

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOLUME 15, NO. 9

MARCH 1985

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

West End To Host Vivace

For two and a half weeks between March 21 and April 6, the West End—with its many galleries, theatres, institutions, and adaptable spaces—will be the site of Vivace, a part of The St. Louis Arts Festival.

The purpose of the festival, a project of The Arts & Education Council of Greater St. Louis, is to feature St. Louis' nationally and internationally recognized cultural organizations and artists as well as give exposure to local, less-known talents. From a major exhibition of Polynesian art from New Zealand—"Te Maori"—to performances by tenor Pavarotti and violinist Isaac Stern with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra to the up-beat offerings of Vivace, the festival will have something for everyone.

The calendar for Vivace (a musical term meaning a small, lively part of a larger piece) includes twenty-one daily exhibitions and eighty-five different events planned for the seventeen days. Exhibi-

tions—to mention just a few—include shows at Craft Alliance, Timothy Burns Gallery, Washington University Galleries, and a show called "Art St. Louis" which will be the largest exhibition of St. Louis artists ever held under one roof. It will be held on the second floor of the Globe Building at 710 North Tucker. A wide variety of music offerings range from several programs on Bach and Handel (in recognition of their 300th anniversaries) to Chuck Berry celebrating his 30th anniversary in music at Jimmy's Cabaret. Also scheduled are dance performances, mixed media events, and symposia and workshops. Many of the programs are free.

As the time draws nearer, watch for further details. Anyone interested in more information should call 361-8481.

Vivace is sanctioned by the St. Louis Arts Festival and is sponsored by the Central West End Savings & Loan and the Central West End Business Association. The West End Arts Council has also been actively involved with the planning.

Improvement Plans For Skinker, Delmar Announced

At the Skinker-DeBaliviere Business Association (SDBA) meeting on Feb. 21 plans for a Skinker Boulevard Beautification Plan were announced. This plan combined with the efforts of the Association's recently formed Delmar Development Committee and Pantheon's plans for DeBaliviere will begin the impetus necessary to make the neighborhood's thoroughfares attractive entrances into the area.

The Skinker plan will be enacted through the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) with the cooperation from Skinker businesses, Alderman Dan McGuire, and appropriate City offices. Although the plan is still in a formative stage, it will be enacted in two—short and long term—stages. The short term plan will utilize the spring's Operation Brightside to clean up, and plant trees and flowers. The suggestion has been made to designate Skinker as the neighborhood project for the city-wide Brightside award competition. As a possible highlight of the beautification plan, Ann FitzGibbons has suggested that the terra cotta "angels" SDCC was given be installed on pillars as entry markers to the neighborhood at Skinker and Waterman. The feasibility, cost, and design considerations are being investigated.

The long term phase of the beautification plan will deal with an overall parking plan—with special consideration being given to congestion just north of Forest Park Boulevard/Millbrook near Talanya's and the bus stop. The possibility of a coordinated landscaping scheme for the east

side of Skinker will also be part of the long term plan.

Business Association members Bill Schiller and Bill Christman will represent the SCBA, and will work with the Council, Dan McGuire, and the City on this project.

Bill Schiller also found himself volunteering for another committee at the February meeting; Kathleen Hamilton and Ken Underhill will join him as the members of the Delmar Development Committee. Since the fall, several projects on Delmar have been completed or are substantially underway: the Savoy Court Apartments at Union and the Delmonte Building have been renovated and are being leased; McDonald's Restaurant has moved into their new building; and work is moving along on the new Bi-State garage at DeBaliviere. However, it is felt that there is a need for a coordinated plan which would efficiently address the needs of existing and new businesses.

The committee will first try to reach Delmar businesses to determine if there is interest in having the Community Development Agency conduct a survey of the boulevard, and to further make recommendations which could be incorporated into a plan. The area of Delmar to be targeted will be from DeBaliviere to the city limits.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Business Association will have its next meeting on Thursday, May 16; time and place to be announced. Anyone interested in these projects or in joining the Association should call 862-5122.



ST. LOUIS ARTS FESTIVAL

March 21-
April 6

1985

Mary Bartley To Replace Bill FitzGibbons As Arts Council Chairman

Bill FitzGibbons resigned as the chairman of the West End Neighborhood Arts Council at a meeting on Feb. 21; Mary Bartley was elected as the new chairman.

The West End Arts Council was started in 1981 by Bill FitzGibbons and his wife Ann. In the four years since its inception, the Arts Council has become one of the city's leading neighborhood arts councils of which there are presently twenty. The general boundaries of the organization's involvement are Forest Park, Delmar, Vandeventer, and now, with the new City/County arts organization, Big Bend.

Bill FitzGibbons stated in a recent interview that he felt the council had made three major achievements, all of which have heightened awareness of the arts. The Art Museum scholarship program has sent over 50 neighborhood children to the museum for classes, and The United Kingdom/St. Louis Artists Exchange has provided the invaluable stimulation which occurs when cultures meet and communicate. Bill felt that the Council's third accomplishment was the sparking a heightened appreciation of modern sculpture in the community. At the time "Orifice II" by Joe Moss was installed at the corner of Kingsbury and Des Peres, it was met with lively discussion on its merits and meaning. However, when it was removed for display in an Eastern museum, it was missed. Neighbors and passersby ex-

pressed their disappointment at its departure. Both Ann and Bill feel that through exposure to the work, the community had become more aware and accepting.

Plans underway by the FitzGibbons will be carried out by Mary Bartley; she has also initiated a series of new committees and plans to add some new faces to the Advisory Board. In nominating Mary as chairman, Bill FitzGibbons described her strong administrative skills as the recent president of the Central West End Association and her interest in art and St. Louis through her involvement in planning the Vivace portion of The St. Louis Arts Festival and her "St. Louis Lost" feature in the *West End Word*.

As well as the final coordination and execution of Vivace, the West End Arts Council has two other projects underway: 1) a premiere studio showing of a collaborative work by Bill Köhn, artist and Tom Hamilton, composer in May at Bill Köhn's Gallery; 2) sculptor Alan Sonfist is designing a park near Union Station which will replicate the natural wilderness of St. Louis as it existed in the mid-1770s.

The Council will also continue the Museum Scholarship program and the United Kingdom/St. Louis Artists Exchange.

Offices for the organization will be relocated in space donated by the Central West End Association at 4466 West Pine.

The new address for the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council is:
6195 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 62112
The telephone number will remain the same.

The new address for The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere is:
6016 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63112

Continue To Fight Back Against Crime

The involvement of neighborhood residents in crime fighting is the key to a successful community crime prevention program. In looking at 1984 Skinker-DeBaliviere statistics compared with 1983, it is apparent that residents are doing something right. There was a total 9 percent decrease overall with dramatic decreases in robbery (down 16 percent), assault (down 30 percent), and auto theft (down 28.6 percent); statistics for rape and homicide are also down (there was one homicide, resulting from a domestic quarrel, in 1984 and 3 rapes; down from 2 and 4 respectively in 1983). Figures for burglary and larceny remained unchanged.

