

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Local Historic District Certification Stimulates Investment

by Katie Kurtz

In recent years, St. Louis has become a national leader in the rehabilitation of historic and older structures; in fact, our city has been responsible for a full 10 percent of the entire number of tax incentives provided by the federal government for commercial and mixed-use rehabilitation projects. The total amount from 1977 through Sept. 30 has been in excess of 382 million dollars for a total of 777 projects. Almost 80 percent has been since 1982 when the Economic Recovery Action of 1981 went into effect. By increasing the profit margin for the rehabilitation of older structures and reducing the previous tax bias toward new construction, the purpose of the legislation was to stimulate investment in older buildings and encourage the revitalization of historic neighborhoods. Under this law, a three-tiered investment tax credit (ITC) combined with an 18-year cost recovery period became available for the substantial rehabilitation of older, income-producing property. Of the three credits available, the most favorable is the 25 percent ITC for certified historic structures. Lesser credits are available for the renovation of old, but non-historic buildings: 20 percent for buildings at least 40 years old and 15 percent for those 30 years old. The 20 and 30 percent credits are allowed on commercial or industrial buildings only; the 25 percent credit is available for those structures as well as rental residential property. Single-family, owner-occupied houses do not qualify for any credit as they are not income-producing depreciable property. (An issue which might need clarification is the difference between a tax credit and a tax deduction. A credit is applied against the amount of taxes owed. This is a more favorable tax benefit than a deduction which is a subtraction from income.)

There are three important reasons why St. Louis has experienced this rehabilitation boom, according to an article in *Commercial Renovation* last February. The city has a truly outstanding supply of architecturally significant and structurally sound buildings; a city government that has made rehabilitation a priority; and the revitalization of the city as a residential center. The vast majority of certified rehabilitations have occurred in the city's neighborhoods, which are nationally recognized for their architectural and social diversity. With support from the Schoemehl administration, many of these neighborhoods have either been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or as local historic districts, been certified by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting National Register criteria. In order for residential property to be eligible for the 25 percent ITC, it must be located in one or the other type of district.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Local Historic District (designated by the Board of Aldermen in 1978; the boundaries were amended in 1983) was so certified in

August of 1984 and joins neighborhoods such as Soulard, Hyde Park, Lafayette Square, Compton Heights, and Murphy-Blair.

Owning property in a certified historic district will only affect those owners who are seeking the ITC, although all owners and lessees who make improvements requiring building permits must have the proposed work approved by the city's Heritage & Urban Design Commission. Those property owners who seek the ITC must meet the following criteria:

—A building must be certified as contributing to the historic significance of the district. Such a structure is one which by location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association adds to the district's sense of time and place and historic development.

—The quality of the rehabilitation work to be performed must be certified. This certification is based on the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation." These standards are broadly worded to guide the rehabilitation of all historic buildings, residences, and other structures. The underlying concern expressed is the preservation of the significant historical and architectural characteristics of a structure in the process of rehabilitation. The certification of the rehabilitation is in addition to having building permits approved by the Heritage & Urban Design Commission, although the information required by both governments is often the same and complimentary.

—In order to qualify for any of the tax credits, a rehabilitation must be "substantial," i.e. the cost of the rehab must exceed the greater of \$5,000.00 or the adjusted basis of the property (adjusted basis = cost in the building minus any depreciation already taken). This monetary requirement must be met within two years; however, a five-year period is allowed for phased projects.

These three criteria are substantiated by the property owner filling a three-part application with the Department of the Interior. Part 1 certifies the structure; Part 2 applies for certification of the proposed work; the last form is filled out when work is complete and final certification is requested. Certification and therefore the eligibility of an owner to use the Investment Tax Credit is not given until all work has been complete and approved by the Secretary of the Interior. To receive forms and instructions, write: Technical Services Division, Historic Preservation Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

continued on page 6.



## Judge Not Thy Neighbor But His Cookie

Those of you who have been following the financial trials and tribulations of *The Times* (nee *The Paper*) know food plays a major role in our fund-raising efforts. The party to be held on November 17 is no different. As a highlight to our traditional come-drink-and-eat-for-\$5.00 fund raiser, we will sponsor a chocolate chip cookie contest.

The winner will take home \$100 and be featured in the December issue of *The Times*; other contestants will receive prizes as well. For a \$25 tax deductible donation, one can be a judge—joining such illustrious journalists as Joe Pollack, Renni Shuter, and Tom Hoerr.

In order to enter the contest, bakers must present 3 dozen cookies. The only required ingredient is chocolate chips; let your imagination run wild from there. Cookies will be assigned a number to protect the identity of entrants, and will be available for all to taste and enjoy.

So if you consider yourself a connoisseur of chocolate chip cookies, a baker with a long-hidden desire to prove that you really do make The Best Cookies Ever, or just a friend of *The Times* who would like to have fun, please come on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 8:00 p.m. to 6161 Kingsbury. Snacks other than cookies and a cash bar will be provided. A donation of \$5.00 per person is requested.

If you are interested in being a judge or would like additional information, please call Katie at 727-6377 or Elizabeth at 361-6517.

## Houses Needed For Christmas Walk

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council in conjunction with Neighborhood Marketing Service, Inc. are sponsoring the third annual December House of the Month and Christmas Walk. This event will feature the newly renovated apartments on the corner of Pershing and Laurel as the "house" of the month and other homes within the community. The apartments on Pershing and Laurel Avenues have been totally rehabilitated by City Equity Corporation and are now available for occupancy. These units are a must to see.

Other homes for the Christmas Walk are needed. Neighbors are being asked to open their homes and share in the holiday spirit. Homes on the walk should be decorated for the occasion; first floors only will be open to the public. The House of the Month and Christmas Walk will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16 from 2-5 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in this holiday affair, please contact Ann FitzGibbons—862-5122 during office hours. Everyone is welcome.

## Appreciation From The Editor

In the September issue, two letters to the editor were published which expressed our readers' appreciation for The Times. It seems appropriate for me to take this moment to express our appreciation and deep thanks to some of the individuals and groups who make this publication possible month after month.

As many of you have read here before: The Times runs on luck, love, and little money. With recent increases in publication costs, luck and love are becoming ever more important. Almost half of our costs must be met through the contributions of individuals and neighborhood associations. Without this support, The Times would not be the publication we are used to seeing—at least eight pages long, professionally typeset and printed, with a good number of photographs and a variety of articles. The recent contributions by the following are *very* deeply appreciated: Mildred Chambers, Claude I. Schoenberg, Rosedale Neighborhood Association, and DeBaliviere Place Association.

