

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 17, NO 8

DECEMBER 1986

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Fifth Annual Christmas Walk And House Tour

Photos of houses on tour to be found starting on page 4.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

6200 McPherson will be one of nine houses featured on the Christmas Walk.

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council will sponsor a Christmas Walk and House Tour on Sunday, December 14, 1-4 p.m. The event includes an outdoor lighting contest and an ice skating exhibition performed on a portable ice rink. Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman, will hold their annual Candlelight Christmas Carol Service that same afternoon at 4 p.m.

The Christmas Walk and House Tour will feature the first floors of nine homes in the Skinker DeBaliviere area, all beautifully decorated in Christmas traditions. Single-family homes in Parkview, Rosedale, and Washington Heights neighborhoods will be open for tour, as well as a renovated town house in Rosedale and a newly constructed town house in the Kingsbury Square neighborhood.

All participants in the Christmas Lighting Contest should have their houses decorated by the evening of Dec. 14. Judging will take place the following week and a winner from each neighborhood will receive a hand-crafted Christmas ornament. The ice rink, sponsored by the Friends of Steinberg, will be located at the Four Corners Plaza. Free passes to Steinberg Rink, which is now open, will be given away during the afternoon.

Visitors will begin the tour at the newly renovated Church Hall of St. Roch's Church, 6052 Waterman. The complete renovation of the multi-purpose hall includes contemporary lighting and sound systems, stained glass windows, and hand-carved oak doors from the historic Title Guaranty Building. Tour maps will be available at the Church Hall. For more information, call the SDCC offices at 862-5122.

Child's Christmas In Wales To Be Performed

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council will present *A Child's Christmas in Wales* on Wednesday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., at Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman.

The story, based on reminiscences of author Dylan Thomas, is a child's account of Christmas Day in a small Welsh village. Under the direction of Ken Cohen, the piece will be presented as a reader's theatre with a cast of

three and musical accompaniment. The nature of the story, as well as the length and style of the production, make this a holiday event for the entire family. Running time is about forty-five minutes and admission is free. Refreshments will be served at a reception in the church hall immediately following the performance.

The program is funded through a grant from the Regional Arts Commission.

Join The Celebration... Carol For Children

The St. Louis Christmas Carols Association is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. It was formed in 1911 when a group of St. Louisans led by William H. Danforth thought it would be great fun, and a lovely way to celebrate the Christmas spirit, to carol. They sang for their neighbors on Kingsbury Place and, much to their surprise, people gave them money. This first year's activity quickly became an annual tradition as many St. Louisans joined in year after year, until in 1932, the St. Louis Christmas Carols Association received its charter.

Initially, the donations were given to the Children's Aid Society. Money received now is allocated to about seventy-five recognized agencies that help children in the St. Louis metropolitan area. The money does not go into the general revenue of these agencies, but rather remains local, meeting the emergency needs of the children they serve. Some of these needs include camp scholarships, special activities and programs, medical help, educational and recreational equipment, and tuition for school.

The main purpose of the Association, as was originally intended, is to carol for the enjoyment of it and promote caroling for the love of it. The secondary purpose of raising funds for children's charities just makes the fun of caroling even more worthwhile.

This year the Association is making a concerted effort to encourage more groups from the Skinker-DeBaliviere area to participate in this special tradition. If this dual purpose celebration of the Christmas season appeals to you, just ask some friends to join with you to form a caroling group. To reserve your street, make arrangements to receive supplies (canister, song sheets, etc...), or for more information, contact Karen Kelsey (726-2832), the chairman for the Skinker-Debaliviere Neighborhood.

St. Louis is known as "the caroling capitol of the world" thanks to the activity of the St. Louis Christmas Carols Association. Thousands of St. Louisans find it exciting to be part of an organization that has such a special history and unique tradition. Wouldn't you?

You Be The Chef

On Friday, February 13, *The Times* of Skinker-DeBaliviere will again sponsor a Chocolate Chip Cookie Bake-Off as well as an Un-Chocolate Cookie Contest. Everyone is invited to participate. First come to sample the entries and make a small donation toward the continuing publication of *The Times*. Second, get involved and submit three dozen cookies for either one (or both!) of the contests.

Now, while you are deciding which kinds of Christmas cookies you are going to bake, or while you are sampling recipes at friends' homes over the holidays, is the time to begin planning to amaze our judges with your culinary capabilities. So mark your calendar for February 13 and plan to be there. Details will follow in the February issue of *The Times*, due on your doorstep on February 1. (Information about becoming a judge appears elsewhere in this issue.)



