

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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NOVEMBER 1985

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Seth & Maryse Carlin To Perform Benefit Concert

In response to a continuing neighborhood need, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) recently established a Home Improvement Loan program. This revolving loan fund will be used to assist eligible neighborhood residents by lending funds at less than market interest rates. Loans will be available to low- and moderate-income homeowners for the maintenance and repair of owner-occupied single- and two-family dwellings. Applications will be given the following order of priority: 1. emergency repairs, 2. code abatement, 3. exterior repairs, and 4. interior repairs.

Although, once established, a revolving fund maintains itself with additional support from private donations and grants, the initial effort to start up such a fund is tremendous. Nancy Farmer, SDCC's executive director, feels that an amount of ten thousand dollars would get the program off to a solid start. By appealing first to the Skinker-DeBaliviere community, area residents have the opportunity to display their commitment to their fellow neighbors as well as to the area's historic housing stock. This grass roots commitment will further SDCC's chance of raising additional funds from businesses and receiving grants. As Nancy said, "fund raising begins at home."

On Nov. 21, a major fund-raising event will be held to kick off the new program. And it will truly be a neighborhood-oriented function.

Skinker-DeBaliviere residents and internationally acclaimed musicians, Seth and Maryse Carlin, will perform a benefit concert at Grace United Methodist Church, Skinker at Waterman, at 8:00 p.m. A reception will follow at a private home. Tickets for the evening are \$25 per person or a Patron package for two may be obtained for \$100. In order to facilitate planning, reservations must be made in advance; no tickets will be available at the door. Please call 862-5122 for information.

Since coming to St. Louis in the late seventies, the Carlins have made a pro-

found impression on the St. Louis music scene as teachers and performers. Seth is associate professor of music at Washington University and conductor of the University's orchestra and Maryse is the instructor of Solfege and Harpsichord at St. Louis Conservatory and School for the Arts (CASA). Whether playing the piano, or in Maryse's case—the harpsichord, or for Seth—the fortepiano, whether as a soloists or, more rarely, together as a duo, the performances of Seth and Maryse Carlin are described as "spellbinding," "ravishing," and displaying "unusual warmth and volume." In addition, the artists are praised for their technique, sense of style, preparation, and sensitive interpretations. Seth has performed with the St. Louis Symphony and the Boston Pops, and was a special guest of the government of the Peoples Republic of China. Maryse has appeared in concert throughout the United States including a well-received performance at Carnegie Recital Hall. She played with the St. Louis Chamber Orchestra and three other harpsichordists at Powell Hall Saturday, Oct. 19 in unusual concert of all harpsichord pieces.

The Carlin's are also leaders in a revival of early instruments—their reproduction, their contribution to original pieces, and their role in contemporary composition. Maryse is one of only 39 harpsichordists listed in the 1985 *Index to Musical America* (as compared to a list of over 500 pianists). Seth's specialization—the fortepiano (the precursor to the modern piano)—is even more rare. Through their performances with these rare instruments as well as commissioning two recital pieces, the Carlins bring to the public a heightened awareness and appreciation of the eighteenth and early nineteenth original nuances and tones.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood is profoundly honored that these outstanding artists are donating their talents for this important benefit.



Seth and Maryse Carlin

## Eden Seminary Brueggemann To Lecture At Grace Methodist

Grace United Methodist Church, has announced that the honored guest lecturer for the 5th anniversary Hager Endowed Lecture Series, November 17-18 will be Dr. Walter Brueggemann of Eden Seminary. This distinguished lectureship honors the long ministry of Wesley and Charlotte Hager at the church. Former lecturers include Dr. Ernest Campbell, Dr. Peggy Way, Ambassador Moorehead Kennedy, and Dr. Huston Smith.

For this, his last formal address before leaving St. Louis for a new academic appointment, Dr. Brueggemann has chosen

the theme "When Faith Permits Sight." At 11 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17, he will preach at Grace United Methodist Church at Skinker and Waterman on "Eye-Exercises for the Kingdom." At 3 p.m. he will lecture on "The High Price of Newness." Dr. James Laue, professor of sociology at UMSL will moderate a question and discussion session. The St. Louis community is invited to attend either or both sessions and to join members of the Grace Church family in a harvest potluck following the morning worship service. Please call the church office at 863-1992 for more information.

A conversation with Dr. Brueggemann on shifts in Old Testament scholarship will follow a continental breakfast at the church on Monday, Nov. 18 at 8 a.m. This session is open to both clergy and lay persons. For reservations call 863-1992.

Dr. Brueggemann holds advanced degrees from Eden Seminary, Union Seminary in New York, and St. Louis University. He lectures across the country and is the author of many articles and books, including *Genesis*, *The Prophetic Imagination*, and *The Message of Psalms*.

**School  
Bond Issue  
Commentary**

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## Commentary

# School Bond Issue Endorsed By Mayor

The past several years have been extremely difficult for the St. Louis Public Schools. Caught in the grips of federal court-ordered desegregation, pressed by a shrinking tax base in the City, and faced with declining enrollment, the schools have experienced a period of serious decline. Test scores reached an all-time low, discipline and attendance problems grew, and morale within the school system plummeted.

And during this time, instead of reaching out to the people of St. Louis to seek their assistance and support, the school system in many ways withdrew and isolated itself.

Perhaps the most serious mistake that was made during these years is that the school system allowed the people of St. Louis to drift away. Frankly, people lost confidence in the schools and withheld their support both financially and emotionally. They "voted with their feet" as they withdrew their children from the system, and, in many cases, they left the City to live in a suburban school district in which they had confidence.

Over the past two years under the determined leadership of Dr. Jerome Jones and the efforts of a dedicated School Board the St. Louis Public Schools are "making a comeback" that is very impressive.

