

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 18, NO. 8

FEBRUARY 1988

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Times Contest Set for February 27

Fundraiser to Seek the Best Hors d'Oeuvres

The Times is going to take advantage of the extra day in February to pack in (1) a Contest, (2) an Opportunity to Visit with old friends and new, (3) a Chance to see one of the newest renovations in the neighborhood, and, last but certainly not least, (4) a Benefit for The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere itself. On Saturday, February 27, two days before Leap Year Day—but close enough, The Times will be looking for the best hors d'oeuvres in the neighborhood. Prizes will be awarded for appetizers in several categories: Something that tastes better than it looks; One that includes something that swims in the sea; One made with things that have 4 legs (beef, poodle, lamb...) [Don't ask me—Tom Hoerr is in charge of this part!]; Those having calories into four digits (1000+); and Low Cal (everything else).

The party will begin at 7:30 p.m. with judging to begin at 8:00. Entries should have at least 36 servings and should be delivered before 8:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to enter the contest who cannot attend should contact Venita Lake (727-7378) or Nancy Farmer (863-5122) about delivering entries.

As we have done in our two previous chocolate chip cookie contests, judgeships can be bought for the fee of \$25. Anyone interested in being a judge or purchasing a judgeship for his or her favorite Valentine, should contact Katie Kurtz at 727-6377.

One does not have to enter the contest to attend however. A donation of \$7.50 per person will allow you to sample the contest entries, solicit recipes, and visit with your neighbors. We will also have a cash bar.

Where is all of this going to happen? At 500 North Skinker at Westminster in the building newly renovated by contractor Steve Ensor and now occupied by financial consultants Robert Smart and Sherry Delo of Smart Planning. They provide comprehensive financial



planning including income tax counseling and investment, fringe benefit, insurance, and estate planning. We hear that this building is really special. Don't most executives want a fireplace in their office?

For further information, call any of The Times board members. We hope to see you there!

Rehabilitated building at Westminster and Skinker, now occupied by Smart Planning, will be the site of The Times fundraiser on February 27.

Late Night Skating Party Planned for February 19

Join the tradition by joining your friends and neighbors for a unique night out at the annual Skinker DeBaliviere "Evening on Ice" Skating Party.

WHEN: Friday, February 19
TIME: 10:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.
WHERE: Nearby Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink in Forest Park, across Kingshighway from Children's Hospital
COST: Adults, \$2.00; Students 18 and under, \$1.00; Children six and under, free. Tickets can be purchased from any SDCC officer.

Please note the later hour, due to the shortage of available ice time. Still, we'll have the rink to ourselves, complete with a bonfire and the stars. Indoors, the rink offers skate rental, lockers, and a complete food service at reasonable prices.

Those needing transportation can meet San Green's "Magic Bus" at Four Corners for a 9:45 p.m. (sharp) departure for the rink. Strictly first come, first served.

Don't miss this unique event. Call the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office at 862-5122 for more information.

Delmar McDonald's Offers Coupons to Help Arts Council

Jim Perry, owner of McDonald's, 5863 Delmar, is offering to Skinker DeBaliviere residents two coupons, one good for a breakfast sandwich and hash browns at \$1.27 (a 30% savings), and one good for a Quarter Pounder with cheese, large fries and medium drink at \$2.49 (a 25% savings).

Coupons are enclosed with this issue of *The Times* and were distributed with January bank statements from Central West End Savings and Loan.

For each coupon redeemed, Mr. Perry will donate approximately ten cents to the West End Neighborhood Arts Council. This program will help WENAC meet cash guidelines for its grant from the Regional Arts Commission.

WENAC co-sponsored with SDCC a series of six outdoor concerts which featured Tommy Bank head and the Blues Eldorados, Singleton Palmer, St. Louis Brass Ensemble, David Hines Ensemble, Synchronia, and the Black Repertory Company Touring Children's Show. ART EXPOSED '87 with its group exhibit, children's art show, and musical performances by Al Rosenkoetter, Virginia Williams and the Bosman Twins highlighted WENAC activities this past year. The River Faces mask making workshop, held at Four Corners Plaza, was another neighborhood arts event sponsored by WENAC. A Spring Concert will be co-sponsored by WENAC and SDCC. Look for your coupons and use them. Help your neighborhood support the arts!

An Editorial Comment

by Venita Lake

It's a conspiracy! Things have gotten out of control. Remember when your mom said, "Wait till you get to be a parent and then you'll know..."? Well, I've sort of "guest edited" this paper several times in the past, first as part of an editorial board where King Schoenfeld did most of the details and follow-up, and more recently when our Real editor Katie Kurtz has gone on vacation or taken a few days of maternity leave. Before was sort of baby sitting. There were directions, lots of notes and lists and preliminary telephone calls made for me.

This time it's different. This time Katie had not been feeling well and called to say that her doctor wanted her to go into the hospital that day to see if they could get the infection and swelling in her face cleared up. The good news is that Katie is recovering, and I hope will be at The Times benefit on February 27. Meanwhile, I've discovered instant motherhood.

The projected delivery-to-your-doorstep date has been Saturday, February 6 all along. At this point I have serious doubts about that. There is still the typesetting, layout (my usual assignment), and getting to the printer. Most of the copy is in, we've settled on a date and place for the benefit, and the calendar, though brief, is nearly together. And Katie does this every month! In her "spare time"!

