

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Nancy Farmer Hired As SDCC Director

Nancy Farmer was selected by the search committee to be the new executive director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. She began her duties in early April.

Nancy received her Bachelor's degree with honors from Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois. Her education included a semester of Urban Studies living and working in Chicago. Her work experience includes several positions with the Jacksonville Developmental Center, the Jacksonville Journal Courier newspaper, and Sangamon State University's Center for the Study of Middle Sized Cities.

Her main emphasis as she begins the job is to familiarize herself with neighborhood institutions, businesses, and issues.

Nancy says she will need some time before she can formalize specific goals and directions; however, she will continue the Council's commitment to further neighborhood stabilization, clean-up and beautification of area streets, continue working to reduce crime, and promote the Skinker-Debaliviere neighborhood as a place to live. Two current projects Nancy is working on are Operation Brightside and Rosedale's Rags to Riches Sale. She also plans to write for *The Times* on a regular basis.

If anyone needs her help or would just like to call and introduce yourself, she is at the Council office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The number is 862-5122.

Project Blitz Set For May 18

See Page 6



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Historical Society Flea Market To Be Held In Forest Park



The Missouri Historical Society's Flea Market will be held in the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park May 17-19 for the first time this year. Along with the new location comes free parking in the upper Munny lot with shuttle bus service to and from the Flea Market site.

"A new location, new weekend dates, and free shuttle bus service from the upper Munny lot should attract many first-time customers to the Missouri Historical Society's Flea Market May 17-19," said co-chairmen, Skip Rogge (Mrs. Frank D.) and Gen Robinson (Mrs. W. Dean). "This is the 28th year for the annual sale of new and used goods, and we hope it will be the biggest yet," they said.

The new location is the World's Fair Pavilion, which will be surrounded by the traditional red and white checked tents. The Pavilion crowns a hilltop in Forest Park, opposite the east border of the St. Louis Zoo, reached from the Hampton/Forest Park exit of Highway 40. Ample parking—free—will be available in the upper Munny lot with a free shuttle bus to and from the Flea Market. Purchasers of bulky or heavy items will be allowed access to the sale site on the driveway that leads up to the World's Fair Pavilion.

The bargain-hunter's paradise will be open on Friday, May 17 from 3 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Weekend hours, May 18 and 19, are 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. There is a \$3.00 per person charge on opening day, but admission to the Flea Market is free on Saturday and Sunday.

Since 1958 the Flea Market, benefitting the Missouri Historical Society, has been held on the parking lot of Westroads Mall.

With the construction work that will transform the mall into the St. Louis Galleria, the space was not available this year.

Dillard's/Stix, Baer & Fuller will continue to sponsor the Flea Market, along with the Henry Company Realtors and Community Federal.

Volunteers have been working throughout the fall and winter to appraise, sort, and price household goods that have been donated for the sale. The Flea Market is still looking for quality goods of all kinds, new and used: antiques, paintings, furniture, cooking utensils, books, sporting goods, garden equipment, jewelry, rugs, china and glassware, curtains, office equipment, and bric-a-brac of all varieties.

Donors receive a letter of appraisal for tax records. New and used goods will be accepted for the sale until mid-May, when the volunteers unpack the merchandise at the World's Fair Pavilion and in the tents. Free pick-ups may be arranged by calling the Missouri Historical Society at 361-1424.

Proceeds from the Flea Market help support the Missouri Historical Society, which operates a museum, library and archives in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. The Society receives no tax support for its programs of public education and service and is funded primarily by membership, gifts and grants.

28th Ward News, Plans

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

The 28th Ward Democrats will conduct two major events on Mother's Day weekend, according to Committeewoman Dee Suda.

On Sat., May 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the club will hold a Mother's Day flower sale at the Four Corners, Kingsbury and Des Perres. Co-Chairpersons, Shirley Polk and Christine Smith, promise there will be something for everyone, including hanging baskets, bedding plants and decorative planters. Prices start at \$1.00. Advance orders are welcome by calling Christine Smith—862-0763; Rose Storey—727-1727; or Dee Suda—622-3569/647-4977.

Committeeman Kim Tucci will host the 2nd Annual Mother's Day Brunch on Sun., May 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Pasta House Company, 310 DeBaliviere at Pershing. Cost will be \$10.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Tickets may

be purchased at the door or in advance by mail to the 28th Ward Democratic Club, P.O. Box 1352, St. Louis, MO 63188.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

It was recently announced by Committeewoman Dee Suda that the 28th Ward Democratic officials will be available on Wednesday evenings between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. for personal meetings with their constituents. Ward residents are also encouraged to call the officials at home or their place of business. Appointments are not necessary. The club telephone number is 622-0229. Telephone numbers for the officials are: Alderman Dan McGuire—862-7470 (home); 622-3287 (business), Committeewoman Dee Suda—647-4977 (home); 622-3569 (business); Committeeman Kim Tucci—863-9306 (home); 664-9622 (business).

Update On Skinker Beautification Plans

By Nancy Farmer

A committee of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council is working on the beautification of Skinker Boulevard from Millbrook to Delmar. Under chairman Sandy Rothschild, the committee is addressing these projects: Repair of curbs; planting and maintenance of trees and flowers; improving grass maintenance; and the purchase and installation of trash receptacles. The committee is exploring two construction possibilities: A bus

shelter at Millbrook and Skinker and entrance markers to the neighborhood at Waterman that would incorporate the terra cotta "angel" figures donated from the Title Guaranty Building. Bill Christman of Christman Studios is donating his services in designing the possible entrance markers. The committee is also contacting area business owners to enlist their support with improvements of their facilities.

Anyone interested in working with this committee should call the Council office at 862-5122.