The curriculum has been completely revised and teachers and principals are being held accountable for the progress of their students. The quality of instruction in the classroom is once again the focal point of the school system. Already this new insistence on performance is showing results. Last spring test scores rose dramatically to their highest point in ten years and this fall, when the new school year began, 160 teachers were not re-hired because of inadequate performance. In addition, 25 percent of the high school principals were replaced.

Things are still a long way from perfect and it will require the concerted effort of every element in our community for a long time to complete the process of improving education, but at least we have begun and I'm convinced we are making real progress.

My long term goals for the St. Louis school system are to remove the federal courts from the operation of our schools, to return us to a more logical neighborhood centered educational system, and to develop additional standards within the system that will make us competitive with any school system in the St. Louis area. That is a tall order, there is a lot to be done, and whenever one is tackling such a big job you have to do it one step at a time.



Dr. Jones has begun by establishing new curriculums, new teacher requirements, and demanding accountability in the classroom. Now the next step that needs to be addressed is the physical condition of the schools.

St. Louis has not passed a bond issue for our schools since 1962 and as a result they have deteriorated badly. We cannot expect students to do their best in a classroom that is dingy, poorly lit or otherwise physically deficient. Common sense tells us that we have got to invest in the buildings in which our children attend school and the longer we delay the more expensive it will become because the buildings are continuing to deteriorate. But, most importantly, by solving the problems of the buildings we will free Dr. Jones and the members of the School Board from this problem and allow them to concentrate their efforts on further improving the quality of education in the classroom.

Therefore, I am writing to ask for your support of the School Bond Issue which will be on the ballot Tuesday, November 5, 1985. This \$155 million bond issue will allow the school system to repair all 127 school buildings and it will allow us to construct two new schools to replace the old Gauleyette School for the Deaf and the Elias Michael School for the Physically Handicapped. While this is a large Bond Issue, its passage will allow us to address the needs of the school buildings in a comprehensive manner. We will not be coming back time after time looking for tax increases for the school buildings and it will allow us to fix the schools in every neighborhood instead of making some schools wait in uncertainty.

This proposal will require a tax increase of 90-cents per \$100 valuation. But quality education, which is the very foundation of the American way of life, is not free. This proposal will cost the average St. Louis residential property owner \$54 per year. For Senior Citizens living on modest incomes, a significant portion of the increase will be rebated back to the taxpayer through the Circuit Breaker Law. I believe we cannot afford to ignore our schools any longer.

I believe that St. Louisans are willing to pay for education if they have confidence in their school system and if they feel certain that the money is being well spent. I believe we are well on the way in re-establishing that confidence in our school system and a Citizens's Bond Issue Review Committee has been formed to oversee the expenditure of these bond funds to assure their appropriate and judicious expenditure. I realize that new paint and plaster alone will not improve the education in our schools. But I am asking you to support this Bond Issue because I firmly believe that other critical improvements in the quality of the schools are already underway and we need this Bond Issue to take the next step in further improving our schools.

St. Louis is coming back strong but we will not be the kind of City that each of us wants it be . . . proud, strong, and vibrant . . . until we have a school system that can compete with any in the St. Louis area. This is my vision for our City and our schools. I hope you share it and can help us achieve it by voting YES on Tuesday, November 5.

—Vincent C. Schoemehl, Jr.  
Mayor, City of St. Louis

## The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Katie Kurtz, 727-6377

Business Manager: Jane Geer, 721-8584

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

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### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

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

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

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

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

Send all correspondence to 6016 Washington. Deadline: 15th of the month.

## Guild Endorses Seat Belt Law

Dry Cleaners Guild of Missouri joins the National Safety Council in endorsing a nationwide seat belt promotion instituted by the drycleaning industry last month. The campaign highlights posters that say: "DRESS UP and then BUCKLE UP, Your Professional Dry-cleaners CARES About You," which is being displayed in Dry Cleaners Guild of Missouri member drycleaning stores locally, and others across the nation.

Since the campaign began, it has been applauded by many political offices and state and national organizations, including the National Safety Council.

The National Safety Council has its own continuous promotion to encourage seat

belt usage and they are pleased to join the Dry Cleaners Guild of Missouri in the drycleaning industry's promotion, which helps to reduce injuries and save lives.

The National Safety Council points out that more than 12,000 of the 44,600 people killed in 1983 would have been saved if they had been wearing seat belts.

The National Clothesline, a leading drycleaning publication which instituted this seat belt promotion, with help from the Dry Cleaners Guild of Missouri and other associations nationwide, is hoping that other industries will establish similar promotions to increase safety awareness.