You Be The Judge

Are chocolate chip cookies better made with butter or shortening? Should they be soft or crunchy? Do additions such as peanut butter, pecans, walnuts, mint flavoring, or chili powder enhance the chocolate chip or are they sacrilege? Does a chocolate chip cookie increase in value proportionate to its size and weight? Is there such a thing as a low-cal chocolate chip?

If you have strong opinions about these and other culinary questions, you are eligible to be on the Judges' Panel for the next Chocolate Chip Cookie Bake-Off, sponsored by and in support of *The Times* of Skinker-DeBaliviere, and scheduled for Friday, February 13. Yes, once again we are planning a cookie contest to benefit *The Times* and we're looking for a few brave souls who will give anything, or in

this case a \$25 tax deductible donation (i.e., bribe) for the privilege of sampling an unknown number of chocolate chip recipes — all in the name of charity.

Or, if chocolate just isn't your thing, this time we are also planning an un-chocolate cookie contest — the only thing these entries cannot have in them is chocolate. A separate group of judges will be allowed to buy their appointments to this panel.

Judgeships are limited, but only by the number of cookies baked and the financial needs of the paper's budget so give *The Times* editor Katie Kurtz a call at 727-6377 or call Sue Rothschild at 725-0878 or Marcia Kerz at 863-0086 and let them know you want to be a judge.

Business Group To Host Holiday Lunch, Program

The Skinker DeBaliviere Business Association will host a Holiday Luncheon Meeting for the area business community, neighborhood leaders, and elected officials. The Luncheon will be held Thursday, December 11, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom on the 17th floor of Portland Towers, 275 N. Union.

Special guests who will be on hand to meet members of the business community include:

Senator John Bass, Representative Bill Clay, Jr., Representative Paula Carter, Neighborhood Liaison Officers Katherine Hart and Ophelia Carson, Alderman Daniel J. McGuire, Seventh District Police Commander Captain Everett Page, and Alderman Wayman Smith.

The event is open to all members of the business community in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area from Skinker to Union. For more information, call 862-5122.

Tree Donations Needed

As previously mentioned in *The Times*, completion of the tree planting along Des Peres will have to be initiated and paid for by neighborhood residents. Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible contribution toward the project should send their checks to the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, 6010a Kingsbury, 63112. Please make the check payable to the Community Council and note that it is for tree planting. It is hoped that the necessary funds might be collected in time for spring planting.

'Tis The Season For Extra Caution

Criminal activity typically increases during the holiday season. The following safety tips have appeared on these pages many times, but they certainly bear repeating. An ounce of prevention...

If you are leaving the house, be discreet and alert. Criminals make it their business to know your schedules and routines. Alter your patterns from day to day. Use your back door to bring in new purchases, especially TV's, VCR's, etc. If you are planning a trip, be conscious of how and when you load your car and the arrangements you make for mail and other deliveries while you are away. Invest in timers to turn lights on and off; leave a radio turned on. The only people who should know you are gone are the people you tell.

Look out your window when you hear an unfamiliar noise; if you are at all suspicious, call 911. Don't second guess your instincts. Neighborhood residents are the eyes and ears on the street for the police; when you see or hear something that concerns you, call.

Secure your home. Exterior doors should be of solid core construction and equipped with quality deadbolt locks. Equip windows with secure locks and pins. Be sure your ad-

dress is visible from the street and from the alley. Close off your gangway with a gate. Keep shrubs and bushes trimmed.

Use porch lights. Light is one of the best deterrents to crime, and it is inexpensive. Turn on outside lights, front and back, from dusk to dawn. It's also a good idea to have an indoor light automatically turned on at dusk. If you notice a street or alley light not working, call SDCC, 862-5122, or report it directly to the City, 622-4800 (street lights) or Union Electric, 342-1000 (alley lights).

Do not leave valuables in your car. If you must leave packages in your car when you are shopping, lock them in the trunk before you reach your next destination. Do not leave them where they can be seen.

Protect your person. When you are walking, be alert and use common sense. Walk with another person whenever possible. At night, walk close to the curb nearer street lights and away from doorways. If you carry a purse, keep it close to your body, even under your coat. Place cash and credit cards in a wallet that you can slip in a pocket, out of your purse.

