

# the paper

June, 1970

Serving residents of the area bounded by  
Lindell to Delmar & DeBaliviere to the city limits

## NEW COUNCIL ELECTED IN AREA MEETINGS

By Dempster Holland

Future direction of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council was discussed at the first meeting of the re-organized Board of Directors held May 11 at the Council office, 410 DeBaliviere.

The Board was recently organized to provide majority representation by the residents of the Skinker-DeBaliviere area. Previously, local churches and Washington University held a majority of the seats on the board.

Among the topics discussed, according to Cal Stuart, 6112 McPherson, new acting chairman of the Council, were:

1. The projected budget deficit, which apparently is smaller than thought several months ago.

2. Whether the Council should continue its comprehensive program approach or concentrate on improving housing in the area.

3. Naming of two committees to work with Washington University; loaned personnel in developing housing and social service programs for the area.

New Council members from the Rosedale-Skinker area (between Des Peres and Skinker) are Robert Martin 6116 Waterman; Robert Moore, 6051 McPherson; Sharon McPherron, 6132 Westminister; Pat Kohn, 6100 Kingsbury, and Cal Stuart. They were selected at a meeting of the Rosedale-Skinker Neighborhood Association early in May.

Council members from the Washington Heights area are Joyce Warren, 5824 Waterman; Esther Herron, 5858 DeGiverville; Mrs. William McReynolds, 5930 De Giverville; Ernest Garrett, 5960 Mc-

Pherson; and Raymond Taylor, 5819 DeGiverville. Two more will be selected later, according to Taylor, who is president of the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association. Phillip Lucier, 6237 McPherson, continues to represent Parkview Agents.

Stuart indicated that election of new Washington Heights officers would probably take place at the Council's next meeting on June 8. He said that the election was delayed to enable Washington Heights to name all its representatives.

On the Housing Committee are James L'Ecuyer, Council executive director; John Roach, 6106 Kingsbury; Phil Lucier and Cal Stuart. Named to the Social Services committee were Bruce Hall, 5955 Pershing, Robert Moore and James L'Ecuyer.

## Supermarket Renovated For Library

The Des Peres Branch Library 6003 Kingsbury is in the process of relocating to 5960 Kingsbury. The former supermarket is being renovated and it is hoped that the library will be moved to the new site by July 15. This relocation will enable the library to provide expanded services to the immediate community.



3,000 ATTEND ART FAIR! Doug McKee and JoAnn Budde survey and critique the works of artis Robie Scucchi. See story and pictures on Page 8.

## Summer Day Care Center To Open June 22 At Hamilton School

By Jean Eberle

A Day Care Center for children three to five years old will open at Hamilton Grade School on June 22 and run for ten weeks.

Flyers announcing the Center and listing job openings on the staff have been distributed throughout the neighborhood. Orientation for the program at the Day Care Center will take place during the week of June 15.

Project Five, as the center program is called, will provide day care between the hours of 7 A.M. and 5 P.M. for thirty children. Funds from HDC will enable Center officials to provide the care without cost to parents. Registration will be accomplished by interviews with parents of prospective students.

The staff, consisting of a director, a community developer, teachers and teen-age counsellors, will be recruited from the neighborhood as much as possible. The Neighborhood Youth Corps will supply teen-age counsellors. A hot lunch and snacks will be part of the daily program and officials hope to find a volunteer cook and a volunteer nurse for their staff.

Officers of Project Five hope to continue the Day Care Pro-

gram into the fall and winter if funds can be found to support the project.

At a meeting last month Ernest Garrett was elected chairman of Project Five. Doug McKee is vice-chairman and Betty MacGrath secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Macgrath said they hope Project Five will eventually become one part of an overall pro-

gram for neighborhood betterment, with a Board composed of a wide range of community residents.

Neighbors interested in Project Five or with ideas of other local needs and how they can be met should contact Betty Macgrath (862-7624) or Elaine Moore (862-6897).

### Operation Boy Help

## Need Help This Summer? Call 367-4850 For Workers

By Jean Eberle

Residents, merchants and businessmen are being urged to use young people for part-time cleaning power this summer by directors of Operation Boy Help. Women for City Living, the west end division of the Women's Crime Crusade is sponsoring Operation Boy Help in cooperation with juvenile authorities.

Operation Boy Help provides young boys in the 13-16 age group, who have been screened and certified by the juvenile

court, with opportunities to earn money by their own efforts.

The young people, supervised by juvenile officers, have done very satisfactory yard work, alley and basement cleaning for a number of west end residents. On one block residents were pleased enough to pool their resources and hire boys to clean the alley all at once.

Two full-time juvenile court employees will work with the

Operation Boy Help youngsters this summer. Home owners and business men who could use temporary cleaning help are urged to call 367-4850 and ask for Operation Boy Help.

Because of their age the boys work 2 or 3 hours a day and are paid \$1.00 an hour. For many of them this is their first earning experience and program directors urge anyone who needs part-time help to call and get it from Operation Boy Help.

## Pied Piper Of Books To Walk Blocks

The children of the neighborhood will have even a greater chance to slip into the delightful world of books this summer. Sherry Eckrich, the children's librarian from the Des Peres Branch Library, will spend some of her time wandering through the streets with a bag of books under her arm, ready to sit on a doorstep or curb and read to groups of children who gather. No special schedule will be followed.

## Editorials

### SUMMER CRIME WAVE

The summer crime wave has begun and the West end of the neighborhood has been systematically burglarized for the past 2 weeks. Incidents of breaking and entering, and harrassment, have blossomed with the warm weather and inception of gang activity in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area.

The 7th District Police are well aware of the situation and have responded with additional surveillance when it has been requested; however, unless they are called IMMEDIATELY upon sighting any suspicious activity there is little chance of apprehending or preventing thieves from scoring.

Two programs are being established to fight crime. The Block Watchers are being expanded to include any interested people who are at home during the daytime hours. A second plan under discussion by Cal Stuart and several other men in the area is to set up night partols similar to those on the 60-6100 blocks of Washington during the peak crime hours in the evening, from 10-12 p.m..

It is necessary to build a climate of community participation to solve this severe problem. Knowing and talking with neighbors is an essential first step in crime prevention.

The police will cooperate as much as their economic resources allow, but that is not enough. Unless people take on the responsibility of getting involved... if only to the extent of calling the police first; and meeting their neighbors... the harrassment will continue. Neighborhood power can cut crime!

Anyone interested in either the Block Watcher's program or the Night patrols should call Cal Stuart, president of Rosedale Skinker, PA1-0053.

### NATIONAL PRIORITIES

We are all aware, albeit somewhat vaguely, that 55% of the annual Federal budget is used on military spending. It is sometimes difficult to visualize \$80 billion or 55%, but the recent *Canvas for Peace* has presented some helpful facts.

In 1966, the U.S. troop level in the pre-Cambodian Indochina Was was less than 1/2 of the current level. In that year 55% of the federal tax paid by the people of St. Louis amounted to \$366,000,000 - enough to provide the citizens of our area with 18 new 1,000 bed hospitals, or with 26,000 new housing units, or with 9,000 classrooms. 1966 alone! 1967?... 1968?... 1969?... 1970?...

