

THE MONROE STREET TATTTLER

SUPPRESSED NO MORE

SPECIAL CULINARY INVESTIGATION · EXCLUSIVE

TOO HOT FOR CONVENTIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEDIA

THE FRENCH FRY REPORT THEY DIDN'T WANT YOU TO
READ, UNTIL NOW

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THE MONROE STREET FRENCH FRY REPORT

BY MONROE STREET TATTLER CHIEF CULINARY CORRESPONDENT

The idea is simple: celebrate neighborhood food, encourage a little friendly debate, and give french fries the kind of serious attention they absolutely do not require.

French fries are familiar, widely available, and exactly the sort of thing people can disagree about without needing to involve a zoning committee.

METHODOLOGY

To preserve the integrity of the evaluation process, the identities of the tasting panel remain confidential for reasons that should be immediately apparent.

Fries were eaten fresh, on site, with reasonable attention paid to fairness, timing, and fry temperature, thereby satisfying the standards of a controlled neighborhood french fry report. Samples were also subjected to day-after home air-fryer review, because the second life of a french fry should not be ignored.

Evaluation criteria included:

- Exterior Crispness
- Interior Texture
- Salt Distribution
- Potato Character
- Structural Integrity
- Condiment Compatibility
- Post-Reheat Performance
- Overall Distinction
- Commission Discretion¹

FINDINGS

Some fries chased crispness. Some trusted the potato. Some simply gave the neighborhood a dependable basket of fries. The evaluation revealed a surprisingly wide range of fry philosophies along Monroe Street.

Potato Character proved especially interesting. Mickie's Dairy Bar and Stadium Takeout both offered fries with a rustic, skin-on, homemade quality, though in different ways. Mickie's leaned lightly salted and slightly sweet, while Stadium Takeout brought seasoning, texture, and the kind of visible variation that makes a basket more fun to eat. One reviewer returned for "just one more" after evaluation had ended.

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THE MONROE STREET FRENCH FRY REPORT

"Some fries chased crispness. Some trusted the potato."

Exterior Crispness was another important area of distinction. Camp Cantina offered one of the strongest examples, with a textured crispy exterior that held up well even after cooling. It was a useful reminder that strong french fry programs are not limited to the places one might first expect.

Other establishments demonstrated the value of classic execution. Gates & Brovi stood out for consistency across multiple visits. Everly offered a clean, lightly salted, classic fry with good crispness. The Laurel Tavern served a crinkle-cut fry with the familiar ridges, soft interior, and condiment-friendly structure that define the style. Fya Syde brought a thin, familiar fry shape with pepper-forward seasoning. Pizza Extreme contributed a thicker, potato-forward fry, adding an unexpected pizza-place entry to the neighborhood roster.

OFFICIAL RECOGNITIONS

After careful tasting, solemn deliberation, and the necessary application of Commission Discretion, the following recognitions are awarded:

- **Excellence in Potato Character:** Mickie's Dairy Bar
- **Outstanding Achievement in Exterior Crispness:** Camp Cantina
- **Distinguished Service to the Dependable Basket:** Gates & Brovi
- **Commissioner's Citation for Overall Distinction:** Stadium Takeout

Residents wishing to contribute to the advancement of neighborhood fry knowledge are encouraged to pursue additional neighborhood sampling.

Strong opinions, unresolved questions, and future matters requiring investigation are welcome to email MonroeStreetTattler@gmail.com.

¹ Commission Discretion is final and not publicly discussed.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE TATTLER

The Monroe Street Tattler welcomes food opinions, harmless neighborhood observations, corrections, guest dispatches, comics, cartoons, puzzles, and questions requiring lighthearted investigation.

Know someone who would enjoy writing for a tiny neighborhood paper? Have a student in the house with strong opinions, a drawing, or a puzzle to submit? Have a neighborhood pro tip, an oddly specific local observation, or an overheard gem from Garth's that deserves preservation?

Write to: MonroeStreetTattler@gmail.com

Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and unnecessary restraint.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

GOVERNOR'S RACE YARD SIGN ENTERS PERIOD OF INSTABILITY

Sources report the sign was current when placed, questionable by Tuesday, and possibly historical by Friday.

FORGOTTEN MASKS RECALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY

July's poor air quality sent residents into drawers, glove compartments, and coat closets in search of masks last seen during an earlier phase of civic distress.

Several crumpled masks were recovered. One source described the experience as "both practical and emotionally complicated."

CURBSIDE BIN ETIQUETTE ENTERS DIFFICULT NEW PHASE

Residents remain divided on whether a tied dog waste bag may be placed in a neighbor's garbage bin already awaiting collection. The Tattler takes no position, except to note that all sides appear confident.

TERRACE FREE PILE RAISES PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTIONS

Another new box of assorted household items appeared near the sidewalk this week, prompting residents to consider the thin line between upcycling and making garbage available to the public. By afternoon, several items had found new homes. The remaining object, described by one passerby as "possibly a lid," awaits further review.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I did not know the neighborhood needed this publication. I now believe it may be essential."

— A Delighted Reader

The Tattler appreciates the support and agrees to proceed carefully.

FIND THE HIDDEN FRY

One french fry has been concealed somewhere in this issue.

Residents who locate it may enjoy the private satisfaction of having done so.



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monroestreettattler.github.io

The Monroe Street Tattler appears only when neighborhood conditions require publication.