Play it smart, and have a safe holiday season.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Rosedale Neighbors sponsored its 19th annual Halloween Party at St. Roch's Gym. About sixty children, cleverly and colorfully dressed, were entertained by Eileen Kinsella the Mime. Susan Littlefield was this year's judge, Rick Bender was the crossing guard, and Art Santen again chaired the event. Costume winners were: Natalie & Matthew Bailey — 2 bugs, Jeremy Schoenfeld — batik clown, W. McKeever — football monster, Alan Brake — pirate, Christopher Goewert — TV, John Breum — Dracula, Ben Breun — headless cowboy, Jena Boehlke — witch, Hillary Tinsley — gypsy.

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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Traditionally, *The Times* does not publish a January issue. The next issue will be February of 1987 and will be out the first weekend of the month. Deadline for that issue will

be January 15. Please call 727-6377 for information. The staff and Board of *The Times* wishes all of our readers a happy holiday season.

Advertising Rates

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 6010a Kingsbury, 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 6010a Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 15th of the month.

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6109 McPherson Avenue (Rosedale)

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Fifth Annual Christmas Walk And House Tour



5740 Kingsbury Avenue (Kingsbury Square)



St. Roch Church, Waterman and Rosedale Avenues



6047 Kingsbury Avenue (Rosedale)



5843 Waterman Avenue (Washington Heights)



6109 McPherson Avenue (Rosedale)



6171 Kingsbury Avenue (Rosedale)



6175 Westminster Place (Rosedale)

All house tour photos by King Schoenfeld

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as Walk And House Tour



An and Rosedale Avenues



6047 Kingsbury Avenue (Rosedale)



6171 Kingsbury Avenue (Rosedale)



6175 Westminster Place (Rosedale)

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November SDCC Report

Skinker-Debaliviere Community Council held its regular meeting on November 3, 1986.

Attending were: K. Hoerr, P. Repetto, P. Kurtz, E. Sanders, K. Wobus, G. Fox, F. Burke, T. Hayes, J. Reilly, and guests: S. Polk, M. Gorman, & K. Hart.

Problem Properties: K. Hart reported on the status of several problem properties by M. Bearden, Rosedale Living Corp. She reported the company is in serious financial trouble and their offices have closed. Landmark Bank, Operation Impact, Alderman McGuire, and Hart are working together on plans for these buildings. A major developer has expressed interest in the properties.

Hart referred to an article by Alderman McGuire that appeared in the November issue of the *Times* as a good source of up-to-date information about vacant properties in the neighborhood.

P. Repetto thanked Hart for doing terrific work related to the BonaFide. The pay phone has been removed. Repetto will work with McGuire to set up a meeting for neighborhood representatives with the owners of the business.

Christmas House Tour/Outdoor Light-Contest: See related article in this issue.

Home Improvement Loan Program: G. Klevern is working with a colleague on a final draft of a questionnaire for the marketing survey. Work on the proposal is progressing.

Delmar Beautification: N. Farmer and Suzanne Goodman (CWE Association representative) meet regularly about this project. They recently met with Annabeth Calkins of Pantheon who agreed to have their properties on Delmar cleaned up. A letter to businesses on Delmar asking for their participation is ready to mail. Washington University Medical Center Redevelopment Corp. will donate the postage.

Rosedale Beautification Project for Des Peres: Frank Burke reported that the neighborhood association is undertaking a project to fill in the tree line along Des Peres. For \$50 to \$60 each the city will plant and maintain trees. Rosedale hopes to have raised the money by spring. Will SDCC accept contributions for this project, thus making the donations tax-deductible? K. Hoerr sees no problem in doing so.

Nina Place: A second meeting of interested neighbors was held at SDCC offices on Oct. 8. The advisory committee will meet Nov. 12. See related article in this issue for further information about Nina Place and the results from recent meetings. Mark Gorman, neighborhood resident and developers McCormack Baron & Associates' construction manager reported that the firm is willing to look at the Nina Place project. Gorman has talked briefly with John Roach of Pantheon. Gorman wanted the Council to be aware that his firm is willing to try to put something together.

Safety Committee: P. Repetto stated the committee has not been active except on the BonaFide issue. He asked the Directors what they thought the committee should be working on. G. Fox hopes the committee will address the conditions of the alleys. N. Farmer stated that the police are hampered when addresses are not visible from both the street and the alleyway.

