

# the paper

DECEMBER, 1970

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

## City Plan Commission Unveils Rehabilitation Plan For West End

### Experienced Administrator Sought

## WANTED: New Executive Director for Council

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council is looking for a new executive director to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jim L'Ecuyer.

Bob Moore, vice-chairman of the Council and head of the personnel committee, states that the Council is looking for a person who is able to work with a wide variety of people and someone who is able to devise creative solutions to community problems.

"The person we are looking for needs a combination

of college education and extensive experience in the field of urban management," Mr. Moore stated. The applicant needs college work in one or a combination of the following fields — sociology, community organization, education or public administration.

The "extensive experiences" should include directing, budgeting and administration of a large scale program.

"The executive director will be expected to direct and develop creative and meaningful programs. He will control and evaluate the operation of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council and enforce and interpret the Board's policy as well as recommend new policy.

He will be expected to administer various programs, and activities sponsored by the Council," Mr. Moore added.

Applications are available at the Skinker-DeBaliviere Council offices at 6008 Kingsbury, or the applicant may send a resume.

The applicant must have experience in housing development. Salary will range between \$14,000 and \$20,000. The job includes paid vacations, sick leave and employee benefits.

Calvin Stuart, chairman of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council and president of the Rosedale-Skinker Improvement Association, has resigned from the Council.

Mr. Stuart stated as his reason: "I am considering applying for the position of executive director of the council and felt that if I did there would be a conflict of interest."

In his stead, Bob Moore, vice chairman, will head the council. Mr. Stuart will also be temporarily replaced by a member of the executive committee of Rosedale-Skinker.

#### OFFICE CLOSED

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Council office at 6008 Kingsbury will be closed from December 11 until January 3. Any business may be directed to Bob Moore, vice chairman, 862-6897.

## 2 DeBaliviere Businesses Close Doors

Two DeBaliviere businesses, one of them a long-time establishment, closed their doors at least temporarily in recent weeks.

The Bettendorf Supermarket in the 500 block was closed when the Bettendorf Rapp chain changed hands. The Apollo Art Theatre, which has occupied its present spot in the 300 block of DeBaliviere for more than twenty-five years, is currently not operating.

The supermarket was not included in the recent purchase of Bettendorf stores by Schnucks' Markets. Instead, it ceased operation on October 10th and the property is currently being offered for sale by the Bettendorf-Rapp Division of Allied Supermarkets, Inc.

At press time no one was available at Bettendorf-Rapp to comment on the closing but local businessmen attribute it to the store's low profit record, caused, some say, by the unusually high rate of shoplifting at the store.

A spokesman for the Apollo Art Theatre reported that plans are being made for the theatre but nothing could be announced at this time.

It was emphasized that few complaints of actual crime had ever been reported by theatre patrons, but that the local reputation of DeBaliviere as a high crime area, coupled with the community's lack of patronage for many of the films exhibited, made the future uncertain.

Jean Eberle

mently apartment house areas in the 5700 blocks of Kingsbury, Westminster and Washington and the 5800 block of Washington. It is probable that much of the improvements will have to be through reconstruction, with the assistance of federal funds or subsidies if available.

It had been thought this summer that West End Town House, Inc., with funds supplied by Continental Telephone, and Washington University would join together in guaranteeing loans for the 5700 area. However, with the death of Philip Lucier, Continental president and resident of Parkview, the telephone company withdrew its support for the project.

A search is now being conducted for an alternate source of loan guarantees.

Redevelopment in the area will be assisted if a bill introduced in the Board of Aldermen is passed. This bill would give certain tax benefits to developers in the 5700 block area and in the 5500 block area of Waterman and Pershing.

Burke said the general goal was to make the area the "most outstanding in the region." He said that he hoped that some sort of plan would be presented to the Development committee of the City Plan Commission by December. While most of the funds would come from private developers, he mentioned that the city would have to spend certain funds for street changes and related items.

One resident's comment was "Hurry Up."

