

the paper

an all-volunteer, non-profit newspaper which has been serving the Skinker-DeBaliviere area since 1970.

December, 1979

Volume 10 no. 6

Mexican Restaurant Planned for Skinker

Editor's note: The Paper hopes that by printing the letter to the editor submitted by those in opposition to the restaurant and the responses to those objections in this article it has served what the staff deems a significant function: to provide a forum for examining all sides of issues which directly affect the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood.

by Peggy Griesbach

At the Rosedale Neighbors meeting on October 20 some residents expressed concern about the Mexican restaurant proposed for the ground floor of the Sherman apartment building at 354 Skinker (at McPherson). A few residents of the 6100 block of McPherson were later interviewed to determine their concerns or objections. I then spoke with Rev. Robert Gordon since Grace Methodist church has supported the restaurant in its petition for a liquor license and also with Alan Hamilton, part owner of the building and partner in the proposed restaurant operation, since that time, the interviewed McPherson residents and some of their neighbors have submitted a letter which details their complaints and is published on page 2 of this issue. Therefore, this article will deal only with the responses to those itemized objections.

According to current projections, the restaurant is to use roughly half of the vacant commercial space (where the antique store had been at the south end of the building). Plans call for seating for 80, a full service bar for diners (no separate bar trade), and dinner hours from 5:30-10:00 p.m. with the intention of expansion to lunch service later on. There will be no carry-out service. For parking space, the restaurant has made arrangements to use the Grace Methodist lot on McPherson and is negotiating for use of the Sinclair station lot.

In order to be granted a liquor license by the Excise Commissioner it is necessary for a petitioner to get the written consent of one-half of the property owners and first floor tenants within approximately a 200 foot radius. Because of local law, any church within this boundary would by itself have the authority to deny the petition, an ultimate veto in effect. Grace Methodist Church lies within this boundary.

Rev. Gordon had preliminary talks with Lou and Alan Hamilton, then the brothers and their architect made their presentation to the Administrative

Board, the final decision-making body of the Church. On July 8 the Board decided (by written ballot) 37 to 7 in favor of supporting the petition.

Rev. Gordon said that there were two reasons why the Board strongly backed the restaurant effort. The first was that they were convinced by the Hamiltons' presentation and responses to questions that the restaurant would be a "quality operation." The second was the additional security that would be provided, by a commercial venture being open at night, in contrast to the present rather deserted appearance of that corner after dark.

As to the use of the Church lot for parking, Rev. Gordon said that the Board did not consider the present use of the space for neighborhood play as a major factor in their decision since such play is often precluded by the manner in which residents' cars use that lot and that "parking ought to be of as much concern to Lou [and Alan Hamilton] in terms of drawing customers as it is to residents."

According to Alan Hamilton, in figuring the number of persons served at any one time, the full seating figure (80) is divided by $\frac{2}{3}$ which in this case gives 53 people. (Restaurants do not operate to capacity even at peak times since one or two diners may be seated at a table that can accommodate four.) It is estimated that an average of 2.2 people arrive per auto. This means that no more than 24 car spaces should be required at any given time. The Church lot at McPherson has a capacity of 29 and the restaurant architect thinks that by restriping the lot another 10 spaces can be added. In addition, the restaurant hopes to lease about 13 slots from the gas station on Skinker. There is also limited on-street parking on Skinker. The Hamiltons also expect that a significant portion of their trade will be walk-in. He said, "We would do whatever we can to discourage street parking—monitor the lot if necessary. When the street parking is already crowded it is easier for patrons to use the lots anyway."

Alan Hamilton says that use of the church lot for basketball would only be reduced in the summer months. Even after the restaurant expands to lunch service, the lot would not be in use for parking from the time of school recess until the dinner hour.

The Hamiltons do not believe traffic on the 6100 blocks of McPherson and Kingsbury will be increased significantly, if at all. Restaurant patrons will enter the

parking areas off the west end of McPherson and exit through the alley onto Skinker. Signs to this effect will be posted.

Alan and Kathleen Hamilton and Steve and Lecil Saller purchased the building two years ago when it was going into bankruptcy for the second time in four years. According to Alan they concentrated on the residential units which are now at 100% occupancy. Ed Stout, one of the residents opposed to the restaurant, said, "People need to know that the Hamiltons and Sallers have done an excellent job with the building."

Alan said that in an informal survey neighbors stated that a drugstore was what they most wanted in the commercial space. Local drug stores were contacted, advertisements were taken in two pharmaceutical magazines and notices were posted at the school of pharmacy in the Barnes Medical Complex. The property was listed with a realtor as drugstore space and received not a single inquiry.

From their efforts Alan deduces that the small owner-operated drugstores are cherished relics that cannot compete with the security of working for a chain. According to his informal survey, also high on the priority list for the neighborhood was a quality family-type restaurant.

Alan feels that people should be aware that the two commercial spaces have remained vacant and therefore financially unremunerative for the past two years. The Hamiltons and Sallers have turned down three different parties who wanted to open package liquor stores, two small confectionaries drawing school children, a teenage disco which would have required no license as it did not seek to serve liquor ("that would have been the most lucrative as it would have occupied both commercial spaces"), and most recently a carry-out Chinese food venture. Alan says that

these businesses were rejected because they felt them not in keeping with what residents wanted.

On the subject of noise, Alan says that the cast concrete construction should prevent any sound escaping to the street and the noise of patrons coming and going should be well muffled by the normal din of Skinker.

When asked about the problem of odor emanating from the restaurant, he said that he didn't expect that to be a problem but would check further. He called later to say that under city ordinance any smells coming from the restaurant would be a violation of code (BOCA) and that the kitchen would be designed to eliminate such problems.

Alan thinks that residents should be aware that the restaurant will hire between 18 and 22 people and that their hope is to fill these positions with neighborhood teenagers.

On November 14 Alan met with some residents of the 6100 block of McPherson to discuss the restaurant. Though it produced no resolution, the amicable nature of the meeting was underscored by all parties.

Currently the Hamiltons' architect is drawing up the detailed plans. The brothers would like to open the restaurant in the coming spring; first they must secure the liquor license and then raise the necessary money.

A protest hearing (against the granting of the license) has been scheduled for November 30 (after this issue of *The Paper* goes to press). At the first hearing signatures of supporters and protestors of the petition are submitted. Approximately three weeks are given the investigators for the office of the Excise Commissioner to verify the signatures. Then the second hearing is held which determines the granting or refusal of the license.

Proposed City Truck Plan

by Skip Coburn

Residents of Rosedale and Parkview learned recently that Skinker Boulevard will be included in a proposed city-wide truck plan. The City hopes this plan will more effectively route existing truck traffic by restricting it primarily to those streets with sufficient capacity. The City has hired George Crawford and Associates to draft the plan, which must then be approved by the Board of Alderman before its implementation.

In an effort to better determine the potential impact of the plan on Skinker, I contacted the City's Street Department. Several residents had expressed to me their concern that the inclusion of Skinker in the plan would detrimentally effect adjoining neighborhoods and serve as a justification for the widening of Skinker. I spoke with Mr. Tom Hulman, an engineer in the Street Department, about the major features of the plan.

According to Mr. Hulman, the City would be divided into numerous "truck zones" with boundaries comprised of the major "thru-truck streets" such as Skinker. Truck traffic between adjoining zones could be routed along any street not specifically prohibited for such use. On the other hand, traffic between non-adjoining zones would be restricted to the major "thru-truck streets".

Hulman believes that the plan would not encourage any greater use of Skinker for trucks. He bases this assertion on the fact that the prohibition of trucks in Forest Park and along Lindell Boulevard provides a significant incentive to trucking firms to avoid the Skinker-DeBaliviere area. Instead, the plan simply confirms what the City already recognizes, that Skinker has a capacity suitable for certain truck use. In addition, Hulman continued on page 3

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

We have tried to contact personally as many as possible of our neighbors by the following letter. For everyone who wishes to know where we stand and what the issues are, we provide the following letter to you to share with all our neighbors.

Dear Neighbors,

It has been brought to our attention that some of you have signed the petition in support of the "Three Fifty Four Skinker Corporation" application for a full drink liquor license, to be used in their operation of a restaurant at the same address here in the neighborhood.

We are writing to you because we are opposed to the granting of the license and to the opening of the restaurant and because we feel that this issue has not had a fair hearing here in our neighborhood.

We hope that, after you have listened to our reasons, you will reconsider, withdraw your name from the petition supporting the application, and sign our petition to the Excise Commissioner of the City of Saint Louis protesting the application for the liquor license.

Our reasons for being opposed to the restaurant are as follows:

1. For those of us who live on the west end of the 6100 block of McPherson, parking is already a major problem, even without the addition of the proposed restaurant.

Due to the full occupancy of the Sherman Apartments at 354 Skinker (Skinker and McPherson), all available on-the-street parking at our end of the block is normally taken in the evening; therefore, a sizeable number (10-20) of the parking spaces in the Grace Methodist Church parking lot have to be used. The addition of the restaurant would only add to the parking problems we are already experiencing.

Because of this already existing parking problem, the use of the church's parking lot by restaurant patrons (as is being proposed by the restaurant owners) would not resolve any parking problems; rather, their plan would only serve to multiply existing parking problems for the people who live in the neighborhood.