Another person who contributes a lot of time and ideas to The Times, not as a member of our staff, is Nancy Farmer. As Director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, Nancy keeps us informed of its activities and much of what else is happening in the neighborhood. The Council and this paper have much the same goals in keeping

residents and property owners in the area aware of important—and sometimes trivial but interesting—events, to make this a better place to live and work. So while we have always maintained our journalistic independence and seldom hesitated to criticize the Council if we think it merits it, we keep in touch.

This past week Nancy has had her hands full, or perhaps I should say her telephone lines hot, dealing with concerns about the shooting of Jeanine Balsamo as she was leaving Talayna's on the night of Saturday, January 23. Beyond sympathy for the young woman's family and friends, we are all uncertain about how to respond. This was not a typical event. There is no typical response.

From the newspaper standpoint, we all hope that the crime has been solved, that a good arrest has been made by the time you read this. We actually want our news to be old. If not, we urge anyone who may have any knowledge about the event to call the homicide division at 444-5371 or to call the Crime stoppers Hotline at 621-1999.

From a personal standpoint, I think it's nice to know that Katie Kurtz and Nancy Farmer are around to lend help and strong shoulders. Thanks, Moms!

Classifieds

Neighborhood artist, responsible, energetic, seeks modest living quarters, perhaps in carriage house or third floor. Willing to help busy family with yard work or cooking. References. Call Debbie Bauer at 725-2862.



Photo by Jeremy Schoenfeld

Lois Clay and Greg Gizinski standing at the counter of their new Classical Coffee Company at 313 Belt. They carry a wide variety of coffees and teas, as well as utensils for making same, and small pieces of arts and crafts for sale.

Thank you...

The following have made donations to The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere as part of our recent push to raise operating funds. Those names which appear in bold face type have given \$100 or more. The list will be ongoing.

Brian Clevenger & Mary Anne Rudloff

Sue and Sandy Rothschild

Venita and Richard Lake

Paul and Katie Kurtz

Joan and Ray Bruen

Rosedale Neighborhood Association

Cal and Gee Stuart

Ernest Stix

Polly O'Brien and Barrett Toan

Marcia Kerz

Marvin Nodiff

Lisa and Bill Horner

Marj and Brad Weir

Bob and Heidi Dowgwillo

JoAnn and Neville Vatcha

Tom and Karleen Hoerr

Dee and King Schoenfeld

Anne and James McCarthy

Mary and Hitch Powell

Margie Brammeier

John and Cindy Curley

Paula and Paul Repetto

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Katie Kurtz, 727-6377

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

Ray Bruen	Tom Hoerr	Sue Rothschild
Robert Dowgwillo	Marcia Kerz	King Schoenfeld
Yvonne Hunter	Katie Kurtz	Jo Ann Vatcha
	Venita Lake	Marj Weir

Advertising Rates

Display Advertising: col. width, 2 1/2". Minimum ad size, 1" x 1 col. 2" x 1 col.: \$24/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.



BOATMEN'S BANK COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT PROGRAM

Boatmen's has committed up to \$50 million, for housing-related loans in low to moderate income housing areas in the St. Louis metro area. Permanent mortgage financing for purchase and rehabilitation of one to four family residences, purchase and rehabilitation of multi-family residential buildings, short-term loans for construction or rehabilitation on projects qualifying for permanent financing under the program and home improvement rehabilitation loans on single-family (one to four), owner occupied structures, are included in the program.

A large portion of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood is targeted by this program.

For more information and assistance, phone the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 862-5122.



THE BOATMEN'S NATIONAL BANK OF ST. LOUIS



Member FDIC

February Calendar

- Black History Month** celebrated at the History Museum in Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. See related article.
- 7** "Songs of River Magic" presented by Metro Theater Circus at the History Museum in Forest Park, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 12** **Valentine Dance** at Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman at Skinker, 8:00 - 12:00 p.m. For adults, 18 and over, \$5.00 admission.
- 13** **Dr. Stephen Brammeier talks about pets**, followed by storyteller Rose Flynn, sponsored by the Kingsbury Library. At 28th Ward Democratic Headquarters, Kingsbury and Des Peres, 11:00 a.m.
- 13** Exhibition on the 1904 Olympic Games in St. Louis opens at the History Museum.
- 14** "Lovejoy: the Vigil," St. Louis film premiere at the History Museum, 2:00 p.m.
- 19** "Evening on Ice" sponsored by Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council at Steinberg Skating Rink, 10:00 - 11:30 p.m. (See related article on p. 1.)
- 20** Wendell O. Pruitt, black World War II fighter pilot, at the children's program at the History Museum, 10:30 a.m. Free.
- 21** Jimmy Jones Trio plays jazz at the History Museum, 2:00 p.m.
- 27** **The Times Hors d'oeuvres Contest and Benefit** at 500 North Skinker (at Westminster), 7:30 p.m. \$7.50 donation. Free nibbles and cash bar.
- 28** Mary McLeod Bethune, black leader in the '40s and '50s, dramatized by Anna Morgan Moody at the History Museum, 2:00 p.m.

Grace Methodist to Sponsor Dance for Neighborhood Adults

The Breitmayer Community Ministry located at Grace United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a Valentine Dance for the adult community on Friday, February 12, 1988, from 8:00 - 12:00 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, located at 6199 Waterman

at Skinker. There will be music, dancing, games, prizes, and refreshments. You must be 18 years of age or older to attend. The tickets are \$5.00 per person. If you need more information or tickets, please call Linda Emerson at 863-1992.