Although money is necessary for publication, the efforts of many volunteers are in reality what make this paper possible. There are several behind-the-scenes people I would like to single out for praise and thanks. Venita Lake, who has been a part of this publication for practically a decade, performs magic every month. She and her layout staff take the strips of copy, photographs, advertisements, and headlines and transform it all into the publication you have in your hands. Without her talent and patience, I do not know what we would do or what The Times would look like. Mary and Hitch Powell are invaluable as a distribution team. A grubby job with little glamour, distribution is essential. And it is their counting, bundling and delivering on each block in the neighborhood that gets the paper to the block distributors in a timely fashion. Our new business manager is Jane Geer. Combining the two jobs which were being done by Kathleen Williams and Candace Page, Jane has worked wonders in getting us financially organized. The only unfortunate outcome of her work is that we now know just how broke we really are! Although it is probably assumed that with a volunteer job such as the editor's, the spouse of said editor is a behind-the-scenes helper. It may be entirely inappropriate, but this editor's husband deserves a public thank you for all his help. I think that in the last year and a half, Paul Kurtz has probably done every job there is to do (except take photographs) and his help has been invaluable. (Spouses of future editors—BEWARE!)

The list of thank you's goes on and on—block distributors, our loyal advertisers, writers, and, of course, you our readers. Please continue to support The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere—it is your paper.

## The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere is published by the West End Publishing Co., a not-for-profit, community organization. Members of the Board of Directors are:

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### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of The Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents.

All material—articles, letters, notices, classified ads—must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Signatures on correspondence to the editor may, on publication, be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phoned or mailed to the staff member responsible for the Calendar of Events. Deadline for all copy is the 15th of the month.

In a news article it is essential that the writer state the most important information in the first paragraph. The writer is responsible for the accuracy of data, including times, dates, locations and particularly the spelling of names.

Any pictures or illustrations submitted should be in black and white.

The editor retains the right to omit or alter any material.

Send all correspondence to 6008 Kingsbury. Deadline: 15th of the month.

## City Equity Responds To Commentary

Dear Editor:

Mr. Don Fitz wrote an article, which appeared in your October issue, entitled "Commentary On Tenants Rights."

My purpose is to set the record straight on certain issues raised by Mr. Fitz. Mr. Fitz enumerated eight points of government doles for the rich; certainly this is a perverted view of the facts.

Mr. Fitz listed Real Estate tax reductions and twenty-five year tax abatements. Blighting must be the issue he is referring to as a means to tax reduction. The facts are that when a property is blighted it enables the owner of the blighted property to obtain tax abatement. Tax abatement *does not* reduce current taxes but rather creates a tax incentive. Tax abatement encourages the property owner to invest money in his or her property for improvements and freezes his real estate taxes at their current level for a period of 10 or 25 years. This blighting, or tax abatement scenario, is available to everyone and is an incentive for each to improve their property, without increasing their taxes. It is *not* a tax reduction vehicle and may be used by individuals and developers.

Low interest loans are available to individuals through MHDC bonds, County and City Housing bond programs, the Urban League and others. Certain low interest loan programs are targeted to individual first-time buyers, some for individual home improvement and some to multi-family housing. Each has its own set of qualifications.

Rent subsidies are all but a thing of the past with the federal budget cuts to the Section 8 housing programs. Purchase subsidies still exist to first time buyers under the For Sale Incentive Program, administered by the Community Development Agency. These FSIP funds, as they are commonly known, are available to first time buyers; within the city, as an incentive to become homeowners. FSIP funds may be used to write down interest rates on loans and/or defray closing costs.

"Tax credits" is a very general term. Perhaps Mr. Fitz referring to the Tax Credits afforded every citizen in the United States who owns rental property, i.e. depreciation, operating expenses, etc.

Tax shelters are vehicles contained in the IRS codes which give certain favorable tax credits to individuals who invest in real estate. These favorable tax shelter incentives are designed to promote the expansion of safe, affordable housing; certainly, a worthwhile community program.

Tax exempt bonds represent one favorable financing tool to encourage the production of multi-family residential housing. Tax exempt bond financing is also used to promote commercial and other types of beneficial construction. In the case of residential housing, one of the requisites to obtaining tax exempt bond financing is that 20% of the number of units financed must be set aside for low to moderate income families.

The Community Development Agency is a branch of the government whose purpose is to assist and promote safe, affordable housing in all sectors under its jurisdiction.

Mr. Fitz has enumerated these eight points and labeled them as vehicles or loopholes for the rich and the government to rip-off the poor. Nothing could be further from the truth. Without these agencies and programs, the flight of people from the cities of America could not be stopped. St. Louis is a great example of what can be done when private enterprise and government cooperate. The rebirth of the neighborhoods that has taken place within our city over the last decade is a direct result of these types of programs.

Certain allegations by Mr. Fitz deserve special attention. Mr. Bearden has not requested that any of his buildings be blighted; therefore, NO TAX ABATEMENT. Mr. Bearden has not sought, nor is he receiving, any special funding from the City, State or Federal Government for the development of his properties. Yet, he has promoted a fair relocation program for tenants of his buildings. Tenants *were* informed many months in advance of the legal notice to vacate, that the buildings were going to be closed for rehabilitation because they were running at substantial deficits.

Steve McClendon stated he had not been paid moving expenses by City Equity, and "does not believe in City Equity's promise to pay after this eviction either." Steve McClendon was asked to relocate earlier this summer from the Randolph Apartments, in Pershing-Waterman, not the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. After repeated requests from City Equity's property manager, Mr. McClendon submitted his paid bills for moving, at which time he was reimbursed \$120. Unfortunately, Mr. McClendon did have to relocate again, for which he was reimbursed \$500. Copies of the cancelled checks are on file with this newspaper. Perhaps an apology, Mr. McClendon?

Mr. Fitz's direct attacks, innuendos and half truths directed at real estate developers are erroneous and not in the best interest of the neighborhood. Real estate developers play a vital role in the positive growth or rehabilitation of a neighborhood. The positive effects of risk-taking developers working with the cooperation of neighborhood groups and government raise the quality of life style for all residents of a neighborhood.

—Phil Delkeskamp  
City Equity Corporation

## Blood Drive Nov. 11

There will be a Red Cross Bloodmobile, co-sponsored by St. Roch's Catholic Church and Grace United Methodist Church in St. Roch's Church Hall, 310 Rosedale Avenue on Sunday, Nov. 11 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Red Cross has discontinued collecting blood on a regular schedule at their Lindell office, so this will be the most convenient site for blood donors in this area. For information, call Gloria Broun (727-7285), Rose Storey (622-4709) or Dorothy Dolan (726-1571).

