

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 19, NO. 2

MAY 1988

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Nina Place Rehab Underway:

## Condos Available This Summer

In St. Louis City's Central West End, Westminster Development Company has begun renovating the first of 38 homes that will comprise the first phase of DeBaliviere Place West Condominiums. The development is located in the 5800 block of Waterman Boulevard in the city's Central West End.

"DeBaliviere Place West offers city living at its best. The location is great, with Forest Park and the heart of the Central West End both within walking distance," said Dean Burns, Westminster president. "DeBaliviere Place West is also incredibly affordable. Prices start in the low \$70,000's and City of St. Louis financial incentives make it easy to qualify for ownership."

Current construction activities focus on a pair of brick six-family buildings located at 5803 Waterman Boulevard and 5817 Nina Place. The single-level plans have from 1,000 to 1,300 square feet with two bedrooms and two baths. All have a formal living room, separate dining room, a sunporch, a built-in laundry area, and a wood deck. Two display models are slated for completion early this summer.

"The interiors of the buildings are being completely gutted. All systems and interior finishes will be brand new," said Burns. "Exteriors will be carefully restored to their original turn-of-the-century elegance."

Standard features include woodburning fireplaces, with fresh air intakes and glass doors; minimum nine-foot ceiling heights

*Continued on page 4*



A rendering of the Nina Place redevelopment.



Delmar Baptist Church, at Washington and Skinker, represents the oldest congregation of any church in the neighborhood.

*Photo by King Schoenfeld*

## Renewal Characterizes Churches, Neighborhood

by King Schoenfeld

The churches and synagogues of the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood have played an integral part in the life of the area. In view of recent events, this article looks at our neighborhood and its religious congregations.

Most of those persons interviewed agreed that the churches are the anchors of the neighborhood—stabilizing factors in so far as they have stuck with the area. It also became clear that community support of the churches is an important part of the relationship.

Skinker-DeBaliviere might not be what it is today, if it were not for the efforts of some of

its churches. S-D Community Council President James McLeod points out that three of the area's churches helped found and support the Council. Today, McLeod says, the churches are an attractive reason to move into the neighborhood and are a resource for social service, spiritual care, social, and recreational activities.

On the other hand, McLeod notes, neighbors provide support for the churches to the degree that neighbors are members. It is this mutual support that characterizes some of our more active, growing churches.

*Continued on page 7*

## Important Street Cleaning Information

Over recent years, city government has received countless complaints from city residents regarding the deteriorating condition of street sweeping signs and the inconvenient sweeping schedule. Recently, the Street Department introduced measures to address both problems.

Work is currently underway to replace 80,000 street cleaning signs. Signs are being replaced in the areas where street cleaning is provided twice a month. This figure represents approximately 60% of the City.

The existing signage is being replaced with rust-free fiberglass signs. The life expectancy of the new signs is considerably longer than five years. The current signs in use are made of aluminum and steel. Over a period of time, these signs rust and become illegible. The cost of replacing the deteriorating signs is estimated at \$485,000.

Another change instituted by the Street Department is a new street sweeping schedule. The new hours will be 8:30 a.m. to noon and noon to 3:30 p.m. Previously, street sweeping was provided during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 3:00

p.m. City residents were often inconvenienced by the street sweeping schedule that began at 7:00 a.m. With the new schedule, residents will be able to leave their cars parked in front of their homes until they leave for work in the morning.

Approximately 50 street department employees will assist with the installation of the new signs. The method used to replace the signs will be based on the street sweeping route. **Street sweeping will resume approximately 30 days after all of the signs along a particular route have been replaced.** It is estimated that the installation of the 80,000 signs should be completed by the early fall.

City residents are asked to pay close attention to the new sweeping schedule. During the installation period of the signs, the Police Department will not be ticketing vehicles for street cleaning violations. **As soon as the new signs are installed, the Police Department will resume ticketing vehicles which are parked in violation of the signs.**

Watch future issues of *The Times* for information concerning the start of the new schedule.

# 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                     | Judy and Bob Little             |
| <b>Sue and Sandy Rothschild</b>                         | <b>Anonymous</b>                |
| Venita and Richard Lake                                 | <b>Anonymous</b>                |
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| <b>Margaret Droege</b>                                  | <b>JoAnn and Neville Vatcha</b> |
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| Nancy & Richard Rice                                    | John and Cindy Curley           |
| <b>5900 Block of DeGiverville</b>                       |                                 |
| Thank you to Bill Christman from Karen Largen           |                                 |
| Tribute to The Beagles Softball Team from Larry O'Neill |                                 |

# Alderman McGuire Responds To Redevelopment Criticism

I feel obliged to respond to Mr. Bob Dowgwillo's letter concerning proposed public financial assistance for the redevelopment of the 57XX block of McPherson which appeared in the April issue of *The Times*.