To the Editor:

I received a copy of the most recent edition of *The Paper* and noted your plea for financial help to fund future issues of *The Paper*. I don't expect that anyone will be knocking at my door because I'm in an apartment building. So I'm enclosing a check for \$10.00.

I don't do this out of any guilty conscience after reading the article about a Washington University study on the neighborhood a while back. To be honest, I couldn't afford to: I am a transient in St. Louis, here temporarily to study at Wash U. (Urban Studies at that!). But I come from Detroit—the city—and I do believe strongly in neighborhood organizations. To me they are top priority, and what little money I make usually goes to community efforts. That's why I'm giving.

In Detroit I'd probably sign, "Yours for a better Detroit." I'll have to think of something more appropriate. In the meantime, thanks.

Bob Neaton

Editor's note: Upon receipt of this letter Bob Neaton was promptly recruited to The Paper's staff. The Paper received a number of billets-doux with contributions enclosed. The cash keeps the paper going; the love notes do the same for the staff. We thank you.

Those of us who live east of Skinker do not have the luxury of a private street ordinance and, therefore, we can not use the threat of towing unauthorized parked cars to resolve this problem as our neighbors in Parkview can.

2. Given the parking problem already described above, it is difficult for neighborhood children and youth to use the Grace Methodist Church parking lot now as a neighborhood playground, as it was intended to be used by the church. With the addition of the proposed restaurant, it will become impossible.

3. There are many young children on the 6100 blocks of McPherson and Kingsbury. The increase in traffic up and down these blocks brought about by the proposed restaurant can only serve to increase the danger to our children.

4. There are plenty of restaurants in our community already, easily accessible by walking or a short drive. We simply do not need another restaurant, especially at this location.

5. Finally, some of us who live close to the proposed restaurant site are very concerned about the increase in noise and about the ever pervading odor from the restaurant's kitchen. We do not look forward to the inevitable increase in noise brought about by the increase in automobile traffic and people at our end of the block; nor do we relish the prospects of the odor from the restaurant in our back yards and homes.

We hope that you will give our concerns serious consideration; we hope that you will reconsider your position in our behalf. Already the legal wheels are working to grant the liquor license, so we hope that you will give this your immediate attention. If you wish to discuss this issue with us, please call Ed Stout at home (726-5782) or at work (771-9601).

Thank you for your time and attention.

Ed Stout	Rosemary Kilcullen
Mary Bea Stout	6164 McPherson
6182 McPherson	Bill Kuhl
Georgi Ann Fox	Jan Kuhl
6178 McPherson	6170 McPherson
David G.F. Schmidt	
Barbara Schmidt	
6168 McPherson	



"Thank you" are two small words that we frequently use to express our gratitude. Without your cooperation—judges, schools, churches, crossing guards and neighbors of the Skinker-DeBaliviere area—our Halloween Party would not have been possible. Thank you.

Carol Zomphier



Thanks to these friends of *The Paper* for their generous contributions!

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Thanks to the generosity of many individuals and groups in Skinker-DeBaliviere The Paper's financial difficulty has been considerably improved. Our old debts have been paid and we are now current with our suppliers. The advertising salespersons have done a great job in attracting new customers. Our readers and advertisers are all enthusiastic about The Paper's rebirth.

If you had planned to make a contribution to The Paper but just have not gotten around to doing so, please make a check payable to the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council and give it to Karleen Hoerr at 6104 Kingsbury. We are not totally out of the financial woods and your help is needed. In addition, shopping at our advertisers and mentioning The Paper will go a long way toward putting The Paper on a self-supporting basis. Thanks again to everyone who has helped keep The Paper alive and well.

the paper

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As is the custom, there will be no January issue of *The Paper* so the staff will be free to accept all your invitations to parties and other holiday festivities.

Deadline for the February issue is January 15.

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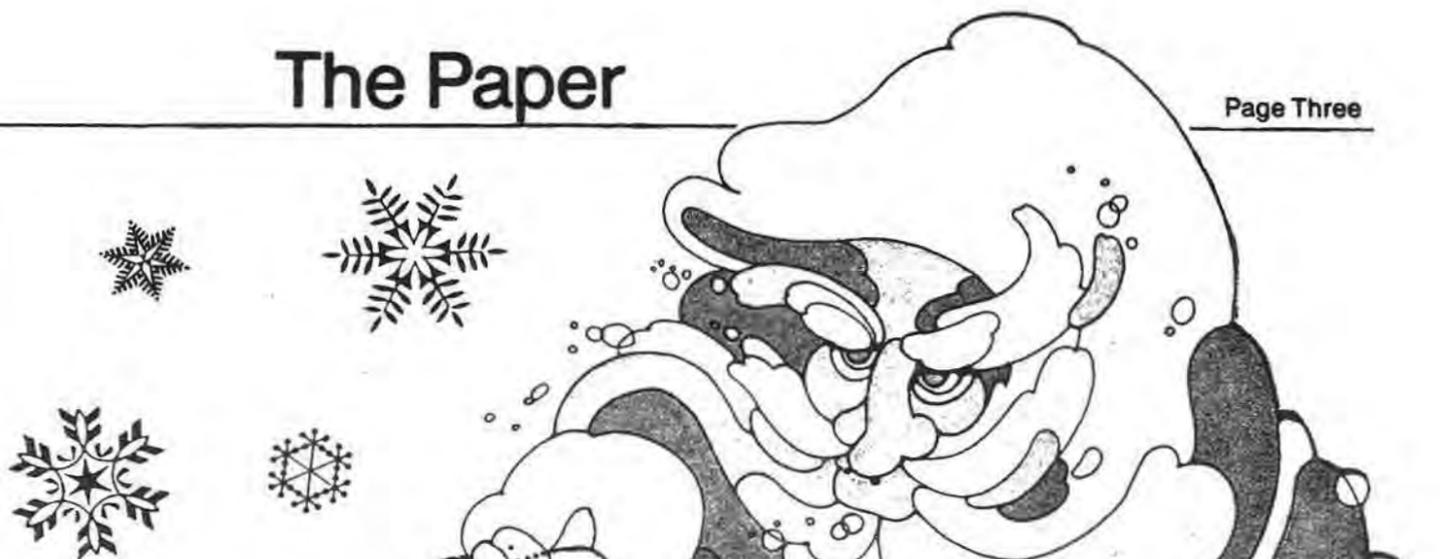
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Calendar of Events December

- 1 Rosedale Neighbors paper drive.
West End Players present "Otherwise Engaged" at the First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman. 8:00 P.M. Tickets \$3.00; \$2.50 Students and Senior
- 2 West End Players: "Otherwise Engaged". 5007 Waterman, 8:00 P.M.
- 3 Basketball clinic. Ages 8-15. Demar Baptist gym. 3:00-4:15 P.M. No fee.
- 5 Neighborhood School Parents Co-ordinating Committee meeting. Delmar Baptist Church, 7:00 P.M.
Hamilton School special meeting of the P.T.O. 7:00-9:00 P.M.
Basketball clinic, Delmar Baptist gym. 3:00-4:15 P.M.
West End Players: "Otherwise Engaged" 5007 Waterman 8:00 P.M.
- 8 Christmas Crafts: Teenagers 7th grade and up. Des Peres Branch Library. 10:00 A.M. Register in advance.
West End Players: "Otherwise Engaged". 5007 Waterman 8:00 P.M.
- 9 Last performance of "Otherwise Engaged" 5007 Waterman 2:30 P.M.
Grace Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. Concert by the St. Louis Chamber Orchestra and Chorus, Allen Larson, Conductor. "A Christmas Cantata," Honegger; "Midnight Mass for Christmas," Marc-Antoine Charpentier; "Four Motets for the Season of Christmas," Poulenc. Admission free. 8:00 P.M.
- 10 Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 6008 Kingsbury. 7:30 P.M.
Basketball clinic. Delmar Baptist gym. 3:00-4:15 P.M.
- 11 Grace Methodist Church, 6119 Waterman. "Messiah Sing-In" presented by the National Choral Council. Bring your own score of "Messiah" and join in singing the Christmas portion directed by some of St. Louis' outstanding conductors. \$5.50 single ticket, \$4.50 group rate for 10 or more. Tickets available through Famous-Barr and other outlets, or at the door, evening of performance. 8:00 P.M.
- 12 Grace Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. 8:00 P.M. - Piano Recital by Bonnie Hough. Admission free.
Basketball clinic. Delmar Baptist gym. 3:00-4:15 P.M.
- 13 Washington Heights Neighbors Association meeting. 7:30 P.M. Grace and Peace Fellowship
- 14 Basketball clinic. Delmar Baptist gym. 3:00-4:15 P.M.
- 15 Children's Crafts. Des Peres Branch Library. 10:00 A.M. Register in advance.
- 16 Caroling at Grace and Peace Fellowship. 7:30 P.M.
Grace Methodist Church 6199 Waterman. 4:00 P.M. - Recital by Recorder Consort. 4:30 P.M. - Candle Light Carol Service. Carols and anthems by the Choirs, Congregational carols.
- 17 Hamilton Community School Advisory Board Meeting. 7:30 P.M. 5946 Waterman.
- 19 Grand Fuzz Band at St. Roch School
Neighborhood School: Winter break begins: No school Dec. 19-Jan. 2.
- 21 St. Roch School and Grace Pre School Christmas Holiday begins. Return Jan. 3.
- 22 Children's Crafts. Des Peres Branch Library. 10:00 A.M. Register in advance.
- 23 Grace and Peace Fellowship children's service. 10:00 A.M.
- 24 First Unitarian Church: Christmas Eve Candlelight service. 7:00 P.M. 5007 Waterman
Grace and Peace Fellowship; Christmas Eve service 11:30 P.M.
Grace Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. Caroling in Parkview. The group will leave the church at 7:00 P.M. and finish up at the church parsonage for warmth and refreshment. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion. 11:00 P.M.
- 31 GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE: Disco, Casino and Breakfast to benefit the Neighborhood School Scholarship Fund. 8:00 P.M.-8:00 a.m. Scariot Hall
Reservations for breakfast REQUIRED.