By Dempster Holland

The City Plan Commission is discussing with neighborhood residents a plan for rejuvenating the Skinker-DeBaliviere area, it has been announced.

The basic thrust of the plan is to retain and strengthen the single-family character of the area and to replace delapidated apartment houses with new developments.

A major element of the plan is to make the DeBaliviere shopping center a key shopping area for the entire central west end.

"We don't yet know what the best approach is for the DeBaliviere shopping area," said Bob Burke, the Plan Commission's deputy director, "but we know that something dramatic is needed."

One suggested idea is to convert alleys east and west of DeBaliviere into lanes for through traffic and convert the existing street into a pedestrian parkway.

Other elements of the plan — which is highly tentative — include:

— Making most single-family housing streets of "limited access" by placing gates or traffic dividers at the proper place.

— Possible closing of Waterman between Laural and Clara to through traffic and re-routing through traffic down another street.

— Realignment of DeBaliviere north of McPherson so that it angles west to make a direct connection with Goodfellow at Delmar.

The plan also calls for major improvements in the predom-



THE OPENING OF DESPERES BRANCH LIBRARY. Another attraction at the opening of the DesPeres Branch Library's new location, a neighborhood-sized cake, held by Charles Brown and Sherry Eckrich, librarians. The cake may be gone but the books, films and other programs are waiting for you to use them. — Harold Ferman Photo



Not "bookish" but fun! Children at the opening celebration of the new DesPeres Branch Public Library bobbed happily for apples. The new location of the library at 5960 Kingsbury provides increased space for more services and from the look of this picture should attract a lot of business from the younger set. — Harold Ferman Photo

# EDITORIAL

## Council News

By Jim Hitchcock

In the midst of the controversy over whether a federally-financed Job Corps Center should be located in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood and 22 families from a building in the Pruitt-Igoe apartments should be relocated in the West End, Twenty-eighth Ward Alderman John G. Roach said he believed that the city's West End shouldn't be the site of most of the social experiments in St. Louis.

His comment echoed one made by a neighborhood resident at a meeting Nov. 11 sponsored by the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council to discuss the proposed job center. The resident received loud applause after saying that "we are not the answer to everyone's problems."

Among the "experiments" referred to by observers are the Archway House narcotics rehabilitation center at DeBaliviere and Pershing Avenues and the Delmar School for 285 vocational education students at 5883 Delmar Boulevard.

In addition, the West End has been the site of a controversial urban renewal project, and the use of the "235" program to help moderate income families subsidize interest payments on FHA loans on existing housing.

Combined with crowded schools, a crime rate that rose rapidly at one time but now may be leveling off, lack of recreation areas and the usual racial tensions present in an integrated neighborhood, many residents have indicated that they want to hold off on new ideas for a while until older problems are worked out.

Citizens who express that opinion certainly have a good point.

They assert that if the community does not get together and decide on all aspects of its future, a host of well-meaning social reform programs all placed within a small area coincidentally could alter the character of the neighborhood perhaps faster than it should be altered.

In a later interview with The Paper, Roach said, "It's a question of the community's perception of what kind of a future it will have. The neighborhood is getting more burdens and not getting more assets."

Roach believes that an increase in the number of social problems the neighborhood is expected to solve should be met by an increase in the level of services available from the city.

On the other hand, the community will no doubt be unable to continue indefinitely rejecting proposals for new programs in and near its boundaries.

After all, if every neighborhood were to object to such ideas, it would be difficult to start any progressive programs.

The job corps center, already delayed many months by objections in two locations, is an example of that phenomenon.

Some West End black political leaders have strongly favored placing new programs in the area on the basis that they have to be put somewhere and the West End may well have the resources to support them.

State Senator Raymond Howard, during the job corps discussion, said that Gov. Hearnes's veto of the Delmar site should be overridden to "restore the confidence of the people that government will rise above racism and self-annointed criticism of local inhabitants."

The question that remains after the Pruitt-Igoe and job corps questions are settled is not whether the Skinker-DeBaliviere community agrees on every program.