Treasurer's Report: The report was approved as read. The directors have discussed using an answering machine instead of a service. A machine would be more economical. P. Kurtz moved that N. Farmer be authorized to purchase an answering machine for up to \$150. Seconded by John Reilly and approved.

Director's Report: A \$7000 grant for 1987 has been approved by CDA. The contract is essentially the same as 1986. CDA requires a monthly financial statement and programmatic report. They reimburse SDCC for a portion of the Director's salary. P. Kurtz moved SDCC approve the 1987 CDA contract as reviewed; seconded by G. Fox and approved. P. Kurtz moved that the Board authorize the Exec. Director, President and Treasurer to sign documents related to the contract, seconded by J. Reilly and approved.

A second meeting of the Washington Heights Neighbors was held on October 14 to elect a new slate of officers. Only three people besides Farmer attended. Those present planned to contact the rest of the slate of officers and schedule another meeting. The meeting has not been scheduled yet.

Farmer has the names and addresses of the three trustees of the Kingsbury Square Organization and is writing a letter of introduction about the Council. She will attend their next meeting if they feel it is appropriate.

SDCC has discussed hosting a reception for Block Captains for a couple of months. The reception would be a social occasion to thank the Block Captains for their work and to give them a chance to meet with Capt. Page and other 7th District representatives. Washington University will donate \$100-\$150 for refreshments. The reception will be scheduled for a week night, 6-7:30 p.m., to be held at either SDCC offices or the 28th Ward. Farmer will talk with Capt. Page and set a date.

The final evaluation for this summer's SLATE Program arrived today. The program received 100 pts. of a possible 100. Carol Strecker of Grace Methodist Church did a terrific job supervising.

Bi-State will host an Open House at their new facility on DeBaliviere Saturday, November 22, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Citizens for Modern Transit will present an informational meeting about Light Rail at Hamilton School, 6:30 p.m., Wed., Nov. 12.

The St. Louis Ragtimers Concert is postponed until Spring. The Council can use Arts Commission grant money through May, 1987.

Program To Benefit Hamilton Community School, Area Hungry

On December 13, 7:00 p.m. the Hamilton Community School is sponsoring a Day of Remembrance and Thank You for the community at the Delmar Baptist Church, 6195 Washington.

Come share in the smorgasbord of entertainment. Highlights of the evening will be a mini fashion show presented by the modeling class, a Caribbean dance routine performed by the youth dance class and special guests—the U.S. Band and the Sudan Illustrator Simba Boot Dancers. There will also be additional performances by other instructors, student and staff persons.

The admission fee for this benefit program will be \$2 and one (1) item of canned food. Monetary proceeds will benefit the Hamilton Community School Scholarship Fund and the After-School Program, and the canned foods will go to the needy in the community.

Come share in the fun and get into the Christmas spirit early. This program is Hamilton Community School's way of saying "Thank You" to all of you who offered your support, and for us to give something back to the community.

Holiday Offerings At The Kiosk

(Hello. My name is Barbara Murphy and I am the new branch librarian at Cabanne Branch Library. It was suggested that I review a few new books that would make intriguing gifts for children for the upcoming holiday season. Why not a book? Books are quiet, mentally stimulating, and don't need batteries.)

Books for Children by Barbara Murphy

If you have ever been awed by large fire engines roaring off to save lives, there are two new books, *Fire! Fire!* by Gail Gibbons and *Fire Trucks* by Hope L. Marston. Both cover the same information concerning the duties, equipment, and procedures of fire-fighting, but the difference lies in the presentation. *Fire! Fire!* is illustrated with drawings in bright reds and yellows and is aimed at the average seven to nine year old reader. *Fire Trucks* is illustrated with photographs that realistically convey the danger of fire-fighting for the avid ten year old reader. Action is presented at various types of fires in both books and neither are sexist in the representation of the fire-fighters.

Another book that would be an excellent gift is *Jewish Days and Holidays* by Greer Fay Cashman and Alona Frankel. This text was originally published in Jerusalem and is copyrighted in the United States by Adama Books. A fact-filled text and symbolic illustrative drawings that are often seen, but seldom explained make this book a worthy purchase for the middle age group interested in cultural/religious celebrations of the Jewish people. The historical reference is given for each occasion and the Jewish months are given throughout the book. There are ample illustrations and side-bar explanations of time used in each celebration and ritual. Non-religious holidays celebrated in Israel such as Yom Ha-Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) are included. Purchase of this book as a holiday gift would bridge understanding of Jewish culture and afford insight into understanding of the Old Testament.