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# November Calendar

- 1 Mo. Historical Society exhibits for November include prints by James Audubon; Missouri Landscapes; "Five St. Louis Artists, Their City, Their World." Forest Park. 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Free.
- 3 "How to Create a Home-based Business." Series begins, led by Jim Vincent, Black Chamber of Commerce. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. (Also Nov. 10 & 17)  
Firewood available for sale by Parks Department on Saturdays and Sundays at the Maintenance Yard in Forest Park, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Prices from \$10 per load.  
The Oskar Schlemmer Bauhaus Dances. Rare view of architecture & performance from 1920s Germany. Edison Theater, Washington Univ. 8 p.m. \$8.
- 4 Guitarist Julian Bream with CASA. 560 Trinity at Delmar, University City. 8 p.m. \$8.  
Intaglio prints by Meredith Dean. University City Library Gallery. Opening reception, 3-5 p.m. Free. (Through Nov. 30).  
Retrospective Exhibit of sculpture & paintings by Carmelyn Bommarito, CSJ. Fontbonne Library Gallery. Opening reception, 3-5 p.m. Free. (Exhibit through Nov. 28).
- 5 Deadline to register for workshop on how to avoid rape, robbery, etc., led by Nancy Hightshoe, to be held at Barnes Hospital, Nov. 13, 10 a.m. \$6 (includes lunch). Call 362-5326.
- 6 Antique Toy Train Exhibit. Mo. Historical Society, Forest Park. Opening day. Free.  
Pre-school story hour every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. Free.  
Topics concerning joint custody are discussed by In the Child's Best Interest. 7 p.m. Grace & Peace Fellowship, 6003 Kingsbury. (Also 3rd Tues.)
- 7 "Focus on Black Writers." Discussion of new black authors by Veronica Banks and others. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. 7:30 p.m. Free.
- 9 Dimitri the Clown. Extraordinary European performer. Edison Theater, Washington Univ. 8 p.m. \$8.  
Visit to First Street Forum by Delmar Senior Adult Group. Delmar Baptist Church. 10 a.m. Call 725-2311 for details.
- 10 "The Germans Among Us." Program for children on the origins of the "Forty Eighters" in St. Louis. Mo. Historical Society, Forest Park. 10:30 a.m.
- 11 Faculty Show opens, School of Fine Arts, Washington Univ. Steinberg Hall, Upper Gallery, 3-5 p.m. Free (Other current exhibits: "Spirit of Antiquity"; "Master Prints.")  
Red Cross Blood Mobile at St. Roch's Church Hall, 310 Rosedale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 12 Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meets at 6008 Kingsbury. 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Washington Heights Neighbors meeting. Hamilton School. 7:30 p.m.
- 14 "Patchwork Elephants and Other Wild Things." Stories and crafts for Children's Book Week. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. 4 p.m. Free.  
Evening of fiction & music with novelist James Baldwin, and gospel singers Willie Mae Ford Smith & Zella Jackson Price. Edison Theater, Washington University. 8 p.m. \$4-6. (Call 421-1701)  
Rosedale Neighbors Potluck Supper and election of officers. Church Hall St. Roch's Church (Rosedale entrance). 6:30 p.m. dinner.
- 15 Faculty recital featuring Bill Archer. Fontbonne Fine Arts Theater. 8 p.m. Free.  
Skinker-DeBaliviere Business Association luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Call 862-5122 for location.
- 16 Fortepiano recital by Seth Carlin, Assoc. Professor of Music, Washington Univ. Steinberg Auditorium. 8 p.m. Free.  
Lunch & Art Museum movie for Delmar Senior Adult Group. Delmar Baptist Church. 11:45 a.m. \$2. Call 725-2311 for details.  
Mo. Historical Society Museum Shop Christmas Preview. Forest Park. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- 17 Chocolate chip cookie contest and fund raiser for *The Times*, 6161 Kingsbury, 8:00 p.m. \$5.00 donation per person to come eat and have fun. (See related article.)  
Viennese pianist Anton Kuerti performs all-Schubert program. Edison Theater, Washington Univ. 8 p.m. \$8. (Free lecture by Kuerti at 5 p.m.)
- 19 Deadline for persons interested in joining St. Louis Woman's Choir, a feminist repertory choir. Call 771-2967 or 772-1823.  
Evening of poetry, fiction & music with John & Peg Knoepfle and Dee Werner. Duff's Restaurant, 392 N. Euclid. 8 p.m. \$3.  
Tom Feelings, well-known book illustrator, will meet the public at Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. Free.
- 24 "A Creole Christmas." Program for children on how the French in early St. Louis celebrated Christmas. Mo. Historical Society, Forest Park. 10:30 a.m.
- 25 5900 DeGiverville, Inc. Block Meeting. 4:30 p.m.
- 26 Latin American study group forming under auspices of Inter-faith Committee on Latin America. 6100 Kingsbury, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
- 27 "The Wizard of Oz," by Frank Baum. Produced by Muny/Student Theater Project. New City School. Call 531-1301 for details. (Through Dec. 9)
- 29 Guitarist Benjamin Verdery in recital. Graham Chapel, Washington Univ. 8:30 p.m. \$8. Also Nov. 30 at the Ethical Society, 8:30 p.m. \$8.
- 30 Bel Canto Christmas Concert, featuring Marc Charpentier's "Messe de Minuet pour Noel" based on French carols. St. Roch's Catholic Church. 8 p.m. \$4; seniors/students \$2; under 12 free.  
Elisa Monte Dance Company. Edison Theater, Washington Univ. 8 p.m. \$8.  
Trip to Crestwood Plaza's "Ultra Mall" and lunch out for Delmar Senior Adult Group. Delmar Baptist Church. 10 a.m. Call 725-2311 for details.

## Christmas Concert Features French Mass

Marc Antoine Charpentier's *Messe de Minuet pour Noël* will be the major work at the tenth annual Christmas concert by the Bel Canto Chorus Friday, Nov. 30, 8:00 p.m. at St. Roch's Catholic Church, 6052 Waterman.

Composed between 1679 and 1689, the mass is the earliest known example of such a liturgical piece based on French Christmas carols. Whereas many French Baroque composers refrained from writing masses in deference to Louis XIV's taste, Charpentier composed twelve. As master of music at the Jesuit St. Louis Church in Paris, where he used singers from the Paris Opera, Charpentier was in the employ of the Grand Dauphin when he composed the *Messe de Nuit pour Noël*. He was simultaneously associated with the Molière comedy troupe, which became the Comédie Française, until 1686.

Only a few of Charpentier's religious pieces and the secular music he composed for Molière's plays were published before his death in 1704. A nephew collected the more than 550 manuscripts and donated them to the king's library, now the Bibliothèque Nationale.

The Christmas concert is underwritten by a grant from the Arts and Humanities Commission of the City of St. Louis. Tickets may be purchased at the door. General admission is \$4; for senior citizens and students, \$2. The concert will be repeated Sunday, Dec. 2, 3:00 p.m., at First Baptist Church of St. John, 8665 St. Charles Rock Rd.

## Latin America Discussion Group To Be Formed

On Nov. 26 at 7:30, neighborhood residents interested in forming a discussion and study group on Latin America are invited to meet at 6100 Kingsbury. Sponsored by the Inter-faith Committee on Latin America, the evening will feature an eyewitness report on the election in Nicaragua by Patti O'Connor, an eyewitness report on lobbying for Latin American policy in Washington by Lisa Weakly, and a 28 minute videotape presentation, "Inside the Americas" which explores U.S. interventions in El Salvador, Cuba, Chile, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua through interviews with a former ambassador to El Salvador, a member of the C.I.A., and noted Mexican author Carlos Fuentes.