It is, rather, whether the community will be able to agree generally on what its future should be and how it should evaluate future proposals to change the neighborhood.

If a consensus can't be reached on how the community can get together for planning's sake, there will no doubt be future controversies over governmental proposals in which emotion may win over facts.

One hopeful sign that emerged from both recent controversies is that the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council's position was respected by the "powers that be," thus giving the council recognition as a representative organization at a higher level.

The council issued a letter of welcome to the 22 Pruitt-Igoe families and opposed the Job Corps Center. We think the council showed restraint and good judgement, and most important a willingness to consider all sides of the issue in making these decisions.

On future projects — and they will come, — there isn't likely to be complete agreement on the merits of any particular idea. However, the future of the community may rest in great measure on its ability to decide democratically what social experiments it should take on and which should be encouraged to locate elsewhere.

In making these decisions, let us first make sure that we have all the facts. If not, call the council office and ask them. We have also suggested to the council (and gotten an affirmative reply) that the new executive director issue flyers (distributed in each block) containing pertinent facts in an objective fashion and previous to a community meeting. We would also like to recommend more advance notice (certainly more than the one day notice for the Job Corps meeting) for these meetings.

We, as a community, must decide each case on its merits and not blindly throw up a wall of prejudice as was done by some in the Pruitt-Igoe case. We must consider deeper issues. For example in the case of the families moving in, do we as a neighborhood have any right to decide who moves in and who does not and in what cases do we employ this "right"? Did anyone make judgements on our desirability when we moved in? If we are consulted, and only if we are consulted, on what basis should we make our decision? Our concerns are whether or not the neighborhood will benefit. If it doesn't benefit, is there any potential harm that could result? In deciding these questions each of us must stick closely to the facts. Pruitt Igoe does NOT necessarily mean high-rise disaster. Teenagers do not necessarily mean additional crime. An addict rehabilitation center has not and does not result in more drug addicts.

Finally the council and the community must be and should be concerned with our image as a community. Do we want to be thought of as a "middle-class only" community or one where both poor and middle-class work together on mutual problems — where there is room for all who want to make it a better place to live and work? In making decisions which might be misconstrued as "middle class against poor" type decisions let us make sure our reasons are clearly set out and publicized.

Above all, let us keep our minds open to all sides of each issue and keep ourselves and our community free of narrow bigotry.

## Letters to the Editor

The Mother's Club of The Rosedale-Skinker Boys Club wishes to extend a thank-you for the support given us in the past month.

Twenty one football uniforms have been loaned to our youngsters.

The boys sold dinners in the neighborhood and mothers also contributed more than \$100 toward purchasing more needed uniforms and equipment.

Our hats are off to our fine neighbors and we thank you again.

Mothers In Charge,  
Georgia Williamson  
Cassie Stoner

## Merry Christmas



A prize-winning bunch of neighborhood "creeps" accept their awards from Art Santen at the Rosedale-Skinker Hallowe'en party. The evening ended with a costume contest for the children, with ten \$1 prizes being awarded. Prize winners were: Mike Buckley, Mike Martignoni, Mike Mosley, Gina Crawford, Matthew, Meiners, Roy White, Kathy Klingman, Chuck Breneisen, Mark Bonhauer and Terry Harck. Parents accompanying the young children were also treated, as coffee and doughnuts were served to them at each of the barriers.

*THE PAPER, a non-profit monthly newspaper published by residents living in the community bounded by Delmar to Lindell, DeBaliviere to the city limits. All articles are contributed by volunteers. If you would like to help, please call one of the editors.*

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If you wish to have THE PAPER mailed to you, please send one dollar for a year's mailing costs to Mrs. Barbara Schmidt, 5819 Pershing.

Mail your news to 6117 Westminster, St. Louis, 63112, or call one of the editors.

**Street Revival at Wash. U.**

**Tot-Lot for Pre-Schoolers  
Planned at Pershing, DesPeres**

By Dorothea Katzenstein

"Street Revival" is a term heard more and more often these days in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area. Lively new facades on several homes and apartment buildings and a proposed "Tot Lot" for pre-school children at Pershing and DesPeres are only a few of the ideas of this enthusiastic group for "reviving" St. Louis streets.