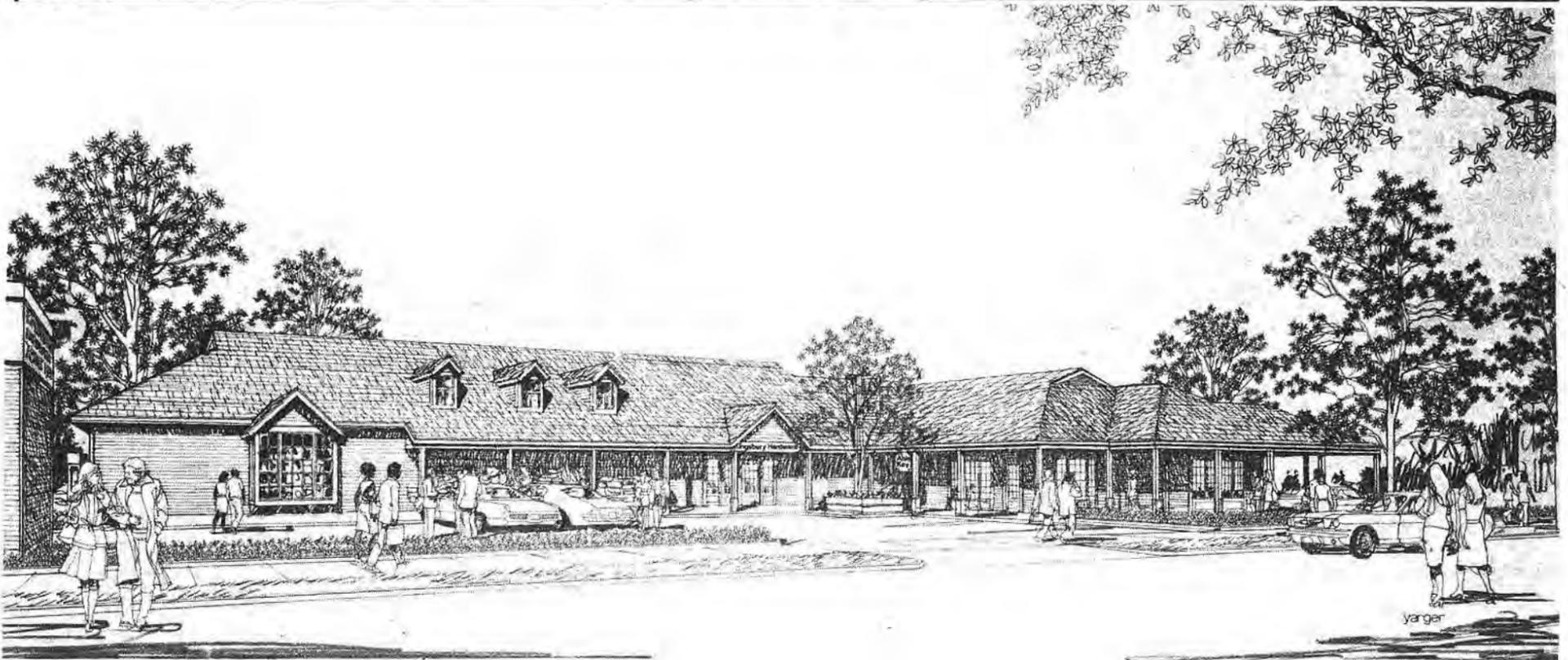
January

- 3 St. Roch School begins.
- 9 Neighborhood School Parents co-ordinating meeting. 7:00 P.M. at the school.
- 14 Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 7:30 P.M. 6008 Kingsbury.
- 15 Adult Decorating Class; Window Treatment. Des Peres Branch Library 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Register in advance.
Neighborhood School and Grace Pre School: Martin Luther King Day-no school.
- 16 Hamilton School PTO meeting. 7:00.
- 19 St. Roch School: High school placement test 9:00 A.M. all children who will be graduating from the eighth grade and are interested in attending a Catholic high school call Sr. Leo Ann, 721-2545.
- 22 Adult Decorating class; Childrens rooms. Des Peres Branch Library. 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Register in advance.
- 26 St. Roch's Progressive Dinner.

City Truck continued from page 1
denied that the inclusion of Skinker in the plan was a first step towards its eventual widening.

In as much as projecting future traffic patterns is an inexact science at best, the City's proposed truck plan bears continued attention and careful consideration by neighborhood residents. The Community Council will discuss this plan at its regular monthly meeting, November twelfth. Anyone with additional information or comments concerning the plan is welcome to call the Community Council at 862-5122.

Editor's note: The S-D Community Council at its November 12 meeting passed a resolution expressing its concern with including Skinker in the proposed Truck Plan.



Expansion and new exterior under construction by Able Lock and Service Co. for hardware store on DeBaliviere.

In the First Person

By Ken Cohen

I, like many of you, watch Pantheon's redevelopment of DeBaliviere Place almost on a daily basis. As Bi-State takes me down DeBaliviere and Pershing on my way to work, I am eager to discover what project has been started or completed, or to guess toward what target the various activities are headed. My curiosity, or just plain impatience, finally steered me to Pantheon's office and I found myself talking with Mary Stuart who is Pantheon's public relations spokesperson.

COHEN: Mary, I'd like to know what the schedule of development is for DeBaliviere Place. Can you tell me what the plan for residential construction is?

STUART: The Wintergarden, which used to be called the Ranelegh-Wilmar, has 112 units of section 8 (rent subsidy) housing for the elderly. Applications are being taken now for occupancy in November.

On Pershing between Clara and Belt we now have 242 apartments under construction. The first occupancy of these should be in April of 1980. There is no definite plan for Pershing east of Belt as of now.

On Waterman, we've completed all the condominiums between Clara and Belt. No construction has started west of Clara. These will probably be condos but there is no firm schedule.

Kingsbury between DeBaliviere and Clara will be all rental units. This also includes one building at DeBaliviere and Waterman. The area the building that was recently demolished occupied will be used for parking. Construction should begin in the spring on this building and those east of DeBaliviere on Kingsbury.

Kingsbury Square, which is the new homes west of DeBaliviere, will be built about three units ahead of sales. Right now, all that are built have been sold and most are occupied.

COHEN: Are there any firm plans for commercial development?

STUART: Well, the building Pantheon and Central West End S & L are in will have a new tenant soon. Office space for Pitzman & Company, a surveying firm owned by a resident of Kingsbury Square, is under construction. Ed Gordon, owner of Able Key, has begun work on a 6,000 square foot hardware store next to this present location on DeBaliviere. This should be finished around April, 1980. Besides a general line of hardware, he plans to carry items especially suited to homes in this area. Next spring, work will begin on the building located at 5573-89 Pershing. No space has been rented there yet. Leon Strauss (Pantheon's President) is negotiating with Schnuck's in an attempt to bring a new supermarket to the old

Bettendorf store on DeBaliviere, but we have't gotten a commitment from them as of now. Also, we have no firm plans to announce for the commercial space along DeBaliviere between Waterman and Pershing.

COHEN: From Pantheon's perspective, has the project been successful?

STUART: Absolutely. DeBaliviere Place is well ahead of schedule. We've brought a lot of new people into the city. We anticipated problems in renting or selling when other properties on the block were still boarded up but this never happened. While the mortgage money shortage and high interest rates have slowed sales, we still have many qualified buyers looking and our rental units have done very well. Our tenants seem well pleased.

COHEN: I've heard talk about a swimming pool and tennis courts to be built in the area. If that's true, where will this be located.

STUART: We will build a 30' X 50' pool and two lighted tennis courts on the

north side of Pershing between Clara and Belt.

COHEN: Can residents of Skinker-DeBaliviere use these facilities?

STUART: No. Membership will be limited to residents of DeBaliviere Place.

COHEN: Do you see any role for the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council in DeBaliviere Place.

STUART: We have formed the DeBaliviere Place Association. Leon Strauss, as developer, is now President of our neighborhood association. While we would certainly cooperate with the Council regarding common problems, I think any official relationship would be premature now. Our residents are new to the area and, I think, till cultivating a sense of neighborhood. Actually the association has not started holding regular meetings yet. But I can see that in the future we could meld, in some way, into the larger area as a whole.