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## Council Fund Raising Success To Help Goals

by Ann FitzGibbons, Executive Director, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council

Community (L. comunis; see common) 1. The people living in the same district, city, neighborhood, etc. under the same laws; 2. a group of people living together and having interests, work, etc. in common; 3. ownership or participation in common; 4. similarity; likeness, as in "community" spirit. This definition has been brought to you by Webster's New World Dictionary. The real thing is alive and well in Skinker-DeBaliviere.

Friday, Oct. 19, 1984, our neighborhood demonstrated its community spirit during a fund raiser of dinner, dancing, and Dixieland on the Huck Finn riverboat. Over \$1000.00 was raised for the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. Approximately 110 people enjoyed an evening of good food, drinks, and music during a romantic excursion on the Mississippi. The proceeds from the event will go towards the operating expenses of the Community Council.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council has a history of "community." Formed in 1966 through the efforts of the Rosedale Neighborhood Association, the Washington Heights Neighbors, and the Parkview Agents with the financial support of four institutions, Delmar Baptist Church, Grace United Methodist Church, St. Roch's Catholic Church and Washington University, the Council drew its boundaries and began to concentrate its efforts towards revitalization of the area. The boundaries presently are Lindell on the south, Delmar on the north, Union on the east, and Mehlville on the west.

The role of the Council was and still is to concentrate on improving the quality of life in the community. At first, the Council addressed issues of housing, absentee landlords, vacant and dangerous buildings, street crime, trash, and decay. The Community Council established a residential service made up of volunteers who brought daring, do-it-yourselfers into the homes of our neighborhood. We all had something in common; other than grubby clothes and dirty fingernails, we had the determination to make our urban lifestyle work.

The one successful way to make our community work was to organize and address issues together. The Council organized block watchers, a crime prevention program that works because the community makes it work. Crime has decreased 150 percent in the past ten years thanks to our neighbors. SDCC established a relationship with City Hall and, as a group, collectively had the power to get the services requested. A summer youth employment program was established and has been continued. Food and assistance to those in need has always been a primary concern of the Council.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council continues to build on its original purpose, to serve the residents of the community and improve the quality of life for everyone. The Council has reorganized the Neighborhood Watch program and maintains communications with the Seventh District Police on a regular basis. The Council has been the regional headquarters for Operation Brightside which has been more and more successful with each consecutive year. The Christmas Walk has attracted thousands into our community in celebration of the holidays. The Council orchestrated the planting of approximately 150 trees in our neighborhood. Programs such as "A Child's Christmas in Wales," Trio Cassatt, The Brass Quintet, Opera on the Road, puppet shows, jazz, and many others have all been brought to you through the efforts of the Council.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council addresses the concerns and issues of the community which involves each and everyone of us. You are involved because you live here, you are affected by the Council on a daily basis. Residents can rely on the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council because it is an organization made up of the people who live here.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council greatly appreciates the support it has received from those who contributed to our recent fund raiser and would appreciate any future contributions.

## Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

We welcome to our neighborhood Paul and Paula Repetto and their three-year-old son Reeve. The Repettos moved to 6100 Kingsbury after a brief residence in the Oxford Condominiums. Prior to that they lived in Los Angeles. Paul is Vice-President/General Manager of Sunfield Foods, a manufacturer of wholesome snacks which is a division of Sunmark Co. Paula is a full-time mother who formerly worked as a marketing manager in cosmetics. She is currently in training to become a zoo docent.

The Repettos bought their home on Kingsbury from a long-time Rosedale resident and former 6100 Westminster-ite, who has recently returned to that very block. What's more, it's *deja vu* seeing Marjie Brammeier and her sons Ben and Joey every morning coming out of the very same home in which they resided only a few years ago. They are happy to be back and the neighbors on Westminster are very happy to have them. Marjie says not only does she feel very much at home in her new-old house but she has finally found the watch stem she lost in the house three years ago. She found it in the carpet, put it back on her watch and is now wearing the watch again. Marjie is currently working for Operation Brightside.

Nancy Cohen, 6100 McPherson, has reentered the academic world. She is enrolled at the University of Missouri—St. Louis earning a teaching certificate in Social Studies and working on a Masters degree in Education Administration. Nancy was surprised by the coincidence of meeting her neighbor, Bill Martin, in one of her classes. Bill is also pursuing his Masters.

A special note of condolence to Mary Gioia whose father died recently as the result of an automobile accident. Many hearts go out to Mary and her family, especially her mother who was injured.

Congratulations to Art and Dorothy Santen, 6100 McPherson, who celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary in Kansas City at a disco, enjoying the music of Bill Haley and the Comets.

Lu Green, 6100 Westminster, travelled to New York in October with her sister Loretta Schoemehl. They went to visit their youngest sister Christy who was recently wed to Tom Ney and subsequently moved to New York. Christy has gotten a position at a finance company in Manhattan. Lu and Sam Green's daughter, Maureen, has just become engaged to Scott Lammert. Maureen plans to complete school at Southeast Missouri State before getting married.

Congratulations to Ray Breun, 6100 McPherson, of the Arch Museum, who was just elected president of the Midwest Museum Conference and Regional Counselor to the American Board of Museums.

Many congratulations go to Jane O. Wayne, Parkview resident, whose new book of poetry *Looking Both Ways* (University of Missouri Press) has won the Devins Award for 1984. She will hold a signing session at Paul's Bookstore on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 3-6 p.m.

Seen on the Sally Jessy Raphael Show Oct. 15th—Washington Heights resident Rose Flynn. She was selected from the audience to help demonstrate a self-defense technique. Would-be muggers, beware!

Don't forget to save the evening of Nov. 17 on your calendar for *The Times* fund raiser. Not only will you have the chance to catch up with old neighbors and friends as well as meet new ones, there will be the opportunity to be involved in the first annual chocolate chip cookie contest. You can be a judge for a mere 25 tax-deductible dollars or you can bake your favorite treat and possibly win \$100. If you don't want to do either, come and eat; a \$5 donation will get you in the door. Cash bar will be available.

Yours truly, along with other neighborhood New City School affiliates, has been busy planning the annual Christmas Tree Lot and gift shop which opens Nov. 25. See you there.

### McPHERSON MANAGEMENT INC.

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## Rosedale Potluck Meeting Planned

The Rosedale Neighborhood Association is having a potluck neighborhood meeting Wednesday evening Nov. 14, 1984, beginning at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will include the nomination and election of officers for Rosedale.

Also on the agenda: The Christmas Walk/House of the Month Report on Neighborhood Activities.

Everyone in Rosedale is invited to attend.

For all of the new neighbors, Rosedale is the area bounded by Pershing — to Washington — Skinker — to Des Peres. Anyone who wishes to become an active member is welcome with open arms. Dues for membership is a nominal \$5.00 per household. Please come and meet your neighbors.