Ten Washington University architecture students organized the "Street Revival" project last year. Working in cooperation with neighborhood residents, they combine their planning and design talents with the community's eagerness to make streets and homes safer and more attractive.

One of the group's most successful ventures is the "Mobile Hydro Pipe Dream," a moveable jungle gym structure built for use in University City Parks. The brightly-painted fronts of buildings renovated by West End Townhouse, Inc., are also the work of Street Revival.

**Pollution Film  
Now Available**

"Dead Earth: A Film About Your Environment" is now available for showing to groups concerned with the fight against pollution.

The 20-minute color and sound film features a "pollution tour" of a medium-sized midwestern city. The film provides excellent material for church, school or community discussion groups.

Leonard Henny, a Washington University Professor of Architecture, produced the film, which is introduced by the well-known environment expert, Barry Commoner.

Groups or individuals interested in renting the film for showing may contact Mr. Henny, 5127 Waterman Blvd., 367-8917.

The "Tot Lot" is the latest plan of the group. The pre-school recreation area is to be built on a lot leased from West End Townhouse at the rate of one dollar a year. A model of the plan was presented to the community and approved at a meeting of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council on November 1.

Designed for children up to six years old, the playground will be divided into sections for various age groups. One end of the lot will be equipped for toddlers with indoor-outdoor carpeting or cushioning, and will be placed near the parents' seating area for easy supervision.

The sections for older children will have climbing structures and sets of swinging panels which the child can move to create a playhouse or whatever form his imagination directs.

The City of St. Louis has donated plantings and some playground equipment for the "Tot Lot." The area will be fenced in as soon as the land fill is completed, and plans are underway for the placement of a stop sign at the busy corner of Pershing and DesPeres.

Parents will be asked to accompany their children to the lot to insure safety.

A spokesman of the Street Revival group stressed that the actual building of the Tot Lot will be done by residents of the area. Construction can begin as soon as all of the materials are collected and could be completed in a weekend, he said.

Many of these materials might be donated by building or construction firms, and help is need-

ed to make phone requests and collections. The following articles must still be found for the Tot Lot:

- Five to ten truckloads of fill,
- Two to four truckloads of limestone gravel,
- Lumber of all sizes, including railroad ties,
- Four by eight foot sheets of 5/8 or 3/4 inch marine plywood,
- Nails (no. 10 and no. 20 common), bolts (9x1/2), rope (3/4 to 1 inch) and paint (bright colors),
- Six and ten foot lengths of two and three inch steel pipe,
- Concrete.

Anyone interested in helping to locate the materials or to help in the construction of the Lot may call Pat Kohn, 863-9259, or Kathy Harleman, 725-8929.

**Warren Is Elected  
President Of  
Washington Heights**

Washington Heights Neighbors has elected Mrs. Joyce Warren, 5824 Waterman (863-3054) president of the association.

Three vice presidents will serve with her. They are Mrs. Jane Hall, 5955 Pershing, 721-4181; Eddie Sanders, 5911 DeGiverville, 726-5904, and Saul Williams, 5810 Waterman, 863-6990. Recording secretary will be Mrs. Marie McReynolds, 5930 DeGiverville, 862-1662, and treasurer, Leonard McLucas, 5756 DeGiverville, 725-5926.



"Tot Lot" to be installed at the northwest corner of Pershing and Des Peres.

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# THE POLITICAL SCENE

*As a public service to readers of THE PAPER, we are starting with this issue a column on various types of legislation and action by elected officials which is of concern to area residents. We will print the position and the voting of each official on local, state and national legislation of importance to our area. We have asked elected officials representing our ward and districts to keep us informed of upcoming legislation and how they vote on various issues. We hope that this will serve as a means of evaluating the performance of our elected officials and, most important, that of keeping the neighborhood informed about legislation which will and is affecting us.*

## Ward News

John Roach, alderman for the 28th ward, is setting up an aldermanic advisory council on subsidized housing to secure information on proposed leased housing units within the neighborhood. Mr. Roach has asked the Women for City Living, the Assembly of the People of St. Roch's and the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council to designate a member to represent their group on the advisory council.