In order to continue effectively working toward additional decreases, neighbors need to watch and listen for strange or unusual occurrences in the neighborhood. Such awareness greatly increases the chance of preventing a crime or apprehending a criminal. Follow these suggestions, and help be a part of this important effort.

BE A GOOD LISTENER

- If you hear an unusual noise, or neighborhood dogs barking in an abnormal manner, look around.
- If you have any doubt, call 911 immediately.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

- Be familiar with the people who live on your block.
- When you are away, ask a neighbor to watch your house and pick-up newspapers and flyers.
- Exchange phone numbers with your neighbors.

- In the event you see or hear something suspicious, a quick call to a neighbor down the block may prevent a crime in your neighborhood.

TURN ON YOUR PORCHLIGHT

- Porchlights burning from dusk till dawn illuminate your front door so neighbors can see if anyone is lurking around your door.
- Porchlights add light to the street and when the entire neighborhood participates the lights can serve as a deterrent to potential criminals.

PROTECT YOURSELF

- Secure your home; install dead-bolt locks; pin your first floor windows; and secure your basement windows and doors.
- Lock your car and don't leave valuables in plain sight.
- Don't leave bicycles, lawnmowers, patio furniture, etc. unsecured in your yard or on your porch.

PARTICIPATE

- Talk to your neighbors about community problems.
- Start a crime prevention committee in your local neighborhood association to identify and resolve problems.
- Work with your police department on programs aimed at crime prevention.

Your involvement is the key element in a successful crime prevention campaign. You and your neighbors actively participating in community crime prevention, can make your neighborhood a safer place in which to live, work, and play.

Police Officer Appointed As SafeStreet Liaison



Sgt. Charlie Metzner recently joined the Operation SafeStreet staff as a liaison between the St. Louis Police Department and Operation SafeStreet, announced Lucille Green, director of Operation SafeStreet.

Metzner will work with block captains to notify them of crime patterns in their areas, collect and evaluate crime statistics, and help the SafeStreet staff learn about the operation of the police department. As well, he will work with the police department's district captains and specialized units, including the Public Affairs Division which handles the Neighborhood Watch program.

Metzner has served on the St. Louis police force for fourteen years, as a 'street cop.' He likes the change offered in his new six-month trial position at SafeStreet.

"This is something new," he said. "I've been on the street for fourteen years. Now I'm getting involved in the paperwork part of police work and in crime prevention."

"Before, I was on the street involved in crime as it happened. Now I'm helping more with the crime prevention."

The sergeant looks at the problem of drug trafficking in target areas, works with the department when illegal activity is suspected by a neighborhood resident or handles questions by residents that come to the SafeStreet Office and are related to criminal activity.

He gave an example of a recent "communication foul-up" he worked on. Someone called the police department reporting that an unfamiliar car had been parked on his block for several days. An officer responded and wrote a ticket for parking for over five days. Unfortunately, the ticket was left on the car of the resident who reported the incident. Metzner helped resolve the problem and the next day, it was determined that the reported car was stolen.

Metzner is glad to be more and more visible to residents of target areas. He is attending neighborhood meetings and responding to more calls in the office.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Katie Kurtz, 727-6377
 Business Manager: Jane Geer, 721-8584
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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:

Ray Bruen	Jane Geer	Venita Lake
Karen Bynum	Tom Hoerr	Ellen Matthews
Robert Dowgwillo	Marcia Kerz	King Schoenfeld
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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.

Feb. SDCC Meeting Report

The following members of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council were present at its Feb. 11 meeting: Karleen Hoerr, president; John Reilly, vice president; Kathleen Hamilton, treasurer; Arline Webb, secretary; Ray Bruen; Toni Hayes; Ginny Klevorn; Paul Kurtz; Jim McLeod; Eddie Sanders; Neville Vatcha; and Kathy Wobus.

Terra Cotta "Angels"

A committee was formed to investigate the possibility of using the Title Guaranty building "angels" on entrance pillars at Waterman and Skinker with the cost of design and construction to be part of the City's "Step Up St. Louis" program (see article on the program elsewhere in this issue).

Office Status

As of Feb. 25, the Council will be relocating to space in Delmar Baptist Church. The new address will be: 6195 Washington, St. Louis, MO 63112. The telephone number will remain the same.

S.L.A.T.E.

The Council has applied for S.L.A.T.E. funds (St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment) for the Summer Youth Employment Program. SCDD has been participating in this program since 1967, sponsoring youths in a variety of neighborhood job opportunities. This year's program will provide training in the fields of tutoring and day care through Grace Methodist's Summer Program. Eight youths are to be employed full-time for five weeks. (Since the Council meeting, another five-week program has been added).

Vivace

Details of the St. Louis Arts Festival were given by Kathleen Hamilton. Lodging is needed for visiting artists; anyone who would be interested in being a host for a couple of nights between March 21 and April 6 should call 361-8481.

The March meeting of the Council will be held on March 4 (not the 11th) and will be in the usual location.

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March Calendar

- 1 "Antigone" by Jean Anouilh performed by Theater Project Company. New City School. Call 531-1301 for details. (Through 3/3)
Spring show at the Jewel Box opened by Suzie Roach, the Mayor's new Director of Operations. Forest Park. 11 a.m. FREE.
- 2 Children's Films every Saturday at 2 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0717. FREE.
- 3 Brentwood Symphony Orchestra performs Bach (Stokowski transcriptions). 3 p.m. Brentwood High School Auditorium, 2221 High School Drive. Call 647-6284.
- 4 "An Arab and an Israeli: Videotape on Cooperation." Presented by Changing Men. 7:30 p.m. 6665 Delmar, Suite 302. FREE. Call 725-6137.
Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meets at 7:30 p.m. 6008 Kingsbury (usual location).
- 5 Preschool Story Hour every Tuesday at 10 a.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0717. FREE.
"Parents Perspective on Gifted Children." Discussions and role playing. Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. Fontbonne College. \$24. Call 889-1408.
- 6 "The Joy of Bach." Film at St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive. 12 noon. FREE.
"The Women's Corner," program of prose, music, and poetry to celebrate National Women's History Week. Performed by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, 7 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0717, FREE.
- 7 Tea Lecture: "Artists on Relief: The Revival of Mural Painting," talk with slides by Sherryl Lang. Missouri Historical Society Auditorium, Jefferson Memorial Building, Forest Park. Tea and coffee will be served beginning at 1:00 p.m. The talk will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be followed by tea with varied elegant pastries. \$2.50 per person; 361-1424.
- 9 "From Pushing Brooms to Pushing Buttons," 3rd annual conference of The St. Louis Women Historians commemorating National Women's History Week. Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Building, Forest Park, 361-1424. FREE.
"The Irish in St. Louis." For children 6-13. 10:30 a.m. Jefferson Memorial Bldg. Mo. Historical Society. Forest Park. FREE.