# November Calendar

- 1 St. Louis Art Museum, "Arms & Armor from the Collection, Gallery 210 (thru 12/1).  
Missouri Historical Society continuing exhibitions include: "That Peculiar Institution: Slavery in Pre-Civil War St. Louis," "Francis P. Blair, Jr.: Statesman and Soldier," Elephantine prints from Bien edition of John James Audubon's "Birds of America," Victorian handwork from the Society's permanent collection, and photographs from the Block Brothers Collection. Tues.-Sun., 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Free.
- 2 St. Roch's Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Church Hall, Waterman and Rosedale.  
Holy Roman Repertory Company presents "The Life and Opinions of Eleanor of Aquitaine," Drama Studio, Mallinckrodt Center, Washington University, 2 p.m. (\$3 admission) and 8 p.m. (\$5 admission), 721-7484 for information.
- 3 "Art Exposed II," Studio tour and exhibition with music, dance & crafts, 1-5 p.m., parking and shuttle service from 5696 Kingsbury at DeBaliviere, free.  
"Collecting Chinese Art: A Survey of the International Market," lecture by James Lally, St. Louis Art Museum Auditorium, 2:30 p.m., free.  
"Tom Benton in the '30s," a slide lecture by Prof. James Bogan, Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Bldg., 2 p.m., free (see related article).
- 4 Book Fair at New City School, 5209 Waterman at Lake; 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., 361-6411 for information (see related article).  
Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meets, 6195 Washington, 7:30 p.m.  
"AIDS: An Issue for Everyone; Sorting Fact from Fiction," lecture and question & answer period presented by Changing Men, 7:30 p.m., 6665 Delmar, Suite #302, free. Call 725-6116 for information.
- 5 Preschool Story Hour, 10 a.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free. (Also 11/12, 11/19 & 11/26.)
- 7 William Davie of OIC will talk on free vocational training opportunities for young adults, 3:30 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free.
- 8 Missouri Historical Society Museum Shop opens with holiday bazaar items, thru Christmas, Jefferson Memorial Building, 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m., Tues-Sun.  
James Stewart Retrospective, "Bell, Book and Candle," Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 p.m.; \$2; \$1 for Friends.  
Mustard Seed Festival, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman (west of Kingshighway). Rummage sale, plant sale, and more; food available. (Also 11/9).
- 9 "Scouting for Food," St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America Good Turn Project distribution of food collection bags to private homes (see related article).
- 10 Tom Benton of Missouri series, "Ballads of Missouri," concert with Bob Dyer at Missouri Historical Society, 2 p.m., free.  
David Carkeet to read from his newly released book, *I Been There Before*, University City Public Library, 6701 Delmar, 3 p.m. Tickets, \$5 (\$2 for students or seniors), 727-3150 for information.
- 12 Washington Heights Neighbors meet, Hamilton Community School, 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Children's Book Week crafts: making pop-up book puppets, 4 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free, 367-0717 for information.
- 15 James Stewart Retrospective, "Anatomy of a Murder," Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 p.m.; \$2; \$1 for Friends.  
Michael Newman and Laura Oltman, classical guitar duo in concert, Graham Chapel, Washington University, 8 p.m.; admission \$8; \$5 seniors and students. (Also 11/16 at the Ethical Society, 9001 Ladue Road, same time and ticket prices.)
- 16 "Scouting for Food," collection from private homes of filled food donation bags previously distributed by local Scouts (see related article).  
*A Frontier Christmas*, a program for children about the original holiday traditions of the French settlers in the St. Louis area, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Building, free.  
Lecture/demonstration, "Original Literature and Transcription for Two Guitars," by Michael Newman & Laura Oltman, classical guitar duo, 1-3 p.m., Webster University, Music Dept. recital hall, \$5 general admission.
- 17 Tom Benton of Missouri series continues with "Public Art and Political Furor," slide lecture by Bob Priddy, Missouri Historical Society auditorium, 2 p.m., free.  
"Money Management after 65," seminar sponsored by the University Public Library (6701 Delmar), 2:30 p.m. in the library auditorium. Reservations requested, 727-3150.
- 20 "Currents 30: Jasper Johns," Gallery 111, St. Louis Art Museum. Thru 1/05/86.
- 21 Skinker-DeBaliviere Business Association luncheon and meeting; time and place to be announced or call 862-5122 for information.  
Benefit concert by Seth and Maryse Carlin at Grace Methodist Church, Skinker at Waterman, 8 p.m. (See related article.)
- 22 "100 Years of St. Louis Advertising, 1880s to 1980s," opens at Missouri Historical Society, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Tues-Sun.  
James Stewart Retrospective, "The Man Who Shot Liberty Vengeance," Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 p.m.; \$2; \$1 for Friends.
- 23 Red Cross Bloodmobile, co-sponsored by Grace United Methodist Church and St. Roch's Catholic Church in Grace Methodist's Fellowship Hall, Skinker and Waterman, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 23 Christmas in the Victorian Era, a program for children featuring German customs; 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Missouri Historical Society, free.
- 26 "The Prints of Edouard Manet," this exhibition of 75 prints is the first retrospective of the artist's graphic work in the U.S. Cohen Gallery, St. Louis Art Museum, thru 1/05/86.

The Saint Louis Symphony Society and Mark Twain Banks present

## Chamber Music St. Louis

1985-1986 Season

Monday, November 4, 8:00 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church  
6199 Waterman at Skinker

Join members of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra for an intimate evening of music for small ensembles and solo instruments, including:

**KHACHATURIAN** Trio for Clarinet, Violin and Piano  
**HAYDN** "Quinteri" String Quartet  
**WILLIAM SCHUMAN** In Sweet Music  
**DVORAK** "Dumky" Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano

General admission: \$6  
Students: \$3.50 (ID required, 2 tickets per ID)

Tickets available at the Powell Hall box office, 718 N. Grand; area outlets; or by calling 534-1700 to charge on MasterCard or Visa. Toll-free 1-800-231-1880 in Missouri; 1-800-232-1880 in Illinois. Tickets available at Grace Church after 6:00 p.m. on performance night.

*Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra*

Leonard Slatkin, Music Director and Conductor

## Scouting For Food

by Mary Gloia

On two successive Saturdays in November, the St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America will launch a food collection drive to alleviate the increasingly serious problem of hunger in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Saturday, Nov. 9, Scouts will distribute food collection bags to private homes within the St. Louis Area Council boundaries. These bags will carry instructions on the types of food needed—goods that can be stored and distributed easily without concern of spoilage.

The following Saturday—Nov. 16—Scouts will return to the same homes to pick up the donation bags and take them to designated fire stations (thanks to the Firechief's Association). From the fire stations, trucks provided by the Army Reserve will distribute the goods to Food Crisis Network, Catholic Charities, and Operation Food Search. These agencies will then distribute the food to the needy.



Hunger is NOT a growling stomach when you come home from work or school, and you need a snack to tide you over until suppertime. Real hunger is pain. And too many people suffer from that pain day after day, not just in the distant corners of Africa, but right here in our own local communities.