New Wash. Heights Column To Begin

Elizabeth Freeman has moved from Debaliviere Place to Washington Heights with her husband Greg and son William. Beginning with the June issue of *The Times*, she will start a column which she describes as highlighting Washington Heights "features and folks." It should be similar to the former "Window on Washington Heights." Anyone who has ideas or neighborly news, please call Elizabeth at 361-6517.

Loyal Advertiser Moves After 50 Years

What do you do to celebrate fifty years at the same location in University City?

This was the problem facing Bill Buechner, owner of University City Hardware at 6511 Delmar—a loyal advertiser throughout the years.

In reality, Bill outgrew his present location years ago and has been looking to relocate for years. The Donaldson rehab operation taking place at Delmar and Westgate made Bill's decision a lot easier. The fifty years of service to the University City community was one that Bill wanted to continue when he evaluated his options. The two most important things needed were larger quarters and plenty of accessible parking.

Fortunately, he was able to find the ideal location two blocks from his present store.

May 1, Bill will take over occupancy of the large building at 6623 Vernon, next to the new Shur Sav Market, one-half block west of Westgate on Vernon. Bill's new store will be able to serve all his former customers, plus new ones. His new store, "U-City Hardware," will have easy access from Olive Street Road and Vernon with minimum traffic congestion and loads of parking, right in front.

U-City Hardware, when the move is completed, will be one of the area's largest and most complete hardware stores. The new store will provide for a wider assortment of plumbing and electrical supplies needed in the area. The services developed over the last half century will continue, only more so. U-City Hardware will offer the unique service of vacuum cleaner and lamp repair—offering the area's only Hoover, Eureka, and Kirby parts and service. The store is expanding to pipe threading and saw and tool sharpening with their own equipment. The Benjamin Moore paint department will be expanded to the largest, most complete in the area. U-City Hardware will also offer lawnmower repair and a new tool rental department for gardeners and do-it-yourselfers.

Bill's father, Al Buechner, will be in town for the grand opening. Bill invites all his dad's old friends who are always asking about him to come in and visit.

The store will be affiliated with the "Sentry Hardware" group. While still being an independent dealer, Bill will increase his purchasing power and be able to offer outstanding values for quality merchandise.

It Is Time To Turn Your Rags Into Riches

by Paul Kurtz

Ahhh... spring is finally here, flowers blooming, birds chirping, and Rosedale residents beginning their annual tradition of searching their homes for those tantalizing temptations which will delight the bargain hunter.

This parade of potpourri will take place on June 8 and again is sponsored by the Rosedale Neighborhood Association. Another feature of the day will be the Men's Liberation Bake Sale—named during the Dark Ages when men needed liberating, now they only need libating.

Speaking of libations, there will also be barbeque, beer, and other assorted goodies available for a nominal price, the proceeds going to bolster the neighborhood association. The bake sale and food will be located on the Kingsbury Animal Hospital's parking lot.

The main event, however, will be the numerous yard sales that bring all those buyers of *junque*. As in years past, Rosedale will provide a detailed map of the neighborhood with the households participating highlighted.

The reputation of these sales has spread city wide; thus, the potential for profit continues to increase. I was a skeptic until last year, when a disorganized attempt at cleaning my closets netted a tidy sum.

The incredible part of this is the fact that you can register your sale and assure your place on the map for a paltry \$5.00 which, believe it or not, is tax deductible.

Don't delay, register today—contact Rick Akers for further information at 726-0451 or send your check to "Rags to Riches," c/o SDCC, 6195 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63112.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Katie Kurtz, 727-6377

Business Manager: Jane Geer, 721-8584

Calendar: King Schoenfeld, 863-0152

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
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Display Advertising: col. width, 2½". Minimum ad size, 1" x 1 col. 2" x 1 col.: \$22/insertion; (10% discount 5 to 8 issues contract; 15% discount 9 issues contract). For complete list of sizes and rates, write *The Times* c/o 6016 Washington, 63112, or call 727-6377.

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 6016 Washington. Deadline: 15th of the month.