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A Conversation

With Vince Schoemehl

Editor's note: An interview with our alderman is newsworthy in itself and seemed particularly timely in light of his declared intent to vie for the mayoralty of St. Louis. Lest this feature be taken as an endorsement (which is against *The Paper's* policy and traditions), Kenneth Kress was assigned to this interview. Mr. Kress is new both to our staff and the neighborhood.

by Ken Kress

What is your position on redeveloping the properties adjacent to Nina Place?

Something has to be done to insure investment. We've done a pretty good job to secure reinvestment needs elsewhere, but Nina has been excluded because it has the highest density and is pretty run down.

the degree of reinvestment needed is massive. Nina strikes its own environment and so investors have trouble getting loans. You have to find a way to get funds.

On the question of eminent domain, I'm willing to try to do without an eminent domain clause, if there is a feeling against it. I'll follow the advice of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council; I won't go down to the city council with a proposal that the SDCC is against.

What was the study done at Nina Place, and how helpful was it?

The SDCC got a \$21,500 grant from the Community Development Agency and use it to hire Team Four, a professional consulting firm, to do a study. The purpose of the study was to ascertain the physical condition of the area and to get an overview.

It was a helpful study. They collected hard evidence and data, and did a lot of footwork just counting dwelling units. They also surveyed the people of the neighborhood.

After the study the SDCC set up a special committee—half of whom were from Nina Place. This committee reported to the Council, and there is now a 5-member group assessing the report and its recommendations. This group is also putting together its own recommendations. They may recommend that nothing be done; or they may recommend that a private redevelopment effort be started. Whatever they and the SDCC recommend, I will do.

Can you explain what is going on with the proposed park by Hamilton School?

Sure. I assessed a need in this community for some open space where kids could practice baseball—have a place to play. So I hunted up some money left over from bond issues dating back to the 40's and came up with \$152,000 to buy property. I saw a genuine need for outdoor recreation space. My position is that this neighborhood is not the best planned as far as space. It was planned for the 20's, but today we have different needs, and we need more space.

We started buying up property and relocating people. Everyone being moved was given relocation funds from the city, and most people had been moved before the election came around. It wasn't an issue until the campaign.

I think that once people start using the park, the issue will go away. In fact I don't think it's an issue anymore.

Right now we're trying to create a situation where we can put to community use the buildings at Hamilton and Delmar. Perhaps we can move the Community Council. Then we'd have a park and community center in the Washington Heights area. That's one possibility.

The only thing that's holding us up now is passage of an ordinance vacating equestrian, pedestrian, and vehicular

rights. Whenever you are going to tear up a street, you have to vacate these rights so no one can claim that because it used to be a road they can drive on it.

After that we can begin scheduling the work. We hope to get the streets torn up and graded this winter, so that by next spring there'll be an open area—fenced in—for practice. They probably won't be able to play their games there this spring, but they'll have a practice field.

What is the chance that the city will widen Skinker or make it a truck route?

I've been opposed to both. That was part of the recommendations of a study trying to project traffic patterns into the 1990's. But I've fought against widening McCausland, which would have to happen first, and the city has pretty much given up on it.

I've also heard that the city's source of funds for such a project, the Federal Aid to Urban Programs, has been used up. I think the issues have been resolved in the negative.

As for making Skinker into a truck route, that cuts two ways. The people on Skinker will be against, but the people along Des Peres may be for it because it would remove trucks from their street. There's no bill on it, though, and the recommendation is from a Traffic Commission plan from two years ago. The traffic Commission has been reconstituted since then.

I heard that you wanted to ban motorcycles from Forest Park. What has happened with that?

The Board of Aldermen passed that bill and it was vetoed by Mayor Conway. We on the board overruled him, passed an ordinance, and it was ruled unconstitutional.

The whole idea was to stop motorcycle gangs from gathering in the park, especially around the Opera. They were intimidating people and sometimes it would get so loud with them revving their engines that they would have to shut down the Opera.

Judge Ivan Lee Holt ruled it unconstitutional, and it's being appealed right now. It should be in the Court of Appeals next spring. While it was in effect, it seemed to serve its purpose. We went through the whole summer without any problem.

My thought has been to cut off all through access to Forest Park so that all you can do is use the roads to a specific attraction, turn around and come back.

I noticed in the Post-Dispatch that you were among a group of aldermen that has proposed declaring the city blighted. Why would this help, and what would it do?

What happens now when I want to make some improvements to my house is I have to get a permit. The building permit application is automatically sent to the assessor so that when I finish with the improvements, the assessor reassesses my whole building.

A tax abatement means that for the term of the abatement, I would pay the same rate after rehabbing as I did prior. Tax abatement is available to groups, but not to individuals. On the South Side, people see that tax abatement for corporations is necessary to encourage reinvestment, but feel bad that it's not available to them individually; if they put up a garage, they get reassessed. It discourages them from making improvements.

I think tax abatement is a major incentive for reinvestment for a major part of the city; parts are not being redeveloped because of the threat of being reassessed.

Tax abatement is defined by State statutes: Chapter 99 controls the taxing authority of municipal authorities. The definition on the books is very vague—no specific guidelines. So we feel we could go ahead and declare the city of St. Louis, as a whole, blighted. It's the opinion of the legal counsel for the Land Clearance for Re-utilization Authority that he would have no difficulty defending a city-wide blight. This would open tax abatement to everyone. If we had done this ten years ago in Nina Place, we wouldn't be faced with the problems we have now. We're trying to make this a palatable investment.

Once an area is declared blighted, can't people living there be forced against their will to sell their homes?

Well, the authority to grant eminent domain is there [in the blight provision], but you can exclude it. We've done that in a number of cases.

What about the city's ongoing assessment of houses? Will that be affected?

All we do is freeze the assessment of property improvements. The ongoing assessment takes place in the normal flow, but not for improvements. For instance, if you had a \$50,000 house and added a \$10,000 garage, when your property was reassessed, only the house would be considered. If the house and garage might have been reassessed at \$70,000, but the house alone would be reassessed at \$60,000, you get assessed at \$60,000.

In the Post-Dispatch a while back, I noticed you said you would run for mayor if Paul Simon did not run. Mr. Simon was recently appointed to the Appeals Court, so it looks as though he won't run. Where are you now?

I'm running.

What's happening with the voter survey you were going to start on the 17th of October?

We pulled the survey out of the field because three of the questions involved Paul Simon as a candidate. Now we're changing it to include possible candidates for the president of the board of aldermen. When I get the results, I've promised to share it with them.

What I'm doing now is just meeting people in business, labor, and neighborhood organizations. I meet about three or four people a day.

It is premature. I was trying to position myself so if Simon didn't run next June, I would be a candidate. Now I'm ahead of the game.

Is that bad?

Well, it subjects everything you do to scrutiny in light of your declared intentions. People become suspect of your motivations.

What did you mean when you said [in the Post-Dispatch] that you would run as a better politician?

Mayor Conway is a good planner, very smart. I think he understands the issues as well as anyone else, but Jim Conway would rather fight than eat. He has no capacity for understanding other points of view. He is cold, officious, and pompous. I'm not saying it because I'm running against him, I'm running against him because it's true.

I plan to be just much more of an ordinary kind of guy. I'm not brilliant, not



as old—I'm sure he will go to great pains to say. I'll come out as a reasonable, more open person. That kind of person is mandated by the city.

By charter the mayor of St. Louis doesn't control the money. And the power of patronage is spread out over the 28 wards. In this city the mayor can't make people do anything. The person who runs it has to be able to compromise and bend: Mayor Conway is just too inflexible.

One more thing, I've heard talk of changing the street cleaning times in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area.

They are being changed to 8 or 9 [from 7 a.m.]. I have a bill in to change it throughout the city. The bill was up for passage when a new director of streets came into office. He promised to change the Skinker-DeBaliviere area, but asked for time to assess what this is going to do for the whole city.

The reason for the change is that 7 is just too early. Lots of people who live in this neighborhood don't get up that early.

What do you consider your role as alderman as being?

I'm different things in different parts of the ward. In Skinker-DeBaliviere I have very few service requests. If there's a hole in the street, the people deal with the city directly, and only call me if it's an exasperating situation.

In other parts of the ward people call the alderman to fix things—it's a tradition.

In Skinker-DeBaliviere, I'm here to serve as a facilitator of community well-being. I see myself as working out neighborhood problems with an emphasis on physical improvement. I find investment money, find insurance loans, find people to invest in rehabbing, further the progress that is being made.

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**Hours by Appointment
Season's Greetings**

Art Fair Committee Takes Stock

by Venita Lake

At its organizational meeting on October 19, the Skinner-DeBaliviere Art Fair/House Tour Committee devoted a large portion of its discussion to the state of the budget—past, present, and future. As we go into plans for the 1980 Fair, the checkbook balance is about \$85 less than at this time last year. There are several reasons for this, beginning with the ever-present inflation. Certain expenses such as postage, printing, and insurance remain the same or increase regardless of attendance or the weather. In contrast, paid tickets for the House Tour dropped in number from the previous year (372 tickets sold) and artist entries remained the same (95 spaces). Finally, we may continue to benefit from the advertising we get on the tee-shirts that were sold last year, but there remains a fairly large stock of shirts to sell and all future proceeds will go to benefit *The Paper*.