While his remarks certainly reflect a limited knowledge and understanding of the City's redevelopment problems and strategies, his choice of derogatory words also leads one to question his motives. Such phrases as "What these funds would be used for makes one wonder to what depths our public policy has descended;" and "That these are considered appropriate uses of public money suggests both an ethical insincerity and a distorted vision of what the government role in community development should be;" are hard for me to accept. I only wish he had shared his "sincere and clear vision" with us so that we could correct our ways.

If the City didn't have problems, we would not have blocks and blocks of deteriorated and vacant buildings and lots. If it were easy to redevelop this blight, our free market economy would have done so. The fact is that for many areas it is economically impossible to do so without governmental assistance, whether from tax abatement, eminent domain, financial grants or low-interest loans. I firmly believe that if the City had not generously used these tools in the last twenty years, the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood would today be a wasteland. And we are not finished yet.

Nor is this ancient history, two major developers have gone bankrupt recently in our area. Michael Beardon, who tried to rehab a sizable amount of apartments without tax abatement or other assistance, failed miserably and left several vacant and deteriorated buildings in the area in his wake, particularly on Mr. Dowgwillo's 61XX block of Pershing. These buildings were only saved after a massive infusion of public assistance, but are now in great shape with 100 percent occupancy and a benefit to the community. I do not seem to remember that Mr. Dowgwillo wrote a letter complaining about public financial help for his block's redevelopment.

Further, even with tax abatement and government backed low-interest financing, City Equity went bankrupt rehabbing the 12 buildings at Washington and Rosedale; and Nina Place has waited 15 years before we now see the beginning of its rebirth.

Rebuilding our City is *not* easy, it is very expensive and sometimes painful. I wish Mr. Dowgwillo would have asked the property owners of the 57XX block of McPherson how they felt about the proposal. These people have had the threat of eminent domain over their heads for 15 years. I believe that the current developer should be commended for devising a plan, and investing his dollars, which not only allows them to remain in their homes, but for the first time seeks to assist existing owners in a redevelopment area with funds to help them rehabilitate their buildings. This not only helps the developer and these homeowners, but also the surrounding property owners and the neighborhood in general. As these property values increase, so do all of ours, and we are not forced to relocate long-time residents.

Yes, we do have problems with our schools, the police department, and capital improvement needs. That is exactly why we need to provide extra incentives for families to live and buy homes in certain parts of the City. Furthermore, the federal monies spent for housing redevelopment can *not* be used to solve these other problems.

While the vitality and viability of our City can not be assured until all of these problems have been corrected, it serves no worthwhile purpose not to take advantage of federal monies because all of them are not solved. It is the old "chicken and egg" conundrum. As difficult as physically restoring our neighborhoods is, we have had many successes, especially in the Central West End and Skinker-DeBaliviere. Rebuilding our schools and infrastructure while maintaining a first class police department is much more difficult. But if our neighborhoods continue to grow and prosper, we come closer to solving these problems as well.

—Dan McGuire  
28th Ward Alderman

## 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:

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### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

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

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

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

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

Send all correspondence to 6010a Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 15th of the month.

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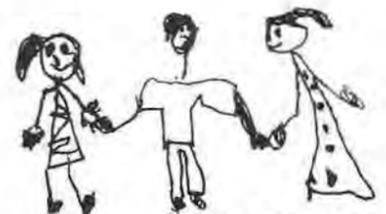
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# May Calendar

## Continuing

Through May 22: Frederic Remington: The Masterworks. Special Exhibition Galleries. Art Museum.

Through August 21: Stitches in Air: Early European Laces from the Collection. This exhibit shows fine laces from the 16th to the 19th century. Gallery 100, Art Museum.

Through May 29: William Quinn: Travels Through Flanders and Francesco Clemente and Sandro Chia: Works on Paper. Elliot Smith Gallery 360 North Skinker.

Through May: Informational open house at Riverway, St. Louis's only downtown elementary school, every Wednesday. Call 231-4409 for information.

Growing Up in St. Louis: children's activities from the 1870s to 1940s. Missouri Historical Society. Free.