Lastly, for the pre-schooler, there is *Who's New at the Zoo?* by Jack Winder. This is a very short and colorful text with a ten word vocabulary. This book allows parents and children to share the learning of new words and identify settings, animals and family groupings.

Books for Adults by Mary Ann Shickman

Southern Living, 1985, has a good section on holiday and flaming desserts as well as ways to set a holiday mood.

Entertaining by Martha Stewart, 1982. This book has circulated almost more than any book in the Kiosk. It is filled with gorgeous colored photographs. It covers every type of entertaining from the most formal dinners to the most casual parties.

New Year's Resolution by Alison Cairns, 1984, is an English mystery which begins before Christmas and ends after the New Year. It is about a man returning from prison after many years and his meeting with his family. There is a backdrop of a senior citizen home where people in the story work and others live.

Monsignor Quixote by Graham Greene, 1982. One of the most important writers of this generation has written a touching story of a priest who sets out on a journey across Spain. Besides humor and mirth, it is a spiritually moving story. It is perfect for Christmas.

This one just arrived — *Season's Greetings* by Marlene Sorosky, is a book all about cooking and entertaining for Christmas and New Year's.

Grace Pre-School To Host Open House

Grace Methodist Pre-School invites its neighbors and friends to come to an Open House on Sunday, January 11 from 12 noon until 2 p.m.

Come in and see the remodeled kitchen/bathroom facilities and backyard play area. Teachers from past and present will be on the lookout for alumni and their parents. So join us for some homemade cookies and a glass of juice and reminisce about the days your children came home with a new song to sing or a drawing that couldn't be left behind.

Do you have a child approaching pre-school age? Bring him in to look around. Let him see the greatest achievements made by the littlest of hands.

If you cannot make it to the Open House but would like to make a tax-deductible contribution before the year is out, send your gift to: Grace Pre-School, 6199 Waterman, St. Louis, MO 63112.

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Set A Holiday Mood With Seasonal Concerts

Coming in December, Grace United Methodist Church will be offering two Christmas concerts. The public is invited to attend either or both and admission is free.

The church's annual Candlelight Carol Service, a well-known area Christmas tradition, will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 4:00 p.m. following the Skinker DeBaliviere Christmas Walk and House Tour. The program will begin with a prelude on the 61-rank, four-manual Moeller organ, followed by the candlelight procession of choirs to the traditional "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Dr. Kenneth G. Greenlaw and Leona M. Greenlaw are the Directors of Music at Grace. Dr. John van der Graaf and the Rev. Charles A. McEowen are the Ministers.

The service, which will intersperse traditional carols and readings, will also include the *Gloria* by the Italian early classic composer Giuseppe Carcani (1703-1779). Soloists are Margaret Campbell, soprano; Joanne Cruickshank, alto; Andrew Lambrecht and Ken Krippner, tenors; and Tim Gravier, bass. A string ensemble will accompany the Carcani work as well as several of the carol selections. In addition to the Grace Choir, the children's choir and handbell choir will also participate in the service.

The Young Singers of Missouri will present their annual Christmas Concert at Grace United Methodist Church on Friday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.

Participating in the concert are over 250 young people, ages 6-18, each chosen by audition, from over 100 area schools in five Missouri and Illinois counties. The Young Singers practice in seven different rehearsal units at two locations: Grace Methodist Church in St. Louis and Jefferson Middle School in St. Charles. Director of the Advanced, Intermediate and Younger Singers units is Leona M. Greenlaw. Director of the Missouri Youth Chorale (high school age singers) is Dr. Kenneth G. Greenlaw.

Members of the Young Singers Advanced Chorus have performed in past seasons with the St. Louis Symphony in concert versions of *Turandot* and *Tosca*, under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. This winter they will again appear with the St. Louis Symphony in Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* and Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Members of the Missouri Youth Chorale and the Young Singers Advanced Chorus are also currently appearing in the Andy Williams Christmas Show at the Fox Theatre.

Both concerts promise to bring the holiday spirit alive and set the mood for a joyous

Macho Menus: A Light Touch For Holiday Meals



Macho Menus, after a brief hiatus, is back!! JoAnn Vatcha has volunteered to organize the column on a regular basis. If there are any neighborhood chefs who would like to contribute, please call her at 726-6974.