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## November Is A Busy Month At Cabanne Library

November is a good time to get acquainted with another neighborhood library—the one from which the Kiosk often borrows your books, Cabanne. It has been at 1106 N. Union since 1907 and was the second of seven Carnegie buildings originally funded in St. Louis.

November is an exciting month at Cabanne. *Out of Africa*, a traveling photographic exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution, can be seen through Nov. 26.

On the first three Saturdays in November, from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m., there will be a series of workshops for those interested in starting their own businesses. The workshop leader is Jim Vincent of the St. Louis Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce.

Staff members of the Progressive Emporium Bookstore will discuss new black authors on Wed., Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 19 we are honored to host Tom Feelings, distinguished book illustrator. He illustrated *Moja Means One: Swahili Counting Book* and *Jambo Means Hello*, both Caldecott Honor books. *Something On My Mind*, written by Nikki Grimes, earned him the Coretta Scott King Award. Mr. Feelings will talk with teenagers at 10 a.m. and with adults at 7 p.m.

Cabanne is a satellite of the Hamilton Community School. Those living closer to Union should check the Community School schedule for classes of interest. Currently, we have an aerobic exercise class for adults on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5 to 6 p.m.

## Pick Up A Passport At the Kiosk

Books for Adults by Mary Anne Shickman

Ellis Island is twenty-seven acres of rock in Upper New York Bay and is the subject of a book by Fred Mustard Stewart. As many as five thousand immigrants a day were processed through this entry point to the United States, and it is said that the doctors and inspectors treated immigrants with considerable humanity. Those old cow barn-like buildings were closed in 1954 and have since fallen into disrepair.

The main characters in *Ellis Island* include a handsome young Italian named Marco Santorelli; Jacob Rubenstein, the son of a cantor who escaped a Russian pogrom atop a Kossack's horse and later became the toast of Tin Pan Alley in New York; and Tom Banicek who left the poverty of Bohemia for a job in the Pennsylvania coal mines, eventually becoming a labor leader and martyr. The O'Donnell sisters from Ireland came to America to make their home with rich relatives in New York.

The story begins in Russia in 1907 and concludes in 1967 in America. I enjoyed Mr. Stewart's rich descriptions of Ellis Island and the conditions of immigrants living in New York in the early part of the century:

"The smells of the city assaulted their senses: garlic, sauerkraut, hot dogs, horse manure, bagels, blintzes...

The room, 8 feet wide and 12 feet long, had one tall dirty window that opened onto a narrow airshaft, admitting at high noon barely enough sunlight to illuminate the cell in a penumbral glow."

The plot moves quickly. We get caught up in the loves, tragedies, and joys of these people—a great picture of an important time in America. Try to catch the mini series in November of the book with Richard Burton and his daughter, Kate. This production was one of Mr. Burton's last performances.

*The Europeans* by Luigi Barzini, published in 1983, is a penetrating study of modern Europe as it prepares itself for "the dangerous and turbulent years ahead."

The author reminds us that the dream of a United States of Europe has permeated the history of the Continent, and that at the heart of every European is this ancient desire to see Europe pacified and merged into a political and economic unit. He observes that while the urgency of unity is recognized, the will to unite is still lacking, due primarily to the survival of national, sensitive pride and a nostalgic longing for a vanished, familiar world. Concentrating on the "chief protagonists"—the principal members of the European Economic Community (or Common Market)—he examines the national character, unique cultural heritage, and contribution of each of these member nations to European and world civilization.

Barzini says the future of Europe lies ultimately with the future of Germany. He reminds us that it is still "Le Coeur de Europe" (the heart of Europe). In an absorbing chapter, he alludes to the inscrutable elements in the German character. He quotes Nietzsche: "The German soul has corridors and caves; its disorder possesses much of the fascinating and mysterious." It is these unpredictable qualities, he says, that make it essential for other European nations to maintain a vigilant "Watch on the Rhine."

Exploring the English character, he contrasts the proverbial British "sense of fair play," their cool balanced judgments, code of good manners, etc., with their attitude of moral and intellectual superiority, invincibility, to say nothing of social snobbery and arrogant pride. Much of the success of British statecraft he attributes to a predictable uniformity of thought and behavior.

There are illuminating chapters on the "quarrelsome" French, the "careful" Dutch, the "flexible" Italians, and finally the "baffling" Americans. Barzini states that America should be included among the European nations "because it is an annex, philosophically speaking, of Europe." He refers to the all-too-common perception of American by Europeans as a land of "soulless materialism," and reminds us that it was a "spiritual wind" that drove America from the beginning. He dwells on the clash between their knight-errant idealism and that contradictory American trait: pragmatism.

Barzini has written a very readable, enlightening, and thought-provoking book.

Books for Children by Arlene Sandler

A faraway setting can add lots of excitement to a story. Foods, habits, and attitudes can be different in other cultures, but children in books and in life share familiar feelings and experiences.

*Jafta's Mother* describes what an ordinary day is like in an African village. Simple, expressive brown and white pictures show Jafta's family at work and at play. You may not know what mealies are or what a bird called a hoopoe looks like, but you do know how nice it feels to listen to stories on your mother's lap and to be tucked in before you go to sleep.

Beautiful detailed and charming watercolor pictures help tell *Matilda Jane*, a story in rhyme set in England at the beginning of the twentieth century. Matilda Jane, an observant, fun-loving, little girl, spends a wonderful vacation by the sea. She cannot understand the habits of grown-ups, cats, and mermaids any more than today's children can. One of the most exquisitely illustrated books at the Kiosk, this gives us a look at upperclass Edwardian life through the eyes of a whimsical child.

Older readers can travel to England too and shiver while they do. Joan Aiken's, *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*, is a highly suspenseful adventure filled with wolves and villains. Two young cousins, Bonnie and Sylvia, are the victims of an evil governess, Miss Slighcarp, who stops at nothing to take over the estate of Bonnie's family. As soon as the Willoughbys leave on a trip around the world, Miss Slighcarp dismisses the servants and begins to mistreat the girls. Midnight escapes, secret passages and clever tricks abound in the Dickensian atmosphere of this spellbinding story.

*Children Are Children Are Children* is a fascinating activity book for both children and adults who work with children. It takes readers to six countries and offers them geographical and cultural facts, instructions for authentic games, recipes, and crafts, and even introductory language lessons. Learn the ancient Persian art of marbling paper, the steps of a Japanese tea ceremony, and recipes for Russian cheese tarts and real French French fries. This useful book lets us all enjoy the kinds of festivals, foods, and fun that are loved by children no matter where they live.