Meanwhile poverty persists, unemployment rises, housing deteriorates, the environment becomes poisoned, classrooms overcrowd, taxes rise and rise.

Are you satisfied with our National priorities? We strongly urge you to write Senators Symington and Eagleton, and Congressman Symington. Urge them to remember their constitutional responsibility to you.

**THE PAPER, a non-profit monthly newspaper published by the residents living in the community bounded by DeBaliviere to the city limits, Lindell to Delmar.**

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**CO-EDITORS: Mrs. Jody Creighton (863-3037),  
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**CIRCULATION MANAGER: Mrs. Joanne Budde**

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**(Anyone with news to report, mail the information to Mrs. Sharon Mier, 6112 Waterman, or call one of the three editors.)**

# the FOOD PRICE hassle

By Loretta Schafer

High food prices! Get any two housewives together and sooner or later their conversation will turn to this topic. As a service to our readers, a survey of three local supermarkets, National, Bettendorf's, and Guccione's, was made for the purpose of comparing prices. It was done of May 16th.

The list of items to be surveyed by H. E. L. P. (Housewives Elect Lower Prices), a group of women who decided to do what they could to bring prices down. It includes a number of meat, dairy and staple items most commonly used. The meat category, for instance, included the price per pound of hamburger, cut-up chicken and bologna. The same brands and sizes were selected from each store so that comparisons would be fair.

If all the items on the list had been purchased at each store, here is what the bills would have looked like:

	National	Bettendorf's	Guccione's
Meat	\$4.82	\$3.72	\$4.05
Dairy	.80	.62	.80
Staples	9.30	9.58	10.02
Total	14.92	13.92	14.87

Obviously, on that particular day, you could have saved a dollar by buying the items at Bettendorf's; In all fairness, however, it must be said that some of the items which were on the list happened to be on sale there. At regular prices the cost would have gone up slightly. Nonetheless, it is clear that Bettendorf's discontinuation of trading stamps has lowered their over-all price structure.

On May 16th, the DeBaliviere Bettendorf store was cleaner and better ordered than the other stores sampled. This particular store does not have the large stock that other Bettendorf locations offer especially in the meat department, but the quality was good and there was a wide variety of economy meats.

One disturbing factor about shopping at Bettendorf's, a problem we hope the manager will do something about in the near future, is the number of boys who follow shoppers around the store asking to help carry their groceries to the parking lot. Our surveyor was approached no less than ten times.

The boys do offer a needed service and it is a good way for them to make some money. But they should not be allowed to pester the customers. Perhaps the manager could have them wait near the front of the store and call them, on a rotating basis, when their services are desired.

The National store, also on DeBaliviere, carries a more extensive variety of some goods, and their produce looked good. Although this store's prices were a little higher, it must be remembered that Eagle Stamps are given for the amount of the purchase.

Guccione's, on Delmar, seems to offer lower over-all meat prices, but the shopper should be selective. Good bargains were also found in the dairy department. Of interest to those who like Oriental food will be the store's selection of such exotic fixings as huge dried mushrooms and lotus bulbs. A wide variety of kosher products is also available.

Few definite conclusions can be drawn about which store is best to patronize. As mentioned above, some of the items surveyed were being used as 'leaders', sold at reduced prices in order to attract shoppers. Also, some stores carry their own brands which are often priced as much as 20 to 30 percent lower than the better known name brands. This could produce substantial savings when buying in large quantities. The same principle applies when buying meat. Hamburger, for instance, was 24 cents a pound cheaper when purchased in bulk packs.

A thorough check of the food section of the Wednesday newspapers can help you decide what to buy and where. Since our area is lucky enough to have several supermarkets so closely located, it might prove more economical to do selective shopping at all of them.



By Joyce Warren

How is it that one week an area is neat, attractive and you drive through 5,6,7 weeks later and a very definite change has taken place - you can see the difference????? Trash visible in both back and front yards, sidewalks dirty, torn screens ragged venetian blinds, alleys trashy, garages in disrepair, gates and garage doors loose from hinges, rubbish in yards, and so on.

So, one gate loose from hinges - is this blight? THIS IS THE BEGINNING.

Individually, separately, these do not appear to be so important but here begins the blight and left uncorrected we have creeping blight: more and more things left undone.

To help prevent blight from our area a 'Touring Team' will call to the attention of dwellers conditions that need correcting in order to keep our neighborhood attractive. Certain offenses are covered by law and if left uncorrected a fine may be levied - these we certainly hope to appraise you of before the city does - and hope in the interest of a blight-free neighborhood that we will have YOUR cooperation!

Oftimes a problem or a 'nasty' situation might have been avoided if the parties involved could have just had the opportunity to consult with someone who could give an 'outside' opinion.

Would it be of value to our neighborhood if we had a representative group, a kind of mediation group, to which residents and business owners of the neighborhood could go with various problems - landlord problems, neighbor problems, civic problems - any type of problem????

The group possibly, hopefully, would be composed of business womers, lawyers, political persons, residents, religious leaders (ministers, etc.) home owners, and others.

People usually prefer solutions rather than problems, don't they?

# Inspection of Area Underway by City

The Skinker DeBaliviere area is one of four neighborhoods selected this year for Operation Neat (Neighborhood Effort-Action Today). This is a 90 day program developed by the city to help residents eliminate existing problems that are causing unsanitary conditions and the deterioration of the community. On May 18, the program began with a meeting at St. Roch's Church. Here Mayor Cervantes, and a Coordinating Committee composed of a representative from all the city departments involved in the program met with neighborhood residents.

The city departments represented were the Beautification Committee, the Health Department, the Street Department, the Building Department, the Forestry Department, and the Sanitation Officer from the 7th District Police Station. Each department head gave a brief outline of the work that his department would be doing and discussed the Schedule for his particular tasks. (see schedule)

Mayor Cervantes stressed the importance of the individual's cooperation and interest for the operation's success.

Anyone who has a problem that they cannot handle, such as an unsafe accessory structure (garage, shed, etc.) which they cannot remove, should call the Building Department or any other Department to which their problem is related.

Contact: Building Dept. Mr. Gammill 453-3313

Street Dept. Jim Shea 644-4950 (large trash pick-ups)

Health Dept. Mr. Brewer 453-3381 between 3 and 4 pm (rat control, sanitation)

Forrestry Dept. Mr. Wilkins JE 5-4111 (tree trimming and weed killing on city property)

Sanitation Dept. of the 7th District Police Station Mr. Reed, CE 1-1212.

Among the problems that residents brought to the attention of the committee was the rat infested condition of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Right-of-Way. This condition has persisted for at least five years. Residents have tried to no avail to get the city and the railroad to clean it up.

However both parties have refused to accept responsibility for the area. Jim Shea of the Street Department said that perhaps he could help by putting pressure on the city officials if residents will protest vehemently to the railroad. Please contact Mrs. George Storey, PA 7-1727, or Mr. Joe Botz, PA1-5749, to offer your help in this endeavor.

The committee stated that other problems of concern to residents, such as the lack of dog catchers, large holes in the alleys, and alley deterioration, were not easy to solve because of vast budgetary deficiencies.

**WANTED: Responsible adult who wishes to perform a real service to the community and to the Paper by serving as advertising manager.**

**Need someone with time to solicit for ads from local merchants. Contacts and routes already established. Call Mrs. Mier, 725-0102.**

The schedule below gives tentative dates for each phase of Operation Neat as carried on by certain city departments.