By JoAnn Vatcha

"Lifestyles of St. Louis' Rich and Famous" would have to include the remarkable product of Skinker-DeBaliviere, the Schoemehl family. Patriarch Vince Sr. and wife Lucille have lived in the neighborhood for twenty years, raising eleven outstanding children ready to reform St. Louis and take on the world!!

One of *The Paper's* earliest and longest running advertisers, "V.C. Schoemehl—Painting and Wallpaper" stood by the neighborhood through the lean and mean days and stuck around to see the fruits of his labors. Now enjoying what is charmingly called "semi-retirement," the Schoemehls enjoy family, friends, politics, travelling (frequently to Savannah to see old friends and neighbors Bill and Nan Thomas). A political event occasionally brings them back to St. Louis — but it is mostly a family event, especially the holidays.

Surpassing at least one son in the kitchen (Lean Cuisine doesn't count as a Macho Menu), Vince Sr. enjoys perfecting traditional dishes. One of his favorites is guaranteed to put you into a holiday mood — and set your mouth watering for turkey... dressing... gravy... real potatoes... pumpkin (or chocolate?) pie, and to end it on just the right note, the perfect fruit salad.

Nina Place Update

During a November 12 meeting held at SDCC offices for neighbors concerned about Nina Place, Alderman Dan McGuire introduced David Havens as Chairperson of the Nina Place Redevelopment Corporation's Advisory Committee. The development plan provides for a three-member advisory committee with one person appointed by the developer and two persons appointed by the Alderman. The other members of the committee are Ron Freiwald and Ethel Maddison. All three members live in the Nina Place area. The committee serves as the official liaison between individuals, neighborhood groups and the development corporation.

Other concerns discussed at the meeting included: posting of signs that indicate Nina Place as a redevelopment area, safety and se-

"The Original Schoemehl's Fruit Salad"

Look for good fruit and stock up on those that will be at just the right ripeness on the big day. Sweet oranges, not the sour Florida types, an apple, chopped up fine, for some crunch, and bananas.

You'll also need: a can of pears, a can of apricots, a larger can of peaches, a can of pineapple chunks, a jar of maraschino cherries.

Cut up all the fruit — canned and fresh — into irregular, chunky pieces. Cut the pineapple chunks cross grain. Combine all the fruit with some of the juices. Save some of the peach juices until you see what you'll need at the end.

Refrigerate overnight for the best flavor. The last fruit to add are the bananas. It's important that you get good, firm, but ripe bananas. Slice them and add to the fruit about two hours before serving. A big punch bowl of this will make it through most holiday dinners.

(Editor's note: There is other Schoemehl food news this month as well: son Greg has taken on the challenge of a new restaurant, La Casa Frijole, located in the Greystone Shopping Center, on W. Florissant north of I-270. Good Mexican eating!! Just have this great fruit salad ready to put out the fire!

curity in the area, the status of the block grant money earmarked for the project, a letter from McGuire to the Board of Public Service expressing dissatisfaction with the lack of progress on the project, and alternate ways of getting the project completed. To date, Pantheon has complied with requests to continue to board their buildings, provide additional alley lighting, and include Nina Place on DeBaliviere Place security patrols. It was noted that Pantheon does not own all of the vacant buildings.

Another meeting of the Advisory Committee and interested neighbors is planned for late January or early February. Questions, comments, and concerns can be directed to David Havens, 863-1639, or the Council office, 862-5122.

Skating Rink Opens With Food Service, Other Assets

A change to private management promises an exciting difference as nearby Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink enters the ice skating season. "The concentration is on quality; including food, skate shop, and ice," says Tom Zobel, president of the company which took over the rink on October 31.

The rink now has a "Class A" food service area, complete with new furniture. Sharpening is now available "while you wait" using newly refurbished hollow grinding equipment. The sound system is "really" fixed with new stereo electronic and balanced speakers. Fifteen minutes have been added to each public session. And more improvements are on the way.

Admission has increased by 25¢ to \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for children, but ten-ticket passes can be purchased (\$10 adults, \$7.50 children) for a significant savings, and a good Christmas present for a favorite skater.

The Learn-to-Skate program starts this month and is free. For more information, call the rink at 361-5103.

Bring this article to Steinberg rink and receive two admissions for the price of one.