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May Calendar

- 4 Normal "Tweed" Webb, baseball historian & authority on the Negro leagues, will discuss history of baseball, 10 a.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. Free.
The Children's Art Bazaar Festival, St. Louis Art Museum, 12-5 p.m., Free.
Movies for Children, "Winnie The Pooh," 2 p.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. Free.
- 5 Fine Arts Graduate Thesis, Library Gallery Fontbonne College. Opening reception 3-5 p.m. (Show thru 5/30). 889-1431 for gallery hours.
- 6 Rosedale Neighborhood Association meeting, 7:30 p.m. St. Roch's School Lunchroom. Agenda: Brightside; Rags to Riches; introduction of Nancy Farmer.
- 7 Preschool story hour, Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 10 a.m. (Also 5/14; 5/21; 5/28).
- 8 "Make Mother's Day Gifts," children's program. 4 p.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union.
"Touch of Evil" & "The Immortal Story," Webster University, Winifred Moore Auditorium, 470 E. Lockwood, \$3. 968-7487.
- 9 "Romanovsky & Phillips," presented by Changing Men, 8:00 p.m., 1st Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman. Tickets \$5 in advance; \$6 at door; 725-6116 for information.
- 10 "Murder She Said," 1962. St. Louis Art Museum, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 in the Museum Auditorium. \$2; \$1 for Museum Friends.
- 11 Movies for Children "Paddington Bear," 2 p.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union.
28th Ward Mother's Day Flower Sale, Four Corners (Des Peres & Kingsbury), 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- 12 2nd Annual Mother's Day Brunch hosted by Tim Tucci, 28th Ward Committeeman. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., The Pasta House Company, 310 DeBaliviere, \$10.00 for adults; \$4.00 children.
Mother's Day festivities at St. Louis Art Museum: woodwind trio in the Cafe des Beaux Arts, "He Makes Me Feel Like Dancin'," free film at 2:30, and at 3:30 the Laclede Quartet plays in the Grigg Gallery. Music and film are free. Call 721-0067, ext. 58 for more information.
- "St. Louis Union Station, Past, Present and Future" by Harry A. Pollay, senior development director for the project for the Rouse Company. Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Building, Forest Park, 2 p.m. Free.
- 13 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. Delmar Baptist Church, 6195 Washington.
- 14 Washington Heights Neighbors Association meeting, 7:30 p.m. Hamilton Community School.
"Beyond Reasonable Doubt," 1980. St. Louis Art Museum, 7 & 9:15 in the Museum Auditorium. \$2; \$1 for Museum Friends. (Also 5/15).
Visiting Artist Concert, Louise Salmon & Noel Prince, dual pianists, Fontbonne Fine Arts Theatre, 8 p.m., 889-1425. Free.
- 16 Skinker DeBaliviere Business Association meeting, call 862-5122 for time and place.
- 17 Missouri Historical Society Flea Market, World's Fair Pavilion, Forest Park. Also 18 & 19. (See related article.)
"Murder at the Gallop," 1963. St. Louis Art Museum, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 in the Museum Auditorium. \$2; \$1 for Museum Friends.
- 18 Operation Brightside, trash pick-up begins at 9 a.m. (See related article.)
"Unlearning Racism," experimental workshop presented by Changing Men, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 725-6116 for more information and costs.
Garage Sale, Grace & Peace Fellowship, Kingsbury and Des Peres, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call Carolyn, 862-7343/725-0335.
Young Singers of Missouri in Concert at Grace Methodist Church, Waterman and Skinker, 4 p.m. Free.
- 21 "Goodbye Pork Pie," 1981. St. Louis Art Museum, 7 & 9:15 in the Museum Auditorium. \$2; \$1 for Museum Friends. (Also 5/22)
- 22 Dr. Duncan Simpson, former curator of the Brighton Pavilion Museum and Art Gallery and Historic Conservation Officer for the Greater London Council, will show slides and discuss preservation efforts in London with suggestions for American cities. Missouri Historical Society, 7:30 p.m. Free.
- 25 Movies for Children, 2 p.m. Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union. Free.

Report From The Alderman: Tax Reassessment

by Dan McGuire, 28th Ward Alderman

By now, all property owners should have received a notice of change in the assessed value of your real property. I am very happy to report that I have only received one phone call concerning these reassessment notices. I would like to think this indicates everyone believes they were reassessed fairly, but I don't know if I am that much of an optimist.

As you probably know, the courts forced all counties in the state to reassess all real property. The intent was to insure that everyone in the state was assessed in the same way in order to pay their fair share of the tax burden.

Your impact notice is only a statement of the new assessed value of the property and is not a tax bill. The notice shows both the new appraised and the new assessed values of your property as of Jan. 1, 1985. As a comparison, the notice also gives the assessed value as of Jan. 1, 1984.

The appraised value is defined as "the price which a property would bring when offered for sale by one willing, but not obliged, to sell it and is bought by one willing or desirous to purchase it, but is not compelled to do so." In other words... fair market value.

The assessed value (the basis for your tax) is 19 percent of the appraised value (what you could sell the property for). That rate, which was set by the state legislature in January, shifts the tax burden from residential and agricultural property owners onto businesses. Previously the assessed rate was 33 1/3 percent of the appraised value for all types of property. (Multiply your old assessed value times three to get your old appraised value, which is not shown on the impact notice.)

The new ratio calls for residential property to be assessed at 19 percent of market value; commercial, industrial and utilities at 32 percent; and agricultural at 12 percent.

Unfortunately, the state legislature defines "residential property" as buildings with four or less family units. So, apartment buildings with more than four units

will be assessed at the new 32 percent commercial rate, rather than the 19 percent residential rate. In addition, apartment and business owners will be hit with a new state-mandated surcharge on their real estate bills to replace the old Merchants & Manufacturers Tax, which has been eliminated. As a result, residents of these apartments should expect a substantial increase in their rents to cover this increased tax burden. A court suit has already been filed by a group of apartment tenants and owners challenging this commercial classification of apartments.

The key to understanding your impact notice is the second box in the "Total" column marked "Appraised value as of January 1, 1985." This is what the Assessor thinks your property is worth today! If you disagree, or have a question, contact the Assessor's Office *immediately* at 622-4185 and make an appointment to talk with your appraiser.

The appraiser will tell you how the value was determined. You should be able to show proof that the value has been overestimated if you disagree. If the meeting does not reach a satisfactory conclusion, the next step is to request a formal appeal with the Board of Equalization, which will start conducting meetings on May 20. **DO NOT DELAY!** The final date for filing formal appeals is May 13, 1985.

While I am certain that almost all of your appraised values have increased, we must remember that last year's valuation in all parts of the city was based on 1973 property values. Thankfully, our property values here in Skinker-DeBaliviere have risen more than in other parts of the city over the last decade. I do not have to remind you that the future of our neighbor-

hood then was really quite questionable. Through your good faith and hard work, we now have one of the strongest and most desirable residential neighborhoods in the city. That's the good news. The bad news is... we now have to pay more taxes.

As I said above, the key to understanding reassessment is your new appraised value. If you feel you could get at least that amount if you sold your house, you really should not complain. You will only be paying your fair share. But I am sure you are still wondering how much more tax your "fair share" will be this year.