The departments will be working in conjunction with one another in a continuous sweep of the area. Should one phase of the work need more or less time to complete, the schedule will be manipulated accordingly.

Notices will be given to property owners whose property is in violation of city codes.

BEAUTIFICATION	May 11-22	Education Program conducted
BUILDING	May 11-June 12	Property search undertaken, ownership lists compiled
BUILDING	May 11-June 12	Post abandoned autos
HEALTH	May 18-June 19	Rat eradication trash pick-up notices are distributed by the Health Dept.
BUILDING	May 18- June 19	Reinspection and removal of abandoned autos, notices sent, condemned structures are posted
BUILDING	June 29-July 24	Condemned structures are wrecked
STREETS	To Be Announced	City trash pick-up
HEALTH	July 6-31	Sanitation survey. Trash pick-up notices are distributed by sanitarians
HEALTH	August 3-21	Reinspection by sanitarian, Police Sanitation Officer, summons issued
STREETS	To be announced	Trash pick-up, alley sweepings and final photos taken
FORESTRY	August 3-7	Beautification Projects.
STREETS	To be announced	
BEAUTIFICATION	August 3-7	

# Girl Scouts Set Up Own Catering

If you are under the impression that Girl Scouts are in their element singing around the campfire, and toasting marshmallows, spend some time with Senior Girl Scout Troop 2886.

Betty Klinefelter and Anna Mae Ballard have worked with these high school girls since the girls were Brownies.

The girls have in effect set up their own catering service. They have learned the art of planning, cooking and serving for large numbers of people. Their business venture started as a volunteer effort to help set up tables and serve at the Grace Methodist Women's Guild and Mens Club dinner meetings.

Gradually they became proficient enough to offer their services to others. With the help of some of the mothers, the girls have catered the Grace Methodist Christmas Dinner, the Masonic Reception and most recently the Annual Rosedale-Skinker Dinner Meeting.

The money made is well spent. Last summer the troop had earned enough to charter a bus and pay half the expenses of each girl for a trip to Gettysburg, Washington D.C., and New York City.

They are now working on a two year plan to earn half the expenses for a trip to Europe in August 1971.

## WE NEED YOUR LETTERS

**Got an opinion that needs airing?**

**If so, write to our Letters to the Editor Column, % Mrs. Mier, Editor of THE PAPER, 6112 Waterman, St. Louis, 112.**

# Production Problems

Readers of this issue will notice that the lines of the columns are not justified and that there are numerous typographical errors in the articles.

Since the beginning of THE PAPER the staff has been singularly plagued by production problems. All of our neighborhood volunteers have been wonderful, coming through with their assigned stories in time, but the problems have been with the paid professionals who have typed out copy on IBM selectric composers.

In the case of this issue, the typist could not deliver the copy on time, so we had to resort to neighborhood typists who generously gave of their time to type on a machine they were completely unfamiliar with in deadline circumstances that were very trying.

We hope before the next issue to find professional typists skilled on IBM selectric composers, so that hopefully we can begin concentrating more on our content and less on our production problems.

Anyone knowing of such a skilled person with the time to type our copy one week a month, please call one of the editors.

# Community School To Fill Educational Vacuum

By Rick Bender

will be no actual fee for courses offered. In certain courses supplies needed would have to be purchased by the individual.

The Board feels that the community has enough workable resources to enable such a school to be self sustaining.

3) All Board meetings are to be open meetings with discussions open to all present. On May 13 the Board met at St. Roch's Grade School with interested citizens of the area. Juanita Martin, coordinator for the Hamilton School Voluntary Improvement Program, explained the VIP program to the Board. The following committees

Planning for a Community School in our area continues with hopes for an actual program to begin next fall.

On May 11 the Community School Board elected Acting Chairman, Jane Davis chairman, and Rick Bender secretary for one year terms. The Board also established the following policies:

1) The Community School is to strive to fill any educational vacuum within the community by enlarging the educational opportunities available to residents.

2) The program is to be run on a cost free basis with all the limitations this will cause. There

were formed and chairmen appointed:

1) Curriculum Committee, Chairman Clarice Hayes, to provide needed and meaningful courses.

2) Faculty Committee, Chairman, Doug McKee, to secure and recommend teachers.

3) Community Relations, Chairman, Loretta Lewis, to be responsible for public relations, with an immediate task of determining the educational needs and resources of the community.

4) Building Committee, Chairman Prentiss Davis, to examine and secure classroom space as needed.

5) Equipment Committee, Chairman Mike MacGrath, to acquire needed educational supplies.

# SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

*As a parent, are you looking for summer activities for your children? If so, carefully read the following listing of a wide variety of summer classes and activities, some of which are free, for your child. Because of the convenient location of the Skinker-DeBaliviere area and the large number of cultural institutions surrounding the area, your children can have a wide choice of classes from a sports school to an arts for children theatre. It will profit you and your child to take advantage of the opportunities available in our community.*

## ARTS FOR CHILDREN THEATRE

-- dancing, music, art and acting as it relates to the theatre. Children will produce musical at the end of classes.  
Ages: Boys and Girls, 4 to 16  
Where: Basement of St. Roch's  
When: Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:15, June 17 through August 14  
Teacher: Mrs. Nancy Harvey, head of the drama department at Mercy High School  
Cost: \$15 per child  
Details: Applications now being accepted. Classes limited to 20. Payment due June 17  
To register call: Mrs. Sue Hudspeth, 863-1976 during the day or Mrs. Jody Creighton, 863-3037.

## CITY ART MUSEUM -- museum searches and drawing sessions.

Dates: June 25 -- July 31, 10:30 to 12 p.m. Thursday or Friday.  
Ages: 7 and 8 year olds, 9 and 10 year olds, 11 to 14 year olds for two-day sessions each week  
Where: City Art Museum gallery, Forest Park  
Cost: None  
Details: Classes will search museum, get acquainted with art objects, and then have drawing sessions of a selected piece. Parents are also invited to attend gallery talks at 11:00 a.m. while their children are in classes.  
Call: To register -- 726-2316

## CONCORDIA SPORTS SCHOOL --

basketball, baseball and tennis.  
Dates: June 22- July 17, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Ages: Boys and Girls, Ages 10 through 17  
Where Concordia Seminary, 801 De Munn off Big Bend  
Cost: \$12.50 per week -- in cases of need grants are available on application to Pete Peterson, PA-15934 ext. 221.  
Details: Each sport will be taught for all four weeks. Students must attend one sport for at least one week. They may, however, mix classes--attending the baseball clinic for one week and tennis for another or they can go for the entire four week session taking one sport.  
Register: Call PA 1-5934, 3x ext. 221

## CRAFT ALLIANCE CENTER

for the creative arts -- an extensive summer program in all aspects of art for children and adults. Taught by teachers prominent in the crafts field.  
Where: Upstairs, Craft Alliance Gallery, 6640 Delmar Blvd.  
To register: Write the gallery for application forms.  
Children's Workshop I -- Ages 3-5  
Children's Workshop II -- Ages 6-8  
When: June 9 through July 20, From 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Write for listing of particular classes.  
Teachers: Workshop I -- Minerva Durham and Martha Mutrux, Workshop II -- Carol Slovodin  
Cost: \$10 for any four-period session (six sessions will be held).  
Details: Fingerpainting, painting drawing, collage, and other media especially suited to young children. Classes limited to eight.