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- Services:**
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 - Set timing
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TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP

Drain and replenish transmission fluid, change filter and pan gasket. **\$39⁹⁵**

STARTING SYSTEM

- Check
- Voltage regulator
 - Starter draw
 - Battery capacity
 - Alternator
- \$18⁹⁵**

RADIATOR SERVICE

- Drain & flush old coolant and refill with up to 2 gallons coolant-anti-freeze
- \$35⁰⁰**

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 - Door glass
 - Insurance claims
- Call for price quote

AIR CONDITIONING TUNE-UP

Evacuate & recharge A/C system with new freon, check all belts & hoses. **\$37⁹⁵**

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- \$79⁰⁰ (per axle)**
- Disc Brakes**
- Front
 - Repack wheel bearings
 - Inspect calipers
 - New guaranteed pads
 - Lubricate caliper anchor
 - Extra if necessary
 - Metallic pads
 - Resurface rotors

Drum Brakes

- Front or Rear
- Inspect wheel cylinders and springs
- Inspect hydraulic system
- New guaranteed linings
- Readjust brakes

OIL CHANGE

5 quarts of 10W40 All season, oil filter and chassis lubrication **\$19⁹⁵**



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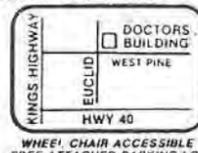
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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Anniversaries are a kind of funny time. They're a time for looking back and reflecting, yet also a time for thinking ahead to the future. I remember on my tenth wedding anniversary — a group of friends had surprised us with a dinner party — I stood up and said, "And here's to my lovely wife and seven years of happiness in marriage, and seven out of ten isn't bad!" After everyone stopped laughing, my wife stood up, held her glass as if to propose a toast, and said, "Don't kid yourself, buster, try five out of ten."

It seems that when we're younger we make a bigger deal out of anniversaries. Gosh, when I was in high school it seemed like every day was some kind of anniversary ("Well, Cindy, we've been going together for two whole weeks now! Let's celebrate."). I'm not sure whether it was because everything was new and exciting or just that the passing of time hadn't taken on ominous overtones yet.

Now the big 4-0 has passed, I find myself older than any major league baseball player who's worth his or her salt, and half a century isn't all that far away. I can even understand why people buy Sinatra records.

Anniversaries have diminished in importance. Oh, sure, I always remember my wedding anniversary. I learned the hard way: one year I forgot and it cost \$45 to get a locksmith to come out and get me in the house. I've learned now, though. I have this arrangement with the florist, see. Every year he sends me flowers at work on the day before the anniversary. I give them to my secretary; she thinks I'm wonderful, and I then remember to get my wife a card that night on the way home from work to give her the next day so she's happy too! Pretty smart, eh?

The bride and I, however, have just had an anniversary that is worthy of note and I want to share the joy with you. You see, ten years ago last month (well, I never was on time) we moved in to this wonderful neighborhood. It was October 1976. Jimmy Carter was in office, the manager of the baseball Cardinals was Boyer (or was it the redhead?), Poelker was mayor, and the football Cardinals were actually a winning team. Boy, some things really have changed.

Pantheon was an organization, but, to my recollection, not a whole lot had gone on east of us. Once, in 1976, while visiting us, my dad got a bit lost and drove down Pershing between DeBaliviere and Union. He came back with eyes as big as tomatoes (he was in produce) and said, "It looks like bombed out Germany down there! Did you know that when you bought this house!!!" Thanks, dad.

Like almost everyone else back then (why do I feel like I should be sitting in a rocking chair talking?), our parents advised us against buying "here, in the ... City." "Do you know what that neighborhood is like?" my mom asked. "Have you been there at night?" my dad asked. Karleen's mom said "Why in the world do you want to do this?"

Buying the house was actually no easy task. Most real estate companies wouldn't show houses in the neighborhood. (Their term "red-lining" had a basis in Skinker-DeBaliviere.) Karleen and I first came down here for a "residential house tour" in the spring in 1976. The "residential service" was an arm of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. It had been started by Cal Stuart, then Skinker DeBaliviere Executive Director, and John Roach, the alderman of the early 1970s, and was designed to allow young and unsuspecting folks (like us) to come and see homes and get interested in the neighborhood. That first Saturday we were shown around by Susie Roach and Suzanne Hart, both volunteering their time to make the neighborhood strong. I can remember being impressed that people cared enough about their neighborhood to give time and try to attract new people in the area.