- 10 John Philips, pianist, in faculty recital. Works of Bach, Mozart, others. Fontbonne Fine Arts Theater. Fontbonne College. 4 p.m. FREE.
Marathon Concert for J.S. Bach's 300th Birthday. Jacques Israelievitch & guests (including Bach, himself). 12 noon to 12 midnight. Winifred Moore Auditorium. Webster University. FREE.
Retrospective exhibit of paintings by Sheldon Helfman (runs concurrent with Wash. Univ. exhibit). Fontbonne Library Gallery. Call 889-1431 for details of reception. FREE. (Through 3/29)
- 11 Chamber Music St. Louis performs works by J.S. Bach. St. Louis Symphony. 8 p.m. Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. For tickets, call 534-1700.
Class to prepare young children (ages 2-6) to accept new baby. Second Monday of every month at Barnes Hospital. 10 to 11:30 a.m. \$6 per child. Call 362-5250.
- 12 Washington Heights Neighbors meet at 7:30 p.m. Hamilton School.
- 17 Handel's Messiah. 4 p.m. Central Presbyterian Church, 7700 Davis Drive, Clayton. FREE.
J.S. Bach's "St. Matthew Passion," performed by Bach Society of St. Louis. 7 p.m. St. Peter's Catholic Church, 243 W. Argonne, Kirkwood. FREE.
- 18 "The Little People," stories about leprechauns and their relatives. For children, 3:30 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0717; FREE.
Lecture/Concert on J.S. Bach's 18 Chorale Preludes with Paul Callaway. 8 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 13th and Locust. FREE.
Paul Hume lectures on the art of J.S. Bach. 8 p.m. Webster University. FREE.
- 20 Handel's "Dixit Dominus" & organ concerti conducted by Paul Callaway. 8 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral. FREE.
- 21 Free blood pressure checks by Visiting Nurse Association, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Mercantile Commerce Bank, Grand and Lindell.
Bach's 300th Birthday. Organ recital at Christ Church Cathedral. 12:30 p.m. FREE.
Bill Archer and Kim Portnoy Trio in faculty recital at Fontbonne Fine Arts Theater. Fontbonne College. 8 p.m. FREE.
Skinker-DeBaliviere Business Association meets for lunch. 11:30 a.m. Call 862-5122 for details.
- 22 "The Miss Firecracker Contest" by Beth Henley performed by Theater Project Company. New City School. Call 531-1301 for details. (Through 4/7)
"Twigs" by George Furth performed by seniors at Fontbonne Studio Theater. Fontbonne College. 8 p.m. FREE. Call 889-1425. (Also 3/23)
Sara & Jerry Pearson Dance Duo, presented by Dance St. Louis. 8 p.m. Edison Theater, Washington University. \$8. (Also 3/23)
Symposium on theological impact of Bach. Paul Hume & Prof. William Schmelder. 12 noon. Concordia Seminary, 801 DeMun. FREE.
- 23 "A Boy for a Man's Job." Story of Pierre Laclède and young Auguste Chouteau, co-founders of St. Louis. For children 6-13. 10:30 a.m. Jefferson Memorial. Mo. Hist. Soc. Forest Park. FREE.
5900 DeGiverville Block Meeting. 4:30 p.m.
- 24 Marathon of Bach's organ music by 25 local organists. 12:40 to 9 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral. FREE.
The Laclède String Quartet performs classics in music for the family, from Mozart to Michael Jackson; Missouri Historical Society, Lionberger Courtyard Gallery, Jefferson Memorial Building, Forest Park; 2:00 p.m. FREE.
- 27 "Using Your Library," discussion of books and resources to help you make decisions about college. For young adults, 4 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0717. FREE.
- 28 High School Student Preview Night at Fontbonne College. 6-9 p.m. Call 889-1400 for details.
- 30 Mississippi River Blues and Jazz Festival: musicians will give morning and afternoon performances in the Lionberger Gallery, Missouri Historical Society, FREE. 9:00 p.m. to midnight: Festival features Gary Burton and St. Louis musicians, plus a Creole buffet. Call 361-1424 for information.
Ursula Oppens, pianist, at Edison Theater, Washington University. 8 p.m. \$8.
- 31 46th Annual Fontbonne Music Festival Concert. Fine Arts Theater. Fontbonne College. 2:30 p.m. FREE.
Brass Quintet of Oberlin College performs at Christ Church Cathedral. 2:30 p.m. FREE.
Mighty Mississippi Concert Band performs popular music for the family; Lionberger Gallery, Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial. 3 p.m. FREE.
Bach's "Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf," performed by UMSL Singers and Choir of UMSL. 4 p.m. J.C. Penney Auditorium, Univ. of Missouri, 8001 Natural Bridge. Tickets, call 553-5980.



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Macho Menus: Stuffed Green Peppers



(Editor's Note: Horace Busch, author of this month's column, is well known to many neighbors because of his dedicated involvement in community organizations. He has held several offices in the 28th Ward Democratic Club and board positions with the Washington Heights Neighbors Association; he sings with the St. Roch's Choir and is one of the many lecturers on the Channel 2 Mass. Horace's fame as a chef has been established by cooking for St. Roch's and Washington Heights' fund raisers. As Mayor Schoemehl runs for reelection, Horace must feel a sense of great satisfaction since he was the campaign chairman of Vince's successful, first campaign for alderman. Horace and his wife Anna (secretary for the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council for ten and a half years) have lived in the area since 1967, and their contributions to Skinker-DeBaliviere have been significant.)

by Horace Busch

Ingredients:
6-8 green peppers
1 lb. ground beef
1 whole onion
2 pieces of celery
1 sm. can tomatoes
½ sm. can of tomato paste (to add color)
1 sm. can whole kernel corn

Cut the tops from the peppers. Chop the onion, celery, and the tops of the green peppers very fine.

Put ground beef in a skillet and stir and cook until done—drain all oil from ground beef. Add onions, celery, peppers, corn, tomatoes, and tomato paste; cook 3 to 5 minutes.

Clean out the inside of green peppers and boil in water with ½ teaspoon salt for about 3 to 5 minutes. Do not overcook. Drain and dry peppers; line up peppers in baking dish and fill with the ingredients. Put cracker or bread crumbs over the tops of the peppers (optional) and add leftover ingredients around the peppers in baking dish (optional) and bake in 350° oven until tops are brown. Serves 6 to 8.

Skating Party A Success

Mild weather and over one hundred skaters and would-be skaters combined to make this year's "Evening on Ice" skating party a complete success. The broom hockey game and the hot dog buns proved especially popular. A modest surplus is expected, half to be contributed to the Friends of Steinberg.

Thanks to the many who helped make it happen: Katie and Paul Kurtz, Ginny and Tom Klevorn, Bob Dowgwillo, Jane Clanton, Fil and Tycho Ferrigni, Karleen Hoerr, Boulter Kelsey, Susan Littlefield, Bruce Smith, Bob Horner, Willie Kinds, Gloria L'Ecuyer, Jenny McComb, Bob Stock, Dewitt Campbell, Patricia Szymczak, Ed Stout, Sam Green, Kathy Wobus, and John Reilly.

Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

We would like to welcome to the *Times* staff the new Parkview reporter Ellen Matthews. Ellen teaches part time at New City School and, in addition to being a wife and mother, she has authored and had published three children's books. She replaced Susan Krasniewski, who with her family, moved to Chillicothe, Ohio.

We gain a new resident and welcome a returning one. William Clay, Jr. has recently purchased a home in the 6100 block of Washington. He is currently serving as our state representative for the 59th District. Long-time neighbors will remember Ken Cohen, a former resident and past business manager of this publication. We were pleased to hear that he has returned to the neighborhood and will soon be residing in the 6100 block of Pershing.

Neighbors and friends were quite happy to learn that Jane Geer is recovering well from her recent surgery. Jane and her family live in 6100 Kingsbury and Jane is the business manager for the *Times*.

The annual St. Roch's Progressive Dinner was held this year on January 26. Nine cocktail parties and twenty-three dinners were hosted by a variety of gracious folks. Everyone we spoke with later reported a marvelous evening which was culminated by a delicious and beautifully served dessert complete with coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc. This wonderful finish to a lovely affair was hosted by Father Polizzi and Father Samson. It was a perfect evening thanks in large part to chairperson Joan Breun and co-chair Arline Webb, and in spite of the flu that took its toll on guests and hosts alike.

Many may remember Karen and George Brown, formerly of 5800 Pershing, and those who do were certainly happy to see them in attendance at the Progressive Dinner. They came from their new home in Memphis. They laughingly recalled last year's Christmas Dinner, shared with the Richard Webb family, during which the kitchen sink backed up and resulted in pandemonium as well as a very memorable evening. They reported that this year they

followed their own tradition when their sink in their new home gave them a repeat performance. Talk about coincidence!

Congratulations to Bob Dowgwillo, 6100 Pershing, on his successfully planned "Evening on Ice" held Sat., Feb. 16 at Steinberg Skating Rink. About one hundred skaters and on-looking friends enjoyed the excellent weather, a wonderful bon fire, and the private use of the rink. Among those who were testing their ankles and skills after many years were Vince Schoemehl, Jo Ann Vatcha, Katie Kurtz, and Ramona Stelford; they should be proud of their efforts. The evening was a excellent chance to get outside, see old and new friends alike, and to support two important organizations... the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council and the newly formed Friends of Steinberg.

Neighbors on 6100 Westminster are sure envious of John and Ann Geers and their sons Ben and Eric on their recent winter vacation in Florida. We need it bad, but they got it good! Father Sal Polizzi has recently returned from his winter vacation on the slopes in Vail, Colorado.

Congratulations to Henry and Florence Burdorf on the January 30th celebration of their golden wedding anniversary. The Burgdorfs reside in the 6100 block of Pershing.

Another congrats and wishes for the best of luck go to Marjie Brammeier, 6100 Westminster. Marjie has taken a new position as design consultant with New Space Closet Interiors. As a consultant she custom designs interior storage units for closets. So if you'd like to finally get your closets organized, call Marjie.

Well, I'd like to say it was April Fools, but it's a bit early. I must admit that I inadvertently misled you. In spite of my efforts to coerce any one of my neighbors to do it, no one (to my knowledge) on 6100 Westminster, is currently pregnant. Too bad! However sincerely I reported the rumor, it is unfortunately untrue. I surely feel that whenever a friend or acquaintance is misled, an apology is in order, so you all have mine.

Here's hoping some more temperate weather will be getting us out on the sidewalks again!

Correction

A mistake found its way into the chart we published in "Barricade Survey Results Reported" in the February issue. The last item had a 47% printed in the first column which did not belong. The actual responses to the questions were, however, printed correctly: 4.5% in the UMSL/Washington Heights survey believed Operation SafeStreet had increased crime; 15% in the Operation SafeStreet questionnaire felt that the program was poor or of no value. We regret the error and any confusion which may have resulted.

Parkview Perspective: Why No Cable In U. City?

by Ellen Matthews

A few years ago cable television came to St. Louis County and Continental Cablevision became the franchise holder for University City. In Parkview, cable lines were strung through the alleys; however, most of the University City portion of Parkview still does not have cable service even though the lines are in place. Some long-time residents and many newer ones have wondered why they cannot yet receive service.

The answer is easements. According to Dave Bollinger, assistant chief technician of Continental Cablevision, two or three property owners would not allow the connecting cable to be laid under their property. The connecting cable would join the cable already in place to the servicing cable between Parkview and Ames Place. Reportedly some property owners requested payment for the easement rights which Continental Cablevision's contract does not allow nor does it allow reduced billing in exchange for easement rights.

When the cable was strung, all Parkview residents received a letter from Continental Cablevision stating the reason the hook-up could not be completed. Receiving no cooperation from the property owners concerning easements, Continental Cablevision stopped trying to connect the inner part of Parkview to the cable network.

Now that St. Louis City is in the process of getting cable television, there is renewed interest in completing the University City Parkview hook-up. Continental Cablevision is trying to find alternative hook-up paths and to recontact the property owners who could give the necessary easement rights. The company says that connecting cable would be laid underground and guarantees that any disturbed yards, fences, or sidewalks would be restored. Mr. Bollinger says, "They won't even know it's there."

If there are any questions concerning cable service in the University City portion of Parkview, please call Mr. Bollinger at Continental Cablevision, 428-0202.

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Juwer Inspires Teamwork, On And Off The Ice



When he was a teenager, Mike Juwer used to be what some people would call a "rink rat"—one of those people who worked for no money at indoor ice rinks in exchange for free access to the facilities after hours.

Back then, he and his buddies would play weekend ice hockey until the wee hours of the morning. And afterwards he would return home to switch on the late, late, late show that more often than not consisted of some cinematic classic, filmed in black and white.

Today most Skinker-DeBaliviere residents recognize Mike Juwer as the cordial, accommodating proprietor of The Movie Shop in the Pershing Arcade. But what they may not know is that Juwer used to play minor-league Canadian professional hockey, and still coaches two junior league hockey teams in Creve Coeur.

"Even when I was a pre-teen I played hockey with senior men's leagues," explains Juwer. "And eventually I met the son of the coach for the St. Louis Blues through a hockey tournament. At the time he was playing for a team in Canada, and his dad sent me up to a suburb of Toronto to play Tier Three, Junior-A hockey for the Dixie Beehives at the Dixieland Arena.

"I was a goalie, and usually wore on the average of 73 pounds of equipment. It's not an easy position to play because it requires a lot of concentration. You have to be disciplined, and you also have to realize that good teamwork is necessary if you, as a team, are going to win."

Back in 1973 and 1974 Juwer indicates that he learned a regimen that has proved valuable in running a successful video business, and inspiring his young hockey aficionados to do their very best on the ice.