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Photo by King Schoenfeld

## Macho Menus: Italian Inspirations

*(Editor's note: November's columnist is a familiar face to many neighborhood residents as the Assistant Pastor at St. Roch's and as someone actively involved in the neighborhood. While many of us have tasted his expert cooking of hot dogs at the past two Operation Brightside lunch breaks, little did we know that he is also a gourmet chef. Father Campbell returned to the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood after almost thirty years (he cannot be held responsible for leaving—his parents moved away when he was too young to complain), when he was stationed at St. Roch's in June of 1979. Along with his duties at St. Roch's, he is the chaplain at CBC High School. Father Campbell also coaches and plays racquetball.)*

by The Rev. Michael Campbell

Many of you may be asking, what right does a cold-hearted Scotsman have pushing off Italian recipes on the unsuspecting public? I respect your skepticism and assure you that I offer these only after many years of rigorous research into the fine art of Italian cooking.

My lengthy investigation was conducted according to the standard "Participant-Observer Method." This demanded that I spend years on the restaurant trail in painstaking pursuit of the perfect balance of ingredients. (Does that sound like a good enough reason to go out to dinner so often?) Below I respectfully submit findings from Phase I of my study!

**SPAGHETTI ALLA CARBONARA**  
(Combination of Ham and Eggs from Roman Cooking)

Cook spaghetti as directed on package, about 5 minutes before it is cooked take 4

slices of Panchetta Ham and dice into small pieces and fry gently in a little olive oil for 3 to 5 minutes. Have two eggs at room temperature. Beat the eggs with 2 tablespoons of cream. Drain spaghetti thoroughly and transfer to a warm pasta dish. Add the fried ham (and all the oil with it) to the egg mixture and add 3 or 4 tablespoons of grated Parmesan cheese. Toss with two forks until the eggs thicken. Add fresh cracked black pepper.

(Panchetta Ham available at Volpi's.)

### SALTIMBOCCA

- 8 very thin slices of veal (6 x 4 inch)
- 4 slices of prosciutto ham
- ½ teaspoon dried sage
- pepper (to taste)
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 wine glass of dry white wine
- 8 pieces of mozzarella cheese (½ x ½ inch)

Salt and pepper the sliced veal (to taste). Take slices of prosciutto and cut in half (width wise). Wrap the ham around the cheese pieces. Rub the sage on the veal, place the ham and cheese into the center of the piece of meat. Roll up and hold in place by spearing with toothpick.

Heat the oil in a fairly shallow pan. Add the white wine. Add the veal rolls and fry until golden brown. (Should take only a few minutes, depending on how thin the slice of meat is.) Transfer the veal roll to a warm dish and remove the toothpick. Coat with juices and serve immediately.

## Flowing Power: The Mississippi

by Ray Breun

It's raining again for nearly the fifth straight day; some of the neighbors are going on a riverboat ride at the end of the week; and snow is falling in Colorado just down I-70 at Denver. Obviously, water is controlling the ambience of our lives. Through it all is that incredible body of water simply known as THE RIVER.

A few million years ago, 20 to be exact, the Gulf of Mexico included Missouri in its shoreline. Virtually all the land from Cairo, Illinois, south has been deposited by the Mississippi. Even today the delta below New Orleans grows 100 yards into the Gulf every year! Over 12,700,000,000 cubic feet of earth are carried to the ocean by THE RIVER every year. Missouri farmers talk about erosion of the soil while Louisiana farmers talk about new soil for development—and its the same soil.

What is now Cape Girardeau, Missouri, was once on the shore of the Gulf. Today, the distance from there to coast is about 600 miles as the jets fly. The river covers that distance in 1700 miles of channel. The Mississippi is the most crooked river on earth. It is also one of the flatest. It drops only 390 feet from St. Louis to the Gulf—about 4 inches a mile. Yet the average speed of THE RIVER, measured as rate of flow, is a staggering 664,000 cubic feet per second. This means on average one cubic mile of water goes by every sixty-two hours. During flood, this rate of flow increases nearly three times, putting the volume over 1.5 million cubic feet per second.

Ferdinand DeSoto came to the shores of THE RIVER in 1541. He died the following year and was buried in the waters he "discovered." Most of the fauna of THE RIVER is longer lived. From the alligators of bayou country to the furry racoons of the northern winter zone, the Mississippi is central to the life of nearly half a continent. In its waters are catfish, muskie, and paddlefish reminiscent of long dried up Pleistocene lakes. Gar, particularly alligator gar, and snapping turtles can wreck havoc among the more pedestrian varieties of rivergoers. Beaver populations have begun to increase over the past few years, and some individuals have gotten as large as an estimated 90 to 100 pounds.

The Mississippi is fascinating and inviting at the same time. Adjectives like "majestic," "beautiful," and "powerful" emerge in all the literature attempting to articulate the qualities and quantities describing its activities. It is worth a lifetime of study just to get a handle on all the facets of THE RIVER. Many of the visitors to the Arch come first just to see it. It is like a brooding presence over all

we do. It has necessity about it which we must all take into account. Whether to cross it, float on it, or drink it, it is THE RIVER into which all others merge in imagination and even in fact. It will outlast all of its shores and all of its inhabitants. It remakes its world on a daily basis. It is like no other physical fact.

Rehab Boom continued from page 1



Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District boundaries as amended.

This article is meant to briefly outline the Investment Tax Credit. There are other details and aspects of the Economic Recovery Act which could affect owners of property in registered historic districts; however, they are more specific in nature and the services of an attorney or accountant are recommended.

The positive effects of the Investment Tax Credit upon Skinker-DeBaliviere as well as other neighborhoods can be profound. According to figures provided by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, over five million dollars have already been spent on twenty-five projects in the neighborhood. Such investment in Skinker-DeBaliviere has greatly improved—and will continue to improve—multi-family and commercial buildings, some of which had deteriorated to state of economic and physical obsolescence. Often the rehabilitation of such structures is economically impractical. By allowing investors the opportunity to reduce their tax liabilities, more money can be made available for the renovation of depressed property. With the substantial renovation requirement, only buildings requiring major rehabilitation are eligible. Thus, the potential loss of tax revenue is offset by large labor and construction material expenditures and the return of buildings to economic utility. The productive ongoing use of the built environment is a major economic, social, and aesthetic benefit to all neighborhoods and the city.



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# Steinberg Rink Opens New Season, Improvements And Events Planned

by Bob Dowgillo

Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink is set to open its 27th ice skating season on Saturday, Nov. 10. Greeting skaters will be some modest but welcome improvements. The sound system speakers have been newly refurbished, several thousand dollars in new rental skates are being purchased, and some repairs to the building's exterior have been made.

Times, fees, and rink services in effect this season can be found opposite this article in an easy clip-out format which can be saved and posted.

In addition to the "official" opening, this year there will be a formal, grand opening on Saturday, Dec. 2. Called "Homecoming," this special event serves to remind St. Louisans of past good times at the rink and to invite them to reacquaint themselves with the experience of open air skating amidst the beauty of Forest Park.

In a return to rink tradition, the afternoon skating session on grand opening day will begin with a ribbon cutting ceremony featuring several local celebrities. Two local bands will provide live music for the skaters. The evening session will offer a unique experience: spotlight skating. All skaters will be eligible for door prizes.