## Drawing and Painting for Ages 9-12

When: Mon. Wed., Fri., June 9 through 26, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Teacher: Alan Handler  
Cost: \$23  
Details: Drawing techniques, introduction to printing; collage. Classes limited to 12.

## Ceramics for ages 9-12

When: Mon., Wed., Fri., June 29 through July 17, 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.  
Teacher: Erina Braeuninger  
Cost: \$23  
Details: Designing in clay; slab building, texturing, simple glazes.

## Textiles for Ages 9-12

When: Mon., Wed., Fri., July 20 through 31, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Teacher: Majel Obata  
Cost: \$15 students furnish supplies  
Details: creation of forms with yarn; weaving without a loom; stitchery; macrame

## Printmaking for Ages 13-17

When: Mon., Wed., Fri., June 8 through 26, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Teacher: Paul W. Jger  
Cost: \$23  
Details: design in the graphic arts; block prints; serigraph

## Drawing and Painting for Ages 13-17

When: Mon., Wed., Fri., June 29 through July 17, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Teacher Alan Handler  
Cost: \$23  
Details: improved techniques for older student.

## Ceramics for Ages 13-17

When: Mon. Wed., Fri., July 20 through 31, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Teacher: Erina Braeuninger  
Cost: \$15  
Details: Improved techniques for the older student.

## The Costume for Ages 13-17

When Mon., Wed., Fri., June 29 through July 17, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
Teacher: Martha Mutrux  
Cost: \$23  
Details: Sewing as a craft; today's design interpreted in fabric.  
(Scholarships will be offered. A tax-deductible contribution of \$5 to \$23 will mean a lot to a child otherwise unable to attend.)

## DELMAR-BAPTIST CHURCH --

pre-school classes  
Dates: June 15 through August 21 8:30 to 12:00 p.m., five days a week.  
Ages: 4 to 5 years old -- children who will be entering kindergarten in the fall  
Where: Delmar Baptist Church, Skinker and Washington  
Call: PA-5 2311, or Mrs. Humphrey at 966-5412 to register.  
Cost: free  
Details: Classes limited to 25. Preparation for kindergarten  
Call: PA 5-2311, or Mrs. Humphrey at 966-5412 to register  
(NOTE: Also see story on pre-school classes at Hamilton School.)

## Summer Program for Children 6-13

Dates: Begins June 12th at 3:30 with registration party. Program will begin June 15 through Aug. 21  
Where: second and third floor of Education building. Children will be divided according to age  
Cost: None  
Details: Films, choirs, speakers, drama, crafts, games, swimming, field trips, etc.

## FONTBONNE SUMMER THEATRE

plays for children and junior theatre, classes in drama and dance

Creative Theatre For Children  
Dates: June 15 through July 24, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., an hour of dance and an hour of creative drama  
Ages: 6 through 10  
Where: Fontbonne College, Wydown and Big Bend.  
Teachers: Marion Ford Tobias, and Margaret Jeffries.  
Cost: \$50  
Details: Limited enrollment, registration closes June 10

## Junior Theatre: training in improvisation and acting.

Dates: July 6 through July 31, 40 hours of class -- four hours of theatre  
Ages: 11 through 13  
Teacher: Pat Jones, graduate of Fontbonne and teacher of speech at Florissant Junior High School  
Cost: \$50

Plays for Children -- given by professional company each Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 25 through July 18 in air-conditioned theatre on campus. Admission: Children, 75 cents and Adults, \$1.  
FOR ALL CLASSES CALL  
VO 2-3456, Ext. 200

## GRACE METHODIST CHURCH

-- vacation bible school in cooperation with Delmar Baptist and St. Roch's.  
Dates: Aug. 24 through Aug. 28, 9 to 12 p.m.  
Ages: 4 through 12, open to entire community.  
Where: Waterman and Skinker  
Cost: none  
Details: to register show up first day. Recreation, crafts, bible stories.

## MCDONNELL PLANETARIUM

--astronomy courses for high school students and family  
Dates: July 10 begins on Fridays 7 to 8 p.m.  
Ages: Entire family. Each adult must pay \$10 and may bring two children over eight years old  
Details: astronomy for beginners

Registration: Write education dept. 5100 CLavton Rd.

## SEVENTH DISTRICT POLICE--

COMMUNITY RELATIONS -- Operation Little Sweep -- 50 volunteer youngsters from 10-14 years to clean and sweep in an and around merchants two hours a day from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., five days a week for donations from merchants. Call EV 5-0290

ALSO NEEDED -- volunteers (adults) to serve as sponsors of sports teams

CALL: Bob Beeks, EV 5-0290

## SAINT ROCH'S SUMMER PROGRAM

-- program will begin around June 15 More information will be announced later.

## MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

in Jefferson Memorial -- historical talks and crafts  
Dates: June 15 through July 24, Mon., Wed., Fri., different talks on different days at 10:30 and 1:30 p.m.  
Ages: 7 through 12  
Cost: none, no registration  
Details: a half hour of talk on historical topic by staff member and a half hour of craft work  
Call: PA 7-9265 for more details

## WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY -

five classes in creative dance for children including one for boys only.  
Dates: Two sessions: June 15 through July 21, and July 22 through Aug. 26

Where: in the air-conditioned Wilson Studio in the Wilson Swimming Pool building on the W'U' campus east of the Field House.

Cost: \$19 per session

Details: Course I, Ages 6-7, Monday and Wednesday, 2-3 p.m.; Course II, (beginners) ages 8 through 10, Monday and Wednesday, 3-4 p.m.; Course III (more advanced) ages 8-10 Monday and Wednesday, 4-5 p.m.; Course IV, (girls only), ages 11-14, Tuesday and Thursday, 2-3 p.m.; Course V (boys only), Tuesday and Thursday, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Registration: Write the Performing Arts Area, Washington University, Dance Division, Box, 1108, St. Louis, 63130 or call 863-0100, ext. 4181

(The Washington University Nursery School, a year-round operation, will also operate this summer for five and a half weeks, 9 to 12 p.m., five days a week for 3 and 4 year olds. Cost is \$60. Call VO 3-0100, ext. 4361 to register. Nursery is located at 6908 Milbrook.)

ZOO -- classes in natural history

Dates: July 6, one hour a week for four weeks. August 3, one hour a week for four weeks

Ages: 8 through 14

Cost: \$3 for four weeks

Where Zoo classroom (call for exact location)

Details: Classes will be offered for those beginning and those who have had one to two years of classes previously.