- 1 Dawn S. Wilkinson shows Pieced Clothing and Wall Quilts at Componere Gallery, 6509 Delmar, through May 31.
- 2 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meets**, 7:30 p.m., 6010a Kingsbury. Public welcome.
- 5 "Behind the Scenes at the National Air and Space Museum," talk by Claudia Oakes. 7:00 p.m., Missouri Historical Society. Free.
- 6 "The Golden Age of Flight," seminar by Claudia Oakes. 1:00 p.m. Missouri Historical Society. \$20 per person.
- The Maltese Falcon (film), with Humphrey Bogart. 1:30, 7:00 & 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.
- Artist Poojie Bjerklie shared slides of her work in clothing and furniture. 8:00 p.m., Grace & Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar.
- 7 **Kingsbury Kiosk 5th Anniversary Celebration**, 11:30 a.m., Kingsbury at Des Peres. See related article.
- 28th Ward Annual Flower Sale, Pasta House Co., Delmar at Old Bonhomme.
- Craft Alliance Spring Sale, 6640 Delmar, 10:00-5:00. Objects will be priced from \$5 to \$40.
- Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Central West End Association. Activities include walking tours, special exhibitions, and a raffle. Call 367-2220 for details.
- Ritual Room II: Rites of Spring, a multi-media exhibition, opens with a public reception from 2-5 p.m., Craft Alliance, 6640 Delmar. Continues through May 28.
- 8 **Deep Like the River: African Tales**. Storytelling by Ashley Bryan. 2:30. Art Museum Auditorium. Free.
- 28th Ward Mother's Day Brunch, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Pasta House Co., Delmar at Old Bonhomme. Call Dee Suda at 647-4977.
- 12 **Tea Lecture, "Interiors: 1904,"** talk by Joyce Schiller, 1:30 p.m. Missouri Historical Society, \$3, call 361-1424.
- 13 **The Treasure of the Sierra Madre** (film). 1:30, 7:00 & 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.
- 15 "Happy Birthday, Harry Truman," talks and stories from the Truman Era Research Program. 2:00 p.m., Missouri Historical Society, Free.
- "The Ugly Duckling," participation play for youngsters based on the story by Hans Christian Anderson, will be performed by the Student Theatre Project, 1:00 and 3:30, New City School.
- 17 **Rosedale Neighbors Meeting**. Pot luck dinner, 6:30 p.m., with program following on "City Landscaping & Gardening." Elections will be held. 28th Ward HQ, Kingsbury at Des Peres.
- 19 **Annual Ice Cream Social**, 7:00 p.m. till dusk, Grace United Methodist Church, Waterman at Skinker.
- 20 **The African Queen** (film), with Humphrey Bogart. 1:30, 7:00 & 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.
- 21 **Steinberg Skating Rink** begins the roller skating season with a fund-raising session for Forest Park Forever; 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
- 23 **Chamber Music For Piano and Strings**: Catherine Lehr Ramos, cello; Manuel Ramos, violin; Seth Carlin, piano. 8:00 p.m., Grace & Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar. Suggested donation \$2.
- 24 **Les Miserables** (film), with Charles Laughton. 7:30, Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.
- 26 **B.A.D. Talent Show**. 6:30 p.m., Hamilton Community School.
- 27 **The Dead** (film), directed by John Huston. 1:30, 7:00 & 9:15, Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.
- 30 **St. Louis Post-Dispatch/University City Library Memorial Day Run**. 5K, 10K and a fun run will be held. Call 727-3150 for registration material.
- 31 **Rear Window** (film), directed by Alfred Hitchcock. 7:30. Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.

# Kiosk Marks 5th Birthday On May 7



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Kiosk May 1983.

by Mary Ann Shickman

The Kingsbury kiosk at the corner of Kingsbury and Des Peres will celebrate its fifth birthday on Saturday, May 7. The kiosk, built on the site of the old Des Peres branch library which was destroyed by fire in 1982, was formally opened on May 7, 1983. At the 1983 dedication, a wide red ribbon was tied around the building. Several people cut the ribbon during the dedication ceremonies which were attended by about thirty persons. The doors were open for business.

The birthday festivities on May 7 will begin at 11:30 with balloons, punch, and birthday cake. Among the guests invited to the party are neighborhood dignitaries, representatives of the Police and Fire departments, St. Louis Public Library executive director Glen Holt, and Library staff. All neighborhood residents are invited to join in. Jim McLeod, President of SDCC will preside.

The kiosk and grounds will have a new look at the time of the birthday celebration. Bill Christman, an artist who works in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood, plans to paint the kiosk building a mahogany color. In addition, volunteers will plant spring flowers and a row of poplar trees along the fence of the kiosk lot. Funds for the plantings and for painting the kiosk have been contributed by neighborhood residents.

Contributions have been received from Bill Christman, Marlon Fields, the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, St. Roch's Parish, Lois Schoemehl, Kate Rosenblum, Ken Anderson, Karen Largen, Kim Tucci and Dee Suda, 28th Ward Committeemen; Christine and Bruce Smith, and Calvin Stuart.

Kiosk benefactors will be recognized at the birthday celebration. Certificates will be given to volunteers, while those who contributed to the improvements will receive honorable mentions.

The Kingsbury kiosk meets the reading needs of its neighborhood. Using the Library's new efficient and streamlined request system, it gives same-day or 24 hour service on books requested from and found on the shelves in other locations of the St. Louis Public Library. The compact, modular and energy-efficient kiosk's circulation ranges from 1000 to 1700 books per month, depending on the season—a very respectable number for the smallest library in the system.

If you are in the neighborhood, drop by on May 7.