The "Homecoming" program highlights the commitment of the still-young Advisory Board of the Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink. The brainchild of Tom Lyles, rink manager, the Board was founded early last spring as a means of involving the private sector in arresting the decline of the rink as a recreational resource.

As outlined by Board chairman Tom Zobel in letters addressed to the Mayor's office, the Board of Aldermen, and other city officials, the Board's goals are two

fold: first, to heighten public awareness of the rink through publicity and special events; second, to raise funds among individuals and the business community to augment the limited funds budgeted for the rink.

Monthly meetings held over the summer saw the Board grow to twenty-two members and the laying out of an organizational framework. During the August meeting, the Board met with Pearse Mullally, Special Assistant to the Mayor; George Kinsey, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry; and Gene Brostoski, Commissioner of Recreation. The current condition and operation of the rink were discussed and the concept of a "Friends" organization was presented.

Establishing the "Friends of Steinberg Rink" is currently the Board's major activity. The "Friends" is patterned after the private groups which support the nearby Art Museum, Zoo, and Planetarium. A professionally designed logo has been donated to the Board and will soon be featured on T-shirts for public sale. A brochure describing the organization has been prepared for distribution this month. Membership categories for the Friends include Associate, Student, Senior Skater, Single, Family, and Corporate. Each member will receive a certificate and have his or her name entered in a registry to be displayed at the rink. Other benefits are offered for specific membership categories. The honor of being the first Friend will go to Mayor Vince Schoemehl.

Those interested in joining the Friends or the Advisory Board, donating services and materials to the rink, or having a suggestion for improving the rink, may write to: Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink Advisory Board, P.O. Box 752, St. Louis, Missouri 63188.



Logo by Willem Petri

## STEINBERG MEMORIAL SKATING RINK

St. Louis, Missouri

### SCHEDULE AND FEES

<b>Weekends:</b> Morning 10:30-1:00	<b>Weekdays:</b> Afternoon 3:00-5:00
Afternoon 2:30-5:30	Evening 7:30-9:30
Evening 7:00-9:30	

**Adult Skating Sessions** (21 and over): Thursdays, 7:30-10:00  
**Learn to Skate Sessions:** Tuesdays 6:00-7:00/Saturdays 1:30-2:15

The rink is available for rent during non-session hours.

**Admission Fees:** Age 12 and under: Day Free, evenings 75¢  
 Age 13-16: 75¢ (all sessions)  
 Age 17 and older: \$1.50 (all sessions)

**Skate Rental Fee:** 75¢

**Locker Rental Fees:** Single session: 25¢  
 Seasonal: \$5.00 plus \$3.00 key deposit  
 Ice skate sharpening: \$2.00

**Skate Shop:** Skate sales by advance order.

For additional information, call the rink at 361-5103.

## Saturday Children's Series At Historical Society

Programs designed for children ages six to 13 will continue to emphasize early St. Louis lifestyles and customs of "The People Who Lived Here," produced by the education staff of the Missouri Historical Society. The free, illustrated talks, which begin at 10:30 a.m., will be "The Germans Among Us" on Nov. 10; "A Creole Christmas" on Nov. 24; and "The Golden Walnut" on Dec. 1. They will be held in the Society's Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park.

The "Forty-Eighters" immigrated to the Midwest after the failure of the revolution of 1848 in Germany. Searching for political freedom, many of "The Germans Among Us" settled in St. Louis and played an active role in keeping Missouri in the Union during the Civil War. The talk on Nov. 10 will be illustrated with slides from the Society's collections and will be followed by a craft project.

The sociable French, fond of good food and drink, had the longest celebration of any ethnic group, from Christmas Eve to the beginning of Lent. "A Creole Christmas" on Nov. 24 will include background history on the founding of St. Louis, with holiday foods, a creche, old pipestone toys given by a French fur trader to his children, and Christmas artifacts from the Society's collections.

Many traditional Christmas customs had their origins with the Germans, and the legends of Saint Nicholas, the Christmas tree and golden walnuts will be the focus of "The Golden Walnut" on Dec. 1. The talk will also feature toys from the Society's collections along with a tree decorated with old ornaments.

All of the programs are free and open to the public. For more information or a brochure with a complete listing of the fall-winter series, call the education office at 361-9265.



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AT DEBALIVIERE PLACE

# Times Past

by Venita Lake

As *The Times* staff begins to organize another fund raiser in its never-ending battle to pay the bills, we recall some of our previous efforts. The results were mixed; some events might have been more properly called fun-raisers. In fact THE PROM has become neighborhood legend. Was it really way back in June 1977?

The Paper Route in April 1980 featured the first tree to complete a 1.5 mile run, but the \$50 prize went to a very hairy Wonder Woman. Does anyone know who finished first? No one seemed to care!

We have also been big on food events, from the annual pancake breakfasts on Art Fair Day to Neville's eggs and potatoes. Here is how these events were reported at the time, when we were known more simply as *The Paper*.

From The Paper, June 1976

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

### AGAIN A SUCCESS

The Third Annual Pancake Breakfast, held on the morning of May 9th, enjoyed ideal conditions and made \$185.00 for *The Paper*. We are grateful to all who came to support this fund-raising effort, but a special vote of thanks goes to Lu and Sam Green, who so ably organized and ran it, assisted by their children and several of Lu's brothers and sisters. Also deserving of a big thank-you are Ed and Mary Bea Stout who solicited contributions to cover some of the expenses and who helped out that morning. Thanks also are extended to Don and Sue Tepas whose kitchen, yard and carriage house were taken over for the morning and who were very generous with their help.

I found it an exceptionally nice way to begin the big day.

Marj Weir

From The Paper, April 1980

# Here Comes the Run



Have you ever tried to imagine the sight of Hannibal's armies riding their elephants over the Alps? Do you find bits and pieces of lazy summer days being given to conjuring up images of the building of the pyramids or the burning of Rome? Would you seize the opportunity to fly to the moon or have dinner with Woody Allen? Alas, these are the kinds of events that most of us can only live vicariously: even today history passes us in a stagecoach an intersection away. But wait, that can change! No longer do you need to be an ampersand on the page of life: now you can become part of an epoch-making event. Yes, you can participate in something truly significant. No longer need you shirk at the beach. After April 20 you'll be able to shout with pride, "No I didn't fly with Lindbergh, but I did run in 'The Paper Route.'"

Sunday, April 20 (at 9:00 a.m.), will be the big day. Thousands of runners (perhaps hundreds of runners?) will hoof up and down the streets of Skinker-DeBaliviere. They'll be participating in a fun, non-competitive run designed to raise money for *The Paper*. The emphasis is on fun and there should be plenty of it.

Mixed among the "regular" runners will be joggers attired in gay, exotic garb and costumes. This, you see, is no normal run: our run has an optional costume competition with a \$50.00 costume prize!