The committee was therefore faced with the necessity of making several decisions for the coming fair. The admission price for the House Tour will be increased and a family rate will be introduced. The fee for rental of artists' spaces will also be increased and in a drive to compete with the growing number of art fairs (being one of the oldest art fairs doesn't count), an effort to get more artists to enter will be made and a special prize category will be announced. The

fund raisers or concessions may also be charged a fee and a committee has been formed to increase the number of food concessions.

Finally, circumstances beyond our control and budget may force the committee to drop one form of advertising and/or decorating for the Fair. While many of us may feel that the raising of the banner across Skinker signifies that it is almost time for the Fair, we lost the almost new banner last May when it came down in the wind and was destroyed by cars running over it (probably all county residents). It could be taped together but will never be strong enough to fly. The expenses of a new banner combined with the new set of city regulations imposed this year, set against the potential savings in not having to buy insurance outweigh the advantages of flying the banner.

While budget evaluation is not the most exciting way to spend an evening, it did require those die-hards who attended the meeting to do some serious thinking about the annual fair and house tour, its purposes and potential, and how things have changed since the Skinner-DeBaliviere Fair was started 12 years ago. As we consider variations from the original intent of the Fair, those who have formed the initial planning committee for the 1980 Fair hope that many residents will give their suggestions and time in making the next fair, not only financially but in all ways, bigger and better.

Art Fair Chairperson Needed!

by Tom Hoerr

Imagine, if you will, a scene from not too many years ago. The date is June 5, 1944. Hundreds of Allied warships and thousands of United States, English, French, and Canadian troops are preparing for the largest wartime invasion in the history of the world. Tomorrow, June 6, is D-Day. The ships have already begun their journey across the Channel to the shores of France, and most of the men wait quietly. A light chilly mist falls on the ships, but it is unnoticed by the men sitting on the decks as they reflect on the past and avoid thinking about their futures. Fear is a passenger on every ship and each soldier's eyes are images, shrouding the true emotions which run through each man. Thoughts are precious at a time like this; they are savored, manipulated like pieces to a puzzle on a warm living room floor, and, tragically, they are fleeting.

The fate of a million memories rested with one individual, Supreme Allied Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower. His were the decisions of when, where and how. The outcome of this greatest of all wartime endeavors rested on his shoulders and no man was more aware of this awesome responsibility than Eisenhower. In any time, in any place, an Eisenhower would have carved history. Today Ike would have been the chairperson of The Skinner-DeBaliviere Art Fair-House Tour and that's where you come in!

Seriously now folks, the Skinner-DeBaliviere Art Fair-House Tour (here-

after called the SDAFHT to save type-setting expenses) needs two chairpeople. No, those aren't the folks who provide the seating for the day (although that's about all that they don't do). The chairpeople are basically the hard working, behind-the-scenes honchos who make sure that everything works perfectly on Mom's Day when our little neighborhood puts on a clean suit and brushes its hair to invite the relatives in for coffee.

The chairperson job requirements aren't all that intimidating. Other than being a masochist (quality number one), having a strong desire to bring order to an otherwise disorderly world, and enjoying attending meetings, the job requires no special training. Rewards for the job include the admiration, respect, and gratitude of your neighbors (which is another way of saying that there ain't no money).

Anyway, if you're still intrigued after reading all of this (Congratulations, you have quality number one!), you need to call Skip Coburn (862-5122) and tell him that (a) you'd be interested in talking to someone about working as chairperson and (b) you're interested in purchasing some moist farm land in Florida.

There has been one SDAFHT meeting, and while things are indeed progressing according to schedule in the usual semi-orderly fashion ("Would you believe starting the festivities by having a chariot race down Kingsbury?" "Would you believe having our new condo-trash containers on the tour?"), we do need a leader. Think about it and give us a call.



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 Season's Greetings



Progressive Dinner Marches On

St. Roch's Progressive Dinner will be held this year on Saturday, January 26, 1980. This affair has always been an overwhelming success, thanks to our wonderful Skinner-DeBaliviere neighbors who open their homes and to those who come and enjoy. Please join in!

If you would like to be a host or hostess for either a cocktail party or dinner, please call Bette Botz (721-5749) or Gerry Flynn (725-3076).

This event remains the biggest and best bargain of the year. The price remains the same—\$18 per couple or \$9.00 per single. Only reservations accompanied by check will be honored. Deadline for reservations is January 19, 1980.

Please spread the word to all our new neighbors! They are most welcome. It will be a fantastic "get acquainted" opportunity and just a delightful evening.

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blow THE WHISTLE ON CRIME!

by Cleo Alexander

Often when crime subsides in a particular neighborhood the populace becomes relaxed and careless. This very sense of relief can itself cause an increase in property and people related crimes as residents' sense of urgent need to band together decreases. There is no final and immediate solution to residential burglary and aggravated assault, but one preventative measure is the Crime Blockers program.

Crime Blockers was started by the police department to help citizens help themselves. How can this be done? An individual is trained by police to observe and report any suspicious activities or incidents of crime in his/her neighborhood. This is accomplished by scheduling a one-and-a-half hour training session under police instruction. Every adult resident of the Metro area is eligible and should be a Crime Blocker.

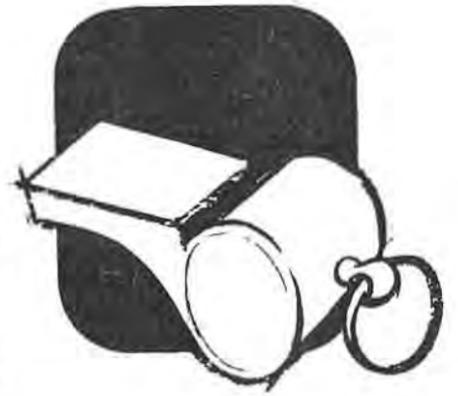
In the manual for the Crime Blocker a quote from an urban expert expresses the fundamental reason for participating in such a program: "The public peace of cities is not kept primarily by the police... necessary as the police are. It is kept

primarily by an intricate, almost unconscious network of voluntary controls and standards among the people themselves. Where the keeping of public sidewalk law and order is left almost entirely to the police, such places are jungles. No amount of police can enforce civilization where the normal, casual enforcement of it has broken down." This statement underscores the dependence of personal well-being upon cooperation with each other. The police department needs our support to effectively protect our lives and property. The Crime Blockers program is the acute senses (eyes, ears) the police department needs to apprehend violators of our rights.

Why take the training session? It is necessary to become proficient in the proper identification process needed to aid the police and to obtain a special ID number, which is used when calling in an emergency situation. This number also assures anonymity because only officials of the law enforcement agencies will retain the confidential list of names. The officer assigned to investigate the complaint is not informed of the Crime Blocker's name. When the Crime Blocker calls in a complaint, the number is the

only form of identification needed. The police respond to the call quickly, assured of the caller's special training. If additional information is required, the police will call the Crime Blocker rather than come to the house or apartment.

If any block unit, neighborhood association or individual is interested in the program, contact Seventh District Public Affairs for further information, the schedule of training sessions, or to arrange for an officer to speak at one of your meetings.



Tuesday noon, November 20, a woman stopped her car on the 6100 block of Kingsbury. She hesitated a moment before getting out because three teenagers were suspiciously hanging around some houses on the street. In that moment, they pulled open her car door, snatched her purse and warned: "Don't scream!" She screamed, and continued screaming as she chased them toward Rosedale. Bill Kohn and Joe Mestres, inside their houses on the corners of Kingsbury and Rosedale, heard her screams and ran out. Workmen in the middle of the block heard her screams and joined the chase.

Inside three houses, neighbors immediately went to the phones and called the police. On the 6000 block of Kingsbury, Alstin Richardson, Kenny Stevenson and Calvin Robinson jumped into Stevenson's car and headed the thieves off at Des Peres and Kingsbury. They recovered the purse intact. The police arrived within minutes and are seeking the three boys from excellent descriptions. Many of the neighbors had focused on details of clothing and physique.

A Crime blockers training and organizing meeting will be held on Monday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. at 6100 Kingsbury. You are cordially invited to attend and organize.

Keep Your Cool:

Call Mothers' Hotline 863-1090

The Mothers' Hotline is a 24-hour, seven-day a week, telephone service for mothers who need help coping with any aspect of parenting.

The Hotline was begun in 1977 by the Association of Family Women, whose members recognized the isolation and frustration felt by many mothers confronted with raising children in a mobile society, often away from the support of family or close friends.

With a grant from the Campaign for Human Development to provide publicity, postage and telephone service, the Hotline became a reality that to date has served about 2500 callers.

Calls run the gamut from the weary new mother whose baby cries all night to the distraught parents of a run-away teen. Not surprisingly, late afternoons bring the most calls when mothers seem to experience the greatest stress of the

day: preparing dinner, tired children, etc. The winter months also bring increased calls, reflecting the effects of being housebound on mother and child.

When the caller's problem indicates that professional help is needed, referral is made to the appropriate agency or resource. Since the Hotline provides emotional rather than financial support, it is unable to furnish food, formula or funds.