## Ice Cream Social To Profit Breitmayer Ministry

The Annual Ice Cream Social, sponsored by the Breitmayer Community Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church at the corner of Skinker & Waterman will be held on the Terrace of the church on May 19 at 7 p.m. until Dusk.

This year, the Social will offer ice cream with a choice of five toppings and homemade cakes.

There will be entertainment by several singing groups and an evening of friends enjoying meeting with friends. Drop by, won't you?

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## Annual Run To Benefit U. City Library

ST. LOUIS  
POST-DISPATCH/UNIVERSITY  
CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MEMORIAL DAY RUN

On your marks! The St. Louis Post-Dispatch/University City Public Library Memorial Day Run starts at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, May 30 in front of City Hall. As in past years, there is a 10K and a 5K event as well as two one-mile Fun Runs for children and their parents. The 10K run begins at 7:30 a.m.; the 5K at 9 a.m.; and the Fun Runs begin at 9:45 a.m. for older children and 10 a.m. for kids 9 years old or younger.

The entry fee is \$4 for participants under 19; \$5 for adults; and \$17 for the entire family. Each entrant will receive the race T-shirt. Trophies are awarded for winners in all age categories in the 5K and 10K runs and there are several special awards as well. There is a trophy for the school with the most participants, for the oldest finisher in the 10K event, and for the family with the most finishers. This year, the 10K run will serve as the 10K event for the St. Louis Senior Olympics as well. Senior Olympic entrants are eligible for awards in both the Memorial Day Run and the Senior Olympics. Entry forms with complete race information are available at the Library.

Late registration and packet pick-up will be at the library on Sunday, May 29, from 2-5 p.m. Late registration fees are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children—there is no special family rate available on this date.

This is the fifth year that the library has coordinated the Memorial Day Run. It is a fund raiser which in the past has added hundreds of new books to the library and paid for a part-time archivist to organize and preserve the collection of local history the library owns. The money earned by this year's event will be used in part to upgrade the on-line catalog and circulation system hardware in order to bring patrons better service.

For further information, call the library, 727-3150.

## Learning And Loving Mark Grace Pre-School

Grace Church Pre-School offers a half-day program that provides an environment for children to develop—physically, socially, emotionally, and intellectually—with the belief that young children learn through PLAY. It offers activities in Art, Music, Science, and Storytelling.

The program offers provision for active and quiet periods and a balance between teacher-directed and child-initiated activities. Classes are small, providing for individualized attention and enabling the Staff to build positive self-images for children. The emphasis is human understanding...And there is love!

On Tuesday after Labor Day, 1962, Grace Church Pre-School, 6177 Waterman, opened its doors for the first time. It had been perceived that there was a need for early childhood

services in the community and Grace United Methodist Church assumed responsibility as part of its mission. The school has generated a great amount of good-will and warm feelings for Grace. To date, more than 700 children throughout the area have been involved in the half-day program.

### SCHEDULE

The school is open five days a week:  
8:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

The Director welcomes inquiries and encourages you to visit the school on the first floor of Friendship House of Grace United Methodist Church, 6177 Waterman (Skinker at Waterman), St. Louis, Missouri 63112. Phone: 863-1992.



Fun activities at Grace Pre-school.

### Nina Place redevelopment

Continued from page 1

throughout; plush carpeting in entertaining areas and bedrooms; and mini-blinds.

Kitchens boast Euro-style cabinets with built-in cooktop ranges, dishwashers, double-bowl stainless steel sinks with disposals, and premium sheet vinyl flooring.

A private storage area is provided in the basement. Each owner enjoys secured off-street parking.

Building entries are electronically monitored as are the private entries to each condominium. Residents also benefit from the private security service supplied by the DeBaliviere Place neighborhood and are eligible to join the nearby DeBaliviere Place Swim and Tennis Club.

To keep heating and cooling costs low, the condominiums are packed with energy-saving features. Roofs are insulated to a factor of R-40, sidewalls to R-13, and basement ceilings to R-11. Windows are double-glazed thermal break units which tilt-in for easy cleaning. A high-efficiency gas-fired furnace and air conditioning system, with a set-back thermostat, is included.

During this pre-opening phase, homes at DeBaliviere Place West are priced from \$73,500. Purchasers are eligible to receive up to \$7,500 in For Sale Incentive Program (FSIP) funds to buy down interest rates or to apply toward closing costs. Buyers can also gain 95 percent 30-year fixed rate loans through the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). In addition, buyers will pay minimal property taxes for the first 10 years of ownership and enjoy 50 percent property tax abatement for the following 15 years.

For information on pre-grand opening priority reservations, call Burns weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 776-2077.



**SDCC**  
SKINKER  
DEBALIVIERE  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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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.