During their 75th Anniversary year, the local Boy Scouts (Troop 98 at St. Rochs Church) and Cub Scouts (Pack 31 at Grace United Methodist Church) want to demonstrate one of the major segments of the Scout Oath: "To help other people at all times." They are hoping you will want to help, too. All food that they collect here in the city of St. Louis, will STAY in the city of St. Louis. The Scouts will be seeing you in November! Please try to be generous.

# Theatre Project Company Celebrates 11th Year With Flair

by Sue Greenberg

In her *Post-Dispatch* review of our latest production, *EXTREMITIES*, Judy Newmark wrote, "in all the excitement over the marvelous renaissance of Union Station, it's worth pausing to say happy birthday to Theatre Project Company, the troupe that performed in the cold, abandoned terminal back when people said, 'the play is where?'"

This is our eleventh season. During our four years in Union Station (1977-81), we established an identity as St. Louis's Off-Broadway theatre, known for fine acting, imaginative directing, and innovative play selection. Shows like *LENNY*, *SEXUAL PERVERSITY IN CHICAGO*, and *CATCH-22* played to standing room only crowds in our intimate 150-seat theatre. We had the hottest ticket in town.

But the good old days were not always so good. I lived in constant fear that one cold winter night a rat would decide to go downstairs just as the audience was coming upstairs into our lobby—the Grand Hall. At Union Station our scenic artists were frustrated by the limitations of our 20' x 20' stage, our directors were tired of telling our actors to stand with their backs to the pillars which framed the stage, and our increased enrollment in Saturday classes for children necessitated twice as much teaching space. Besides, our audience deserved adequate heat and restrooms.

When we left Union Station "because they were going to do a little work there," we were riding high and full of hope. We even called our first season on the road (1981-82) "a moveable feast."

We opened with *SCAPINO!*, the first of four outdoor productions at the Missouri Botanical Garden. In October, the late Harold Koplak gave us the Lyn Theatre in Grand Center.

The next season put us on the national map. Our subscription brochure had advertised that we would be producing "another new play—one of the most controversial plays of the decade—*BENT*." But the controversy wasn't fueled by Martin Sherman's explosive play about homosexuals in Nazi Germany. Instead it centered on Christopher Durang's satire on Catholic education—*SISTER MARY IGNATIUS EXPLAINS IT ALL FOR YOU*.

Although no one believed us, we were surprised by the uproar. Really surprised. It was the sleeper January comedy, not a careful plot to increase the box office sales. Our surprise turned to exhilaration.

"That year was fabulous, incredibly wonderful," said Fontaine Syer in a recent

*Globe-Democrat* interview. "Let's sell some tickets and be on the front page. The next year, we almost lost the ship. Part of it was the mental attitude of the people who worked here. The controversy was invigorating. After it was over, we were exhausted."

When the *SISTER MARY* dust settled, our loyal audience found us in residence at the New City School, 5209 Waterman, in the Central West End.

This season, in addition to *EXTREMITIES*, we're producing four Mainstage plays: *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* based on the novel by Harper Lee, November 15-December 8; *ARTICHOKE* by Joanna M. Glass, January 17-February 2; *A DELICATE BALANCE* by Edward Albee, February 21-March 9; and *A FROG IN HIS THROAT* freely adapted from Georges Feydeau by Eric Conger, April 4-27.

"Our Mainstage plays are very different in story, style, and structure," said Syer, "but fundamentally, they are all about people making choices, deciding what kind of people they will be."

In addition to the Mainstage series, the Project offers professional acting classes for adults, the most comprehensive theatre education program in the Midwest through The Mundy/Student Theatre Project, and an innovative audience participation program called *BACKSTAGE/ONSTAGE*.

"*BACKSTAGE/ONSTAGE* is actually three very different, very new opportunities, to expand both the boundaries of the live theatre experience and our company's relationship with the audience," said Syer. The series began with new play readings and will continue with *TOP 40 TERROR*, a hilarious one-act about terrorism and the media by company member Tim Hendrixson (December 26-29) and in mid-March, the *PERFORMERS' FESTIVAL* will showcase actors competing for cash prizes.

"Looking ahead," said Diane M. Holt, the Company's new General Manager, "we need to reach out and get our message to a larger part of our community. If we're able to expand our base of support, we'll have greater potential for creativity. And we'll be in a better position to secure a permanent home—I think it's important that people know that we don't plan to be at New City forever. What it's really about is getting our message out—the artistic vision that Fontaine has—out to the people."

Sue Greenberg was the Project's Production Stage Manager from 1977-1985.



During September, the St. Louis Public Library sponsored a Mystery Writing Contest for children in grades fourth through eighth. Students used pictures as inspiration for mystery stories which were to be 500 words in length. The Kingsbury Kiosk had two honorable mentions and one winner. From left to right: Eddy O'Neill, honorable mention; Mary Ann Shickman, Kiosk librarian; Brigid McCarthy, winner of Public Library Mystery Writing Contest; and Hilary Hitchcock, honorable mention.

## Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

As in the past few months, comings and goings are dominating the news of the neighborhood.

David and Susan Fay and their daughter, Miranda, are new to the 6100 block of Kingsbury. David is the new executive director of the Fox Theater, The Fays come from Joliet, Illinois, where David was the executive director of the Will County Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority. He was featured in a front-page article in the Oct. 3rd *West End Word*. Susan is the new company manager for the Mid-American Dance Company.

A new resident on 6000 McPherson, Carla Mash, comes to the Skinker-DeBaliviere area also from Illinois—Downers Grove, and more recently from Edwardsville where her family lives. Carla is a teacher at New City School.