The city did not print an estimated tax on the impact notices. "We don't want to give false hopes to the taxpayer," Assessor Gwen Giles said recently at a meeting with the Aldermen. She said the true tax rates would not be known until September and any information before that time would only be a guess. "Rather than give a questionable rate now, I would rather wait until all of the figures are in," she said. Under state law, the city cannot receive a financial windfall from reassessment, so rates must be rolled back. The city can collect no more than 4.2 percent (which allows for inflation) more than it collected overall last year. "The rollback depends on a lot of numbers that we just don't have yet, so we could not put an accurate tax on the notices," Giles said.

Last year's tax rate was \$6.45 for each \$100 of assessed value. So if you multiply .0645 times the total "assessed value as of January 1, 1984" on your impact notice, the result will be the real estate tax you paid last year. Since we do not know what this year's rate will be, we can't say for certain what the tax will be. However, using my house as an example, we can multiply various rates to get some idea.

Yes, your taxes will go up. But remember that the new tax rate has not yet been determined and *there will be some rollback*. We must wait until September to see the real impact of reassessment.

Like everyone else, I am not thrilled about paying more taxes, even if it is "fair." But rather than complain about the increase for the *next few years*, I choose to think about the savings I realized over the *last few years* when our property was under-assessed. It's kind of like asking, "Is the glass half empty or half full?" With that in mind, how would you like to be the guy whose taxes were finally reduced after "paying through the nose" all those years? He should complain!

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	Tax rate	Multiply	×	Assessed Value	=	Tax
Old Rate × Old Value	\$6.45	.0645	×	4,550	=	\$293.48
Old Rate × New Value	\$6.45	.0645	×	8,890	=	\$573.41
If Rollback Rate Is:	\$6.00	.0600	×	8,890	=	\$533.40
If Rollback Rate Is:	\$5.75	.0575	×	8,890	=	\$511.18
If Rollback Rate Is:	\$5.50	.0550	×	8,890	=	\$488.95
If Rollback Rate Is:	\$5.00	.0500	×	8,890	=	\$444.50

Macho Menu: Spaghetti ala Carbonara



Photo by King Schoenfeld

(Editor's Note: The silliness of last month's column gives way this month to the sublime of this month's—for this editor, anything having to do with pasta is heaven—and also introduces a new neighbor. Dwight Matthews moved into Parkview with his family last May. Ellen, his wife, is one of our writers as well as a board member. They have two sons—one 3 years old and another six months. Dwight is Assistant Professor of Medicine at Washington University. In order to continue eating his own cooking, his main hobbies are fitness and exercise oriented.)

by Dwight Matthews

A properly prepared macho dish must follow certain basic guidelines, i.e. be cheap, simple, use macho spices (garlic, pepper and onion), and can be eaten while consuming alcohol from any desired shape of bottle—preferably during the preparation phase, too. Therefore, I present to you "spaghetti ala carbonara" macho supremo. Oh yes, this dish also tastes great.

Ingredients

To serve 6:
 1½ lb of spaghetti
 10 slices of bacon, chopped into ca. 2" squares
 1 onion, finely chopped
 8 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
 1 chili pepper pod, finely chopped (or 1-2 tsp chili pepper seeds)
 6 large eggs
 black pepper from a pepper mill
 Parmesan cheese
 olive oil

1. In a 10" skillet fry bacon until reasonably done. There are three variants at this point: animal, vegetable, or mineral. (a) You enjoy bacon grease and do not worry about what people who shop at health food stores like to say about consuming animal fat. Therefore, leave the bacon grease in the skillet and continue on to the next step. (b) Drain bacon grease from the skillet and replace with 6-8 tblsp of olive oil, and continue on. (c) Drain bacon grease and replace with mineral oil—the author recommends this option only for the S & M crowd.

2. Start cooking the spaghetti. It should be prepared al dente, which gives you just enough time to complete step 3.

3. Add onion, garlic, red pepper, and several turns of black pepper from a pepper mill to the skillet. Saute until all ingredients are quite crispy. As the bacon gets crispy, it can be broken into small pieces with a fork.

4. At this point there are again two variants: (a) Break eggs into a large bowl, and whisk. Quickly drain the spaghetti, and add spaghetti and entire contents of skillet to the bowl. Add Parmesan cheese and black pepper and toss thoroughly. The dish is ready to serve. Of course this approach is the stereotypical "little lady does the cooking in the kitchen routine while hubbie gets the guests loosened up in the living room with lively conversation and martinis" method of serving dinner and in no way qualifies as a MACHO performance. Therefore, I heartily recommend the second option.

(b) Find the guests, whether they be milling about the kitchen with you—my approach because I always keep the pitcher of martinis close to me, ergo the guests too—or are in the sitting room spilling booze onto your expensive pre-Ayatollah [sp?] Persian rug. Seat the guests at the table. Each place setting should include 2 forks (see below), placed on opposite sides of the plate, although I prefer to use a wide shallow bowl (such as the style sold by Pfaltzgraff) instead of a conventional plate. A plate is acceptable; it's just harder to contain the spaghetti during the tossing. Now for the tough part: reaching over the shoulder of each guest, crack a raw egg onto each plate with one hand—the one hand bit is what makes it tough, but it looks great. Ask each guest if he/she would like Parmesan cheese and/or pepper. If so, sprinkle/grate cheese and/or pepper over eggs. By now the guests are either curious or alarmed about what the meal is to be. Therefore, without comment, return to the kitchen to let them ponder their situation. Now you can drain and place the spaghetti into a serving dish, and pour the contents of the skillet into a gravy server. Returning to the dining room, place spaghetti on top of the egg on each plate, pour some oil/bacon/garlic/onion/pepper on top, and instruct each guest to start tossing his/her spaghetti with the two forks.