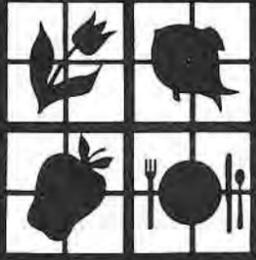


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# Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

Thanks to all of you who noticed that this column did not appear last month. As Karen Bynum so aptly put it, "I don't see why you can't hold two part-time jobs, be a full-time mother, be in this play and also write your column. What's wrong with you anyway?" I don't know, just lazy I guess. Thanks to all of you, like Karen, who understood.

Speaking of the play, it was great to see so many friends and neighbors at the Center of Contemporary Art for the Skinker-DeBaliviere theater performance April 9. Believe me, up there on that lonely stage, it was so wonderful to see so many smiling, encouraging faces. The performance was dedicated to the memory of Betty Nerviani, a long-time neighborhood resident, and frequent participant in neighborhood theater productions. Al Nerviani was in the audience and even promised to join a future cast. Personally speaking, it was a real pleasure to get to know well a number of neighbors whom I only knew casually before. A special treat was the opportunity to know and work with Rita Washington-Sweets, who directed the show. Rita, formerly of 6100 Westminster, now of 5600 Kingsbury, is the Director of the Artists-in-Education Residency Program of Young Audiences, Inc., 5615 Pershing.

Dan Shea, 6100 Kingsbury, was unable to be on hand to see his wife, Kathleen Williams, perform in the show. He was performing himself that night at the Edison Theater in Washington University's production of *Equus*. Dan was walking on a cloud when he showed up at our dress rehearsal, April 8. It seems that the cast of *Equus* had received a standing ovation that night.

Congratulations to another thespian, Mary Bea Stout, 6100 McPherson. Mary Bea appeared in *Voices*—an experimental theatre project—at the Mildred E. Bastian Center for the Performing Arts on the Forest Park Community College Campus.

Dr. Larry Gallamore, pastor at Grace United Methodist, Skinker and Waterman, is teaching a course in psychoneuroimmunology at Grace, which is also being taken as a correspondence course by people in St. Louis, as well as New York, and even one person in Europe. The course shows ways in which emotions and attitudes, both negative and positive, effect health and illness.

Dr. Carol Peck, 6100 McPherson, of the UMSL School of Optometry, was recently awarded a five-year, \$600,000 federal grant. The grant will be used to study the eyes' response to stimuli, designed to help researchers to better understand some neurological disorders. This represents the largest research grant ever awarded to someone at UMSL.

Congratulations to Mary Karr and John Sappington, 6100 Kingsbury, on the birth of their daughter, Anne Karr Sappington, on Easter Sunday, April 3. Baby Anne weighed in at eight and a half pounds.

DeWitt Campbell, 6100 Pershing, a sophomore at Roosevelt, was selected by the faculty there to be the first participant in a rural-urban student exchange program. DeWitt spent two weeks in February on the Proffitt family farm in Richmond, Missouri. Mr. Proffitt is a school board member in Rich-



The May 9th performance of "West of Pecos" was an outstanding display of neighborhood talent. The cast, eighteen members strong, was led by Rita Washington-Sweets. The production was followed by a buffet reception, featuring the culinary talents of other neighbors and friends.

mond. Another sophomore from that school district was selected to spend two weeks in the city with the family of Marjorie Smith, a member of the St. Louis School Board. DeWitt, 16, says he learned a lot about rural living, and found that it wasn't all the way he had thought it would be.

Susan and Sandy Rothschild, 6200 Washington, had a splendid vacation earlier this year in Barbados. They visited Sandy's mother who vacations there from her home in Toronto. They were also able to spend a few days visiting Disney World and Epcot with Sandy's brother and his family.

Betty Klinefelter, 6100 Kingsbury, has been traveling again. She took a wonderful cruise to South America in March. They stopped in Caracas to sight-see and continued down the Atlantic coast past Devil's Island which was deserted in 1947, and quite eerie. The cruise continued on to the mouth of the Amazon, and then traveled 1,000 miles up the Amazon to Manaus, Brazil, a city of a million people. Along the way, they stopped at three villages; one so primitive, Betty said she felt as though she had stepped into another century. At some stops, the passengers even had to wade into the shore. Most of the time, however, the travelers were not "roughing-it." The cruise ship served six meals a day, and featured wonderful entertainment nightly. Never one to stay at home and rest, Betty also traveled to Chicago this past month to see the Georgia O'Keefe exhibition.

Other neighbors had spring vacations as well. Tom and Karleen Hoerr, 6100 Kingsbury, vacationed in Hawaii in March. Clare Kerz, 6100 Washington, spent her spring break in Florida.

Welcome to the neighborhood to August and Christopher White, 6100 Washington. Originally from Washington, D.C., the Whites are more recently from Little Rock, where Christopher was in the military for five years and August received her Masters in Operations Management. Christopher now works in the Assets, Management and Pension Services department of Travelers Insurance Co. August is currently job-hunting.