The fact that the volunteers are also mothers who have experienced many of the same feelings is the Hotline's strength. Although not professional counselors, these volunteers are trained to listen and help the caller sort out her feelings, or select the possible options. The rewards of being a volunteer are enhanced by the fact that she can perform this service in her own home, surrounded by her children, while exchanging with the caller the results of her own experience.

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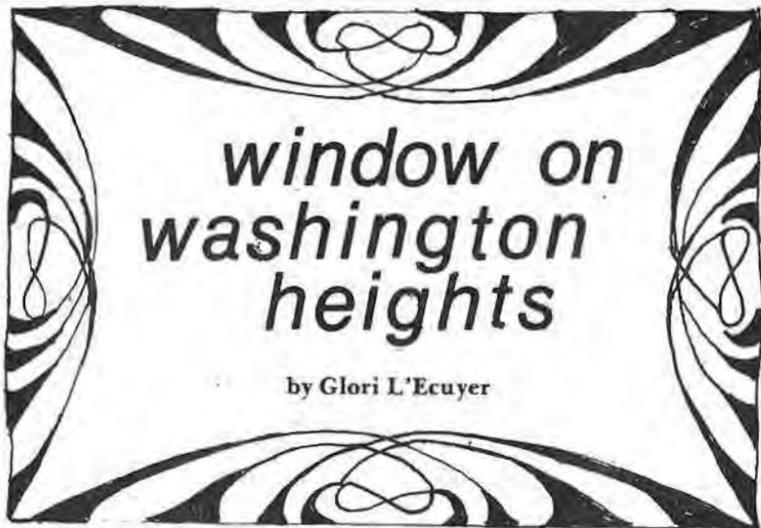
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Washington Heights is the up and coming place to live with someone rehabbing a house everywhere we turn. George Brown reports that at least two homes are receiving extensive remodeling on the 5900 block of Pershing. Santa will have a pleasant surprise when he pops down the chimney at Dock and Laura Gunn's house on the 5700 block of DeGiverville. He will find a beautifully renovated livingroom with some lovely decorating touches. The L'Ecuyer's on the same block are working on their kitchen, but don't plan to eat there, Santa.

Vince Aquilino of the 5700 block of Waterman is busy working on his house too. This month he has been paying special attention to the nursery in preparation for the new little Aquilino who is expected very soon. George and Rose Storey of the same block have some exciting news. Daughter Sally and her husband Terry are expecting their first baby, the Storeys' first grandchild, this spring. The Storeys have four children attending college this year. They are especially proud of Tim who is attending St. Louis University on a full theatrical scholarship. It seems Tim is quite the actor and has had several good parts in plays like *I Remember Mama* and *The Royal Gambit*. Look for him in other productions this season.

Karen Bush has been the recipient of a

full basketball scholarship to Fontbonne College, helping the Fontbonne Griffins on to victory. Karen was also a coach for the Bantam Division of the Washington Heights A's baseball team last summer and will be active again next summer working with the sports-minded kids of the WHN area. Her mother, Anna Bush, has recovered from her recent surgery. Stay well, Anna!

Did anyone see the familiar face on DeBaliviere one chill morning in November? It was Shirley Polk out hawking her papers on Old Newsboy day. Any more old newsboys/girls from WHN?

Many WHN residents attended the funeral of Mrs. Hannah, former owner of the Doug Alexander home and long-time resident of the area. We have fond memories of Mrs. Hannah and extend our sympathy to her family.

The 5800 block of Waterman was very active this past month. They held a bake sale at Mrs. Wimbley's house to benefit The Paper and the Clinic. The sale was very successful and I'm sure that the Paper and the Clinic appreciate the generous spirit of the Waterman residents. They also welcomed new neighbors, the Jitters, who have purchased the Shenk's home. We hope the Jitters and all old and new residents of WHN enjoy the coming holiday season.

Vicissitudes

by Jo Ann Vatcha

Good news abounds this fall in Skinker-DeBaliviere, and we have many neighbors to congratulate.

We welcome to the Westminster (Consiglio) house Ms. Doe Cook and son. The 6100 block of Westminster has also welcomed new neighbors Marvin and Marcia Nodiff and Bill and Lisa Horner. Bill is a cousin of Parkview's Bob Horner. At the other end of the block are Pat and Carrie Sullivan and small daughter Colleen. Welcome to all!

Tom and Mary Jo Consiglio have moved from Westminster to the 6300 block of Pershing in Parkview; they also have a new baby girl, Mia, who is second daughter, joining six-year old Ami. Congratulations to all the Consiglios, especially Mary Jo, who now has another house to do in her inimitable way.

On 6100 block of McPherson, the newest neighbors are Ray and Joan Breun and their sons Ben and John. Ray and Joan moved here from Florissant—just the sort of enlightened people we like to see here!

Jim Geer will be returning to the 6100 block of Kingsbury with his bride Jane. They were married November 17 in Connecticut. Congratulations and best wishes!

The condos at 311 Rosedale are all occupied. We're looking forward to meeting Nancy Lee and Sharon Green. The third owner is Bob Blackburn, familiar to us from his many years service as liaison to the Community Council from Washington University.

Congratulations of a different sort are due Stephen Mestres, son of the 6100 block Kingsbury's Joe and Marlene Mestres. Steve, who is employed by

Rubin, Brown, Gornstein, & Co. in Clayton, recently passed the CPA exam, no mean feat. Also somewhat interesting is how this writer became aware of Steve's accomplishment. Would you believe while doing the layout of the CPA Society's newsletter? Well, believe it, for, in case you hadn't heard (or didn't care), there has been a second Vatcha gainfully employed for some four months now, as Education and Meetings Director of the Missouri Society of CPA's. What a mouthful!

We are pleased to pass on the news that Bette Botz and Karleen Hoerr have both made rapid recoveries from their recent surgery. It's good to know that their strenuous efforts on behalf of the *The Paper* did not delay their recuperation.

Marj and Dave Reichert of the 6100 block of Washington welcomed autumn baby Benjamin, joining four-year old David in the Reichert home. Congratulations!

The 6000 block of Washington welcomes Ms. Candace Page, her son J.P. and daughter Kelly, who are now the owner-occupants of the apartment house formerly owned by Chris and Joe Lange.

And last but not least, congratulations to our many wondrously expectant parents: Nancy and Ken Cohen, Jan and Bill Kuhl, Lois and Vince Schoemeihl and Marj and Steve Brammeier (who are also in the throes of another kind of birth process-rehabbing their house). Much luck to all.

One final word from this corner: lasting gratitude, from one who knows, to the new volunteer leadership of *The Paper*. How great it is that we keep it going!

The Parkview/Angola News

We didn't get a report from either country this month. If someone would like to fill this space, please call 726-5683.

Steve Vossmeier
and
David J. Newburger
announce the formation of the law firm of
Newburger & Vossmeier

with offices located at
393 North Euclid Avenue, Suite 300
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314/361-2555

Susan Spiegel and Peter J. Giacom, Jr. will be associated
with the firm

Spirits Rise at Halloween Party

by Terrol Zomphier

The gym at St. Roch's took on a different aura on October 31. There were puppets, goblins, witches, ghosts and an assortment of masked monsters.

Art Santen, Master of Ceremonies, has hosted Halloween for the last several years. This year he was joined by Carol Zomphier and Cleo Alexander. Through their combined efforts, several hundred community children and their parents were in attendance.

The party began at 6 p.m. with all the children assigned a badge for their age category. The badges were to identify the age groups for the "Judging of Costumes" held immediately after the puppet show. The puppet show was staged by Creation Production which featured characters similar to those appearing on *Sesame Street* and *The Muppet Show*. The performance was enjoyed by both parents and children.

After the curtain went down the contest began. The children paraded in their costumes and the judges had the difficult task of selecting twelve winners. Our judges were members of the community: Skip Coburn, Steve Brammeier, Vivienne



Dobbs, Christina Storey, Lu Green, Pat McLafferty, Ida Hill, Arlene Sandler and Mark Glasby.

Our twelve winners were: Kate Onuska, Wendy Gotway, Daniel Cohen, Sandy Guzman, Joshua Patton, Marty Cross, Jarrett Green, Colin McPherron, Molly McPherron, Laurie Gotway, Louisa Hitchcock and Kelli Ann Busch.

It is hard to imagine that a program that lasted for one hour took two months of preparation by Art, Cleo, and Carol, not to mention the hours spent by parents and children designing the unique costumes. Everyone from the judges to the puppeteers had a wonderful time, and if sheer numbers are a criterion, the party was a huge success.

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10-10 MONDAY / FRIDAY 10-6 SATURDAY

You Dirty Rat! You Dirty Neighbor!

by Robert Lowes

Man against rat. This ancient war has never ended. According to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, the numerical edge belongs to man. For every one gnawing brown rat, there are two homo sapiens. But though outnumbered, the rat also must be outsmarted if man is to win the war.

"Rats will live where people allow them to live," states Mr. Hugh Mooney of the city health department. As he explains, people typically create rat neighborhoods by their slovenliness. A stack of lumber in a backyard becomes their home; a garbage bag in the alley, their restaurant. One major function of Rat Control, a division of the health department, is to help destroy sources of food and shelter for the rodents. In other words, it cleans up the messes that rat-conscious citizens wouldn't have made.