If you do this right, each guest's plate will have been pre-warmed, the spaghetti will be piping hot, and the egg will become more or less cooked during the tossing. The serving dish for the spaghetti should also be prewarmed. The big mistake during the wintertime is not warming the plates, etc., so you end up with a luke-warm dinner. Do not heat the plates to a macho "I will burn your hands if you touch me," signed the plate" level, just warm them for a few minutes in the oven. Likewise, the eggs should be removed from the refrigerator a couple hours ahead of time to warm to room temperature, but they can be warmed briefly in the oven, too. Remember of course, that if you forgot to remove the eggs from the refrigerator just a couple hours earlier, you are equally likely to forget to remove the eggs from the oven now, and you should set a timer, else you may be in for another major fight with your wife as to whose turn it is to clean the oven. The microwave is acceptable for warming the eggs only if you routinely use it to dry your poodle (a tip we received from Tom Hoerr, see this column last issue), else nix the microwave.

The beauty of this recipe is that it is simple, fast and requires very little advance planning since every home has bacon, garlic, and spaghetti on hand, right? The meal is amenable to either white or red wine and beer and can be prepared with the usual side dishes (e.g. a salad) served either with or after the main course.

Parkview Perspective

by Ellen Matthews

St. Louis City residents, Operation Brightside is coming: May 18 is the big day. Your block captain will be notifying you about helping out. Operation Brightside is a good chance to clean up and beautify your neighborhood. But, more than that, it's a chance to be part of a big team working toward a common goal.

Hoes, rakes, and shovels will be provided for your use, and distinctive red and white trash bags will be in ample supply. Hot dogs and sodas will also be provided for all workers.

This is also a good chance to get rid of your unwanted large objects. Large objects set out in the alley by 2:00 will be picked up. The only stipulation is that someone must be available to help load them onto the truck.

A \$100 award will be given by Anheuser-Busch to the group with the best clean-up project. Residents with ideas for projects should contact their block captain.

Operation Brightside provides St. Louisans with a focus day for clean-up and beautification. Perhaps University City residents will also want to use May 18 as an opportunity to get outside and do some work. Most of Parkview's yards are pretty, but our parks and alleys need to be spruced up, too.

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Surprises At The Kiosk

Books for Adults
by Mary Ann Shickman

Daughter of Time by Josephine Tey, Washington Square Press, N.Y., 1977.

The theme of this book is the clearing of the name of Richard III of England (1452-1485). Those of you who have read or seen Shakespeare's play, *Richard III*, think of him as a monster who killed his brother's children in the tower of London and committed other murders to secure his throne.

Inspector Grant of Scotland Yard has always been fascinated by faces and while recovering in the hospital from a serious fall, a woman friend brings him a packet of photographs. One that interests him the most is a portrait of Richard III. He gazes at the intelligent, sensitive face and begins to make some intriguing speculations which lead him to initiate an investigation through books and documents. The key to everything can be traced to the War of the Roses between the House of York and the House of Lancaster; Shakespeare and Sir Thomas More were of the House of Lancaster and Richard III of the House of York. Step by step, Inspector Grant brings us to the only possible conclusion. But then, if Richard's name had been cleared in Shakespeare's day, the world would have lost a sublime play.

Someday The Rabbi Will Leave by Harry Kemelman, William Morrow and Co., 1985.

Through seven days I have seen the Rabbi oversleep, get wet, go hungry, etc. How he puts up with his congregation who are always trying to get rid of him over the years, I will never know. But the little rabbi in his baggy clothes and his usual *chutzpa* solves a murder when a member of the congregation is unjustly accused. The real culprit in this book is a sleazy politician but I do not want to give away the plot. Kemelman's mysteries always appeal to me because I enjoy the cast of characters as well as insights into modern Judaism through the mind of Rabbi Small.

Dancehall by Bernard F. Connors, Bobbs-Merrill Co., Inc., 1983.

This is an excellent suspense novel, spanning twenty years, is set in New York State. It could almost be called a dissertation on capital punishment but more specifically the electric chair. There are some grim scenes on death row and such graphic details that the author might have sat on the "hotseat" himself to produce such chilling sensations. The electric chair chamber is called the "dance hall" because when a person is electrocuted, the currents make it look like he is dancing. This is a good study on the pros and cons of capital punishment as well as an excellent mystery.

Books for Children by Arlene Sandler

A good story is even better when it surprises you with something you didn't expect to find there or with something you never knew before.

One easy-to-read picture book, *Henri and the Loup-Garou*, introduces you to a new monster from New England and Canadian folklore. This werewolf-like beast haunts the woods at night as Henri goes out to get food for his family. A clever trick allows him to find his way home safely so he can tell his frightening story afterward to his family - and to you.

A picture book with illustrations so outstanding that it won the Caldecott Medal is *The Glorious Flight across the Channel with Louis Blériot*, by Alice and Martin Provensen. The book brings you a little about French family life in the early 1900's and a lot about Louise Blériot's attempts to fly across the English Channel,

suffering a variety of bruises in a variety of flying machines. With gentle humor (Blériot even looks a bit like Peter Sellers), the authors colorfully and authentically re-create an exciting time in aviation history for children.

Why do you young readers only want to check out stories that took place today, or maybe last week, at the very earliest? Fifth through eighth graders are missing an absorbing mystery if they overlook *The Callender Papers* by Cynthia Voigt, a book set in Massachusetts in 1894. Twelve-year old Jean is an orphan living with her Aunt Constance at a girl's school in Cambridge. Constance is the headmistress. When a school trustee, Mr. Thiel, hires Jean to organize his family's papers, she has no idea that within a short time, she will uncover secrets about her own past and she will be in great danger. Readers may be surprised to find some unusually independent women and to discover how much more was expected of twelve-year-olds during that time period.