While Mr. Roach did not express an opinion against or for the leased housing on Clara, he has publicly stated that neighborhood organizations and individuals must demand consultation before similar projects are considered in the future. He expects the advisory council to do this. In addition, he actively opposed the job corps center.

A bill will shortly be introduced in the Board of Aldermen which will seek to make available for redevelopment a part of the eastern portion of our neighborhood where there are vacant and vandalized buildings and substandard dwelling units.

The area includes the 5700 blocks of Westminster, Kingsbury and McPherson and the 5800 and 5900 blocks of Washington. Mr. Roach states that he plans to support the bill and that he will ask that the Skinker-DeBaliviere Council become a redeveloper under the terms of the bill.

Mr. Roach states further, "I have received a number of complaints concerning the breakdown in street cleaning services in our area. It is true that the city has only a few of the 30 sweepers operating due to a lack of mechanics. I have talked with Commissioner Gilmore about the problem and he has promised to get sweepers into our area as soon as possible. It appears, however, that a more permanent solution will only be brought about by a louder public outcry. If there have not been any improvements within a few weeks, I will seek additional aldermanic support in demanding improvement.

Mr. Roach states that the area has not received the removal of dead trees and trimming of live ones promised by the city during Operation Neat and that he will continue to try to get action.

Mr. Roach's telephone number is 862-5893 and he lives at 6106 Kingsbury. He states that he welcomes calls and will be available to exchange ideas with any group or any individual. Mr. Roach also plans to publish a newsletter which he will mail to area residents.

## State News

Bills in these areas are being drafted by Fred Williams, state representative from the 72nd district, for proposal to the 76th session of the legislature.

1. an abandoned housing bill patterned after the recent by-passed Illinois bill on abandoned housing.
2. an automobile insurance appeals board consisting of the state insurance director and four other people. People with cancelled policies could appeal to the board for a ruling if they felt the cancellation to be unjust.
3. a fair housing bill.
4. a bill to legalize the sale of alcohol in the city of St. Louis on Sunday.
5. a bill to prohibit or limit the use of lead base paint and plaster for use in housing.
6. a bill to establish a reciprocal agreement between Missouri and other states on requirements for registered and licensed practical nurses.
7. legislation requiring utility companies to pay customers a flat interest rate on deposits held by the company.
8. legislation to prohibit the company from turning off the gas in retaliation for non-payment of bills during certain times of the year.

Mr. Williams supported the placement of the job corps center on Delmar and sought support to override the veto of Governor Hearnes.

Mr. Williams is planning to also send out a newsletter to area residents explaining some of his legislation in greater detail.

Mr. Williams welcomes comment from his constituents. His phone number is 862-1579 and his address is 5621 Chamberlain.

*(Editor's Note: Due to a short deadline, we were unable to obtain a report from some of our other elected officials. We hope to include their news in future issues.)*

# THE CHURCH NEWS

By Sue Hudspeth

## ST. ROCH'S

St. Roch's will sponsor a New Years Eve Party. For more information or reservations, call Larry or Jane Costello at 726-6784.

An adult discussion program entitled, "Your Family and Catholic Communication of Values" is scheduled for mid-January at St. Roch's. More on this later.

Caroling will be held in the church at 11:30 p.m., Dec. 24, preceding midnight mass.

(See St. Roch's ad in this issue of *The Paper*.)

## DELMAR BAPTIST

Christmas Vespers will be held at Delmar Baptist on Dec. 20 at 5:00 p.m.

A candlelight communion

service will take place Wednesday, Dec. 23, at 7:15 p.m. in the church.