History Museum Observes Black History Month

"I, Too, Sing America: Black St. Louisans in the 1940s" will open at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building

in Forest Park on February 7 in honor of Black History Month, which is observed in February. Coordinated with the free exhibition will be a series of Sunday after programs of music, film and drama. (See Calendar for details.)

The exhibition will recall the lives of black St. Louisans during the World War II and post-war era, when they made gains in integration in employment in the defense industries, in public facilities and in housing. In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Shelley vs. Kramer case, which nullified restrictive housing covenants, photographs and newspaper articles will depict this historic court decision.

Set in a living room from 1948, magazines, newspapers, photographs and other memorabilia will recreate a home of the period. A 1940s radio will play recorded accounts taken from interviews with blacks who lived in St. Louis at this time.



"Entertainment for Employees during Lunch Hour at Scullin Steel," black war workers in a 35-piece band, under the direction of William Rollins; St. Louis Star-Times photo by Pierce W. Hange, June 8, 1943; from the pictorial history collections of the Missouri Historical Society. From the exhibition, "I, Too, Sing America: Black St. Louisans in the 1940s," at the History Museum in Forest Park, February 7 through March 1988.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: If you have writing talents, would like to sell advertising or help with distribution either on your block or neighborhood-wide, *The Times* needs your help. Please call Katie at 727-6377 if you have time and energy to give to St. Louis' oldest neighborhood newspaper.

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Martin Luther King, Jr. "Living the Dream: I Have a Dream"

With its soulful singers, exuberant dancers and charismatic speakers, Skinker-DeBaliviere's commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. stirred the hearts of the estimated 170 people in attendance.

The event, held January 9 at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Fellowship, was sponsored by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community with funding from the Regional Arts Commission.

The civic ceremony—the first of several such events conducted city wide in January—marked the 20th anniversary of Dr. King's death and the 25th anniversary of his historic "I Have a Dream" speech.

Tom Hoerr, headmaster of New City School and long time Skinker DeBaliviere resident, emceed the event with characteristic sincerity and humor.

Betty Thompson, an ardent civil rights activist and outgoing president of the Martin Luther King Jr. St. Louis Support Group, gave the keynote address. With a fervor and style reminiscent of the slain preacher, Thompson exhorted the audience to carry on Dr. King's mission of working toward human dignity and solidarity through creative non-violence.

St. Louis Police Captin Charles L. Alphin Sr., commander of the department's 6th District, also spoke at the commemoration. Alphin, who succeeded Thompson as president of the St. Louis Support Group, has been studying, applying and teaching Dr. King's principles of social change for many years. Recognized nationally as an exemplary protege of the American hero, Alphin is the subject of a motion picture drama under production at NBC-TV.

Ruby Russell and the Inspirational Singers had audience members alternately dabbing their cheeks and clapping their hands with such gospel classics as "The Old Rugged Cross" and "I Thank God I'm in His Care."



Captain Charles L. Alphin, Sr., St. Louis Police Sixth District Commander, gave the welcoming address.



Participants and guests at the MLK celebration joined in song and dance to "I'll Overcome."



Ruby Russell and the Inspirational Singers performed a gospel medley.



Dr. Thomas Hoerr served as emcee.

COME! WORSHIP! CELEBRATE!

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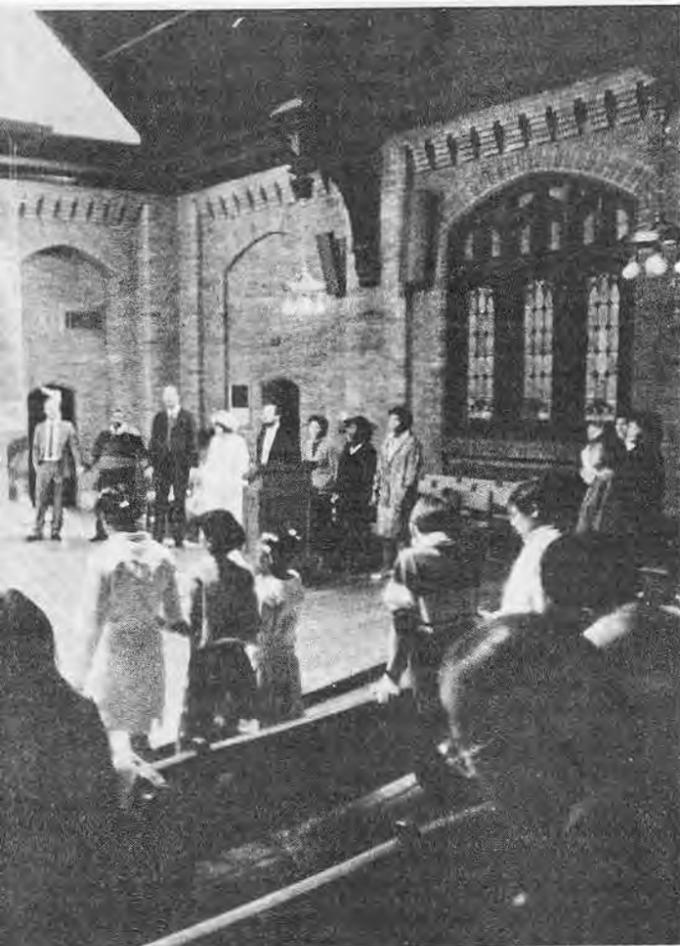
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Ms. Betty Thompson spoke about "The Civil Rights Movement: Eliminating Poverty and Apartheid through Non-Violence."