"Because the position of goalie was one that carried a lot of pressure, I am spending most of my time coaching the goalies on my teams. It's a hard enough position for an adult to play, but can you imagine the pressure on a nine-year-old with people yelling up in the stands if he makes a mistake?"

"The biggest part of playing that position is concentration, and that's where I find that I can be the most helpful. Many times coaches, who spend many more hours on the ice than I do, don't have the time for individual attention. But that position can be incredibly nerve-wracking."

With having to make practice sessions at 5 a.m. on weekends and some evening sessions with the team throughout the week, Juwer estimates that he spends anywhere from 10 to 25 hours on the ice per week. Making a whole hearted effort with his teams has already begun to pay off though because "we're finding that there's no competition in St. Louis. We go to Chicago and Wisconsin and we're the only team from outside of Chicago in a tournament. And we took second place.

"Hockey teaches you to do your best, discipline, to work with people, how to deal with pressure, and gives everybody a chance to make an effort. Although I feel that I work just as hard at my business, sometimes in a way it seems even more exhausting. But I encourage my people to be friendly and helpful, and to know something about the videos you see in the stores. I try to watch at least two videos a night as my 'homework,' because I honestly want to know whether it's good or not.

"If you ask me whether a movie is good or not, I want to be able to give you an honest answer. If I say that something is good all the time, a customer is not going to take my opinion seriously. I would much rather lose \$2.50 on a movie rental versus losing that customer all together," he explains.

Many of Juwer's employees at his three stores are young people, and as a young person himself, the friendship and comradery they share is one of the benefits of heading up a successful business, he says. But making sure the job gets done in a first-class category is a concern that is no different for his off-the-ice team, too, he stresses.

Juwer's Pershing location recently celebrated one extremely successful year in business, and offers a unique delivery service for videos in conjunction with the De-Baliviere Pasta House. Customers may call in their video requests along with

Passages To India At The Kiosk

Books for Adults by Mary Ann Shickman

THE RAJ QUARTET by Paul Scott, Avon 1979.

The Kiosk recently acquired two sets of four volumes each of the *Raj Quartet* which is currently being presented on Channel 9, Masterpiece Theatre as "The Jewel in the Crown." The story begins with three key characters: Hari Kumar/ aka / Harry Coomer, a young English woman, Daphne Manners, and Ronald Merrick, the English policeman. Although from the lower-middle classes, he wishes to marry Daphne Manners who is from a very old, upper-class family. Harry Coomer is a handsome, young Indian who grew up in England with every advantage including an education in one of the best English boarding schools. He is forced to return to India when his bankrupt father kills himself and he is forced to live with an aunt. He does not know the language and feels alienated from Indian values and the Indian community in which he lives. Hari and Daphne meet accidentally and fall in love. Although there are few places for them to meet, they see each other and finally become lovers. Tragically Daphne is raped one night. Merrick vindictively searches out Kumar and even plants evidence at his house. Kumar and five students are arrested and thrown in prison with no trial for a very long time.

The rape is given symbolic importance throughout the story, since the rape of India by the British—and the consequences of it—are the general theme of the story. The plot is set during the early and middle 1940's which are the last days of the British empire in India. Many long passages throughout the four volumes cover the congress and the differences between Muslims and Hindus.

Scott draws an excellent picture of the "mehsahib" or the English woman in India. Missionary women, women in uniform, wives of officers, daughters of officers and it is here where the secondary theme of class consciousness is played to the hilt: British toward British, British toward Indians. Many British had never been on social terms with Indians and only related to them as servants. Even the upper-class, wealthy Indians were barred from English social clubs in their own country.

Ronald Merrick appears and disappears throughout the story and is seen as basically an unsympathetic character who, although possessing physical courage, is hated as his sadism becomes known. The

their food orders, he explains, and then enjoy spending the evening at home.

His Souldard location that also offers a bookstore will be one-year-old in May, and his store on South Hampton will soon be one month old. Almost needless to say, sleep and a social life have taken less of a priority to the gentleman who says he truly enjoys being his own boss. But having all those stores to mind, he says, is what really keeps him going.

final book, "A Division of the Spoils," we see what happens to Merrick, the Kisam family, and the Layton family. We even catch a final glimpse of Hari Kumar's life. He is neither what the British think he should be nor what the Indians think he should be; Hari has become his own kind of Indian.

Scott has gained an international reputation as a chronicler of the fall and decline of the Raj because of these books. The *Raj Quartet*. It is said that Paul Scott writes about how people relate to their work rather than how they relate to each other. The four volumes afforded me many hours of lively reading and yet there were also passages that seemed to drag along. There were some parts that were not easy but overall it was highly rewarding.

Books for Children by Arlene Sandler

Only two books in the Kiosk's juvenile collection have anything at all to do with India, and both are interesting.

For young readers there is *Once a Mouse*, voted the best picture book of the year in 1962. Written and illustrated by Marcia Brown, it is a retelling of an Indian fable that is a lesson about gratitude and humility. A hermit with magical powers rescues a little mouse by transforming him into a tiger. The now arrogant tiger chooses to forget his humble background and brings about his own downfall. Masterful woodcuts in three colors help tell this dramatic story from Indian folklore.

Children of the Wolf by Jane Yolen is for the very oldest young readers. Based on a real, though hard-to-believe incident that took place in India in the 1920s, it is the story of two girls who were raised by wolves and brought to an orphanage to become "civilized." The story is told by fourteen year-old Mohandas, an orphan who played the most sympathetic role in the education of the wolf-girls. Much more like animals than human beings, the girls could not walk upright. They scratched, bit, howled, and preferred raw meat to any other kind of food. Pressured by the cruel teasing of the other children and by the strictness of the very religious headmaster, the girls lived in constant terror. Even the patience and devotion of Mohandas could not save them from an inevitable fate. This is a fascinating story filled with emotion and psychological tension.

"Highlights" Auction To Be Held At New City School

The New City School, 5209 Waterman Ave. in the West End, will celebrate its 15th anniversary with a first annual "Highlights" Auction and Dinner Dance, Saturday, April 20, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the school.

Tickets, \$30 per person, are available from the school, 361-6411. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis for a silent auction, which will be held during the cocktail hour, the dinner dance and a live auction following. All proceeds will benefit school operations.

The New City School is the largest private elementary school in the metropolitan area with a current enrollment of 275 students in its pre-school through sixth-grade classes.

A wide variety of items will be available for purchase at the auction and entertainment will be provided by the Booze Arts Quintet, a popular local dance group.



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Happy Birthday Johann!

Johann Sebastian Bach will be 300 years old on March 21, 1985. During the past 300 years, Bach has been at different times praised, almost forgotten and unknown, closely studied, called "the old wigged one," and even considered second rate by some of his contemporaries. In recent years his music has been of major importance to everyone in any way connected with or interested in serious music. His work has been widely performed, imitated, arranged, transcribed, recorded, discussed, and, in one instance, been the source of inspiration for the creation of P.D.Q. Bach who is supposed to be Bach's last son and whose recently discovered "masterpieces" would cause laughter any time. Who was this complex personality anyway?