Once we picked the house (as I said, it wasn't hard, it was all we could afford), we started the process of getting a loan. Everyone said go to Mercantile because they were one of the few banks making loans to the neighborhood (unfortunately Central West End Savings & Loan hadn't even been founded yet). I, foolishly, thought that I'd be a trend setter and go somewhere else so as to open up other loan opportunities for the folks who would follow me. (As a sign of my high intelligence and reasoning, you should know that as a kid I also tried to wrestle a muzzled bear in a circus. The bear was easier than the loan.) Suffice it to say that we finally did get a loan, but it was for 15 years rather than 30. This meant that to get a larger down payment we had to tap my parents, deplete our tiny

savings account, cash in my life insurance, and, worst of all, sell my MGB. Every time I see a white '72 MGB on the road I think of that first house (and the fuel pump which never did work!).

In October the loan closed, the house wasn't finished, and we moved in. I don't know which was better, having our own home or having access to our own washer and dryer combination. The house never really did get finished. (We sold it two years later to move to our current house in the neighborhood and the night before it went on the market I finished painting the bathroom. I remember that the first person who came and looked at the house remarked, "This is really well-kept. The bathroom looks like it's just been painted." Little did she know.)

At the time, 1976, I was working on my doctorate at Washington University and Karleen was a teacher at Children's Hospital. One of the virtues of this home on the 6100 block of Washington was that I'd be able to walk to school and defy the Arab oil cartel! I attended school for two years and walked once. Do you know how far it is to the campus from there? If we'd have lived on Pershing or Waterman, that would have been different and I'm sure I'd have walked daily, but Washington Avenue is quite a hike from McMillan Hall.

There was a *Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere* back then, but it was called *The Paper*. I remember meeting Marj Weir, then editor, on a snowy night shortly after moving in and telling her that I'd be interested in writing a column. Marj, in her best diplomatic fashion, replied, "Well that would be great, Tom, but we really need people to sell advertising." Some things never change. (If you're interested in selling advertising, call Katie Kurtz, our present editor.)

Reading the September 1976 issue of *The Paper* is a trip. (Yes, I still have it. My wife, you see, uses newspaper to separate her shoes by year and with all her shoes we have practically every newspaper we've ever received. It looks kind of like a stratified soil sample in her closet.) The front page headline read "Historic District Committee Reports Progress," and another front page article talked about the upcoming Rosedale Neighborhood Association's Third Annual Dinner-Theatre Production. Alderman Vince Schoemehl's name was prominent in the paper. There was a "Vicissitudes" back then, too. JoAnn Vatcha was the author and that

edition mentioned new neighbors the Gioias and Carolyn Toft. Mary Boyts had just been on vacation in Hawaii. The real estate ad (Feinberg's was the only one) had a house on 61XX McPherson for \$22,000 and one on 62XX Washington for \$64,000. *The Paper* also talked about "The Neighborhood School," a private elementary school in the area (which has since gone out of business).

Since 1976 lots of things have happened in Skinker-DeBaliviere. Pantheon succeeded beyond anyone's wildest hopes (except maybe Leon Strauss') and everyone's property values have zoomed. Friends have come and gone and, in some cases, come again. New City School now plays a bigger role in the neighborhood (at least at my house), Union Station is spectacular, our alderman is now our mayor, the Art Fair/House Tour is a thing of the past, we've just had a resurgence of the Dinner Theatre, Marj Weir, Betty Kliefeiter, Dan Schesch served their time on the Board of Education, and the football Cardinals are losers again.

I wonder what the neighborhood will be like in 1996? More Volvos, certainly. No doubt there will be even higher prices for homes and Skinker will finally be closed at Delmar. More friends and neighbors will come and go and come again and change will be everywhere. But I gain strength in knowing that some things, will be the same, always and forever ... like the football Cardinals. Thanks, Skinker-DeBaliviere, it's been a fun decade.

Free Turkeys Offered

The Circus Recycling Center, 1660 S. Kingshighway, is giving away one turkey in a raffle every Saturday in November and December. The public is invited to come in anytime during regular hours and fill out a raffle ticket. The winning entry will be drawn at the end of the day on each Saturday.

The center is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Turkeys are being donated by St. Louis merchants.

The Circus Recycling Center is a project of Operation Brightside. It is located just north of the I-44 overpass on Kingshighway.

CONGRATULATIONS ALDERMAN McGUIRE

The East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, the area wide Council of Governments for the Greater St. Louis Missouri-Illinois region has presented the

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