Crossroads students Tiffany Brown, Jessica Tirrell and Arlene Henderson presented youthful reflections on Dr. King's legacy and their role in the ongoing struggle for equal rights and universal respect.

Perhaps the most memorable portion of the 90-minute program was a stunning performance of ethnic dances by the Children's Dance Troupe of the Katherine Dunham Museum Workshop. These devoted and rigorously trained dancers, moving to a lively Caribbean beat pounded out by three young drummers, brought several standing ovations.

A number of St. Louis media gave the event advance publicity. The ceremony received prominent coverage on KSDK-Channel 5 and in the Central West End Journal.

The event was organized by SDCC's King Commemoration Committee under the chairmanship of Jim O'Neal. Committee members Shirley Polk, Neville Vatcha, Jack Wright, Eddie Sanders, Bob Mahon, and Jim McLeod volunteered many hours preparing for the commemoration and the reception which followed.

SDCC Executive Director Nancy Farmer and Administrative Assistant Karen Lergen went far beyond the call of duty in their work for this project. The two provided much of the publicizing, organizational communication and labor needed to make the event a success.

Grace and Peace Fellowship is due a special note of thanks for donating its wonderfully suited facilities and various necessary supplies.

Many residents and other attendants have expressed the hope that the commemoration will be made an annual event.

Photo by King Schoenfeld



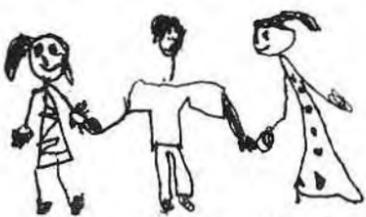
as master of ceremonies.



Katherine Dunham Museum Workshop Children's Dance Troupe gave a special performance.

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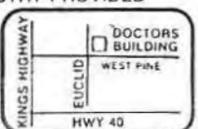
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Viscissitudes

by Lisa Horner

The holidays are great, but aren't you glad when they're all over and normal life has resumed? Of course, normal life never stays the same. Read on...

Marvin Nodiff and Marcia Kerz, 6100 Westminster, and Clare Kerz, 6100 Washington, traveled to London over the holidays. They were gone from December 25 to January 2. While in London, they were fortunate to get tickets to see Phantom of the Opera, which they found quite outstanding. Other highlights of their trip included a visit to Kew Gardens, shopping at Herrod's, and Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve.

London is also the current spot for 6100 Kingsbury's Chuck Larsen. Chuck, an English professor at U.M.S.L., is spending this semester there with the Missouri-London Program. This program, which involves several Missouri colleges, allows students to pay fees for their own home school and spend a semester in London attending classes.

Debbie Larsen, Chuck's wife, was planning to go with Chuck for the semester, but a career move interfered. Debbie, who is also an English professor at U.M.S.L., has been the Acting Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences since last fall. She plans to join Chuck in London later this spring.

Also in a new position is Sam Green, 6100 Westminster. Sam recently joined Feinberg Real Estate as a commercial agent.

Kingsbury, as well as the rest of the neighborhood, was sorry to lose Jane and Jim Geer and daughters Sarah and Susan in December. The Geers have moved to Ladue.

Into the Geer's former home we welcome John Sappington and Mary Carr. John is co-owner of West End Wines at Pershing and Belt in the DeBaliviere Place area. Mary is an attorney at Peper, Martin, Jensen, Maichel and Hetlage downtown. Mary and John are expecting their first child this spring.

Also expecting this spring are Bob and Heidi Dowgwillo. The Dowgwillos reside in the 6100 block of Pershing.

Bob was one of the many neighbors who organized caroling groups this holiday season. Bob led the St. Roch's Contemporary Choir, which he also directs, on a caroling walk around Rosedale and Parkview. Roy Bell and Claudia Lorenz organized a group to carol on their block of Kingsbury. Dee Hayes and Mary Schmit led their group on McPherson. This writer would like to personally thank all those who joined the Westminster carolers this year: Paul Kurtz, Peggy and Andrew Droege, Brad Weir and the Schoenfelds. Thanks guys!

Congratulations to Raymond Breun, Ph.D., 6100 McPherson! Ray completed his dissertation—**Federal Land Laws and Early Education in St. Louis**—in October and graduated on January 3. We expect that explains the recent absences of his articles in **The Times** and hope to see their return. Ray was also recently elected to the board of the Lewis and Clark Trails Heritage Foundation.

Dan Shea, 6100 Kingsbury, appeared at Washington University in November, in a British play, **The National Health**. This production placed fifth in a regional competition for college theater.

Speaking of theater, be looking for more news about a Skinker-DeBaliviere Dinner Theater coming this April. Anyone interested in participating should call Nancy Farmer at the SDCC office.

Help Stop Crime with Crimestoppers

You've witnessed a crime. Or perhaps someone has told you about a crime. You might have recognized a suspect in the newspaper or on a TV newscast.

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The St. Louis CRIMESTOPPERS are part of a national network in over 600 communities. To date, over 92,000 felonies have been solved as a direct result of this program. In St. Louis, as in every community in the network, CRIMESTOPPERS is an independent organization, administered by a board of local

residents, working with police and media to generate information on specific crimes.