In order to stay warm and dry, rats will move into any heap of debris. They will even move into your house. Standard procedures that a property owner can use to seal off his building against rats include tuck pointing foundations and placing sheet metal on basement doors so as not to permit the tiniest crack to show. (Rats can squirm through a hole the size of a quarter).

Walking up and down some of the trash-strewn alleys in Skinker-DeBaliviere might convince someone that rats are more than welcome here. Trashier than any alley, though, is the railroad bed that cuts through our neighborhood. Many residents point to it as a major haven for rats. Clean stretches of the bed prove that at least a few folks who live along side of it are fighting the good fight.

People use their heads in the rat war when they ask for help. Rat Control handles complaints on rat infestations inside and outside the home and the poor storage of refuse that encourages such infestations. They will spread out rat poison where it is needed. They also distribute indoor rat poison to such institutions as the Des Peres Branch Public Library. Individuals may obtain up to six bags at a time. Each bag contains roughly 3 ounces of poison which, when digested, causes the rat to bleed internally. Mr. Mooney of the health department explains that this type of poison "is one of the safest." A human would have to eat

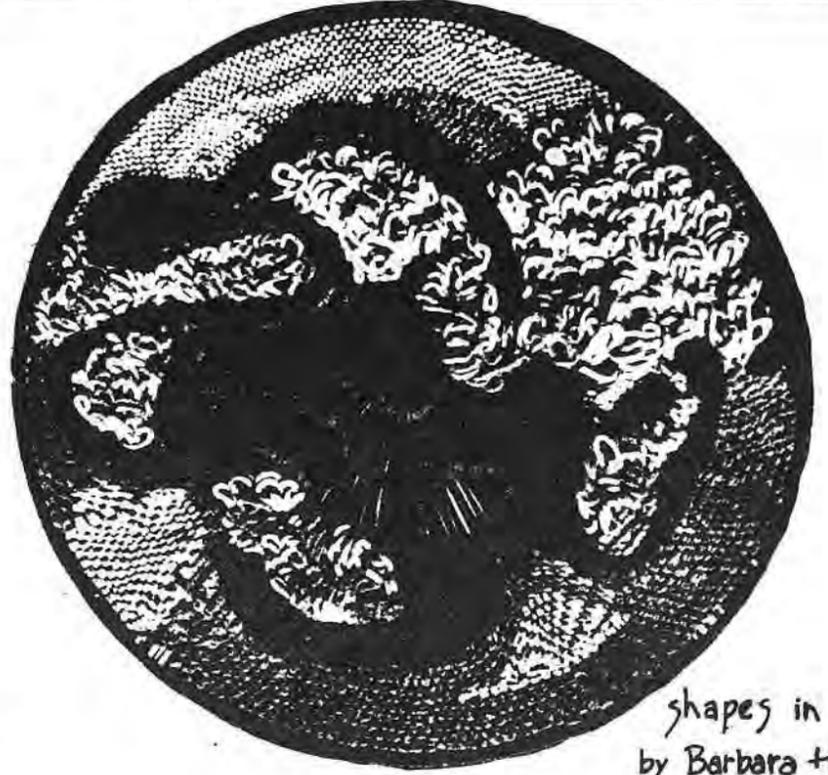
large quantities of it before he became ill. Also, humans are capable of regurgitating the poison. Rats aren't. However, the poison is still dangerous and part of the remedy printed on the bag includes blood transfusions.

The poison is simple to use. Place the poison along walls or in corners where rats are known to travel. (Rats usually aren't seen in the middle of the floor.) Tracks, burrows, droppings and gnawing marks betray rat thoroughfares. Bait at least for five to fourteen days without interruption. Des Peres Branch librarian Arlene Sandler states that baiting should last as long as the rats are nibbling.

Ms. Sandler reports that demand for the poison has increased dramatically during the past year. On the average, the library distributes 400 bags of poison per month. Not all of it is used in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. People from as far away as the 6900 block of Clayton and the 1500 block of Page have picked up the poison at the Des Peres Branch Library. Nevertheless, the increased demand reflects a widespread opinion that more rats are settling down in Skinker-DeBaliviere. Many residents believe that rats have been deserting sections of the DeBaliviere Place redevelopment area and fleeing west. Since rats can't find food and water in empty buildings and empty lots, such a flight is predictable.

The influx of hungry, homeless rats into the neighborhood demands more militant cleanliness on everyone's part. Rallying the troops is the job of people such as Carliss Billups, the sanitation coordinator of the 5800 block of DeGiverville. Mr. Billups states that he constantly needs to instruct his neighbors on the subject of rat control. About ten families listen and fully cooperate. A few families, blatantly ignoring him, continue to store junk and dispose of trash in unsanitary ways.

The health department, however, can not be ignored. It will prosecute sanitation violators in court. Those found guilty are often sentenced to a term in the Environmental Awareness Class. Conducted by the health department, this class meets at 634 N. Grand on Friday mornings from 9 to 11:30. Because he learns how to be a bad neighbor for rats, an offender graduates as a good neighbor for people.



shapes in fiber
by Barbara Hunter

Progress Report CIVE

by Kathleen Hamilton

The Central West End Savings and Loan Association, the first new savings and loan in St. Louis or St. Louis County in twenty-five years, has just completed six months of operations at 415 DeBaliviere. In order to open, Central West End Savings had to have a minimum of a thousand depositors and two million dollars. Tom Scatizzi, president and managing officer, stated that "We now have deposits of three and a half million dollars; and have committed over \$1,350,000 in home mortgage loans in spite of the stressful times of controlled interest rates and a volatile market as well as high cost of deposits."

Mr. Scatizzi continued: "We are doing what we said we would do when we were chartered: serving the savings and lending needs of the west end community in particular, and the metropolitan area in general."

Central West End Savings had its

grand opening in late September with a ribbon cutting officiated by Senator Thomas Eagleton and Mayor James Conway, among other guests. The savings and loan has hosted varied cultural and civic activities, such as an extended art show of lithographs by local and international artists, arranged by neighborhood art dealer, Marjorie Sharpe Hayes. A reception for the newly published book on the seventy-fifth anniversary of Parkview Place was held recently. The book was co-authored by Parkview residents Jean Eberle and Judy Little, and compiled from historical data supplied by a number of area researchers. The savings and loan's most recent exhibit is a show by Barbara Hunter, an area weaver, who has developed her idea for hoop weaving through a study of the American Indian and the Indian's feelings of sacredness toward circular form. The show will last through the fourth of January.

Live Music for Canned Food

The St. Roch's Food and Fuel for Life Committee held its first "Canned Food Concert" Saturday, November 10. The less than overwhelming attendance did nothing to diminish the enjoyment of the audience and participants. Two hundred fifty canned goods and sixty dollars were collected to help meet the food and fuel needs of neighbors.

Mary Bea Stout, chairwoman of the Committee, looks forward to more concerts and plans to take "The St. Roch's Singers" to similar entertainments in other parts of the city when the opportunity arises.

University Cleaners & Tailors
 6625 Vernon Avenue
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 721-0240



SCOUTS

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

- Brownie Troop 533 - Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m., Grace Methodist
- Junior Troop 3453 - Mondays, 3:15 p.m., Scariot Hall, St. Rochs
- Cadette Troop 3115 - Thursdays, 7:30 to 9:00 Grace Methodist
- Senior Troop 2886 - 2nd Tuesday of each month, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., Grace Methodist
- Cub Pack 31 - Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m., Grace Methodist
- Special Cub Pack Xmas Meeting, Dec. 19, 7:0 p.m., Grace Methodist
- Webelos 31 - Thursdays, 7:00 p.m., Grace Methodist
- Troop 128 - Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Hamilton School
- Troop 98 - Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., St. Roch's Gym

Women of St. Roch's
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
 &
Country Store



Sun. Dec. 9th 8am-12:30 Scariot Hall
 \$1.50 adults 75¢/2 order 25¢ preschool

Call for Carolers to Collect for Children's Charities

As the holiday season approaches St. Louis Christmas Carols Association, a non-profit organization, is again seeking volunteers to carol. To achieve the goal of caroling groups in every part of the city and county, more participation is needed.

Caroling groups may sing in neighborhoods, shopping centers, at the Airport, restaurants and private parties during the month of December. The area chairmen will reserve territory and supply sealed canisters for collecting, song sheets and

official identification. Money collected by the carolers is distributed to more than sixty metropolitan St. Louis children's agencies. Last year more than 2,200 groups collected more than \$55,000. St. Louis Christmas Carols Association invites carolers to join in giving St. Louis a gift of song to fill the air with the Christmas spirit.

For more information call Karen Kelsey, the volunteer chairwoman for the Skinker-DeBaliviere area, at 726-2832.



Preparing for the 1979 Christmas caroling season are pictured left to right: Mrs. Boulter Kelsey, chairman, Central westend, Union to Skinker (726-2832); Sandra Walter, president; Wm. H. Danforth, M.D., chairman of the board. For more information, call 863-1225.

Pet Potpourri

By Stephen A. Brammeier, D.V.M.