Registration: Call education dept. at Zoo, 644-0658

## operation baseball

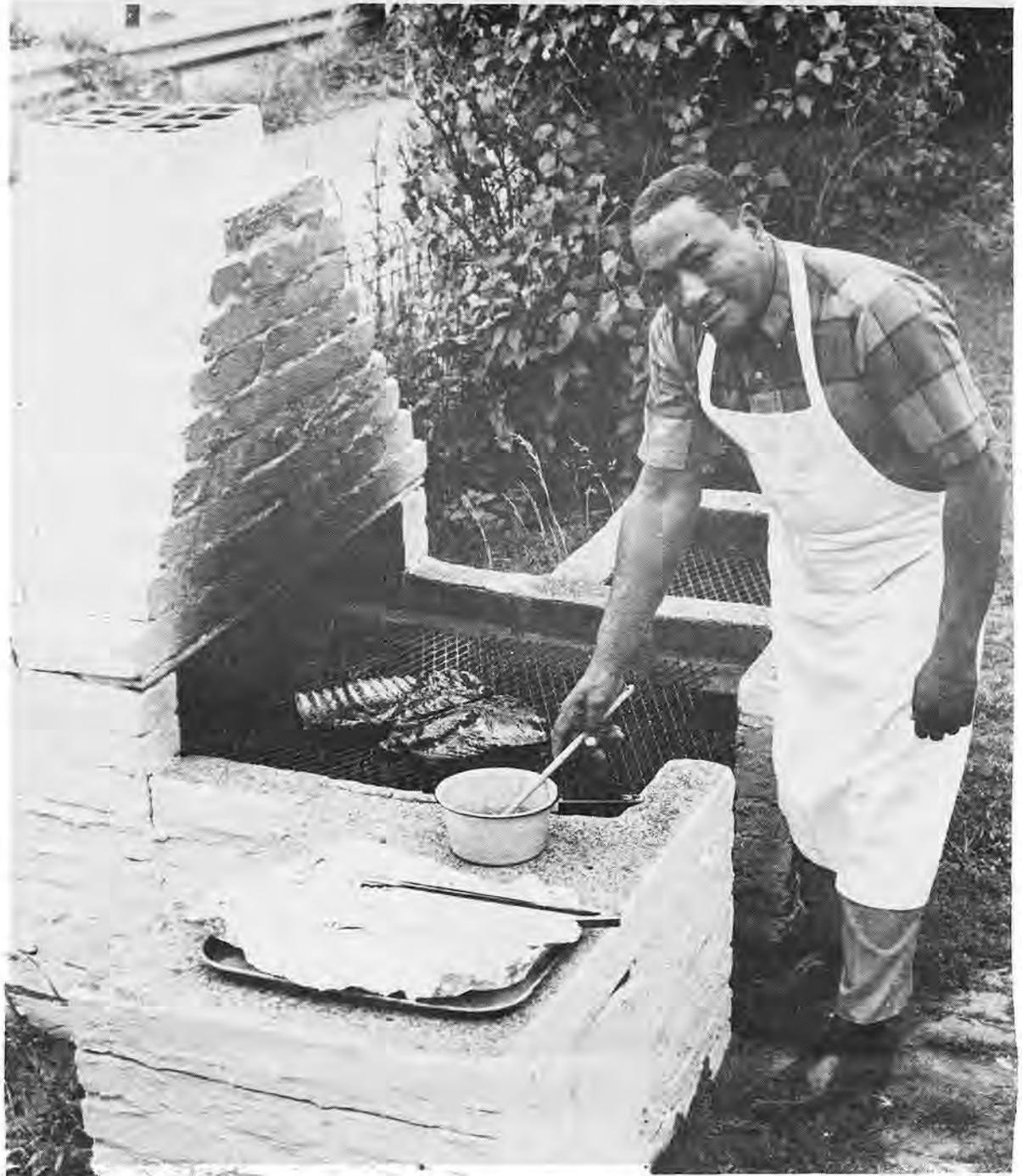
By Jean Eberle

Operation Baseball, a sports program open to all neighborhood boys in the 13-16 age group, will be sponsored in this area this summer by the joint efforts of Women for City Living and the Y.M.C.A. Coaching and practice facilities have been arranged and professional directors assigned.

Plans are underway to have professional baseball players give an occasional assist at practices and Operation Baseball hopes to field teams in informal league play with other teams in the neighborhood. Announcements will be made throughout the neighborhood when the site for the headquarters location is settled.

Boys interested in the baseball program are asked to watch school and church bulletin boards and other neighborhood locations for posters announcing the location of Operation Baseball headquarters and for registration procedures.

Women of the neighborhood interested in this, Operation Boy Help, or any of the programs of Women for City Living are urged to contact Women for City Living through the Women's Crime Crusade, 1205 Olive Street.



## Horace Busch -- Cook-of-the-Month

CAUTION! BARBECUE ARTIST AT WORK. Mr. Horace Busch, our cook-of-the-month creates one of his delicious barbeque dishes on the grill in the backyard of his home at 5765 Pershing. He thinks nothing of cooking for 20 people and is on frequent call to supervise the cooking for events at St. Roch's. He has cooked (voluntarily we might add) barbeque for as many as 200 people. At home he generally is the Sergeant in charge of the kitchen crew of able cooks—his five daughters. His son, recently returned from Viet Nam is attending college in Kansas. His wife, Anna, who enjoys a well-earned backseat at the barbequeing affairs, is active in community affairs and is on the executive board of St. Roch's which may explain why her husband is volunteered for so many activities.

Busch

1 qt. tomato catsup  
 1/2 cup vinegar  
 1/4 cup sugar  
 1/2 pt. water  
 1 tsp. garlic salt  
 1/4 tsp. red pepper  
 1 onion sliced  
 1 lemon sliced  
 combine these ingredients and cook over slow fire for one hour. Use on chicken hamburger, ribs, etc. basting meat after it is well cooked.

### KEEP SESAME ST. OPEN THIS SUMMER

'Sesame Street' remaining, St. Louis' non-commercial station KETC, has launched a 'Keep Sesame Street Open This Summer' campaign.

They are bidding for 1,500 new family memberships at \$25 each. Families volunteering to serve in the 'Sesame Street' campaign may contact KETC's Membership Services Department at 6996 Millbrook Boulevard, Saint Louis, Mo. 63130

Dr. Thomas P. Neill, a distinguished historian and long-time area resident, died April 25. He was 55 years old and had lived since 1947 at 6146 Kingsbury, where his wife Agnes and five of his eight children continue to reside. Dr. Neill was professor of history at St. Louis University and the author of numerous books and articles, including *Makers of the Modern Mind* and *The Rise and Decline of Liberalism*.

squares of ham  
 6 slices canned pineapple  
 1/4 cup corn flake crumbs

Mix sweet potatoes with salt, cinnamon, nutmeg. Beat in evaporated milk slowly. Place meat in shallow shallow pan. Put 1/2 of potato mixture on ham slices. Cover potato with drained pineapple slices. Top with rest of potato mixture. Sprinkle with crumbs. Bake on center shelf of 400 oven 30 Min. or until ham is tender. Add a green vegetable, gelatin salad, hot bread and your favorite dessert and dinner is served.



cut here cut here

for use in your favorite ham casserole. Mine is featured below. Use the bone left from Sunday dinner and your meaty shank to season up a big pot of white or pinto beans. Remember, beans are very high in nutritional value. Or you can try the recipe for cabbage stew that I'll give you next month.

Ham and Sweet potato Dinner  
 3 cups cooked canned sweet potatoes  
 1/4 tsp. salt  
 1/3 tsp. cinnamon  
 dash nutmeg  
 3/4 cup evaporated milk  
 6 1/2 inch thick 4 inch

## What's In The Pot

By Jane Davis

How many different meals can you make out of half a ham? Three if you have it cut correctly, and four if you buy it large enough. I always buy the shank part of a fully cooked ham. It's not as expensive as the butt, but just as flavorful.