You say you're not a runner, but you'd still like to participate and support *The Paper*? Never fear, our 1.5 mile route is a

run/walk route so that urban dilettantes, pregnant ladies, non-runners, and other wise, prudent folks can join in the fun. Each participant will receive a genuine Paper Route T-shirt. (If for some unacceptable reason you can't participate - no reasons are acceptable without a note from mom - you can still join the fun by sitting on your porch and cheering the cast of characters as they rumble by your house.)

All participants will start at the Central West End Savings & Loan parking lot on DeBaliviere (our gracious sponsors of the run), and proceed to Four Corners Square (Kingsbury and DesPeres) where the judging of costumes will occur as the runners pass by. The routes split at Kingsbury and Rosedale, the 1.5 mile route returning to the CWESL parking lot and the 3 mile route continuing to wind through the neighborhood before stopping near Kingsbury Square off DeBaliviere (see map). The costume award will take place on the parking lot at approximately 10:45 a.m. at the completion of the run.

We see this activity as a very positive venture. The participants will have a good time, we'll raise much needed money for *The Paper*, and a lot of non-Skinker-DeBalivierites will have an opportunity to see what a really neat place our neighborhood is!

# The Paper TO SPONSOR PROM

by Tom Hoerr

Bang-Shang-A-Lang and Do-Wah Do-Wah . . . it's PROM TIME again! That's right, friends, neighbors, and jet-setters, it's time for the 1st annual OLDTIMERS' PROM. The magic date is Saturday, June 18 and the location is the opulent Chevy Chase Room . . . also known as the St. Roch's Gym (where else would you have a Prom?). The time is 8 pm to 1 am and all proceeds will go to "The Paper."

The evening promises to be outstanding (no, make that extraordinary; you'll only be outstanding if you don't have a ticket). We'll all dance to the live music of the "Now & Then." This group, specializing in the oldies (and the newies),

first gained fame at the Bissell Lounge and has now moved on to bigger and better things (How about that, you didn't know we were a bigger and better thing?).

The tickets are priced at \$5.50 per person, but get this, there's a 50c-at-the-door rebate for anyone wearing vintage apparel! Yep, you can wear your funny old prom clothes and get in for only \$5.00 (or you can wear your funny new clothes and get in for the normal \$5.50).

Naturally, as with any Prom, the highlight of our evening will be the Queen Coronation, tinfoil crown and all! We decided to elect our Queen through a process which exemplifies what our society is all about: money=votes. Yes indeed, the charming semi-young Ms. who gets the most "votes", i.e. money, will be elected Queen. (All "votes" also go to "The Paper") Now it's a rather complicated process, so stay tuned so you will know what's happening. Here's how it will work: each interested candidate will nominate herself (either at the door or previously) and have her name etched in crayon on a shoebox.

From The Paper, June 1977

From The Paper, September 1977

## The Prom Revisited

by Tom Hoerr

It was a night to remember. No, not the sinking of the Titanic or the power failure in New York...I'm referring to the Skinker-DeBaliviere Prom! Make that "the FIRST annual Skinker-DeBaliviere Prom, because everyone attending left saying, "I can't wait until next year." (Well, not everyone; Cal Stuart was heard to leave muttering something like "Did you see tht pink elephant doing the twist?")

It's hard to decide what was the real highlight of the prom - there are so many from which to choose: there was the band, the "Now 'N Then", who agreed to rock on for an extra hour (Del Shannon was never finer); there was the sight of all the oldies (but goodies) wearing pure vintage outfits; there was the Queen Coronation (more on this later); the Kudos; and there was the overwhelming sight of the spectacularly adorned Chevy Chase Room (a.k.a. the St. Roch's gym).

The night was full and the moon was yellow when it came time to crown our Queen of semi-love and beauty. The



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Unsubstantiated reports indicate that the Alcoholism Hotline was flooded with calls from the Skinker-DeBaliviere area on Sunday, April 20, between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Residents awakened, still feeling the effects of the previous evening, only to look out their windows and see a horde of brightly attired figures trotting down the street. Many folks, used to rather trying "morning after," rubbed their foreheads and looked again. It was this second look that sent them on their way to the wagon and the telephone.

There was Wonder Woman! This real-life Wonder Woman stood well over six feet tall and had golden locks which gently cascaded to a point slightly below beardline. Near her was something out of a Beetle Bailey cartoon: an ambulatory tree! Other noteworthy costumed runners included a genuine Conehead (who apologized for not knowing it was a costumed run), a belly dancer, a dancing bear, an O.J. Simpson airport traveler, Harpo Marx, a clown, Dolly Parton, a child wearing a wagon, and some residents impersonating a kind, gentle, and exceedingly handsome neighbor. (Wonder Woman, a.k.a. Mike McEvoy, a counselor with the Parkway School District, won the \$50.00 first prize for best costume. In addition, a dinner at the Flamingo Cafe, several portable radios, shirts, and Baskin-Robins ice cream coupons were awarded as prizes.)

The run was definitely a success. The 375 registrants and the support of the Central West End Savings & Loan enabled the run to generate approximately \$800 for *The Paper*. Of equal importance, a lot of us worked together to let some non-neighbors see what a neat place Skinker-DeBaliviere is to live and play in.

crowd was silent (that is if you consider hoards of old timers, plus 21 years of age, screaming and bopping as being quiet) and a sense of tension filled the air (or was that a sense of old sweat socks in the gym?). Master of Ceremonies Dan Shea then announced the name of the 1977 Prom Queen...Ms. Gee Stuart! Gee and court of maids bowed to the crowd (actually, the maids began to pummel Gee out of revenge and she started to bow to save herself). Anyway, the crowd cheered in appreciation (but then at that hour of the night the crowd would've cheered an announcement stating that N followed M in the alphabet).

Special citations go to Generalissimo Don Tepas for his imaginative attire, the Prom Decorating Committee for an incredible job (S. Roach, C. Lange, G. Stuart, J. Kuhl, P. McLafferty, B. Nerviani, the Lakes, and K. Hoerr), the Vatchas for having a "proceeds-to-the-Paper-after-Prom-breakfast" (well what else would you do after a Prom?...), the magnificent masochistic clean up crew, Sister Leo Ann, and a wealth of others. While it's important that everyone had a good time (and believe me, they had a good time), what's more important is that we all raised approximately \$300 to benefit "The Paper." Hooray!

Don't delay or wait for next year's details (or de heads), start ferreting out those old clothes and practicing the Twist, Stroll, Bunny Hop, Box, and pirouette... the 1978 Prom, retiring Queen and all, is on its way!!!

There have been rather a large number of weddings this summer. Dick and Arline Webb of the 6100 block of Pershing were married for the second time (his parents were out of the country, so the formal wedding had been postponed) at Grace Church, on June 18. After a reception in Scariot Hall, the Webbs, wedding apparel and all, came to-what else?- the Prom! Their presence made for quite a stimulating addition to the already sparkling atmosphere of prom night. Where else...?