Next time there should be lots of baby news, there are many on the way. Til then...

## McDonalds Shares With Area Art Council

The West End Neighborhood Arts Council received a \$250 contribution from Jim Perry, owner of McDonald's at 5863 Delmar, April 14. Accepting the check is the newly elected President of WENAC, Polly O'Brien, and looking on is SDCC/WENAC Director, Nancy Farmer.

The contribution will be used as a portion of the cash match for a grant from the Regional Arts Commission which supports a variety of WENAC sponsored events: an outdoor concert series, "Art Exposed" studio/gallery tour, and "An Afternoon of Spirituals" concert by Mary Henderson. WENAC has also received donations from Ben Wells, Pasta House Company, Pantheon, Pitzman Company of Surveyors, BBY and Associates, Elliot Smith Gallery, Parkview Properties, Lois Schoemehl, Polly O'Brien, and Alderman Dan McGuire. WENAC receives substantial support from the Central West End Savings and Loan.

WENAC incorporated in 1982 to plan, promote, and implement arts and cultural activities to serve residents of the City's West End. The organization is governed by a fifteen member board of directors including: Polly O'Brien (president), Leslie Peters (vice president), Karleen Hoerr (treasurer), Ken Anderson, Mary Bartley, Mary Jo Biondo, Susan Fay, Kathleen Hamilton, Gary Hayes, Bill Kohn, Claudia Lawrenz, Jim McLeod, Paula Repetto, Kate Rosenbloom, and Elliot Smith. WENAC receives operating and administrative support from the Regional Arts Commission and the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council.

Anyone interested in learning more about the organization may call 862-5122.



West End Arts Council's new President Polly O'Brien (left) with Jim Perry, owner of the Delmar McDonalds, and Nancy Farmer, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council's executive director.

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# New Market In The Loop Promises Expanded Services



The new Market In The Loop.

Photo by King Schoenfeld

Market In The Loop, a long awaited mixed-use development featuring an outdoor food market and an indoor food court, at 6655 Delmar in the University City Loop Area, opened its outdoor market to the public on Thursday, March 31.

The outdoor market, a long-time staple in the shopping itineraries of residents of University City, Clayton, Richmond Heights, and the West End of St. Louis City, features a variety of produce and fresh food vendors, including three fruit vendors, an international cheese shop, a barbecue stand, and a fresh fish stand—Bob's Seafood. There will also be a t-shirt and light apparel booth participating in the outdoor market.

The Market In The Loop is managed by Rodan Management Inc., who also acted as the project's developer. Rodan Management is owned by Dan and Robin Wald, who have developed and now manage a number of developments throughout the United States.

"What we were looking to do was develop a project that made sense within the current and historical scope of the Loop area," says Dan Wald, a native of University City. "The outdoor market had been around for a long

time and it only made sense to develop a project that augmented that."

Market In The Loop will include seating for over 100 people, including ample indoor seating and then outside seating during fair weather months. The outdoor area will be fashioned after urban malls in California, where dining within a spacious garden setting is the norm. The indoor food court will open in early June featuring a wide variety of eclectic cuisines including Mangia Italiano, an Italian specialty food shop; Scoops In The Loop, frozen custard with a twist; Med Cafe, serving Mediterranean foods, and even a food stall serving Chinese pancakes and Mongolian barbecue. In addition to the food booths, Town and Country Cut Flowers will be an indoor tenant. At all times, an extra stall will be kept available to provide space for special fund-raising activities and occasional tenant usage.

"We're trying to make this as amenable to the urban, walking environment already at place in the Loop as possible," says Robin Wald. "In fact, we even hope to enhance that environment by providing entertainment and art exhibits, along with other special events throughout the year."

## Independent Schools Host Open House

On Saturday, May 7, The Educational Confederation and West County Center will co-sponsor an information program for families who wish to learn about independent elementary and secondary schools in the St. Louis area. The program, which is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., will be held at West County Center (I-270 and Manchester Road). Families are encouraged to come and meet with representatives from the independent schools and to receive more information about the admission process and financial aid options.

Also, throughout the day, students from these schools will present short skits, a puppet show, folk dancing, and chorus performances. The Educational Confederation is an

association of 24 St. Louis area independent elementary and secondary schools. Through The Confederation, the schools work together toward increasing community awareness of independent school education and providing for the professional growth of school administrators, teachers, and boards. The member schools are: Andrews, Chesterfield Day, Childgrove, Churchill, College, Community, Crossroads, Forsyth, John Burroughs, Logos, Mary Institute, New City, Rohan Woods, Ronald Beasley, Rossman, St. Louis Country Day, St. Michael, Solomon Schechter, Thomas Jefferson, Villa Duchesne/Oak Hill, Westminster Christian, Whitfield, Wilson.