Wordchanger, also for older readers, has never left our shelves, even though it has a very contemporary setting. When she discovers that her new husband has developed a device that can transform written words anywhere and that he intends to use it for criminal purposes, Martha quickly leaves home taking both the machine and her twelve-year-old son with her. Their harrowing trip across the country in a hard-to-handle trailer is filled with close calls. When a young runaway hides in the trailer and opens their dangerous, radioactive cargo, their problems multiply. The story offers you non-stop suspense while it also explains neutrinos, describes how to back up a trailer, and proves the existence of evil stepfathers.

Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

Bill Kohn, 6100 Kingsbury, who just recently closed the exhibition "Art in Architecture" in the west end, will be inaugurating a new show "Sundial," with a reception at his studio at Des Peres and Kingsbury on May 4. Sundial is a collaborative work of computer art and electronic music which will feature Bill's own work and that of electronic composer, Tom Hamilton. The exhibition will be at the Timothy Burns Gallery on Euclid from May 4 until early June. The computer work was a donation of Design Network Inc., a St. Louis computer graphics firm. The showing also received some funding from Central West End Savings and Loan Association and the West End Arts Council.

Gene Hoefel, 6100 McPherson, as well as Bill Kohn were two of one hundred St. Louis artists whose work was selected for an exhibition in the St. Louis Globe Democrat building entitled "Art St. Louis." This show was a major highlight of the St. Louis Arts Festival. Gene has another reason to be proud. He was recently made a full professor at the Washington University School of Fine Arts.

Seth Carlin, 6100 Kingsbury, an accomplished pianist and another Washington University professor gave a Beethoven concert last month at the Edison Theater. What a talented neighborhood we have.

World travelers Karleen and Tom Hoerr, 6100 Kingsbury, returned last month from a two week European trip to Rome and London, which they enjoyed tremendously. Tom is the director of New City School, 5209 Waterman. Karleen is a real estate agent at Feinberg, as well as the president of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. She was recently featured in an article in the March 21

issue of the *West End Word* describing her community leadership. Karleen confided, however, that she felt the picture of her and Tom in last month's issue of the *Times* was a better likeness.

Also traveling to Europe last month were Marvin Nodiff, Marcia Kerz, and Marcia's sister—Clare Kerz, 6100 Westminister. Their trip included Italy and Austria.

Jane and Jim Geer, 6100 Kingsbury, made a European trip in April to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Jim's business. They visited London, Amsterdam, and Paris. While in London, they planned to visit Dan Shea and Kathleen Williams who are spending a year in London.

We welcome to the neighborhood Tim and Janice Barthalow who live in 6000 Kingsbury. Tim works at Barnes Hospital and will be attending medical school. Janice works in early childhood education.

We also welcome the returning business of Cal and Gee Stuart—McPherson Management—who returned to Rosedale at 6008 Kingsbury from the 5700 block of Waterman. Cal and Gee live in 6100 Kingsbury.

Congratulations to the Curley family. James Ross Curley was born on March 12 just ten minutes prior to midnight (Why do they always want to arrive in the middle of the night?) to John and Cindy Curley, 6100 Kingsbury, at Barnes Hospital. The new arrival weighed nine pounds and two ounces. James Ross is the baby brother of Nina Curley who is two and a half. Cindy had recently started an interior design business—Insides. John is a staff reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

Our deepest condolences to the Reverend Samuel Binch on the recent loss of his mother. Mr. Binch is the pastor at Delmar Baptist Church.

We regret to report the imminent retirement of Betty Klinefelter, 6100 Kingsbury, from Grace Preschool. Neighborhood residents will be happy to learn, however, that she is not retiring from her work in Scouting or other neighborhood activities.

The redevelopment firm of McCormack-Baron has a new site supervisor in Mark Gorman. Mark lives in the 6100 block of Waterman.

Attention softball players over thirty, the Battlin' Beagles' 1985 season is about to begin. For those of you who are new to the neighborhood (or maybe just reaching that magic age of the BIG three 0), the Beagles are sponsored by St. Roch's and play on Friday evenings. Last year's season was more successful than not and everyone had a great time. Call Brad Weir if you are interested, 863-7558.

Don't forget to clean out your basements, closets and attics for the best and biggest yard sale of the year. Rosedale's Rags to Riches event will be coming up in early June.

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Project Blitz Set For May 18



Photo by Katie Kurtz

One of the neighborhood's sites needing Operation Brightside's attention.

The Fourth Annual Operation Brightside Blitz will be on Saturday, May 18, beginning at 8:30 a.m. In addition to the block-by-block clean-up, there will be a special neighborhood project to be entered in a city-wide competition and a recycling center at Four Corners (Des Peres and Kingsbury). There is still time to suggest a project; block captains will know by that day what it will be so that people can volunteer.

As a special fund-raising opportunity for *The Times*, Operation Brightside has graciously offered to pass on what would be proceeds for the recycling center to the publication. Neighbors who wish to will donate their items to the center and will receive a receipt which can be used for tax purposes. Details on recycling are outlined below.

Bags, extra tools in addition to worker's personal equipment, and additional information will be available from your block captain. If you have not been notified by May 15, call Nancy Farmer, 862-5122 or Sam Green, 862-4187, to find out who your captain is and what the plans are for your street.

Operation Brightside has been a tremendous success in Skinker-Debaliviere because of the high level of participation. Please read the following instructions and join with your neighbors on May 18.