During the week of March 17-24, the Bach Society of Saint Louis will offer the St. Louis community many opportunities to learn more about this man and his music. On Sunday, March 17 the "St. Matthew Passion" will be presented by the Bach Society Chorus, orchestra and distinguished soloists directed by William Partridge. The concert will be at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Kirkwood, concert time is 7:00 p.m. and admission is free. The "St. Matthew Passion" is the great work that Mendelssohn rediscovered in the early 19th century, and his production of the work started the renewed interest and growing appreciation of Bach's works which has continued to the present.

Special guest lecturer Paul Hume, organist, former music critic for the *Washington Post* and music historian, will speak about Bach's theology, life style,

and ideas on education. Bach was definitely a Lutheran, but he wrote one of the greatest settings of the Latin Mass. He did have twenty children (nine outlived him), and he was a teacher of Latin, theology, and music as well as a composer, performer, and director. Mr. Hume's lectures will be on Monday, March 18 at Webster University, at Parkway West High School on Tuesday, both at 8 p.m. and free. The final talk will be at Concordia Seminary at noon on Friday, March 22. Plans are still tentative about a presentation in the city schools.

Another outstanding guest speaker will be Paul Callaway, organist and Choirmaster Emeritus of the Washington Cathedral. He will lead a lecture/concert on the Great 18 Chorale Preludes by Bach. Outstanding organists from the area will play the pieces. This program will be at Christ Church Cathedral. Also at the Cathedral will be a concert of music by Handel, who is also 300 this year, on Wednesday, March 20 at 8 p.m. Dr. Callaway will conduct the program and William Partridge will be the organist for an organ concerto. The Cathedral Choir will perform Handel's seldom heard "Dixit Dominus," a work written during his tour in Italy. Concerts are free.

There are many events planned as "presents" to Bach and Handel this season. The Bach Society has published a calendar of all Bach/Handel related events about which information was received through May of '85. For a free copy of the calendar, write the Bach Society, 6800 Wydown, St. Louis 63105. Many organizations and individuals are offering interesting programs about these two great and interesting composers.



THE LACLEDE STRING QUARTET will perform classics in music for the family, from Mozart to Michael Jackson, on Sun., March 24 at 2:00 p.m. in the Lionberger Courtyard Gallery at the Missouri Historical Society in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. Free; refreshments served. (From left: Jo Ellen Lyons, cello; Sallie Coffman, violin; Adrienne Gamel, viola; and Kristi Hervig, violin.)

Fontbonne Workshop Offers "A Fitting Finish"

The Home Economics Department at Fontbonne College will conduct a workshop for people who have basic clothing construction skills but would like their finished garments to have that professionally produced look and fit.

The instructor, Carol Sestric, earned a master of science degree in clothing and textiles from the University of Missouri

at Columbia and has taught numerous courses in clothing construction and apparel design.

Classes meet Tuesdays, March 19 to April 23, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The fee is \$60. Class-size is limited to 20 students, and registration ends Friday, March 15.

Call 889-1408 for more information or to register.

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From Pushing Brooms To Pushing Buttons: Seminar At Historical Society

From the coal stove to the microwave oven—

From the broom to the carpet sweeper to the vacuum cleaner—

From the washboard to mechanized washing machines—

How have these advances in household technology changed women's domestic role? Speakers at the St. Louis Women Historians third annual conference, presented in cooperation with the Missouri Historical Society, will examine changing methods of homemaking and the relationship to family life and the attitudes about domestic work. The half-day conference, "From Pushing Brooms to Pushing Buttons," will be held on Saturday, March 9 starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. The free program commemorates National Women's History Week.

Featured speaker Susan Strasser, author of *Never Done, a History of American Housework*, will present women's work as a topic of historical investigation. She will examine the social impact of technology and industrialization on housework in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. She is a member of the faculty of the Bunting Institute and of Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington.

Other speakers will be three members of St. Louis Women Historians. Katharine T. Corbett, curator of education at the Missouri Historical Society, will give a demonstration of early household appliances. Using artifacts from the Society's extensive collections, she will show how early washing machines, powered by gears, helped reduce the amount of labor needed to do the laundry by hand. She will demonstrate early kitchen appliances as well as laundry and cleaning equipment to illustrate some of the ideas presented by

Prof. Strasser. Corbett will also examine the role of improved household technology in changing family relationships, in the social nature of work and in the skills needed for housework.

Ruth L. Bohan, assistant professor of art history, University of Missouri—St. Louis, will assess the impact new home products were intended to have on family life and home improvement. In a slide presentation, she will show turn-of-the-century advertising cards from the Society's pictorial history collections. "These cards do far more than identify and illustrate the product being advertised. They provide valuable commentary on family life, interpersonal relationships among family members and on home interior decoration," said Prof. Bohan.

Irene E. Cortinovic, a retired archivist from the University of Missouri—St. Louis, will comment on the ways homemakers have reallocated time among housekeeping, childrearing and consumption activities. She will raise the question of the benefits and of the losses for women and their families in the new division of labor.

"Are women spending less time on household chores or does the new technology really make more work for mother?" This question and other issues raised by the presentations will be considered by a panel of the four conference participants in a discussion with the audience before the meeting concludes at 12:30 p.m.

The conference is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Missouri Historical Society Education Programs at 361-9265. This project is supported by a grant from the Missouri Committee for the Humanities, Inc. the state-based arm of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Mayor Announces Step Up St. Louis Program

by Mayor Vincent C. Schoemehl, Jr.

On Friday, Feb. 15th, I held a news conference in my office to announce the kick-off of the Step Up St. Louis program. This program is designed to raise funds to finance neighborhood projects without taking tax dollars from other vital city services.

The purpose of Step Up St. Louis is to encourage local businesses, civic, and community groups as well as private foundations and individuals to take an active role in their community. The program is being coordinated by the St. Louis Ambassadors civic organization.

Over the last several months, the Ambassadors contacted each neighborhood organization in the city and invited them to submit proposals for ways to improve their neighborhoods. In total, about one-half million dollars worth of proposals were incorporated into a gift catalogue that will be distributed to potential donors. Requests range from seed packets for a community garden to assistance in the production of an urban wall mural to

support for senior citizens programs. One neighborhood is looking for tools to support its "Borrow a Tool" program, another needs equipment for its radio station.

Step Up St. Louis is a unique opportunity for businesses, groups or individuals to contribute to improving the quality of life in St. Louis. Today's tax dollars can only go so far. There never seems to be those extra dollars available for special things which can enhance life in our neighborhoods. Step Up St. Louis can fill that need.

Already almost \$100,000 in money and services has been raised towards filling the neighborhood requests contained in the gift catalogue. The biggest contribution to date is a \$40,000 donation from Deaconess Hospital. As the requests in the gift catalogue are filled, additional proposals will be accepted.