## GRACE METHODIST

The 9:30 a.m. worship service at Grace Methodist was restored to the regular church schedule on Nov. 29. Holy Communion is held at 9:00 a.m. Worshipers are requested to occupy the center section only at this time. No choir will be present at this service.

Sermons will remain the same at the 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. services. More informality and freedom in form of worship will be seen in the evening including more congregational participation and the use of folk hymns.

Material helpful for family worship during the Advent season will be available on the church office counter and in the sanctuary.

Each Sunday morning from 10:30 to 10:50 a coffee hour is held in order to allow adults and youth a chance to socialize and become better acquainted with each other.

The annual Christmas dinner will be held on Friday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. The Girl Scouts, under the direction of Mrs. G. L. Ballard and Mrs. O. W. Klinefelter, will serve. For reservations call Mrs. Edward (Genevieve) Nolte at 231-0123. Adult tickets are \$2.50, children under twelve are \$1.00 for the first child, \$.50

for each additional child.

Caroling by the combined choirs will be held at the Candlelight Vesper Service Dec. 20 at 4:30 p.m. (no 5:30 p.m. service this evening). The community is invited. Caroling for Christmas Eve will start from Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 24. Communion service for Christmas will be held at 11:00 p.m. Dec. 24. No services are scheduled for Dec. 25.

## 70 New Members Join Council

Mrs. Sharon McPherron, chairman of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council membership committee, reports that the council netted over \$200 in its recent membership drive.

Seventy additional memberships were added to the council's rolls. In several blocks residents average 80 to 90 per cent membership. Mrs. McPherron states that they were disappointed that more apartment dwellers did not join the council and reminded them that several council members and past presidents are apartment dwellers.

Anyone may join the council by sending three dollars to the council offices at 6008 Kingsbury.

## School Renamed

The Community School Board has been busy over the past six months establishing a school program. At first it was called the Community School; then, when classes were held at Hamilton School, it began to be called the Hamilton Area Community School.

Meanwhile, others were interested in identifying the school by the area it serves, namely the Skinker-DeBaliviere Area. The members of the Board were at an impasse.

At this point a completely new approach was taken, certainly in the spirit of the times, and the name People's Community School was suggested. A majority agreed, so this is now the official name of the community school.

The fact that the Board felt it necessary to have an official name shows their confidence in the permanence of the school.

Meanwhile, the Board is making every effort to locate more sewing machines for the sewing classes and typewriters for the typing classes. Plans are under way to continue the Black Literature class and art seems to be assured a place in the program for the spring semester. If teachers can be found, a movie program is also under consideration.

Rick Bender



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**Wash. U. Schedules Events For Month of December**

Many Skinker- DeBaliviere residents may be unaware of the opportunities available to them through neighboring Washington University. Each month a great number of plays, films, lectures, and sports events take place on the campus, and many of them are open to the public and free of charge.

Following is a list of activities at Washington University that may be of interest to members of the community in coming weeks. Admission, unless otherwise indicated, is free.

Wednesday, Dec. 9:

11 a.m. Annual Music Concert - Graham Chapel.

Thursday, Dec. 10:

8 p.m. WU Orchestra Concert - Graham Chapel.

8 p.m. Play, *Look Back in Anger*, by John Osborne.

Through Dec. 13. General admission \$2 - Brown Hall Auditorium.

Friday, Dec. 11:

7:30 p.m. Film, *Where Eagles Dare*. Also at 9:30 and on Saturday. Admission 75 cents - Wohl Cafeteria.

8 p.m. Madrigal Singers Christmas Concert - Steinberg Auditorium.

Saturday, Dec. 12:

7:30 p.m. Basketball, with Morningside College. Field House. Price to be determined.

Sunday, Dec. 13:

4 p.m. Baroque Ensemble Concert - Graham Chapel.  
8 p.m. Voice and Flute Concert; Holly Outwin, soprano and Anne Swearingen, flute - Graham Chapel.

Friday, Dec. 18:

8:15 p.m. Film, *Ninotchka* (1939, with Greta Garbo). Also at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Admission 75 cents - Brown Hall Auditorium.