# May Opening For New Kingsbury Square Phase

Kingsbury Square developer and builder Martin Jaffe recently announced plans for construction of "The Court," a new phase of the popular West End development. Kingsbury Square is located off DeBaliviere just north of the Forest Park Expressway in the eastern portion of the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood.

The Kingsbury Square Court will consist of six, two-story, fee simple townhouses. Each unit will have two-car garages, woodburning fireplaces, secured, separate entryways, and wood decks. Unit sizes will start at 1,200 square feet with two bedrooms. In the largest unit (1,500 square feet) plans can be modified to provide three bedrooms.

The floor plans include large living rooms and bedrooms, dining areas, well-designed kitchens, and one and a half baths, with the option of an additional bath on the second floor.

As with all previous construction in Kingsbury Square, the Court will incorporate energy saving features, such as high levels of insulation, water saving faucets and plumbing fixtures, and maintenance-free vinyl siding and trim. All units will have natural gas-forced air heating, central air, smoke detectors, and copper water pipes. High quality tile, carpet, wood flooring, vanities, cabinets, and counter tops will be used on the interiors, with purchaser able to make a choice of colors and finishes.

Pre-construction prices start at \$114,950 for Model I, \$117,950 for Model II, and \$119,500 for Model III, the largest unit. Construction will begin June 1, with occupancy in September, 1988.

In addition to the project being tax-abated (the annual tax bill should be less than \$100), \$8,500 is available from the Community Development Agency to play for closing

costs, points, and a possible buy-down on the loan. This money is not limited to first-time home buyers, nor does it have any income requirements above and beyond the purchaser's ability to qualify for conventional financing.

On May 22, an open house will be held to formally introduce the public to the Court. At that time, extensive floor plans, a list of options, elevations, and samples will be available. Everyone is invited to drop by between 1 and 4 p.m. to tour Kingsbury Square and hear about the entire development.

Kingsbury Square is open daily 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. In addition to the Court, there are several rowhomes and one twin home still available. Call 367-6100 or 367-5650 for information.

## Summer Classes At Craft Alliance

Registrations are now being accepted for enrollment in the summer session of visual arts classes at Craft Alliance Education Center, 6640 Delmar. Classes for children and adults begin June 6 and include ceramics, weaving, metalsmithing, sculpture, cartooning, fabric design, and painting and drawing. Many intensive courses are offered for children ages 6-15, including "Live the Life of A Potter," "Exploring Living Things Through Art," "Puppet and Mask Theatre," and "Arts Experience."

Fees for summer classes range from \$40-\$80. For further information or to receive a brochure, please call 725-1177.

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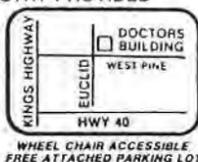
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# Churches

Continued from page 1.

## Within Walking Distance...

Years ago many residents of this area were Jewish and their places of worship were within walking distance.

Today there are eight churches within the Skinker-DeBaliviere area: Delmar Baptist and Grace Methodist on Skinker; Grace and Peace Fellowship, Olivette Missionary Baptist (a former synagogue), Westminster Presbyterian and Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah Witnesses on Delmar; Pattison Baptist on DeBaliviere (also a former synagogue); and St. Roch's Roman Catholic Church on Waterman.

A long-time resident, Sandy Rothschild of Parkview, recalls using the Delmar Baptist gym as a youth. "One way Parkview neighbors have related to the three nearby churches is by their participation in some of the extra services, beside the religious ones—the pre-school and senior citizen activities. The Parkview Association's annual meetings have been held in these buildings for the past eighty years," Rothschild adds.

Phil Roberts, a relatively new resident of Rosedale, began attending Delmar Baptist last year. "I want to support a neighborhood church," he says, "and I welcomed the convenience of being able to walk to church. Not too many other neighbors seem to attend," he adds.

Delores Hoefel of Rosedale also values the accessibility of the churches. "I think it helps create a diversity (and) a closeness that makes our community unique. Even those that don't attend here support these churches," she adds.

Hoefel tells the story of a non-Catholic neighbor who came to Father Polizzi, asking that he pray for her son who had fallen from the roof of their home. "The next Sunday he announced it from the pulpit," she recalls.

Delmar Baptist also ran an active scouting program. Today the church continues its basketball and after-school programs.

Yet, according to Tanner, their membership is older, smaller, and without the energy of previous years. In 1979, a proposal to move was voted down, Tanner recalls, but now only a remnant of that group remains. Recently, the congregation reportedly approved a proposal in principal to relocate at an unspecified time in the future.

Tanner's pastor, the Rev. Samuel Binch, says that the church's membership fell from a high of 1500 members, with the largest exodus occurring in the fifties. Now the congregation has 200 active members.

"We have deep roots here," says Rev. Binch, but he points out that much of their huge building is unused, in spite of the use of the gym by neighborhood children and their summer day camp. "Whom do you program for?" the pastor asks. "Do you have a dual congregation? We provide a service, but that's quite separate from the life of the congregation."