In just over a year since incorporation, the St. Louis CRIMESTOPPERS have established a success record with an average of 1 arrest per month. CRIMESTOPPERS and the police guarantee anonymity. Cash rewards have been paid to 74% of the callers whose tips resulted in arrests.

To contact the CRIMESTOPPERS HOTLINE, citizens may call 621-1999 at any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At the Kiosk Request System Provides Super Service

by Mary Ann Shickman

Coming attraction: On Saturday, February 13 at 11 a.m. the Kingsbury Kiosk's children's hour will feature Dr. Stephen Brammeier of Kingsbury Animal Hospital, who will talk to the kids about their pets, and Rose Flynn, who will read pet stories. This will be at 28th Ward Democratic headquarters. The library would like to express its appreciation to the 28th Ward for allowing the Kiosk to have its activities there.

Perhaps most of our regular patrons know by this time about our new request system. Requests for books from other locations are typed right into the computer. Requests come to us from other locations through the printer.

When a book is scanned that is wanted by another location, the printer will start up and print a delivery slip to be attached to the book which is then sent on its way. If the book is in, it may be received the same or the next day.

The computer also generates a post card to notify the person who made the book request that the book will be available for pickup at the Kiosk for seven days. This replaces the old system where the librarian tried to reach everyone by telephone when the book arrived.

Librarians and patrons alike are pleased by how quick and efficient the new system is. Come by and reserve some of your favorites and see how the system works.

Nation's First Olympic Games Featured at History Museum

Memories of the nation's first Olympic games, held in St. Louis in 1904 will be revived in a new exhibition of photographs, medals and memorabilia at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. "Forgotten Glory: St. Louis and the Third Olympiad" opens on Saturday, February 13, to coincide with the opening of the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

This collection of more than 30 photographs and artifacts from the predominantly American participants offers a view of the clothing and athletic styles of the athletes and spectators. Several buildings in the backgrounds and a set of viewing stands, which exist today at Washington University, are also pictured.

The 1904 Olympics were originally scheduled to be held in Chicago, but David R. Francis, chairman of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, wooed the games to St. Louis to be part of the 1904 World's Fair. The First Olympiad was held in Athens in 1896; the Olympic games were held for the second time in Paris in 1900.

The Third Olympiad ran from early July to October 1904. Highlights of the games were the track and field events August 29 - September 3.

The History Museum in Forest Park is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. There is no admission charge.

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The Rosedale Report

by Bob Dowgwillo

If you've ever wondered what events shaped nearby Forest Park, last November's potluck dinner and general meeting of the Rosedale Neighborhood Association was the place to be. Caroline Laughlin of Forest Park Forever gave an entertaining and informative slide lecture of the park's past, present and bright future. The question and answer period could have gone on all night. Thanks to all who came.

At one time the RNA was supported in part by annual membership dues. Collection of the dues eventually became unworkable and was dropped. We now maintain that any resident of Rosedale is automatically an RNA member. Still, we do receive donations from time to time. To mark this extra generosity, a vote at the general meeting established the position of "contributing member" for RNA residents who contribute five dollars or more during a calendar year. Contributing members will receive special recognition in **The Times**.

RNA officers and Nancy Farmer of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council have assembled a "New Neighbor" information package for free distribution. Several dozen have already been distributed, including copies to land lords and management companies. Forward the name and address of your new neighbors to an RNA officer or SDCC (862-5122) and we'll send a package.

Coming in May will be the election of new RNA officers. All positions are open for nominations: President, First and Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, North Side Representative and Alternate, and South Side Representative and Alternate. Please contact SDCC if you are interested. Don't be bashful!

Our next general meeting will be in March. Hope to see you there.

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SDCC January Report

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting of January 4, 1988, was called to order at 7:40 p.m. Attending were Bob Dowgwillo, Georgi Fox, Karleen Hoerr, Paul Kurtz, Bob Mahon, Jim McLeod, Jim O'Neal, Paul Repetto, Eddie Sanders, Neville Vatcha, Kathy Wobus, Jack Wright and guests Guy McClellan, Dan McGuire, Shirley Polk, and Kevin Short.

Jim McLeod introduced **Guy McClellan** who asked SDCC to endorse a request by the West Side Partnership for For Sale Incentive Program (FSIP) funds from the Community Development Agency. The partnership owns and manages seven buildings in Skinker DeBaliviere. It has a loan from CDA under the Housing Implementation Program (HIP) for this project.

McClellan has negotiated an agreement with the City to convert loan money for FSIP when the units are converted to condominiums. FSIP would make the condos more saleable; the money can be used by buyers for closing costs, interest write-downs, or points. The money cannot be used for the developer. The structure of FSIP requires a neighborhood, not-for-profit corporation to act as a "pass-through" agent.

Discussion followed about the role of the neighborhood organization. The not-for-profit corporation is a party in the agreement, but handles no money, etc. Presumably, this structure assures that a project receiving funds has neighborhood support.

What happens if the partnership sells the project? The HIP loan is due upon sale of the project; the loan would be repaid and the FSIP agreement would no longer be valid.

Why convert to condos? To make the project saleable as apartments, rents would have to double. To be eligible for FSIP, buyers must be low to moderate income and occupy the unit they purchase.

After further discussion, Paul Kurtz moved that SDCC endorse the FSIP agreement pending a legal opinion on SDCC's liability. Second by G. Fox and approved. McLeod thanked McClellan for coming.