Friday, Jan. 1:

7:30 p.m. Basketball, with Harvard University - Field House. Price to be determined.

Tuesday, Jan 5:

7:30 p.m. Basketball, with William Jewell College - Field House. Price to be determined.

*Dorothea Katzenstein*

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# Precinct 1 In ABC Poll On Election

By Avis Carlson

On election night have you ever wondered about the recurring phrase, "returns from a few scattered precincts," which begins to be used almost simultaneously with poll-closings across the country? The speed with which the returns are available seems impossible.

Even more mysterious is the way these few instantly-reporting precincts seem to predict the final results that may not come in until hours later.

For Sue Tepas and Avis Carlson of the 6100 block on McPherson this past election did away with the mystery. One of the "key precincts" chosen by the ABC network was No. 1 of the Twenty-eighth Ward. It has been the practice of ABC to use members of the League of Women Voters as "special reporters." The McPherson pair was chosen by the state League.

So as the polls closed the two were on hand, equipped with badges from ABC and a letter of authorization from the St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners. The instant the first machine was opened one of the team ran to a telephone in the next room, gave the operator two long distance telephone numbers - and within sixty seconds the Symington-Danforth vote figures were being fed into a waiting computer. When the second machine was opened, another telephone call went speedily through. First mystery solved.

The second turned out to be equally simple. It seems that certain political scientists have studied precinct returns in local areas across the country. In the course of the study they have spotted some precincts which, because of their particular mix of ethnic, economic, religious or other factors, are such good mirrors of opinion in the state that they can be used as predictors.

Precinct 1 is presently such a precinct. Before 1972 it and the others will be checked over again to see if its predictive power is retained.

# Job Corps Center Vetoed In Controversy Over Location

By Ted Gest

The proposed residential Job Corps Center - temporarily slated for the Skinker-DeBaliviere area - will apparently be located elsewhere.

The center was a focus of community discussion for about one month, from mid-October to mid-November, as a proposal to have it located at 5621 Delmar Boulevard sat on the desk of Governor Warren E. Hearnes.

Hearnes, using power in his hands to pass on proposals for center locations, vetoed the Delmar site on November 18 after various community groups - including the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, expressed opposition.

"I had mixed feelings about the proposal, but I was pleased that Gov. Hearnes finally vetoed it because a majority of residents in our neighborhood opposed it," said the Rev. Calvin B. Stuart Jr., former chairman of the Skinker-DeBaliviere council.

The council opposed the site in a meeting Nov. 15 after a council-sponsored meeting Nov. 11 brought out about 100 neighborhood residents, who voted overwhelmingly to oppose the Delmar site.

Events leading to the council action went something like this:

The job corps center, designed for 250 male trainees from St. Louis and four surrounding counties, was originally proposed for the Sportsman Inn, a former motel on North Lindbergh Boulevard in suburban Bridgeton.

After residents of the Bridgeton area complained that the trainees wouldn't necessarily be near their jobs and that the community didn't have facilities for the trainees, Gov. Hearnes vetoed the site.

Bernard H. Tureen, owner of the Bridgeton motel, persuaded federal officials to consider another site owned by him, the old Sloan's Moving and Storage

Co. at 5621 Delmar Boulevard, just west of DeBaliviere Avenue.

The building had been renovated to be a nursing home, the officials said it would be ideal also as a job training center.

An initial meeting to explain the center proposal to the public was held Oct. 29 at the Ascension Episcopal Church at Goodfellow and Cates, sponsored by Twenty-fifth Ward Committeeman David Pentland and Committeewoman Helen Shelton and Seventy-second District State Representative Fred Williams.

This meeting resulted in primarily favorable public opinion toward the Delmar site, according to press accounts.

Williams has since continued a drive for the center to be located on Delmar. As The Paper went to press, he was urging federal officials to override Hearnes's veto.

The public meeting in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area Nov. 11 was originally just a meeting of the council, Stuart said.

