid. Like South Main Street.

Caption: PHOTO, MAP

(1) Color Photo by Larry Williams / Post-Dispatch - Nick Britt and Kristen Derksen, students at Francis Howell Central High School, stroll along historic South Main Street in St. Charles while on a date last week. Some people are concerned that an increase in air traffic could affect the area's ambience. (2) Color Map - Historic St. Charles - About 5 miles to the proposed new W-1W runway (3) Photo by Larry Williams / Post-Dispatch - Susan Holt, who's vacationing from Seattle, heads into an upstairs gallery at The Flower

Petaler at 612 South Main Street in St. Charles. Merchants there are worried about future noise from Lambert Field.

Edition: FIVE STAR LIFT

Section: METRO

Page: C1

Index Terms: AIRPORT NOISE ; HISTORIC DISTRICT ; ST. CHARLES COUNTY FIRST CAPITAL DRIVE ; MAIN STREET ; MISSOURI RIVER ; FRONTIER PARK

Record Number: 9903280261

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HEAT SHUTS DOWN SOME STORES, BOOSTS FROZEN CUSTARD SALES - AND ELECTRIC BILLS

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - August 31, 2000

Author: By Shane Anthony ; Of The St. Charles County Post

It's hot.

No kidding, you say. But how it affects businesses and people isn't always cut and dried.

Along St. Charles' Historic Main Street, at least one shop had a "Closed today due to extreme heat" sign in the window late Tuesday afternoon. But Bob Schuette said heat had little effect on traffic at the **First Capitol Trading Post**, 207 South Main. Parents focus on back-to-school purchases this time of year, though, he said.

"That's probably having a greater effect than the heat right now," Schuette said.

Meanwhile, in St. Peters, Bob Fisher said heat - but not too much heat - could be good for their frozen custard business.

"We need hot weather, but when it gets to be about 100, then it gets a little slower," Fisher said. He and his wife, Doris, are part owners of the Fisher-Grimes Frozen Custard stand at Mexico Road and Church Street.

If it gets too cold, Fisher said, business tapers off, but if it's too hot, folks aren't as excited about standing around outside his business. It also costs more to keep the custard frozen at 16 degrees.

"The electric company does well," Fisher said, smiling.

Tim Fox, a spokesman for AmerenUE, said demand for energy hadn't eclipsed any records yet, but it had a good chance Wednesday. Demand for energy reached 11,500 megawatts Aug. 17, Fox said, a record for this year.

Fox said demand could eclipse that mark Wednesday afternoon and might pass the record of 11,525 megawatts set July 29, 1999. But the company anticipates no trouble in

meeting the demand, he said. Storms knocking out power have caused more problems than the high demand, he said.

Thomas Spriggs, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Weldon Spring, said this week's heat wave might be erasing memories of a relatively cool summer.

"Looking back on the summer so far, up until this past week, I would have said 'Hey, it's been cool and wet,'" Spriggs said. "I have to say it's a little too hot now."

The temperature peaked at 97 degrees Monday and 98 degrees Tuesday, with the heat index eclipsing 100 degrees, according to Weather Service data. Spriggs said a combination of an upper atmospheric high pressure system and wind from the south and southwest have kept temperatures high.

A couple more days with highs in the 90s are expected until the weekend, according to forecasts. Storms are possible Saturday and Sunday. But Spriggs said the heat wave shouldn't last too long.

"It's late August, so as we get closer to the equinox, we'll see more cold fronts, and the jet stream starts dipping a little further south," Spriggs said.

The heat didn't keep Steve Chaney, 54, of St. Charles, from his workout routine. He was still sweating as he pushed his bicycle back toward his car Tuesday night after a 30-mile ride on the Katy Trail. Two nearly empty bottles - one holding Gatorade, the other holding water - were strapped to the blue bike.

"There were a lot of people on the trail," Chaney said. The only reason he could think of was a Sept. 9-10 bike ride for muscular dystrophy. The ride is 75 miles each day, he said, so he and others have to log a few miles of training before it starts.

Chaney said he trained for the heat by wearing sweatpants, a T-shirt, a sweatshirt and a plastic jacket throughout May and sometimes into June.

"You've gotta be in shape," Chaney said.

Caption: PHOTO

Color photo by DAVID CARSON/ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST - Brandon Blankenship, 17, takes shelter from the sun in a dugout at Blanchette Park during baseball practice in St. Charles on Tuesday. The temperature reached into the upper 90s on Tuesday, with a heat index of 107 degrees. Only slight cooling is predicted for the rest of the week and the holiday weekend.