With the holiday season on us some thoughts about pets as gifts would be appropriate.

What could be cuter than a furry, bright-eyed pet, bow around its neck, waiting under a Christmas tree? A warm and touching scene, no doubt. However, holiday festivities, family gatherings and busy schedules are not conducive to the requirements of an infant pet.

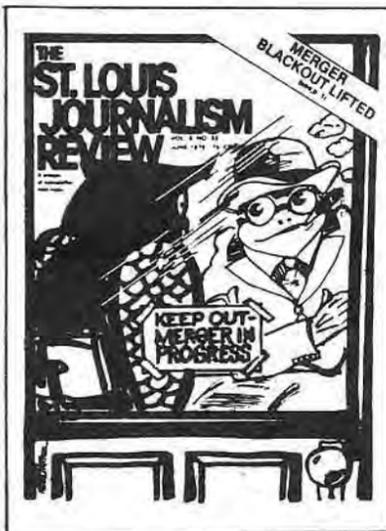
Children less than three years of age and infant pets are often difficult to manage. A household of school age children and parents who work outside the home make housebreaking a young pet difficult and lengthy.

I would suggest that some type of material about a prospective pet be given as a gift with the promise of a new pet to actually be delivered in the spring. There are encyclopedias of various dog and cat breeds plus materials about other types of pets available at most book stores or libraries.

Small pets such as hamsters, guinea pigs, mice, reptiles, or fish make good gifts, however, even these should be acquired after the holidays. These pets may be purchased from a reputable pet store or acquired from a private owner. Always pick a bright-eyed, alert pet with a shiny coat of hair. Pay particular attention to the cleanliness of the housing and the general condition of other animals in the same area. Birds require special precautions because of their sensitivity to cold weather. Always purchase some educational materials about your pet's needs and requirements.

Owning and being responsible for a pet can be a rewarding and learning experience. Waiting until the busy schedule of the holiday season is past will make the beginning of a pet/owner relationship much more enjoyable for everyone.

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- Beyond the facade of St. Louis urban revival
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- Does the Missouri Arts Council fund the St. Louis Symphony or vice versa?
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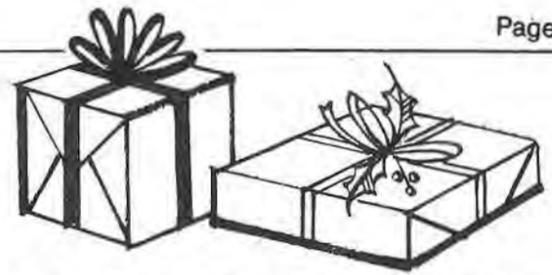
Only 24 More Crafty Days Till Christmas!

By Arlene Sandler

On 3 Saturdays in December, children and teenagers are invited to make simple gifts and crafts for Christmas at the Des Peres Branch Library. On December 8th at 10 a.m. those in 7th grade and up are welcome. Sessions on December 15th and 22nd at 10 a.m. are for younger children. Please register in advance.

Adults may want to hurry and check out something to ease the suffering created by holiday crowds and the ever-shrinking checkbook. There is still enough time left to stitch, cook, build, or concoct attractive, delicious, useful, or one-of-a-kind gifts for at least a few of the people and pets on your list.

How about velveteen juggling balls and instructions for their use? This and other intriguing ideas can be found in *Rags: Making a Little Something Out of Nothing*. *Family Fun* is filled with simple gifts that children as well as adults can make quickly: rag dolls, candle holders, easy puppets, and unusual window shades to name a few. *Gifts from Your Kitchen*, *Successful Terrariums*, and *Making Dollhouse Accessories* are self-explanatory. Springboards and rope swings are a couple of the items out of *Handcrafted Playgrounds* that can be built quickly. *Make it Yourself* offers instructions for candles, soap, and "tropical toothpaste" for humans and "liver cookies" for your dog.



Your children will love their wild animal slippers and their 4 foot tall dancing partner Louie Looselims, from *How to Make Soft Toys and Dolls*. Finally, how about surprising someone by fixing something that you've been promising to attend to all year? *Reader's Digest Fix it Yourself* and *Do it Yourself Manual* will give you both expertise and cour

Many thanks to Central West 1 Savings and Loan for stuffing our stocking with a donation copy of *Urban Oasis*, 75

Years in Parkview, *A Saint Louis Private Place*. Our small book budget is very grateful.

January events at Des Peres Branch include two exciting free programs for adults on home decorating. "Window Treatments" will be offered on Tuesday, January 15th, from 10-12 and "Decorating Children's Rooms" on Tuesday, January 22nd, from 10-12. Sign up in advance if you are interested.

Happy holidays to all!



Hamilton Community School's Winter Program

Hamilton Community School will be offering an eight week Winter Program beginning the week of January 21st. Classes and activities will run for eight weeks, concluding March 13th.

Here is a tentative list of Courses, Workshops and Youth Programs; detailed information will be published in the Winter Brochure.

ADULT COURSES

- Mondays**
Basketball League
Piano Lessons
Adult Basic Education
Intermediate Sewing
Intermediate Typing
- Tuesdays**
Beginning Accounting
Intermediate Accounting
Bridge Club
Slimnastics
Income Tax Preparation
Beginning Typing
Needlework
Volleyball League

- Wednesdays**
Adult Basic Education
Ballet
Beginning Sewing
Beginning Shorthand
Tap Dancing

- Thursday**
Cake Decorating
Slimnastics
Millinery
Modern Dance
Intermediate Shorthand
Stained Glass

YOUTH AND CHILDREN

- Basketball
Book Club
Cheerleading
- Dance classes
Beginning French
Piano Lessons

- Guitar Lessons
Tumbling Club
Wednesday Specials: Spelling Bees; Cartoons, Checker Tournaments, Math Quizzes
Stay and Play: Coloring and games
Ping Pong
Homework Helper
Adventure Education

Clip It



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WINTER TERM 1980



367-6996

Expiration Date: January 11, 1980

To the Consumer: Your Community School Coordinator will redeem this coupon in accordance with the terms of the offer stated. Coupon is good only on Adult Course tuition. Customer must pay any additional text or supply fees, as stated in the Winter Brochure.

Do Your Own Home Repairs and Save Money

St. Louis Community College at Forest Park will offer two 3-credit home improvement courses in the spring semester. On Monday nights Basic Home Plumbing will run from 6 to 9:50 p.m. Basic Home Wiring is scheduled for 6 to 9:50 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. Both courses combine lecture, demonstration and laboratory work.

For additional information call Dan Miller or Cathy Kurland at 644-9285.



SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

- January**
Consumer Issues Series
Rape Awareness
Neighborhood Issues Series

- February**
Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
Neighborhood Issues Series
First Aid

- March**
Preparing Income Tax Forms
Sew & Go



Other programs and activities will be listed in the Winter Brochure.

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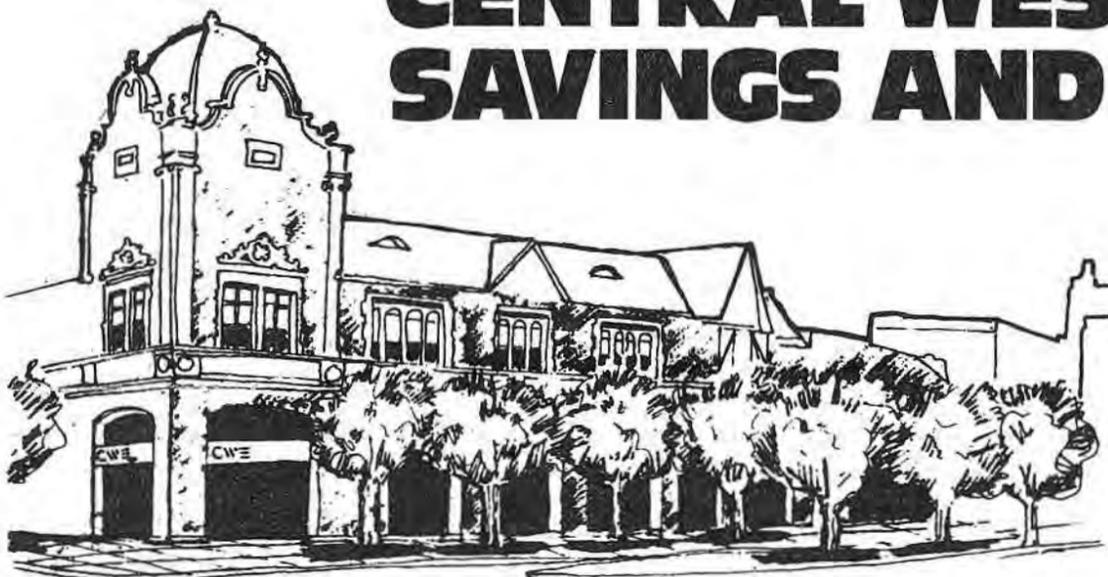
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from

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Fri. 9:00-6:00
Sat. 9:30-1:00

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14 Maryland Plaza

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392 N. Euclid

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390 N. Euclid

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Fortune Cookie Restaurant
4575 Laclede

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Majestic
4900 Laclede

Rossino's
206 N. Sarah

The Ladle
35 N. Sarah

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