Have the butcher remove shank bone for you and show him how high up you want it cut. (see diagram) Divide the remaining piece of meat in half. Bake and glaze piece with bone, serve as a Sunday meal. Save the bone.

Slice the boneless peice

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS



## Dr. Relford Patterson -- Composer, Professor

By Jody Creighton

"I don't need a hobby," Dr. Relford Patterson stated, "Music is my work and my play."

'Doc' Patterson, as he's known to the neighbors, has been pursuing this "hobby" rather seriously since his high school days in North Carolina. On the advice of his teachers and as the result of a music filled home, he majored in music at Howard University.

Since then his "hobby" has led him half way around the world, from Madagascar in 1965 as a music specialist for the U.S. State Department to his present position as chairman of the music department at Fontbonne College.

In between, he has composed and directed many of his own compositions such as "Heralds of the Cross" for the centennial celebration of Wilberforce University; "Introit and Kyrie" work for choir and chamber orchestra first performed by members of the Washington University Chorus and the St. Louis Symphony; "Appogiatura" first performed at Tuskegee Institute; "Ideas on a Thursday", performed as Muskegan, Michigan at a Danforth Fellows Retreat and Conference.

In Madagascar he helped the people organize a network of choruses throughout the island. "Music is as natural as breathing to these people," he commented. "Going to a concert over there is as popular as going to a football game is here."

His popularity on the island led to rave reviews whenever he conducted a performance. One of his prize possessions is a review which carries the headline, "Dr. Patterson, YES—VietNam, NO."

Doc Patterson, who believes that a "commitment to excellence" is the first requirement of a teacher or musician, explains, "It would be hypocritical to say I teach all approaches to music. As much as I can, I show students all the choices they have. However, the development of excellence must involve choices. As a teacher, I have already explored these choices and have a duty to guide the students."

Doc Patterson's commitment to excellence has led him to a performance in the Radio City Music Hall in New York where he conducted the Tuskegee Institute Choir and to one of the highlights of his career — commendation from President John F. Kennedy, who witnessed his performance at the lighting of the National Christmas Tree in December 1960.

Although he claims he is not a joiner, he is active in promoting excellence in music. He is on the board of directors for the Little Symphony Concert Association, Young Audiences, Inc., St. Louis Chapter, the Community Music School, and the Mississippi River Festival. He was recently appointed by John J. Cardinal Carberry, Archbishop of St. Louis as a member of the Commission on Religious Education. Locally he is a member of the school board of St. Roch's School.

Still he believes in a "people to people approach" rather than joining organizations, signing petitions, yelling about issues. "After all the clamor, people end up standing there, looking at each other and asking where do we go from here? I respect people who live their beliefs rather than parade them."

After two years in the neighborhood on Westminster, he states that he finds it exciting because of the great diversity of people.

This summer, other than waking up late each morning, all he plans to do is apply his standards of excellence to his rose garden in back of his attractive home at 6116 Westminster Place.

He and his wife, Gloria, have two sons, Chip, 18, and Errol, 17, and a daughter, Myrae, 15.

The oldest son, Chip, plans to carry on his father's commitment to excellence, only in a field which is "about as far away as you can get from music when you consider that I nearly flunked math," Doc commented. Chip, a national merit finalist at St. Louis University High School, plans to attend Purdue University in the fall to study aerospace engineering.

## H. Stewart Thompson -- Architect

By Ed Schafer

H. Stewart Thompson, at 38 a highly successful architect and a partner in his own firm, expresses what must be called extremely cautious optimism over the preservation of our neighborhood as we know it today.

Stew, who lives the the 300 block of N. Skinker with his wife Judy and four month old daughter, Maris, is a graduate of Dartmouth and the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He came to St. Louis as a designer for the architectural firm of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum. Four years ago he became the Thompson half of Scott-Thompson Architects, Inc., a business which has grown from the original two man operation to the point where it employs a staff of 23 and has nearly \$20 million in work in the design or production stages.

As an architect he has formed some definite opinions about the desirability of preserving the integrity of neighborhoods such as ours. And how will our area fare in the coming years? He puts it this way: "First, we all have to realize that we've got problems. It seems that, accidentally or otherwise, neighborhoods like ours have been more or less written off by the people who control the money. Bankers are extremely reluctant to loan a young couple money to buy or refurbish houses. I suppose the general state of the economy and many other things enter into it, but even if someone is lucky enough to be granted a loan, the lending institutions want it repaid in full in ten years. That's kind of tough on a young married man."

"Then, too, it appears that a good many people are caught up in the idea the the bulldozer is the ultimate answer to aging buildings. I don't think many of the houses around here will ever be called superb examples of architecture, but they do have an air of solidarity and permanence about them and they present a pleasant picture to the eye. It hurts me to see them destroyed to make room for a service station or a Jack-in-th-Box. I think the most recent controversy over the drive-in and the resulting action by the

neighborhood is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when people decide to take a hand in deciding what is being done in their area.

"Revenue for the city is lacking, too, causing most of the services we depend on to be curtailed or cut off. Money is one of the biggest factors and, unfortunately, it doesn't look like it will be available."

Stew believes that the preservation of a neighborhood's life style is just as important as keeping its beauty intact. "The modern urban dweller finds it reassuring when he can wald out of his house in the morning and see the same vista — it's psychologically important for him to be able to take the same pathwaysto the stores near his home. Our firm tries to do this whenever possible. When we designed the Denverside housing project in E. St. Louis we photographed the area from the air and made the buildings and their arrangement conform to the existing neighborhood."

Washington University, he thinks, could also do much better for the neighborhood than it has in the past. "The University has a good architecture School, but it doesn't become involved enough in the surrounding area. I think it would be a tremendous step forward if they would establish a clinic, staffed by students, which could provide low cost surveys for local residents and help them with the design of their remodeling efforts. There's certainly a lot of work to be done."

To sum it all up, Stewart Thompson believes that this kind of neighborhood can survive, but only if its people care to take on the long, uphill struggle to keep it healthy. "Cities are in trouble all over the country," he said, "and there doesn't seem to be any outside help coming for a long time. Crime, the tax structure and the attitudes of bankers and government officials all tend to reinforce the current trend towards a mass exodus to the suburbs. But I am encouraged by the number of young people who are sensitive enough to see the beauty of the city and want to keep it alive, If it can be saved, they will do it."



Photo by Bob Moore

## Bob Elliott -- Poet, Director, Actor, Musician

By Joanne Budde



A poet, a director, an actor, a musician, a teacher — Bob Elliott, also known as Malinke Kenyatta, is all of these. He is also the Executive Director of the Black Artists' Group. Formed by a group of black artists a little more than two years ago, BAG aims "to heighten Black People's awareness of their creative potential".

Working from their headquarters, at 2669 Washington, they seek to provide a forum for the expression and development of black arts. They accomplish this through their training school; and by recruiting programs in the community.

Bob Elliott lives at 6034 Kingsbury. A native of St. Louis, he served in Alabama, Florida, Alaska and Kansas with the Air Force. He studied at the Air Force University and was eventually placed in the field of psychiatry. While Bob was doing psychiatric social work, his Air Force associates shared their books with him — books on literature and philosophy as well as psychiatry.