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Section: ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST

Page: 1

Index Terms: TEMPERATURE ; WEATHER ; SUMMER ; SEASON ; UTILITY
RATES EMERGENCY

Record Number: 0008310211

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WOMAN IS IN HER GOLDEN (AS IN GOLD MEDAL) YEARS

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MO) - July 30, 2001

Author: Story by Esther Talbot Fenning St. Charles Post Special Correspondent

Charlene McMenemy lives in a 100-year-old house near St. Charles Borromeo School. The airy, high-ceilinged home is filled with furniture that McMenemy has refinished and reupholstered. Miniature bells from her 450-piece collection hang from delicate fishing line from the ceiling of her living room.

Her wood sculptures are exhibited everywhere. McMenemy, 64, is an athlete in addition to being an avid collector and a passionate learner. Ribbons, plaques, trophies and medals won at triathlon and senior Olympic sports events are displayed in her sewing room.

McMenemy has won gold, silver and bronze medals in the St. Charles County Golden Games, the St. Louis Senior Olympics, the Show Me Senior games in Columbia, Mo., and at the National Senior Games in Tucson, Ariz., San Antonio and Orlando, Fla. The National Games are held every two years.

Last month, McMenemy took three silver medals in the National Games in Baton Rouge, La. Most of her awards are in bicycling, but she has won in swimming and race walking, track, archery and in Daisy gun shooting competitions.

Her biking trips have taken her through northern Spain, across Iowa, and to northern California, where she biked from Sacramento San Francisco and made a memorable trip across the Golden Gate Bridge. She has participated in numerous local rides, including the MS (multiple sclerosis) 150. She has taken the Grand Tour of Hermann and the Oakville in Illinois on her bike.

McMenemy's philosophy is that anyone can do anything if they want to bad ly enough and if they don't advance beyond beginner status - so what. It can be carving an eagle with a chain saw, biking hundreds of miles over mountain roads or embroidering cushions for dining room chairs.

McMenemy is hooked on classes. She has taken a class in upholstery at the St. Charles County Extension Center and philosophy at the community college. This semester she has registered for theater, algebra and computer training at the community college and is considering a class in world religions next semester.

"I may get a degree, and I may not even go back next semester," she said. "One of my first classes was philosophy and when I got a D on the test, it was a real shocker - so I

taped the classes and studied at home. I ended up with a B."

Charlene Schwendemann McMenemy grew up in St. Peters, where she graduated from All Saints Elementary School and Francis Howell High School in Weldon Spring.

She was one of six children of Herb and Margaret Schwendemann. For the first 10 years of her life, her family lived in an old farmhouse on the site that is now Sun Valley Lake Apartments in St. Charles. She recalled that she and her siblings ice-skated on the lake, rode their sleds down the hills, made mud pies and in the summer did embroidery for a half hour a day as per a request by their mother.

"I used to do it in a tree. We did those things then," she said. "My mother traced the patterns from coloring book pictures, made the cloth from feed sacks and then sewed some of them into quilts."

McMenemy has three children - Bev Stein, twins Lynda Denker and Lisa Gammon - and a stepdaughter, Tracey Vincen. She has four grandchildren and two step-grandchildren. She is married to Robert McMenemy, a retired construction worker.

She has been employed at the **First Capitol Trading Post** in St. Charles and worked in home health care. For 20 years she did alteration and tailoring for St. Charles department stores.

She is a member of the St. Charles Area Woodcarvers and keeps a detailed photo album of her sculptures.

Every Christmas, she carves a wooden ornament for each of her grandchildren that pertains to an event in their lives.

Staying in shape is a necessary part of being an athlete no matter what your age, she said. McMenemy walks about four miles three times a week and swims 1,000 yards three times a week. She averages about 100 miles a week on the bike and in the off-season lifts weights and rides her bike on a trainer in the basement.

When she was 18, McMenemy was diagnosed with scoliosis - a condition that causes curvature of the spine.

A chiropractor told her at the time that if she didn't quit playing sports, she would be in a wheelchair before she was 40.

"I told him if that was going to happen, I was going to have a good time first," she said. "It hasn't figured one bit in my sports activities. So many younger people seem to have more problems with their backs than I do. What's important is that we all keep moving physically and mentally as we age."

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At 64, Charlene McMenemy wins bicycle races and other athletic events, collects sculpture and takes classes.

Charlene McMenemy

* Age: 64

* Residence: St. Charles

* Spouse: Robert McMenemy

* Family: Three daughters and one stepdaughter and four grandchildren and two step-grandchildren

* Activity: Participates in Senior Olympic games on local and national levels

* Awards: Gold, silver and bronze medals, trophies and ribbons in cycling, swimming, run-walk, shooting, track and archery

* Hobbies: Collects bells, Precious Moments clowns and piggy banks, is a woodcarver and takes a variety of classes at St. Charles Community College

Caption: PHOTO

(1) Color Photo by WAYNE CROSSLIN/ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST - Charlene McMenemy of St. Charles starts off on a bicycle ride with friends. McMenemy, 64, won three silver medals in cycling at the National Senior Olympics in June.