For more information on the program, contact your neighborhood organization president or call the St. Louis Ambassadors at 241-4344.

History Repeats Itself..

by Venita Lake

When I dug into the archives of THE PAPER/THE TIMES of Skinker-DeBaliviere to learn where and when the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council has previously had its office, I realized that history does repeat itself. The front page of the October 1970 issue notes that SDCC has moved its office to 6008 Kingsbury

and that its executive director has resigned and a new director is being sought, much the same as last month's TIMES reported Ann FitzGibbons' resignation and the search for new SDCC office space.

This was the second move that year for SDCC, the first being from 433 DeBaliviere across the street to 404 DeBaliviere when fire destroyed the first building.

from The Paper, October 1970

Council Office Moves To New Location

By Pat Kohn

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Council office has been moved from its De Baliviere location to 6008 Kingsbury (at the corner of Kingsbury and DesPeres). The storefront, formerly a record store, has been temporarily loaned to the Council by West End Townhouse.

Council members hope that since the new office will be located in the geographical center of the neighborhood with ample parking, residents will feel more closely associated and aware of its activities. Communication, the Council believes, should improve because the office has been relocated in a convenient location where people may walk in for help or information.

Twenty neighborhood women have volunteered to man the telephone from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. The phone number will remain the same - 862-5122. The women will answer the telephone and perform secretarial functions in the absence of a secretary and executive director. The residential service will also operate out of the Council offices.

The Council plans to hire a new director and secretarial help in the near future.

Aftermath of the Fire

By Dempster Holland

DeBaliviere area businessmen are hopeful that a new building will be constructed in place of a neighborhood landmark at 433 DeBaliviere destroyed by fire early Sunday morning, March 1.

The general alarm fire spread from two fires apparently set in the basement and quickly covered the entire building.

Many businesses and community organizations, including the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, were located in the building.

Meyer said that many of the twenty-two businesses and associations located in the building would stay on the street. Three had moved in the day before the fire broke out.

"This is an unfortunate incident, which was not in any way involved with racial tensions," Meyer said, "but was probably caused by other reasons."

The building's owner, Francis Doll, stated that the fire was "probably an accident." Doll stated that as soon as a final insurance adjustment is made, the building will probably be demolished.

Doll said that hopes for putting a new building on the site would probably hinge on finding a satisfactory long-range tenant James L'Ecuyer, executive secretary of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, stated that virtually all of the files of the Council were saved from the fire. New furniture for the new office across the street was donated by Washington University and Grace Methodist Church.

from The Paper, April 1970

Tsk, Tsk,

Mr. James O. L'Ecuyer
5777 DeGiverville
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Jim:

I have just received a notice indicating that there will be a meeting of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council on March 9th, 1970, at the Council office, 433 DeBaliviere.

I have stopped by the office a couple of times recently and we are going to have to take some steps to improve the maintenance of the building and of our space.

Sunday morning they looked terrible. There were ashes all over everything, pools of water standing on every flat surface, unbelievable disarray, including filing cabinets thrown into the basement and large hunks of the ceiling all over the floor. The mimeograph machine has apparently disappeared through the floor and someone has been playing tiddly-winks with desk tops. Most of the glass in the windows is gone and the lights and telephone don't seem to work.

I think we should reschedule this meeting to some other place until you can get the cleaning woman on the ball or get her replaced. Premises like this must give us a very bad public image.

Sincerely yours,
Richard C. Hart

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

I've finally made the big time! After years of writing this column and wondering if anyone out there reads it, at last I know. Someone, at least one lost soul, reads "In Your Ear."

No, I wasn't graced with a "present to my favorite author" on Valentine's Day. No, I didn't even get an anonymous Christmas card. I received neither a snazzy tie nor an encomium through the mail. Thanks to Alexander Graham Bell (and, more recently, Cliff Robertson), I got a phone call from a fan!

It was a dark and stormy night when the phone rang, jangling my nerves already made raw from cheap cigars and another impending deadline. (Actually it was a slightly overcast afternoon and I was watching "All My Children" on television, but Writer's Rule #1 is never let the truth get in the way of a good story.) Anyway, the caller immediately identified herself as a neighborhood resident and ardent reader of my column. I was stunned. I didn't know whether to thank her profusely or, realizing that she liked my work, try to take advantage of her obvious slow wit and limited mental capacity by selling her some resort land in Times Beach. After all, some things do correlate. It's nature's way of evening out life's advantages: Volvo drivers invariably have KWMU bumper stickers on their cars and refer to their children as "tikes"; girls who work in donut shops are always overweight; schoolteachers' signatures are legible; and the readers (reader?) of my column try to peel the shells off M&Ms.

"I need your help," she rasped, the cadence of her breath warning me of a danger, such as war-like drums in a distant forest. She shuddered and began again, the words tumbling from her mouth like the demons and gnomes from Pandora's box. "Your column means so much to me," she paused, the timbre in her voice playing tunes to beckon my already-heightened senses. "Each month I await your writing, your words, your thoughts. I take off from work and stay home so that I won't miss a moment of having your work in my hands. I go to neighborhood parties and political meetings just to get a glimpse of you. For years now, I've read 'In Your Ear,' always wondering and waiting to see you in person. Then, oh, I guess it was at last year's Progressive Dinner when I first saw you. They, all my neighbors, were right; you *do* look like Tom Selleck. Or should I say that he looks like you?" she asked.

(Remember Writer's Rule #1. What actually happened is that a person in the neighborhood called me on the phone, mispronounced my name, and asked me if I was the guy who wrote "In Your Ear," or, she said, "is it part of an elementary school's creative writing program?")

"My problem is touchy, er, kind of sensitive. I don't know where to turn and I was wondering if you could help," she said. "I'm new in town," she added. "I work as an airline stewardess and model and it's so-o-o hard to find a man you can trust."

I detected traces of a southern accent and my mind raced with possibilities. Would she ask me to help her rescue some refugee trapped in Cuba? Perhaps, detecting my razor-like fine mind and sense of honor through my writings, she was a CIA recruiter, about to ask me to serve the Country in carrying out some life-threatening assignment. Maybe, just maybe, she was a White House affiliate wondering if I would accept a senior position with the administration. Then, too, there was a strong possibility that she was calling in behalf of Whitey Herzog, about to inquire whether I'd be willing to limber up the old wing and wheels and give it a shot at third base for the Cards this summer.

"Sure, sweetie," I responded in my best Bogart-like accent, exhaling cigar smoke

and suppressing a cough at the same time. "How can I be of service?" I asked.

"No, it's how *may* I be of service?" she corrected.

I now figured that she must be an ex-schoolteacher. I waited, wondering if anyone ever corrected Tom Selleck's grammar, and she began to spin her tale of woe and intrigue.

"Some time ago, in a small European country," she began, "a small plaster statue disappeared. The statue, itself, was worthless, but it contained a piece of microfilm."

"Microfilm" I responded cleverly.