A few familiar faces will no longer be with us in the neighborhood and they will be missed. Rich Akers, formerly of 6100 Pershing, recently hosted a housewarming in his new residence on Castleman in the Shaw neighborhood. Rich was active as the block captain on Pershing.

Nan and Bill Thomas and their family moved last month from their home in the 6100 block of McPherson to their new home in Savannah, Georgia. A going-away party was held for them and some of their friends and neighbors on Oct. 12 at St. Roch's Church Hall. Although we will miss the Thomases, we welcome Ron Nurnberg who purchased their house.

Nancy Cohen and her children moved recently to Ladue. The Cohens were also from 6100 McPherson.

In the last few months, so many new names have been added to the list of residents, I may have neglected to mention

some of the old familiar names that are no longer with us. Here are some: the McPherrons, the Dicks, the Greggs, the Lindleys, and Allan Mense and Ramona Stelford, to name a few.

Cal and Gee Stuart, 6100 Kingsbury, were able to take some time off from their thriving business—McPherson Management—to take a vacation. This was a very special trip because it was not only a spur-of-the-moment 25th anniversary celebration, but also because it was the first time in eight years that they were able to go away without their children. They flew off to New England where they rented a car, and driving 1600 miles, visited Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. Some of the highlights of the trip were visiting Boston where they both had attended college, staying at an old farmhouse in Maine and in an old inn in Martha's Vineyard.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council held a reception in October honoring Esther Herron, 5800 DeGiverville. Esther was the bookkeeper and the Council for a number of years.

David Clewell has a new position at Webster University. David is an assistant professor of creative writing. He lives in the 6100 block of Pershing.

Our deepest condolences to James and Ruth Irwin, 6100 McPherson. Their son, Jimmy, was killed last month in a fall from a ladder while painting their house.

Neighbors were pleased to hear that Narnie Rosenthal, 6100 McPherson, is back home with her family and doing well following a recent hospital stay. Narnie was hospitalized for a broken hip.

And finally, for my good friend Jeanne Katzman, who so much wanted to be mentioned in my article... this one's for you.

# Mustard seed festival

BOUTIQUE & FLEA MARKET  
9 AM to 5 PM  
fri. and sat. - Nov. 8 & 9  
1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian Church - 5007 Waterman (Just West of Kingshighway)

13<sup>th</sup> Annual

TOYS and GAMES

PLANTS

crafts and Gifts

Food

clowns and face painting

Christmas items

books records and art

parking nursery fast food

fresh BAKERY GOODS

Proceeds benefit Joint Community Ministries Neighborhood Programs

# October Council Report

*(Editor's Note: This report of the October SDCC meeting was written by Paul Kurtz who is a member of the Council representing Rosedale's north side and also the husband of the editor—and if anyone is paying attention to this issue, you will note that Paul has been drafted into service for more than one I-don't-have-anyone-else-to-write-it article. The Times needs someone to volunteer on a regular basis to cover the Council meetings and write a brief but informative report. The Council meets the first Monday of the month. Please call me at 727-6377 if you would like to help.)*

The October meeting of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council was held on October 7 and featured several items of interest to area residents.

The Council first welcomed its new secretary, Susan Stevenson, who will provide much needed support to our executive director, Nancy Farmer. Susan, a German teacher by profession was a resident of our community while attending Washington University and now resides in the Murphy-Blair neighborhood. We certainly welcome Susan to the office.

Rose Flynn reported that she has made contact with a husband/wife consulting team who conduct seminars in the area of self defense. The seminars deal with various techniques for situations involving assaults, robbery, and other street crimes and has gained national attention. Rose will be looking into the possibility of bringing the seminar to our area. The cost is around \$2,000 and outside funding will be necessary. Anyone interested in helping Rose with this project should contact the Community Council.

The Safety Committee reported that there are still a number of residences which do not have working porchlights. The Council is investigating the possibility of hiring an electrician to do needed repairs with funds from the Loretta Reinhardt Trust. Residents wishing further information should contact the Council office.

A memorial fund has been established by Bethel Lutheran Church in the name of Jim Irwin, a neighborhood resident who recently died in an accident at his home. The proceeds of this fund will be used for capital improvements and education. Interested parties should contact Bethel Lutheran Church at 863-3111 for more details.

There has been an accepted proposal to donate the terra-cotta angels to Pantheon Corporation for use inside the mall at the DeBaliviere Arcade. This will allow the display of the angels and still provide adequate protection for these artifacts from weather and vandalism.

"Art Exposed," an event sponsored by the West End Arts Council, will take place on Nov. 3 from 1 to 5 p.m. Eleven galleries and five studios plus two groups showings will be open throughout the West End. A free shuttle bus will run throughout the afternoon leaving from the Marlborough Building at 5696 Kingsbury at DeBaliviere. Parking and refreshments will be available.

The Community Council has reapplied for a grant from NAP for a home improvement grant. The state-run program permits non-profit organizations to obtain funds from profit-making corporations for low interest loans. Interested parties wanting more information should contact the Council office.

The Council regretfully accepted the resignation of their long-time bookkeeper, Esther Herron. A reception was held after the meeting in her honor and Esther has given a plaque in recognition of her many years of service to the Council and the community. She will remain in the neighborhood and will continue to serve the area. Again, Esther, your talents will be sorely missed.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council is located in the Delmar Baptist Church building, 6195 Washington Avenue; telephone number is 862-5122. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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# Window On Washington Heights: Insights Valuable To All

by Rose Flynn

An Operation Safestreet Neighborhood Watch meeting was held Sept. 12 at our home in the 5900 block of Pershing. It was a successful one, and for the benefit of those who have not yet attended a block meeting, I wanted to share a few related thoughts. The turnout was good, due to the help of a few enthusiastic neighbors who helped spread the word around; and of course, it's always nice to see a few new faces.