1. Trash pick-up will proceed according to a schedule, starting at 9:00 A.M.
 - A. Trucks will come by more than once.
 - B. Each truck can take only the one type of refuse shown by the sign on the truck.
 - C. Please stop putting trash out at 3:00 P.M.
 - D. Do not start to worry about trash pick-up until after 4:00 P.M. Then call Regional headquarters for pick-up.
 - E. Call headquarters for trucks for special projects.
2. Remember the trash instructions: Place everything at the normal collection points, usually in the alley. In order for us to recycle certain items, please separate the trash as follows:
 - A. Instructions also pertain to the new roll-out containers.
 - B. Place all small items into trash receptacle, being careful not to overload. Where there are no alleys, put all small items into plastic bags and place at normal collection point. Be careful not to overload or puncture bags.
 - C. Put large metal items, such as stoves, into one pile.

- D. Put all other large items into another pile.
 - E. Nothing should be within 4 feet of the trash receptacles.
 - F. Do *NOT* block a street, alley or sidewalk with bulky items.
 - G. Place items at your regular refuse collection point, not on private property.
3. Recycling: Operation Brightside will be paying *CASH* or you can donate the proceeds to *The Times* for newspapers, glass bottles and jars, and aluminum beverage cans. These recyclable materials will be accepted by the Circus Recycling Center Mobile Unit at Des Peres and Kingsbury and should be handled as such:
 - A. All newspaper must be bundled. (No paper bags.)
 - B. Glass must be separated by color (clear, green, and amber) and free of lids and caps.
 - C. Newspapers must be dry.
 - D. All recyclable material must be at your Regional headquarters for weighing and paying by 4 P.M.
 4. Bags: Operation Brightside will deliver bags to your Area Commander before the Blitz clean-up. Volunteers should pick up bags on Saturday from their Area Commanders.
 5. Food: Hot dogs and soda will be available at the 28th Ward headquarters, 6010 Kingsbury. All volunteers are asked to come and have lunch between Noon and 2:00 P.M.
 6. Wood chips will be available for pick up during your Blitz week at the following Regional location: Region VI Visitation Park at Belt and Cabanne (Recreation Center)

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Spring Concert By Young Singers Of Missouri

The 250 voices of The Young Singers of Missouri will perform Saturday afternoon, May 18, at 4:00 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, Skinker and Waterman. The concert is free of charge, and the public is invited to attend. Featured on the program will be the seven rehearsal units which comprise the Young Singers organization, three of which meet regularly at Grace Methodist on Thursday afternoons. Skinker-DeBaliviere area residents who will be performing on the May 18 concert include Betsy Lowenhaupt, Katie Holt, Elizabeth Judy, Meta Bodewes, Shellie Givens, and Shannon Craft.

Included in the repertoire will be Bach's "Wir Eilen Mit Schwachen"; two settings of "Ave Maria"—the traditional setting by Schubert, and an earlier setting by Gabrieli; "Schon Blumelein," by Schumann; and "Mandoline," by Debussy—all in the original languages, and performed by the combined Advanced Choruses. The Advanced Choruses will also perform three American folk songs—"The Battle of Jericho," "Dance of the One-Legged Sailor," and the well-known setting of "I Bought Me a Cat," by Aaron Copland.

The Missouri Youth Chorale—the high school and college age unit of The Young Singers of Missouri—will perform selections from Brahms' "Liebeslieder Waltzes"; Schubert's "Lebenslust" and "Der Tanz"; "Sure On This Shining Night," by Samuel Barber; and a set of Hungarian folk songs by Matyas Seiber. The concert will also feature a selection of madrigals performed by the Missouri Youth Chorale, who will be dressed in the elegant Elizabethan costumes which have been one of the highlights of their annual Elizabethan Holiday Feastes.

The combined Intermediate Choruses will perform "Der Herr segne euch," by

Bach; Aaron Copland's "Simple Gifts"; folk songs from Africa and Lebanon, and selections by contemporary composers Arthur Frackenpohl and Arlene Ydstie. They will be joined by The Younger Singers—the youngest unit of Young Singers—for selections from "Annie."

This concert is part of the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of The Young Singers of Missouri. Founded on the Lindenwood College campus in 1974 with forty charter members, the Young Singers of Missouri has become an independently chartered non-profit organization which encompasses over 250 singers in seven rehearsal units, drawing the most talented singers from over 90 area schools in five Missouri and Illinois counties. With a stated goal of providing quality musical training through the choral medium, members of The Young Singers of Missouri have had opportunities to perform major works with the St. Louis Symphony, the St. Charles Choral Society and Orchestra, the Bel Canto Chorus, and the Orquestre de la Conservatorio Castella of San Jose, Costa Rica.

International tours have taken Young Singers to Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Romania, Mexico, and Costa Rica. The Missouri Youth Chorale will depart July 7 for this year's tour to Hawaii. The combined Advanced Choruses are planning a trip to the South Pacific in June, 1986.

Directors of The Young Singers of Missouri are Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Greenlaw, Directors of Music at Grace United Methodist Church. Rehearsals will resume in the fall. Membership is by audition, and interested singers are encouraged to apply. For further information, or to schedule an audition appointment, call Dr. or Mrs. Greenlaw, at 946-4579, or 863-1992.

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Charles Gratiot I & II: Significance Forgotten

by Ray Breun

Of the five children of Madame Chouteau, four were by her paramour, Pierre Laclede, after she left her husband, Rene Chouteau, because of his physical abuse. Three were girls, including the youngest, Victoire, who was born on March 3, 1764—less than one month after Laclede founded St. Louis and two months before Madame Chouteau left New Orleans for the trading post her lover said would be a great city. Victoire, at age 17, married Charles Gratiot, twelve years her senior. This marriage was one of the most important alliances the Laclede/Chouteau family cemented as they built their frontier empire.