"Yes. It's amazing how perceptive you are, Tom. Microfilm. The film contained secrets so valuable . . . well, let's just say that possession of the film will mean the ultimate power to someone."

I sat up in my chair, knocking over my coffee and getting cigar ashes on my Mickey Mouse tie. What could possibly be so important, I wondered. I had an idea and knew that I must pursue it. "Is this secret so essential to national security that it's worth risking men's lives?"

"Men have already died for this," she responded. She was tense now and her accent became a bit more pronounced. I recognized it as a regional dialect, typical to either the suburbs of Tallahassee, Florida, or Portland, Oregon.

My hunch was true and I knew now. And she knew that I knew now. And I knew that she knew that I knew now. "Is it," I asked, "the date when cable television will be available to all residents of the City of St. Louis?"

"I wish it were that simple. No, it's even more important if you can imagine that!"

"Who is this most important to?" I asked.

"You mean," she replied, "to whom is this most important?"

Well, now I knew for sure that she was an ex-teacher. And she knew that I knew. "Yes," I replied, getting a little frustrated and knocking cigar ashes from my pants to the floor.

I began to detect a sniffing and I could tell she was beginning to cry. "It's so scary. It's even bigger than cable television," she said.

Suddenly it hit me with a jolt and I interrupted her. "The film contains the truth about where the football Cardinals will play next year!"

"Yes, yes, oh my God, yes" she sobbed, now crying openly into my ear (well, actually, into the telephone). "And only you, Tom Selleck, I mean, Tom Hoerr, only you can get the information from enemy hands!" She was bordering on hysteria now and I understood that some things are that important!

A wry smile crossed my face and I leaned backed in my chair, spilling more coffee and dropping ashes on to my shirt, my pants, the floor, and a dog. I inhaled on my cigar, coughed, and replied, "You've come to the right place, sweetie (Bogart again). Tom's the name, fame's the game."

(Remember Writer's Rule #1. What actually happened, after I told her how to pronounce my name, is that she was calling because she had a "delicate neighbor problem," as she termed it, and she thought that maybe I could help. It seems that she has a neighbor who does things that aggravate her a great deal. Try as she might, she finds herself unable to confront the neighbor. She thought that this column, "In Your Ear," might be able to do it for her.

"Certainly," I replied, feeling a bit like Bob Greene—I wonder if anyone ever mispronounces his name—"just give me the address of the offender. I'll mention it in a cutesy-type poem. The neighbor will get embarrassed and clean up the problem, and because there are so many neighbors,

How It All Began, February 15, 1764

by Ray Breun

Pierre Laclede left New Orleans with his six year monopoly about August 10, 1763. This permit to trade with the Indians near the mouth of the Missouri River for six years had been granted with exclusive privileges to Gilbert Antoine Maxent, a major New Orleans merchant. Maxent had then taken on two partners, Jean Francois Le Dee and Pierre de Laclede. The latter agreed to lead the party which would, in fact, start and manage the trading post itself. Just before he left that August, Laclede learned that France had lost the Seven Years War, known in America as the French and Indian War. The Treaty of Paris which ended the war ceded all of France's New World lands to England. Just the year before France had given Louisiana to Spain. The end result of all this was that the settlements east of the Mississippi and west of the Appalachians were now British although they were virtually all inhabited by Frenchmen. Laclede knew this was an opportunity to establish not only a trading post but also a haven to which the Anglophobe French could go to escape British hegemony.

The trading party led by Laclede reached Ste. Genevieve on November 3, 1763. There were no storage facilities large enough to winter all his supplies, so much had to be kept at Fort de Chartres across the river in Illinois country. In December, Laclede with a limited crew including the thirteen-year-old Auguste Chouteau set out to find the site for their trading post. The place had to have three qualities: it had to be as close to the mouth of the Missouri River as possible; it had to be west of the Mississippi to be outside the expanding British sphere of influence; and it had to be high enough to be above flood. He found a thirty-foot limestone bluff about ten miles south of the Missouri and north and across the river from the French settlement of Cahokia. A creek entering the river just south of the main part of the bluff afforded a break in the stone which sloped to river level about a mile north of the creek mouth. We still call that creek Mill Creek after the mill Chouteau built on it to form the pond named after him. The Mill Creek Water Treatment Station on the riverfront just south of the Poplar Street Bridge marks the location of the mouth of the creek. After Laclede had marked some of the trees, he and his crew

no one will know that it was you who called."

"The statue is now in Rumania. It's hidden in a shipment of cocaine and guarded by a force of heavily armed Korean kick-fighting men. Can you get it?" she begged.

(Still #1. She liked the idea and gave the address of the unneighborly neighbor. The problem deals primarily with noise and litter. Unfortunately, I've not been able to come up with a cutesy poem. The poem and address will have to wait until the next issue.)

"After the job is done," she purred, "I'd like to meet you in person, alone. Maybe give you some kind of medal or reward for your valor, courage, integrity, wit, charm, good looks, and taste in clothing. Tell me again, how do I pronounce your name?"

headed back to winter quarters at Ste. Genevieve and Fort de Chartres.

Early in 1764, probably during the January thaw, Laclede began to make the rounds of the French settlements east of the river. Chouteau and the rest of the trading party left Ste. Genevieve and arrived at the bluff late in the day on February 14, 1764. They began to build the trading post and their cabins on February 15, the day generally given as the founding day of St. Louis. Laclede arrived at the site in April, inspected the work, and named it for Louis IX, the patron of the then King Louis XV; He then returned to Fort de Chartres to bring up the supplies in storage.

Many of the French from Cahokia moved to the new trading post and accepted land from Laclede. Because of his booster activities, many moved to St. Louis from various villages east of the river. It was October 1765, when Louis St. Ange de Bellerive left Fort de Chartres after transferring Illinois country to the British. He moved to St. Louis and brought quite an entourage of soldiers, artisans, traders, and villagers. The French military remained in charge until 1770 when the Spanish finally got around to accepting the land ceded to them by France in 1762 to prevent the English from having it all. By that time the population of St. Louis was about 500.

Unlike nearly every other post or village in the Mississippi Valley, St. Louis began and grew as a mercantile center. The early settlers never really grew accustomed to agricultural or agrarian activities. The emphasis was always on exploitation and extraction rather than bucolic seasonal growth processes. In many ways this is the reason much of history of the town romanticizes the fur trade and mining rather than farming. That tradition began almost immediately when the trading post was founded. By the time Laclede died on his way back to St. Louis from New Orleans at the mouth of the Arkansas River in 1778 at the age of 48, the trading post was the premier village on the Upper Mississippi. In the fourteen years since its beginning, it had acquired all the acquisitive merchants east of the river and the respect of the British and the Indians west of the river. It was not an agricultural outpost but rather an active center of exploitation of the riches of the frontiers of North America.

Classifieds

FOR RENT: 60XX Pershing. 1 bedroom, nice hardwood floors, heat & appliances included, off-street parking. \$235 per month. 727-6377.

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