Our guest that night was Mary Furst, a neighborhood liaison official from City Hall. She gave us some statistical information on crime and crime prevention in Skinker-DeBaliviere. The incidents of robberies, assaults, and car thefts were way down this year as opposed to last year, and that's good news. We can't say the same about burglaries and acts of larceny, however. So, it's important that we tighten up the neighborhood network now that winter and the holiday season are right around the corner.

A new City Service, called the Citizen's Complaint Bureau, was also described by Ms. Furst. This Bureau consists of ten operators at City Hall who will take your questions and complaints, assign a work order number to the problem, and send it on to the right department for action. It will make for more efficient communication between the citizen and City Hall. The telephone number is 622-4800.

The neighbors all agreed that it had been a fairly quiet summer on the block. No major crime incidents reported—which brought up an important related point. Any crime, however "minor," should be reported. This includes stolen batteries, vandalism, etc., the type of crime nobody expects to be solved. Ms. Furst stressed that the police are much more effective in dealing with this type of residential crime when they have correct, documented information.

What made this meeting so successful,

I think, was the fact that we came out of it with some important resolutions. We agreed to hold two meetings a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Our aim will be to have at least one member of each household in attendance. We agreed to "talk it up" and publicize the meeting among our immediate neighbors as soon as the final date is set. After the meeting, I will see that any neighbor who could not attend gets the information that was presented.

My personal contribution to the conversation included a reminder about porch lights. Again, winter is right around the corner, folks, and the number of residential burglaries rises in the winter. A street full of light definitely sends a discouraging message to anyone who may be lurking around. A tight neighborhood network is our best defense against crime.

Other topics, such as the neighborhood parade on National Night Out, August 13, were discussed. Next year it'll be even bigger and better, we all agreed! For problems like noise at night, barking dogs, and litter in the alleys, the general consensus was that nothing beats plain and simple conversation. The neighbor-to-neighbor approach is really the most reasonable and effective way to solve some of these typical but annoying urban problems.

So, for the investment of about an hour and a half's worth of time, we got to hear some rather encouraging statistics on the neighborhood, meet a few more of our neighbors, and drink some very tasty punch, (if I do say so myself!).

The Neighborhood Watch concept is a good one. In city neighborhoods where houses are close together and yards are small, we will all feel a lot happier and more secure when we know who our neighbors are. Block meetings are an ideal way to learn some new names, pool information and ideas, have your say and listen to others have theirs. A big thank you to the people who showed so much support. We'll do it again in the spring.



Many neighbors may have noticed that the Pasta House on DeBaliviere has closed. The building is being remodeled and will re-open as "Redel's" in mid-November. John Rice (pictured above) is a co-owner with Lee Redel. Both men have years of restaurant experience with other establishments (Rice with Country Cupboard and Redel with Balaban's.) As well as a restaurant, there will be a full-service bar. We welcome them to the neighborhood and wish them well.

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## Illinoistown

by Ray Breun

On April 1, 1861, the city we call East St. Louis took the essential geographic shape it has today. The citizens of two communities, Illinoistown and East St. Louis, voted on that date to merge into one city and adopted the name of East St. Louis. In fact, Illinoistown had been in existence since 1817; whereas, the upstart East St. Louis had only been platted in 1859—two years after the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad connected the river with the Atlantic.

Early writers who came to St. Louis by land from the east commented on the beauty of the western shore as they prepared to take Wiggins Ferry across the Mississippi. One of the reasons it looked so attractive was the apparent grimness of the eastern shore. From the Mississippi to the escarpment leading up from the American Bottoms was a distance of nearly 12 miles. Much of it flooded every year, the bottoms was largely swamp and deserted Indian mounds. The Cahokia Creek was known for its odor as it crossed the bottoms to enter the river just across from Mill Creek on the western shore. To reach the ferry to St. Louis, the traveler had to cross Cahokia Creek. Illinoistown was platted on both sides of this creek. Henry Schoolcraft described the village as anything but attractive in 1821. It would be forty years before it really started to become something.

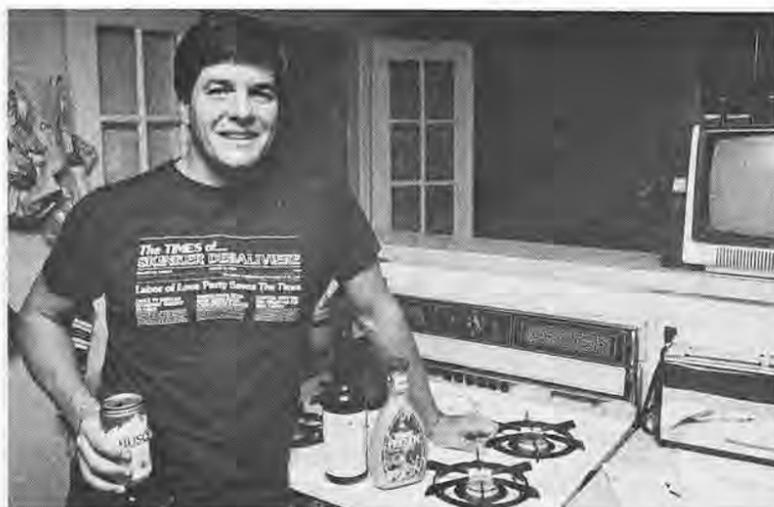
Whereas St. Louis grew because of the river, Illinoistown grew when the railroads came in 1857. By 1837, there were maybe a dozen families living along the Cahokia Creek where the ferry road lead the way to the trip to St. Louis. First laid out by John McKnight and Thomas Brady, it was not even a pleasant overnight stop until after the Civil War. The town grew in the 1840s as St. Louis grew. Most of the produce and virtually all the coal for the west bank came through Illinoistown to take the ferry over the river. What businesses there were serviced the transportation of goods to the western shore.

