



SUNDAY POST-DISPATCH

UP TO
\$217
OF COUPONS
INSIDE

SUNDAY • 08.19.2018 • \$4.00 • FINAL EDITION

TIPPING POINT  ILLEGAL DUMPING

‘IT’S JUST DISGUSTING’

ST. LOUIS CAN’T SEEM TO SOLVE ITS TRASH PROBLEM



ROBERT COHEN • rcohen@post-dispatch.com
A woman walks along Conduit Drive in the Baden neighborhood last month. The street, which runs parallel to heavily traveled Hall Street, has become a popular dumping spot.



CRISTINA M. FLETES • cfletes@post-dispatch.com
James and Arlene Price are joined Wednesday by their neighbor's dog, Pepper, outside their home of 50 years in the Greater Ville neighborhood of St. Louis. The couple have struggled to deal with the illegal dumping that frequently occurs in the alley behind their house.

‘TIPPING POINT’ IS A SERIES OF SPECIAL REPORTS THAT EXAMINE CRITICAL CHALLENGES FACING ST. LOUIS NEIGHBORHOODS

Coming Monday: See who the city nailed when it used cameras to catch illegal dumpers.

Refuse-related complaints spiked 20 percent in past 5 years

City fails to invest in basic maintenance for trash truck fleet

Budget cuts have shrunk staff, causing a ‘scheduling nightmare’

BY CELESTE BOTT AND JANELLE O'DEA • St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. LOUIS

The stench hits you before you see anything: the sharp sourness of rotting food, the musk of discarded cardboard and drywall left out after a rain. Round the corner into the alley behind James and Arlene Price's home in the Greater Ville neighborhood, and you'll find piles of garbage and construction materials stacked and scattered next to the dumpsters.

"It's unbearable. ... It's open season for dumping," said James Price, 85. He used to be the block captain. Now, there's too little interest or too few permanent property owners to warrant a block unit.

But multiple neighbors still point to James Price as the man to talk to about the trash problem. Despite his age and his walker, he remains their advocate in a less official capacity, doing whatever he can to instigate cleanup efforts, hound city officials and get his neighbors to care about the garbage left to fester behind their homes. Old habits die hard.

See TRASH • Page A6

Nursing homes here face staffing shortages; several cited for neglect

BY BLYTHE BERNHARD
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

A nursing shortage and aging population have combined to create a crisis situation in skilled nursing homes, where residents need high levels of around-the-clock care.

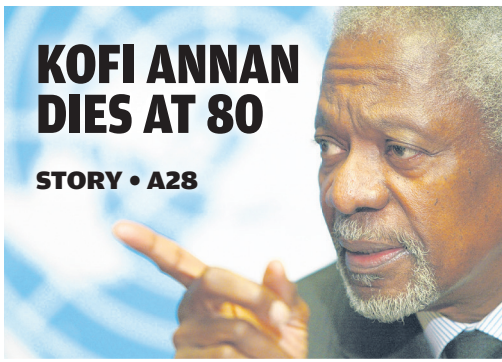
Hundreds of nursing homes nationwide have inadequate staffing levels, according to payroll data collected by Medicare and analyzed by Kaiser Health News. In Missouri, 112 skilled nursing

homes have staff levels below or well below the national average. There are 280 facilities with low staff levels in Illinois, the data show.

Federal inspection reports show several local nursing homes with low staffing rates have been cited recently for neglect, putting their Medicare funding at risk:

- Between May 31 and June 7 at Northview Village in St. Louis, three residents

See NURSING • Page A5



Kids' coding program expands here • **c1**

Seven fun finds in Forest Park • **B1**

Cardinals climb into wild-card spot • **D1**

TODAY
88°/73°
PARTLY CLOUDY

TOMORROW
84°/69°
SHOWERS LIKELY

WEATHER
D10

EARN Reader Rewards

ACTIVATE
YOUR DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
VISIT WWW.STLTODAY.COM

2 M

Vol. 140, No. 231 ©2018

WEST COUNTY VOLVO CARS
636-227-8303
14410 MANCHESTER ROAD MANCHESTER, MO 63011

2018 VOLVO S60
T5 INSCRIPTION
Lease for 36 months,
\$329/ per mo*

2018 VOLVO S90
T5 MOMENTUM
Lease for 36 months,
\$427/ per mo*

SIGN & DRIVE
\$0 FIRST PAYMENT
\$0 DUE AT SIGNING
\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT
\$0 MAINTENANCE COST

* Total due includes \$0 cap cost reduction, cash or trade. Plus customer to pay tax, title, license and dealer administrative fee. Lease at 7,500 miles per year (additional miles are available). Offer includes all Volvo incentives. S60 MSRP \$43,175. S90 MSRP \$54,790. No security deposit with approved credit. Financing through VCFS. Expires 8/31/18. ALL TRADE-IN ACCEPTED