Bob's appetite for reading — he then had subscriptions to 15 magazines — and a desire to prepare himself for Washington University resulted in a tremendous background in literature, with a natural emphasis on black literature. His last stop with the Air Force was Topeka, Kansas and there, on the grounds of the Menninger Foundation, the Topeka Summer Theater performed. With this he moved from a reader of plays to an active participant in the theater.

For a child who had been playwriting in his head since childhood, who had read his way through the World Book Encyclopedia, and the theology books accumulated by 20 ministers in the family in two generations, and who had read "Call of the Wild" eighteen times, the appeal of words was natural. His studies at Washington University's night school upon his return to St. Louis produced a deep interest in writing as a formal art.

Although he does not have a degree, Bob's abilities have not

only led to his teaching Black Literature at Washington U., but he is also a consultant to the Washington University School of Architecture.

His interest in literature spans the published and the yet-to-be-written. He himself is a published poet and his plays have been presented by a number of groups. Working with MECA (Metropolitan Education Center in the Arts) he has taught his craft to children. He has done readings of his own works at numerous colleges in the area and was a guest lecturer at the Golden Jubilee Convention of the National Association of Negro Musicians last fall.

BAG was originally the result of a number of people who thought something should be done to bring black artists together. It was funded by the Danforth Foundation and hopefully will have a theatre of its own in the foreseeable future. Whether this dream becomes a reality or not, one knows that Malinke Kenyatta will find a place for his many talents.

## Norb and JoAnn Budde -- Neighborhood Activists

A neighborhood couple who came six years ago as temporary residents and stayed long enough to have a measurable impact on Skinker-DeBaliviere affairs, will be leaving the city July 17.

Norb and Joanne Budde, 6034 Kingsbury, are moving to Chicago this summer. Norb, who is completing a doctorate in economics at Washington U., will become a research economist for the American Medical Association.

The Buddes moved here in the summer of 1964 from Dubuque, Iowa, where Norb attended Loras College and Joanne graduated from Clark College. Although most graduate students prefer to stick to the books or confine their interests to campus affairs, the Buddes almost from the beginning showed a great interest in the neighborhood.

They were active in the Ruth Porter campaign for state representative in 1966. Subsequently Joanne served as secretary of the Rose-dale Skinker Association and was one of the organizers of the first neighborhood art fair and house tour. Norb has been treasurer of Skinker-DeBaliviere and president of Rosedale-Skinker, and both were among the organizers of the block-unit system.

Actually, if one were to examine any of the activities that have taken place in our neighborhood in the past 6 years, Norb and Joanne have either been directly or indirectly involved. Block unit parties, Hallowe'en parties, newsletters, alley cleanups, and dinners at local restaurants are just a few of the things which have felt the Budde punch.



Photo by Bob Moore

They were also active in the 28th Ward Democratic primary fight of 1968 and the Darst-Webbe primary fight of 1969. Although Norb says the experience taught him mainly the need to get involved in ward politics before primary time. He considers the block units very significant and looks on the successful fight against Jack-in-the-Box and the recent concern over housing problems as among the most important developments of their years in the neighborhood.

"I think the improvements in the area are definitely moving faster than the decay," Norb says. "We have really turned a corner. There are things working against the old-style idea of a neighborhood but there are many other things working to create a better kind of neighborhood situation."

No doubt when fall arrives, some as yet unaware neighborhood in Chicago will have already begun to benefit from the energy, talent and commitment of Norb and Joanne Budde.

# THE ART FAIR

Photos by Bob Moore



THE 140 CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS displayed their works the entire length of the 6100 block of Kingsbury on both sides of the snow fencing especially set up for the event.



INFORMALITY was the order of the day even for a working artist.

May 11th dawned dimly, but by noon the sun was out and the day and the people combined to make the third annual Skinker-DeBaliviere Art Fair a tremendous success. More than 3,000 people strolled through the 6100 block of Kingsbury and spent more than \$2,000 for art works by displaying artists.

Judges David and Susan Eisler awarded the \$200 in prize money to the following artists: DRAWING-Robert Stillwell, first, John Thompson Jr, second; WATERCOLOR -- Robert Walchhauser, first, Rosalee Howe, second; CRAFTS AND SCULPTURE Larry Eads, first, Louis Knippenberg, second; OILS AND ACRYLICS -- Grace Robertson, first, Marylou Crume, second.

The children's section was judged by Cleveland High School Instructor Jane Elliott.

Overall chairmen of the Fair were Mrs. Susie Roach and Mrs. Phyllis Mees; chairman of the adult fair, Mrs. Virginia Leguey-Feilleux; chairmen of the children's fair, Mrs. Joan Bender, Mrs. Betty Kliensfelter and Marlene Mestres, and chairman of the house tour, Mrs. Anna Busch.



SCULPTURE by area resident the Rev. Josef Mensing.



DELICATE CREATIONS OF BLOW GLASS garnered a great deal of attention.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 98 did a tremendous business selling hot dogs and soda -- more than 900 -- in a backyard of one of the Kingsbury homes. The women of St. Roch's sold cake and coffee at their stree cafe.

# --History of Skinker DeBaliviere Area Is Rich and Colorful



By Joanne Budde

In 1865, the St. Louis city limits extended to a line 66C feet west of Grand Yet, only 5 years later, city visionaries — among them William Forsythe and Thomas Skinker — were fighting to establish a park in the area presently bordered by Lindell and Highway 40, Kingshighway and Skinker.

The fight raged four years, during which the size of the park shrank from the original proposed 1,374 acres to 1,10C acres. The land, purchased at a cost of \$799,995, seemed hopelessly remote to many practical citizens. There were no street car connections, no paved roads leading to the park; in fact, the only means of public transport was via the railroad.

The civic leaders fighting to establish a park were accused of trying to establish an exclusive preserve for the wealthy who could afford carriages and had leisure to "dispose themselves in an idyllic country spon at public expense." Opponents demanded to know why a Forest Park was needed when the city was surrounded by forests; why not let the area take its natural course and become what it would.

Forsythe and Skinker and their follow seer envisioned the alternative use of the lowlands in and around Forest Park as rather uninspiring in nature — already a number of glue factories and hog yards had sprung up on the shores of the River Des Peres.

The year 1875 saw the Park added in the city boundaries as well as the introduction and passage of a bill to provide the boulevards and avenues, much as they are today, in that Park. There was not much as yet in the area surrounding the park and the southwestern queater harbored only trees and sheep-folds. The "founders" hope that, "the sheep, so necessary for the grazing of extensive parks, will find here a retired home".

Proposals for land use in the park ranged from a dairy, which would produce milk to be sold to visitors, to a colossal statue of a horse to placed where the Jefferson Memorial is now, and included various proposals for fountains, cascades, shelters, music pavilions, an observatory, an aquarium amd a tropical garden.

But it was the 1904 World's Fair that really saw the birth of the park and its neighboring areas. John Philip Sousa's famous gand and 200,000 people opened the Louisiana Purchase Exposition on May 1, 1904, with the playing of the "hymn of the West", the official anthem of the Fair. In the six months that followed 20 million people sae the Fair and walked the Pike (located between Lindell and the present Forest Park Parkway).