The Ohio and Mississippi Railroad changed all that only in so far as it brought another kind of transportation vehicle to be serviced in addition to coaches, wagons, and ferries. It was large-

ly St. Louis money which paid for the railroad from Indiana to Illinoistown across the Illinois prairie. When the rails from the Atlantic to the Mississippi were completed in 1857, a number of developments were spurred along adjacent to Illinoistown. The largest of these was platted in 1859 and called East St. Louis. On land originally owned in part by John Jacob Astor, four men—Samuel Barlow, Henry Chauncey, William Aspinwall, and Samuel Comstock—held title to the lands involved. Two years later, the residents of Illinoistown voted with those of East St. Louis to merge their communities and name the final product East St. Louis. Four years later, 1865, another election featured an attempt to rename the city St. Clair after the first governor at Kaskaskia in 1790, Arthur St. Clair. The decision was to stay with East St. Louis, and there it has remained to this day.

The forty-four years of Illinoistown, 1817 to 1861, demonstrate the effect of geography upon the commercial and residential development of urban areas. St. Louis, built on a limestone bluff overlooking the river, developed and grew while its eastern neighbor was almost washed away by the very same river. The American Bottoms, fertile but unprotected from the power of the river, held risk for any who lived there. Yet it was these residents who won and held the monopoly on the river ferriage at St. Louis. It was they who wanted to bridge the river; and it was they who first brought the railroad to St. Louis signaling the end to the steamboat era. St. Louis eventually turned away from the river and abandoned its riverfront until the Arch brought tourism as a growth industry to recall the romantically nostalgic steamboat days. By that time, the railroad yards of East St. Louis were as derelict as the wharfs of downtown St. Louis. As the riverfront rebuilds, it is clear the east bank will have to also rebuild. The two shores, separated by a common river and a common language, are really one to anyone visiting either bank of the river. Perhaps this would be more obvious if East St. Louis had been called Missouri town—particularly since its major tasks have always been to act as the front door to St. Louis.

## Macho Menus: Flank Steak Supreme



*(Editor's Note: A little more than two years ago, the Macho Menu column was introduced and since has been a tremendous success. That first column was written by the same chef who brings you Flank Steak Supreme, and while you first thought may be that the editor is trying to promote her husband's cooking and his charming face, you are mistaken. The editor's husband just happened to be sitting around watching the baseball game, when the realization came that The Times has run out of volunteers to write the column. We need new writers—if the column is to continue. So, please contact me at 727-6377 if you want to be forever immortalized in print and around your neighbors' waistlines.)*

by Paul Kurtz

While watching the Cards-LA series, all I could think of was Red and my first thought was of flank steak, an old favorite of mine requiring some advance preparation which is definitely worth the effort.

At least 24 hours before serving, you

need to assemble enough flank steak to more than adequately feed your planned number (4 to 6 ounces per person) and enough of a mixture of bottled French dressing and either sherry or burgundy wine to cover the steak(s). The French dressing/wine mixture should be on a 2 to 1 ratio.

The flank steak should marinate at least 24 hours and longer, if possible. During the marinating process it is also helpful to turn the steaks and puncture them liberally with a fork to allow further penetration by the marinade.

The actual cooking time is 10 to 15 minutes in the broiler. Be sure to line your broiler with aluminum foil so you can broil the steaks in the marinade. Medium rare to rare steaks are really ideal for this recipe and the steak juices combined with the marinade create a very tasty sauce.

Try to slice the flank steaks on the diagonal as thin as possible and cover the slices of steak liberally with the sauce, serving immediately.

This entree goes especially well with green beans, a salad, some wild rice, and, of course, a nice bottle of red wine.

## Annual Blood Drive

The Annual Red Cross Bloodmobile, co-sponsored by Grace United Methodist Church and St. Roch's Catholic Church, will be held on Sat., Nov. 23 in Grace Methodist's Fellowship Hall, Skinker and Waterman from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Red Cross has discontinued blood collection at

the Lindell office on a regular schedule, so this will be the most convenient site for donors in the area.

Mark your calendars now for November 23; support the Blood Drive. For information, call Gloria Broun, 727-7285, Lisa Horner, 863-0947 or Dorothy Dolan, 726-1571.

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## Authors To Sign Books At New City Book Fair



Novelist Ellen Matthews displays copy of her latest children's book, *Debugging Rover*, to New City sixth graders Chris Stuffle and James Kim.

The annual New City School Book Fair will feature an autograph signing session by St. Louis authors Ellen Matthews, David Carkeet, and Dan Monti.

Ellen Matthews, New City sixth grade teacher and novelist, will be introducing her fourth children's book, *Debugging Rover*, published by Dodd, Mead & Co., which describes the misadventures of a family whose house is run by a computer inhabited by a runaway gerbil!

UMSL professor and novelist David Carkeet will sign copies of his three novels, *Double Negative*, *The Greatest Slump of All Time*, and his latest book, *I Been There Before*. Carkeet's new novel describes what happens when not only Halley's Comet but also Mark Twain re-

appear from November 1985 to April 1986.

Dan Monti, a professor at UMSL, will be signing copies of his new book, *A Semblance of Justice*, published by University of Missouri Press, a book about the St. Louis desegregation case.

The Book Fair will be held during the week of Nov. 4 through Nov. 8 with hours from 8:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the school which is located at 5209 Waterman in the Central West End.

The three authors will autograph copies of their books on Wed., Nov. 6, from 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Books purchased at other times may be left to be autographed.

For more information, call 361-6411.

## Historical Society Presents Tom Benton Series

"I paint murals because I can include more stuff in them," said Thomas Hart Benton (1889-1975), who is known for his works depicting American historical themes using hard line, bright colors and strong three-dimensional effects. "Tom Benton of Missouri," a musical and lecture series about the artist, will be presented at the Missouri Historical Society on three succeeding Sundays, Nov. 3, 10 and 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park.