It was opened to the public, and both Charles DeLargy, an official of the Missouri State Employment Service and William A. Atkins Jr., who would operate the center for the General Learning Corp., were on hand to answer questions.

Stuart said that although he believes most Skinker-DeBaliviere residents are not opposed to job corps centers, they felt that the lack of recreation facilities and the relatively high crime rate in the neighborhood meant that suddenly adding another 250 residents would not be a good idea.

In addition, some residents were unhappy about the experience of the defunct women's job corps center in the

old Missouri Baptist Hospital on North Taylor Avenue.

The result of the meeting was a reported 100-to-3 vote of those present against the Delmar site. DeLargy promised that Hearnes had an "entirely open mind" on the situation and had asked him to survey community opinion on the issue.

The council voted on Nov. 15 to endorse the citizens' action and report the vote to Hearnes. Three days later the Delmar site was vetoed.

Stuart emphasized that the council did not take a leading role in opposing the center but waited for citizen opinion before acting.

Referring to the Nov. 11 meeting, Stuart says, "I thought we had a good exchange of ideas."

He admits, though, that there still is some division in the area on the center. Williams and Republican leader Solomon Rooks were still campaigning for the Delmar site at press time, but it appeared that discussion would focus on a new proposal for the center to be located in the Fairgrounds Park area on the North Side.

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# Children's Center Group Plans Dinner Dec. 13

The group working on establishing a children's center, similar to the Project Five summer day care camp, are making plans for establishing a year-round children's center for the community.

The Day Care Center group is in the process of developing plans for a year-round children's center for the community.

Since the group feels that community participation in the planning is essential, a dinner will be held Sunday, Dec. 13, in the basement of St. Roch's Church at 4:00 p.m. for parents who have children between the ages of three and five and who are interested in planning and operating the children's center.

At a previous meeting in October, concerned parents, interested community residents and volunteer Washington University students met to formulate plans for the children's center.

Dana McRoberts, community developer for Project Five, talked about the center, "We are striving to develop the child's independence. We want to help them attain strong, definite senses of self-identity and security."

"We need the deep interest of parents, not just for cookies and pies, but for growth with their children. They have to know

what we are doing and why we want them to carry it home. We regard the children as persons and want to help the parents learn to do the same."

The group in a series of meetings, has formulated the basic philosophy and objectives of the program which will be based on last summer's highly successful Project Five program. The group is now seeking funding and a location for the center.

Mr. McRoberts hopes to recruit volunteers from the community and Washington University to work with the coordinator. He explains, "This summer some of our best resources came from the neighborhood. We want the children to be able to say 'I live here' with reason and to know that their environment can provide endless knowledge and experience."

The group is planning fund raising activities to take care of general operational expenses and is also working out a fee which will be formulated later with the parents who want to participate.

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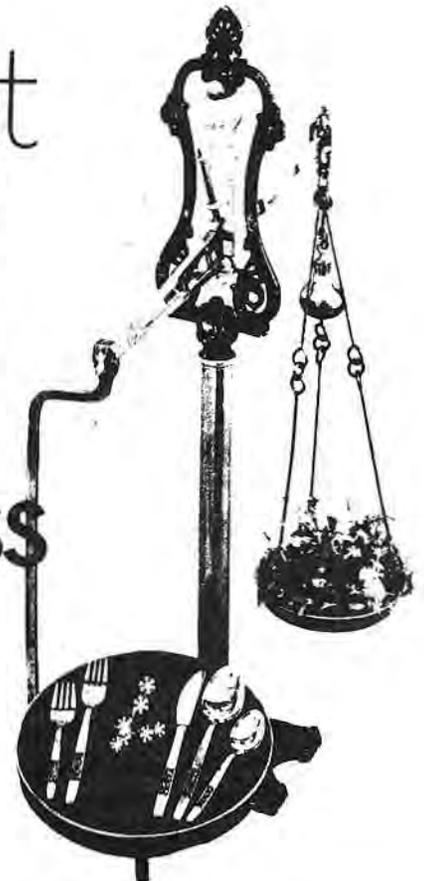
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