McLeod introduced **Kevin Short** who explained his background and involvement in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood: His company, Clayton Financial Group, took over, as general partner, several properties owned by Michael Bearden when properties went through foreclosure. All of the buildings were at least partially occupied. Mr. Short stated that he is in the financial advising business, not real estate or management. He and his family are moving into the neighborhood and through CFG Properties-Management Company (a separate company from his investment firm), he does now own/manage 150 units in the area. His investment in Skinker DeBaliviere is substantial and he is anxious to work for the continued improvement of the neighborhood. He is interested in acquiring additional properties, two to six-family buildings as they become available.

Mr. Short wanted to attend the meeting and learn who we are as well as let us know who he is; if there are concerns or problems with his properties, he wants to be contacted.

With the addition of K. Wobus' name to those attending the November meeting, the minutes were approved as amended. November and December treasurer's reports were reviewed and approved.

Skinker Planning: P. Repetto reported the committee is working on the parking problem of Grace Methodist Church, and nearby Parkview and Rosedale neighbors. The parking lot on McPherson behind the Sinclair station has been shared by Skinker Place apartment tenants (52 units on McPherson at Skinker) and Grace. This arrangement has not been satisfactory for any of the parties involved and parking arrangements in general have presented problems for Parkview.

Members of the committee have met three times formally with the Board of Trustees and representatives of the Administrative Council of Grace, as well as with the apartment building owner and manager. Plans were drawn up addressing short and long term needs. Currently there is a signed agreement between the apartment building owner and the church.

Prior to the February board meeting, the planning committee will meet to review the plans, will meet formally with all of the McPherson neighbors, with Alderman McGuire, and with Parkview Agents to review the plans. Representatives of the church and the apartment building will present the plan to SDCC at the February meeting for the neighborhood's endorsement.

Repetto added that he and the committee have had good input in the planning process from affected neighbors, and the alternative to some action in this situation is chaos and potential failure for the parties involved. He believes the plan is workable and good, and the committee has operated well within its budget. This is a good start on a major plan for the west side of Skinker. The agreement would include who uses the lot and when, security—everything.

Social Service Committee: G. Fox reported the committee has not met. The effort to locate an office of the Missouri Energy Assistance Program in this area was met with some resistance in the state bureaucracy. The committee will continue to pursue this in hopes of having an office here next year. The Committee will meet next month and continue efforts to get people involved, help identify those in our area who need assistance, coordinate the resources and services available in the area.

Home Improvement Loan Program: J. McLeod reported the committee has not met; they are currently waiting to hear from NAP on the status of our proposal.

Rosedale Neighborhood Association: B. Dowgwillo reported that packets of information for new neighbors are ready to be assembled and mailed; this should be accomplished later this month.

Skating Party: B. Dowgwillo reported that Steinberg Skating Rink is doing a booming business under the new management. The only time available to book private parties is 10:30 p.m.-12:00 midnight on Saturdays. The annual skating party has traditionally been sponsored as an inexpensive, family-oriented event. With these late hours, it really wouldn't be a family event. The cost, however is nominal; the \$50 fee covers rink rental, security, etc., and they do not require a minimum number of skate rentals.

Discussion followed about whether SDCC should sponsor the skating party; Dowgwillo will try to determine if there is sufficient interest to support the party and report his findings at the February meeting.

Parkview Agents: B. Mahon reported the Agents continue to discuss security and budget issues. Wells Fargo, in lieu of their private police, has worked out very well. He reported the Agents are developing a five-year plan for capital improvements. He added that Parkview has sponsored two special events in the past several months: a party for children at Halloween and carolling at Christmas.

Outdoor Lighting Contest: G. Fox reported the winners in Parkview were the Miners; in Rosedale, Buckley; and in Washington Heights, Bush. She proposed that next year in addition to individual awards, SDCC expand the contest and select a winning block. Fox thanked Rose Flynn for judging this year.

King Commemoration: J. O'Neal reported plans for the event next Saturday, January 9, are shaping up well....Press releases, media advisories and flyers about the program are out; O'Neal feels it is a good family program. S. Polk is in charge of the reception and several individuals have volunteered to donate cookies. Grace and Peace has been very helpful in planning this event. N. Vatcha added that he hopes everyone at the meeting will attend the event and bring 5-10 neighbors, and make it a truly neighborhood event. [See related article and photos on p.4.]

Director's Report:
Rosedale Square—Notice of the foreclosure was published the week of Christmas. The foreclosure will take place January 21 and 26. It is Farmer's understand-

ing the project was not well structured financially; the total mortgage is too high for the project to support. HUD has guaranteed the loan and will assume ownership following foreclosure. The next step is for HUD to appraise the buildings to determine Fair Market Value.

Regional Arts Commission grant—SDCC has received \$10,000 grants the past two years and has sponsored concert series, dinner theatre, reader's theatre, spring concert, house tour, and King commemoration. D. McGuire suggested SDCC try to fund a semi-permanent awning or cover for the stage at Four Corners rather than renting band shells for concerts.

Fred's Liquor Store 3 a.m. license application—First protest hearing was December 14. That was the cut-off date for new signatures on petitions for or against the application. The second hearing is January 15. Between the two hearings, individuals who have signed either petition can change their minds. The commissioner's office is also conducting an investigation to verify signatures and determine the total number eligible to sign. Mr. Edwards has to have a majority of both property owners and first floor tenants to get the license. The protest strategy is to try to persuade property owners who have signed in favor to reverse their position. E. Sanders is working very hard on this. [Editor's note: The liquor license has since been denied for lack of sufficient signatures on petitions.]