Born in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1752, Charles Gratiot was the descendant of French Huguenots who had fled Normandy when the Edict of Nantes was revoked by Louis XIV precipitating the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre. Educated in Lausanne and London, and finally entering the fur trade business in Montreal, Charles Gratiot I was witty enough to see the irony in his moving to a trading post named for the line of kings which had persecuted his ancestors in order to marry into a Catholic family with typical French imperial desires. He arrived in Canada in 1769 at the age of 17. Five years later he was part of a trading expedition to Illinois Country where he decided to stay. At this time—1774—the British were the rulers of the eastern half of the continent and the American Revolution was about to start. In 1777, Gratiot I severed all ties with his uncle's business in Montreal and began to support the American cause. He clearly had the anti-royalist strain typical of merchants and entrepreneurs. He befriended George Rogers Clark, assisting him with supplies and funds as well as advice on taking the British forts along the Wabash, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers. About this time he sought aid for the Americans from other French merchants, meeting the Chouteaus from St. Louis in this quest.

It is probable he and Victoire met during these events. Gratiot I moved to St. Louis and married Victoire all in the same year—1781. Until his death in 1817, Gratiot I was one of the most influential and amalgamating forces in St. Louis. He was president of the September, 1804, assembly in St. Louis which directly addressed President Jefferson about the grievances of the citizens of the Louisiana Territory and their aspirations for the future of the country and their lands. He was elected to numerous political positions, traveled extensively throughout

the United States and Europe, and managed to overcome of the animosities prevalent between the French and Americans on the Mississippi frontier. His early death left a vacuum in St. Louis society which was never really filled.

Charles Gratiot I and Victoire Chouteau Gratiot had thirteen children, three dying in infancy. The third child was Charles Gratiot II. Born in 1786, Gratiot II was the first boy born to the couple and clearly had his father's gifts for leadership and learning. He was sent to West Point in 1804 and graduated in 1806. Assigned to the Corps of Engineers, he superintended the construction of numerous forts in the midwest, eventually reaching the rank of Brigadier General and command of the entire Corps.

In the mid-1830s, the Mississippi at St. Louis was cutting a new channel east of the port of St. Louis. Already in 1819, Captain Stephen Long reported in the journal of his expedition into the West that St. Louis was losing the advantage of its river facilities as the river silted up along the shore. With the political clout of Senator Thomas Hart Benton, the city went to Washington for help. General Charles Gratiot II sent one of his brightest young engineers, Lt. Robert E. Lee, to St. Louis with the task of solving the problem at the least cost. In 1837, Lt. Lee proposed a system of dikes from Bloody Island to the Illinois shore. He oversaw the construction of the southern dike which went directly east from the end of the Bloody Island. The second dike, proposed to run north to the Illinois Shore about 2500 feet, was very expensive and the federal government balked at the cost and to further complicate the situation the people of Brooklyn, Illinois, brought out canon to sink the dike-building boats during the process. Eventually St. Louis had to pay the cost, oversee the project, defeat the Illinois interests in court, and save their own riverfront. Lt. Lee was recalled to Washington before the project was finished, but it was finished in exactly the plan he prescribed according to the instructions of General Gratiot.

Charles Gratiot II married Ann Belin of Philadelphia in 1819. They had two daughters, one of whom married the Marquis de Montholon and became a lady of honor of the Empress Carlotta in Mexico. The second daughter married a cousin in the Pierre Chouteau line, Charles Pierre Chouteau, and returned to St. Louis. They named their seventh child Charles Gratiot Chouteau. Charles Gratiot II died in St. Louis in 1868.



Charles Gratiot I

Photo Courtesy Missouri Historical Society

7th Police District To Have Good Samaritan Network

Aid for Victims of Crime, Inc. (AVC) recently announced the kick-off for the development of a Good Samaritan chapter in the Seventh (Union) police district. (A chapter is also being initiated in the Penrose (5th) district.)

The Good Samaritan Network chapters shall consist of residents who complete AVC's volunteer training program and, then, are on-call to help other neighbors recover from the physical, emotional, and financial trauma of victimization. Good Samaritan volunteers provide a variety of neighbor-to-neighbor services—staff AVC's crime victims' Hotline," do emergency home repair following burglaries, provide transportation to home and hospital visits, give criminal justice system guidance, and help victims of violent crimes file claims with the State Victim Compensation Program.

Agencies and institutions serving the areas are invited to join the Network to make their services more accessible to crime victims.

According to Ed Stout, AVC Executive Director, "The purpose of the Network is to involve citizens in creating a community that is more responsive to the needs of crime victims, by preparing neighbors to help one another in time of victimization."

Speakers are available for community, civic, and church groups. To schedule a speaker or to get more information, interested citizens and organizations should call Karriem Abdullah at the AVC office, 531-2597. (The contact for the 5th district is Mae Etta Collier at the North Side Team Ministry, 534-5656.)

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Audience participation is quite big these days. The "sit in and love in" crowd of the 60's has gotten older and while there may be wrinkles, kids, Volvos, and microwaved quiche, participation is still important. We're involved in politics, with our lawn, our kid's education, and "getting in touch with ourselves."

Well, dear reader, once again *In Your Ear* is on the cutting edge. This column is designed for you to participate! No, not the limmerick contest or name the photo caption contest (those will come later). This column, thanks to some hard work by Nordmann Printing Company and a few extra bucks from the *Times*; budget, is written in secret ink. Yep, just like when you were a kid. It's not a terribly difficult ink to make appear (that was possible, but it was much too expensive!).

In what looks like blank space below, you'll actually find my column written in a secret ink. You have to do something to the paper to make the words appear. I'll give you some hints, though: you'll need, among other things, a combination of friction and water. Those two alone won't do the trick, but it doesn't take a great deal more than that. Oh yes, don't worry mum, no dangerous ingredients are necessary. One more final hint: 60 x five. Happy searching. (Don't bother holding it up to the light—that won't help at all. The remainder of the column continues my theme of how the 60's kids have grown up and out.)

Classified

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