(2) Color Photo by WAYNE CROSSLIN/ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST - McMenemy displays her medals.

(3) Photo by WAYNE CROSSLIN/ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST - McMenemy gets ready for a bicycle ride with friends.

Memo: NEIGHBORS

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Section: ST. CHARLES COUNTY POST

Page: 1

Column: Neighbors Column

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SOUTH MAIN OFFERS VARIETY IN A CHEERY ATMOSPHERE

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HEAR, YE! HEAR, YE!" to quote the Town Crier. If you're heading to South Main Street in St. Charles for holiday shopping, you cannot get caught up in all the fife and drumming, Victorian caroling, chestnut roasting and other attractions of the street's Christmas Traditions festivities. Not if you want to get your shopping done. The gaslighted slice of history is virtually wall-to-wall shops -- 60 of them, at least -- and those that look small can hide several rooms inside, all filled to overflowing.

A few highlights might help.

Begin at Boonslick Road, at the beginning of the alphabet, and you'll arrive at Airedale Antiques, Etcetera (917 South Main). Concentrate on such etceteras as the glassware, linens and, perhaps, the two Airedales that are almost always there for the petting.

Next stop, the Country House (915), a cabin-styled emporium filled with all things country, from furniture to folk art to a plethora of dried flowers, candles and other scented things.

The picket-fenced Cobblestone Cottage (803), one of many more country emporiums, has five upstairs rooms that help simplify shopping, because each room has its own theme.

Karen's River Cabin (719), housed in a 1790s French duplex said to be the oldest building on the Missouri River, specializes in primitive folk art and carries a large selection of Missouri-made items.

Laura's La Petite (709) has collectibles that include Cat's Meow wooden miniatures depicting historic St. Charles buildings.

Despite the abundance of country, crafty and Colonial, the shop owners still seem to find some things that are unique to each. The Country Garden (600), for example, is a licensed Williamsburg dealer. The Devine Find (506) is the place to stop colorful Peggy Karr glass.

For someone with a hankering for Heritage lace, the two-story Silks & Treasures (319) has a whole room full of nothing but. 'Tiques N' Treasures (335) supplies Eisenberg Ice jewelry, as well as silver spoon and fork bracelets. Try the Gift Nook (413) for miniatures and dollhouse furniture, Charlot's (415) for hats and scarves, Morgie's (508) for offbeat jewelry and accents, This Olde House (825) for Emerald dolls . . . then take a break at Magpie's (903) over a bowl of baked potato soup.

The gardeners' path leads to Celestial Gardens & Gifts (906), which blooms with every garden goodie imaginable, not to mention 560 designs of decorative flags.

As you'd expect, The Angel's Embrace (330) is all things angel, including soft, soothing sounds and celestial ambiance.

Collectors can find much to collect at the Collectors' Centre (723), including three rooms

of Department 56 Christmas villages.

Also a haven for collectors is the **First Capitol Trading Post** (217), which claims to have Missouri's largest selection of limited-edition collectibles, including Lladro, Hummel and Swarovski crystal.

For history buffs, *Reflections of Missouri* (814) features the work of artist John Stoeckley of Louisiana, Mo., whose drawings depict local historic sites and scenes.

For silk flowers, and elegant arrangements made from them, *The Flower Petaler* (620) is legendary.

Ribbons & Scents (612) has ribbons galore, not to mention such gifts galore as Vera Bradley quilted bags and Crabtree & Evelyn everything.

For ornaments and decorations, *Holiday House* (329) boasts more than 20 themed displays and collectibles ranging from Fontanini nativities to Mickey Mouse.

The Glass Workbench (318) is the place for stained-glass, *The Lamp House* (701) for oil candles and other light ideas.

Go to *Native Traditions Gallery* (310) for American Indian jewelry and art, to *The Bear Factory* (307) for collectible bears. Then drop by *Clowns & Friends* (416) to take in the shiny papier-mache clowns that dance from the ceiling.

The English Shop (703) is the place for all things British. *Figuro's* (524) features coffees, plus a whole room full of hot sauces.

For spirited gift giving, find wines at *The Wine Seller* (524) or gifts from the *Winery of the Little Hills* (501), which also tempts with its tasting room and restaurant.

Something to note: Virtually all the shops occupy restored buildings; rooms can be small, and baby strollers are not always welcome.

Christmas Traditions festivities run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays. Also, the shops stay open late on Wednesdays and Fridays, when the streets glow with hundreds of luminaria. See www.stcharleschristmas.com for details.

Caption: PHOTO

PHOTOS BY LARRY WILLIAMS / POST DISPATCH

(1) Holiday shoppers make their way along South Main Street in St. Charles.

(2) (street sign)

Memo: SHOPPING

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