Public and private institutions and many national governments built pavilions and exhibited processes and goods. However, it was not all progress that caught the public eye. The Phillipine delegation gained a good deal of notoriety among the "genteel folk" by demanding a constant supply of dog meat — and a telephone in the Chief's hut. A small boy of the time described the Fair in this way "My uncle drove me around the grounds in his house and buggy.... Each time I was allowed to go, I was given a dollar by my mother. I went immediately to the Pike, a long wide street of large amusement concessions where went the rest of my dollar before I could get halfway through." It is claimed that the ice cream cone, the hot dog and iced tea were invented on the Pike. Washington University leased its new grounds west of Skinker to the Fair — Brookings Hall, facing Skinker, served as the Administration Building; Frances Field was the site of the 3rd Modern Olympic Games, the first to be held in the U. S. Its limited size can be explained by

the fact that only nine nations attended the Games.

After the Fair was over, the Call Gilbert-designed Art Museum, the statue fo St. Louis is front of the Museum, "the World's Fair Pavilion" on the hill east of the zoo, and the Bird Cage remained. And there was a revenue surplus. It had been agreed before the Fair that if there were a surplus, one-third would go the the Federal Government, one-third to the city, and the last third to the stockholders. When the extent of the surplus became evident it was proposed that a memorial to Thomas Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase, which the Fair had celebrated be built.

The Federal Government agreed to donate their third if the other two parties would do so as well. Thus it was that the Jefferson Memorial was added to the legacy of the 1904 World's Fair and in 1913 became the permanent home of the Missouri Historical Society.

Another legacy of the Fair of less note to historians but of great interest to many was the creation of a multitude of brick apartments, duplexes, and private homes as a direct result of the destruction of the Fair buildings. That was the beginning of this neighborhood.

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IN MISS LYON'S CLASS even Snoopy helps the children learn in a display which Miss Lyon set up for the children to use when they finish a class assignment. They pick cards with math problems on them from the pockets on Snoopy's house.



MISS DEBRA LYONS, a skilled creator of learning games as well as a teacher, supervises the children while they play Cross Country Math a game she invented to help them learn their math tables and have fun at the same time.

## Hamilton Branch No. 3 -- rescuing children before they drop out

By Jody Creighton

A nine-year-old boy is reading only at a second grade level even after a year in an expensive private school. As a long shot, his desperate parents send him to Hamilton Branch 3, a school of 20 rooms designed to rescue children from failure in school.

In this case the long shot paid off. The boy is now reading at a Fourth grade level after only a year.

For him and 153 other children from second through sixth grade levels, from all economic strata, from all races, from parochial and private schools, Hamilton Branch 3 is a second chance to make good in school.

All of the children in Hamilton Branch No. 3, a federally financed Title I project at 450 Des Peres Ave., are more than a year behind in either reading, language, or arithmetic (some - times all three), and have average or above average intelligence.

They stay in the school sometimes a year - as long as needed to help them catch up to where they should be.

"Too, too many times it's a case where the children were absent or not paying attention when a particular skill was taught," the principal, Mrs. Geraldine Johnson, explained, "So they go along, experiencing only failure in school and gathering a huge backlog of unlearned skills. This is where we come in."

### TEACHERS WHO MOTIVATE

"We have here eight teachers who bend over backwards to motivate these children," she states. "Don't get me wrong, we don't softsoap them. Like alcoholics anonymous, we first get them to understand that they

have a learning problem. You see, they're used to hiding out in a class of 35 children, letting the smart ones answer the questions. They've never spoken out. Here it's different. They soon realize there is no place to hide. Everyone is in the same boat so they eventually try things they never would have before."

Mrs. Johnson attributes much of the success of the school to its small class size, as well as the inspired teachers. "I can stand in the hall and call every child by name. How many principals in our overcrowded schools can do that?"

Her opinion is borne out by the children, one of whom wrote, "I like Rooms of 20 because my teacher knows who I am."

### BASIC SKILLS WITH NEW TWIST

All the activities are geared around learning the basic skills but with a new twist. Math may be an auction with each student given a certain amount of money

which he must keep track of. Another teacher may use relays with teams to learn math tables. Easter is an occasion for eggs which contain verbs or numbers for the primary children.

Because the federal money provides the latest in equipment, the teachers are able to use numerous learning machines such as a Dukane projector and a listening laboratory, controlled readers, and cyclo-teachers.

However, some of the best games are those made up by the teachers or purchased with their own money, such as one on black history where each fact advances the student further, a Snoopy dog house where the children pick out arithmetic

facts out of various compartments, imaginative games of math monopoly; a time clock which helps the children learn how to tell time, and an aquarium where the children learn both language and science by keeping a log on each fish in the tank.

### OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

The outside world is also subject for investigation. Not a week goes by that the children aren't involved in some kind of field trip from Planting trees in front of the new library to the usual Zoo tour and Shaw's Garden. All classes have had 11 field trips this year.

Parents often find themselves supporting the school with enthusiasm they never felt be-

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SEVERAL FISH TANKS are the subject of class interest in Mr. Herman Brown's class. Students keep a log on the different types of fish learning language as well as science.



SPECIAL EQUIPMENT such as this Dukane Film Projector with headphones is used extensively at Hamilton Branch 3 Here Mrs. Illona Dickson's class uses the equipment.

fore for a regular school.

Around Christmas each year they arrive at the school and eagerly pick out educational toys for the children at a "learning festival" planned by the principal.

She explains, "They are going to buy toys for the kids anyway so we've devised the learning festival as a way of showing the parents that good toys and games which help the children learn can be as much or more fun than the usual plastic junk."

Each child makes a list of the toys he likes best and talks to his parents. The toys are provided by companies which give the school a percentage of what is sold. The money goes to provide extra field trips for the children.

Another money-maker is the book fair where the children buy books given to the school for 25 cents to a dollar thus helping the school and taking the first important step to book ownership.

Since, in some cases, the reason for a child's failure in school can be attributed to his attendance, Mrs. Johnson works closely with the parents to nip attendance problems in the bud.

"The very first time changes occur in a child's attendance, I call the parent even if he's at work," Mrs. Johnson states, "and not once have I ever had a

parent complain. Most thank me, even when I call them at 7:30 at night."

"Being small like we are, we can do a lot of Sherlock Holmes stuff," Mrs. Johnson says, recalling the time, she with the help of some parents tracked down a gang of boys to an empty apartment and indirectly helped break up a n extortion ring.

Another time she took some embarrassed would-be hooky players over every step of their errant route one day. "I learned a lot," she said laughing, "I learned where the kids hang out when it's cold and I alerted every store manager on the route to call me when they see a school-age youth at their store."

As an incentive to the students those with perfect attendance each month get to have a sock hop in the gym on Friday.

**STUDENTS COME BACK**

Perhaps the best advertisement for the school was a 16-year-old boy who came into the principal's office and stood politely waiting until the principal recognized him. "Hi, Jim" Mrs. Johnson said, "Come back to see Mr. Brown, again?. He's teaching now, but he'll be on the playground in 15 minutes."

Laughing, she commented, "I hear kids consider school a jail. If it is, we sure have a lot of inmates wanting to get back in."

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