CDA/St. Louis Centre Special Event—March 26, 1988, a one day "celebration" focusing on the City. CDA is not requiring SDCC to participate, but SDCC should be prepared to explain why, if we do not. It means some quick work—getting brochures printed, etc.—generally putting together an attractive booth. K. Hoerr suggested contacting other area organizations and sharing a "Central Corridor" booth. Directors agreed SDCC should participate.

Delmar angle parking—Several months ago when the City decided to install a center median, Grace and Peace asked if it would affect their angle parking on Sundays. Farmer talked with a City engineer who said the median was already striped off; it was not a traffic lane to begin with, so the median should have no effect on current parking status. It has, however caused problems for Stella Maris. Farmer was recently told by the Traffic Division that the area is being studied; any concerns the neighborhood has should be expressed to 26th Ward Alderwoman Marion Miller. Farmer distributed copies of a letter sent by Grace and Peace. Farmer asked if SDCC will also send a letter to Miller; directors approved.

1988 CDA grant—SDCC has been awarded \$7000 again this year under the Neighborhood Development Incentives Program. The terms and conditions are essentially the same; they reimburse SDCC monthly for a portion of the Director's salary.

Washington Heights Neighbors—The kickoff of their 25th anniversary was November 10. E. Sanders and N. Farmer attended and took a cake with a note of congratulations to the organization.

March 1988 Census—St. Louis is the only urban area to participate; the Census Bureau wants organizations like SDCC to be involved.

Year-end Report and Form 990—SDCC has hired Lee Shulte to prepare these the past two years; directors approved hiring him again this year.

Volleyball—M. Nodiff has suggested it would be fun to have an informal "volleyball night" once a week in the neighborhood. Farmer is certain wherever we played someone would have to provide liability insurance. Is this appropriate for SDCC to investigate? It was suggested that Farmer contact Art Santen who has a men's volleyball program already in place at St. Roch's.

Dinner Theatre—Farmer will be setting up a meeting later this month to start planning.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

You probably think that there's nothing to be said about the Football Cardinals' departure that's not already been said, twice. These days a weary smile of relief crosses my face when the headlines talk about anything other than the now-gone Big Dead. Heck, I'd rather read about Contra relief, voter fraud, or Famous-Barr red tag sales. Even so, I've beaten and battered the Big Dead in this space for almost a decade, so it doesn't seem appropriate to let them leave town without an observation or two.

I've been a dissatisfied St. Louis pro football fan for almost 25 years now, so the loss of the Big Dead gives me the same mixed emotions as trading in an old car that never worked right. I'm pleased to be done with the radio that wouldn't stay on the station setting, it's nice to know that I won't have to fill up the tank every 100 miles because the gas gauge doesn't work, and I'm happy to plan to have a car that will start in rainy weather. Still, I'll miss the old beast. At least I knew not to get my hopes up on those rainy mornings and expect it to start.

It seems to me that we focus on the big events and overlook the smaller, more intimate happenings in a community that really affect the quality of life. Sure, we read about the football team leaving and the Board of Freeholders meetings, but where do we read about the White Castle on Chouteau closing?

You may not remember the White Castle on Chouteau. Heck, you may not even know that it once was a White Palace. It's true! The building and parking lot are about 50 yards east of fourteenth street, on the north side of Chouteau. After being a White Castle it later became a Burger Chef, a Chinese fast food restaurant, and then a cleaners ("Starched jeans -50¢," the hand-printed sign said). Now it's closed. To non-locals, it was just another White Castle, but to those of us in the know, it was — and always will be — "The Leon Spinks Memorial White Castle."

You remember Leon Spinks, no doubt. He's the older brother of St. Louisan Michael Spinks and was the first in the family to win an Olympic Gold boxing medal and later become heavy-weight boxing champion of the world. Michael also won each, but Leon was the first in the family. If you looked at Leon and Michael together, there was a clear family resemblance, but it was also obvious that Leon was the older brother and had first choosing when the food went around the table. He was a much bigger, stockier fellow.

Well, years ago Leon was arrested for possession of narcotics at (where else?) the White Castle on Chouteau. It seems that Leon was wearing a big brimmed black hat (it's hard to imagine Leon wearing a white hat) when he was stopped by a policeman for questioning. Leon, never the subtle type, immediately yanked off his hat and threw it on to the roof of a nearby parked car in the White Castle lot. The police officer, a courteous fellow, retrieved the hat and handed it back to Leon. Leon just as quickly threw it on the auto roof again. The officer, smaller but smarter than Leon, thought this a bit funny and looked inside the hat. Guess where Leon had stashed his hash? Leon is still, I believe, serving time. So much for the "Leon Spinks Memorial White Castle." I can't believe it didn't get more press coverage when it closed. We may get another pro football franchise, but there will never be another "Leon Spinks Memorial White Castle."

How about the old Broadway Drive-In and the City Workhouse in South St. Louis? Do any of you young and dear readers remember them? The drive-in was located just north of where highway 55 and Broadway now intersect. The Chariton Shopping Center, in fact, sits on all of the space used for the workhouse and much of the space used for the drive-in. The shopping center is south and across from Minniewoods Park (honest!), just north of the Broadway exit from 55 and south of Meramec and Broadway. The drive-in and workhouse were torn down in the mid-1960's to make way for the highway.