James Bogan, associate professor of art at the University of Missouri-Rolla, will open the series with a slide-lecture, "Tom Benton in the '30s," on Nov. 3. In this presentation, Prof. Bogan will introduce Benton's friends, theories, and paintings from the turbulent decade of the thirties and will discuss his maverick positions on art, politics, and history which managed to defy those in power and please the multitudes.

The following Sunday, Nov. 9, Bob Dyer will sing ballads of Missouri, provid-

ing a musical documentary for Benton's spacious panoramas presenting American history. Songs like "River of the Big Canoes" and "Jesse James" will evoke the landscape and the characters seen in Benton's paintings. Bob Dyer, who teaches English at the Kemper Military School in Boonville, has recorded songs about Missouri folk figures on his recent album, "River of the Big Canoes."

In his slide-lecture, "Public Art and Political Furor," Bob Priddy will use radio recordings and tell of the outrage, hullabaloo, and controversy that greeted the mural, "The Social History of the State of Missouri," when Benton finished it in 1936. Priddy's broadcast vignettes of Missouri history have been gathered into a book, *Across the Wide Missouri*.

There is no admission charge to the hour-long programs. 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.

## Esther Herron Honored



From left: Jim McLeod; Esther Herron; SDCC President Karleen Hoerr; and SDCC Executive Director Nancy Farmer.

Esther Herron was honored for her years of service at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council's October 7th board meeting.

President Karleen Hoerr regretfully accepted Ms. Herron's resignation as Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council's bookkeeper, a service she has provided the Council for over four years. Washington University representative Jim McLeod presented Ms. Herron with a plaque. He remarked that her role with the Council began nor ends with her position as bookkeeper. Ms. Herron served on the Council board of directors for fourteen years beginning in 1967. She served as treasurer for eight of those years. She also served as secretary/treasurer for 5800 DeGiverville/Westminster block unit for over eight years. She continues to be a concerned and active leader in the neighborhood.

Ms. Herron and her husband of forty-two years, Joe Herron, moved in to their home in the 5800 block of DeGiverville on March 17, 1964. Mr. Herron is retired from civil service. The Herrons have two children and one grandchild.

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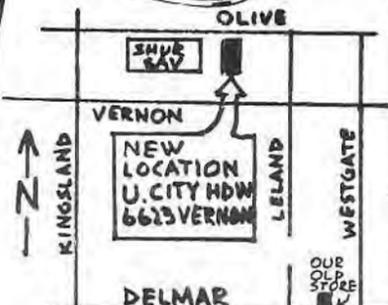


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# In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Sometimes truth really is stranger than fiction. Oh, I know, that's a phrase that you hear all of the time, so much so that it has lost a bit of meaning. After all, in this little column I've touched upon a number of issues, most of them ludicrous, far-fetched, and downright silly. A recent article in the *Post-Dispatch*, however, tops anything I could ever imagine.

"Food Experts Deplore Drift to Grazing" read the August 24 headline. Mary Powers, a director of the Good Housekeeping Institute (honest!) notes, "The sit-down meal itself has already disappeared in some families." She defines "grazing" as "a non-meal phenomenon where you don't have scheduled meal-times, but rather eat on the move in a busy life." It gets better: "For some of this new generation of eat-and-run practitioners, even the task of heating a can of soup is too much, the experts say. Campbell Soup spokesman Jim Moran says his firm was considering making vegetable soup solidified like a candy bar."

Well! What's wrong with America, anyway? I remember when home-cooked meals, "squares" we called 'em, were a staple in the American home! If you ask me, this ain't just one of them phenomena that them educated-folk always talk about. No siree. Sounds to me like this is some kind of a commie conspiracy.

Sure, it's easy to think that people are busy and don't have time to cook, but let's look a little deeper, friend. If sit-down meals go, what's next: baseball? Chevrolets? apple-pie? Boy George? Is nothing sacred around here?

Once the sit-down "squares" go, then when will people talk to one another? We certainly don't talk in the evenings ("... shhh, Captain Fiorello is about to say something") or in the mornings ("Goodmorningrunninglatetagonow-I'llcallyoulaterinthedayhoney"). If I don't have a fork in my hand or a napkin in my lap, I'm almost rendered talkless.

Now I don't really know what the effect of this absence of talk would be. I know that it wouldn't be good, though. Years ago I saw a science-fiction movie, before they were popular, when believability centered more on plot than special effects. The plot centered around things from outer space that attacked by taking over the bodies of people we knew and loved: friends, policemen, teachers, parents, even aldermen were all victims. There was almost no way you could tell that these people had been taken over by the alien beings. The one clue was a mole-like thing they left on the back of peoples' necks. If you could see the mole—where the aliens had made their injection to take over the humans' bodies—you knew that the person was really an inhabited shell! As the movie ended, I remember, a young boy, kind of the hero of the piece, was rescued from the spacemen by a friendly judge. As we saw them walk away, though, we could see the spot on the back of the judge's neck. He, too, was possessed by the aliens.

Now, I ask you, where would we be if that happened and because of these grazing dinners, nobody talked to one another? Without "squares," fully-cooked starch-laden meals, I think we're really vulnerable to attack by foreigners. And by foreigners, I don't mean Ruskiies or them Iranians, either. I'm talking big league here; green men from Mars or, worse, things from planets that we don't even know yet where credit cards are unheard of. Somebody right now is watching us, I bet, from afar with one of them telescopes. Once they see the sit-downs go, it's all over but the shouting. Katie, bar the door.

For the preservation of the world, then, for mom, apple pie, Ted Drewes, and Cindy Lauper, sit down and eat! This is your mother speaking.

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