Immediately north of where the drive-in stood, south of what is now the American Legion Hall, stood the City Workhouse. It was a white building, a couple stories tall and surrounded by a white fence with barbed wire on the top. Rumor had it that all of the prison rooms facing the drive-in screen—which pointed northwest and was easily seen from the Workhouse—were equipped with speakers so the prisoners could hear the movies as well as see them. I know, at night, you could sit in the drive-in and look at the prison windows and see the people inside watching the screen. I always wondered if the worst part of incarceration wasn't being forced to watch night after night after night of "Treasure of Sierra Madre."

What about the loss of Santoro's, not far from our own neighborhood, at Big Bend and Millbrook? It was a little family bar with a dart board. You could get semi-cool drinks and semi-efficient service, but they always came with a full smile. Once I even borrowed money from the bartender to use a pay phone. It was replaced a year or so ago with E.G.'s Millbrook Cafe. Millbrook was clearly designed to cater to suburban yuppies: lots of chrome, plants, linen table cloths, over-priced food, and a parking problem. There is some justice in the world though; Millbrook is already out of business. Someone was going to buy it and name it Montana's, but that fell through, too. Maybe we could dirty it up a bit, get rid of the fancy high-priced menu, put in a few dart boards, and call it Santoro's II? Son of Santoro's?

Then there was the loss of my best friend, Roger Perry. No, Roger didn't die, he just moved to Vermont. Now Roger wasn't fought over by the Mayor and County Supervisor, and no one called a press conference when he left, but it was a real loss for our community all the same. Roger was exceptionally good at working with people and building coalitions. He started out as a professor of education at Washington University, then moved to the St. Louis Public Schools where he thought of and began the School Partnership Program (one of the programs which today receives nothing but acclaim).

Politics is the name of the game, however, and when his boss, Superintendent Bob Wentz, moved to Las Vegas, Roger's position was deleted from the budget by a rival for the job. Roger looked around, found nothing to his liking, and is now in the Green Mountain State. I don't know how things would be different for us if Roger were here, but I truly believe that the St. Louis Public Schools, if not the entire community, would be in better shape. He was a catalyst and he made things, good things, happen.

How about the shutting of the Tivoli? The closing of the General Motors plant on Union Avenue? The retirement of Senator Eagleton? My dog Tokar's death? Those are the kinds of losses that really make a difference to the quality of life.

Sure, it looks bad for a pro football franchise to leave St. Louis. No question about it. But how bad would it have looked for 50,000 people to pay week after week to witness mediocrity? What does it say about discerning sports fans when they support a team that not only loses, but that year after year doesn't improve? Do you realize that the number of pro football playoff games played in St. Louis is equal to the number of men who have walked on Mars? The older I get, the more I find myself believing in the power of the marketplace. Good things should prosper, be they businesses, schools, or other institutions. Inefficient things should do poorly and go defunct, be they businesses, schools, or institutions.

The shame isn't that the Football Cardinals left town, it's that they didn't go out of business. If the free market really worked, they would have gone out of business and some entrepreneur would have started a new pro football franchise here in St. Louis. If he, or she, did a good job, the team would win and the seats would be full and questions of a new stadium or moving would be moot issues. Isn't

"If You Can Walk, You Can Dance"

"If You Can Walk, You Can Dance..."

The above motto of The International Folk Dance Association of University City will be "demonstrated" through a performance and workshop on Friday, February 19 at 8 p.m. as part of the ARTS GROUP 1988 CONCERT SERIES. This performance, followed by an open workshop on the basic steps of folk dancing, is open to all. There is a suggested donation of \$2.00.

The troupe of folk dancers consisting of five couples includes Dr. John Uhlemann, the director of the troupe and the instructor of this workshop. Dr. Uhlemann has made several trips to Romania, as well as Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and other European locations

to collect folk dances and to record the village folk music. The repertoire of the troupe focuses on authentic Romanian and French dances that are still done in villages today.

The work shop of approximately one hour following the folk dance performance will cover the basic steps of folk dancing, and will be led by Dr. Uhlemann with assistance from the members of the troupe. Babysitting will be provided at no cost, though children are welcome at the performance and workshop.

The performance and workshop, sponsored by THE ARTS GROUP, will be held at Grace and Peace Fellowship Church, 5574 Delmar at Clara, with parking along Delmar and along Clara. For further information, please call 367-8959 mornings, or 721-1285 evenings.

The Gallery of University City Library Seeks Artists

The Gallery of the University City Public Library is seeking professional artists for its seventh season of juried art exhibitions. The jury, consisting of Sherrye Cohn, Lawrence Steefel, and William Wallace, will meet in March to choose artists for the 1988-89 season which will begin in September.

Shows in The Gallery are hung for one month and are publicized through press releases and mailed invitations to the opening

reception. There are no jury fees. The deadline for submission of slides is February 29, 1988.

Twelve slides of recent work and a short resume are required and should be sent to Linda Ballard, University City Public Library, 6701 Delmar, 63130. The Gallery's exhibit space is most suited to wall-mounted work rather than pottery or free-standing objects.

For further information call Linda Ballard at the library, 727-3150.

it nice to think of what would have happened if Whitey Herzog could be in charge of a St. Louis pro football team?

Bring on an expansion football team, one that tries and improves and one we can sup-

port. In the meantime, does anyone have "Treasure of Sierra Madre" on videocassette? I'm looking for something to do on Sunday afternoons.

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