Also affecting urban churches over the years has been the increased use of automobiles by members, many of whom now drive in from miles away and need parking space.

"The major problem of Delmar Baptist and Grace Methodist," according to Bruce Tanner, seems to be "parking, pure and simple." Yet, Tanner personally believes "that vital programs will draw people, parking or not."

## What Makes for Success?

"The church is *people*," Msgr. Sal Polizzi of St. Roch's insists. "Without people there's no church." This axiom is especially appropriate for St. Roch's, which is unique among



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Grace United Methodist Church, Skinker at Waterman.

Pre-School for 26 years and began an adult day care center two years ago.

Grace Methodist's pastor, Dr. Larry Galamore, dates Grace's long tradition of community service to 1974, when it initiated its "Breitmeyer Community Service." Named after a member whose tireless assistance to community people was cut short by his death, the ministry employs its own staff.

"We've put on additional staff—we employ fourteen now," reports Dr. Galamore. "We've only got 500 members, but strong members, and we're growing. We're getting singles and younger couples."

Dr. Galamore explains, "The congregation felt we had a substantial investment here, and decided five years ago to stay and grow—and develop as many community ministries as possible to help the neighborhood, because that helps us grow."

"A church has to make up its mind to grow," Galamore says. "If you don't grow, you die. The community is renewing, the whole area—housing, parking. Now is the time for churches in this area to grow."

## Problems Will Be Solved

According to James McLeod, the area's parking problem "stems from our success as a neighborhood. It's not a church or a Parkview problem, but one that affects certain blocks." McLeod is sure that a solution can be found and considers the churches "very helpful in cooperating toward a solution."

"It takes a little work to make relationships successful," Sandy Rothschild comments, representing the Parkview Association. "I think in the last few months we've resolved most problems."

In fact, the Community Council, the Skinker Planning Committee, the alderman and Grace Methodist have been working together to expand available parking and to reach a mutually satisfactory arrangement for Sunday parking in Parkview and on the west side of Skinker. The Planning Committee's chairman, Paul Repetto, says that "the committee stands ready to help (the churches), if they so choose."



Grace and Peace Fellowship (Presbyterian), Delmar at Clara (Built for Central Presbyterian, then occupied by Temple B'nai El).

Photo by King Schoenfeld

## Time Has Changed Churches and Neighborhood

The Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood has experienced extensive changes; so have its churches. As in other relationships, however, change can divide as well as bring together.

Bruce Tanner of Rosedale watched the area undergo decades of economic and racial change until it stabilized as an integrated neighborhood. He recalls that his church, Delmar Baptist, relocated here in the 1920's. "Most of our members lived in the area," he says. "Now most drive in."

Tanner credits Delmar Baptist, Grace Methodist and St. Roch's with seeing the needs of the area's residents and responding with various programs. His church ran a Head Start Program for years, first in north St. Louis and later at the church. Like the three other churches and Hamilton School,

Skinker-DeBaliviere churches in that its members include all Roman Catholics who live in the area. This may account for the loyalty of St. Roch's members, both to the neighborhood and to their church and school.

Grace and Peace Fellowship, which relocated from Four Corners to a church building on Delmar a few years ago, is another congregation with a special interest in investing in its neighborhood. In the group's early years, rehabilitation of aging housing stock characterized the church. Its members worshipped in quarters they had attractively renovated. Recently, the TIMES featured Grace and Peace's successful night shelter for homeless women.

Delores Hoefel, a member of St. Roch's, is employed by Grace Methodist's Pre-School. "As long as I've lived here, Grace has always been reaching out. They knew what the city needed." She noted that the church has run its



St. Roch Roman Catholic Church

Photo by King Schoenfeld

## In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Dear Uncle Zeke,

Thanks for your recent letter. It is always nice to hear from you, even though the letter came with postage due. I had been meaning to write you for some time now, but things have been busy here. I have a very close friend who collects shoes and she's trying to place them in alphabetical order, by color. I never imagined that there could be so many colors... or shoes! You wouldn't believe what a chore this is; it would be easier to keep track of the number of fund-raising pleas that arrive in the mail each week!

I'm sorry to hear that you still aren't getting along with your cell-mate. He does sound a little strange, but then all of your cell-mates sound a little strange (what do they say about you?). I must admit, I've heard of someone playing music all day and all night, but never only one song. Listening to LaBamba over and over and over would get to me too. Does he really think that it's the national anthem of Panama? Don't do anything hasty or rash, Zeke. If, as you say, he was arrested for drawing smiley faces on the bottoms of people's feet, he clearly is an arch fiend.

You asked about the upcoming football season, what I thought of the Big Dead. To make a long story short, they really are the Big Dead. Like, they're gone. The St. Louis Cardinals are now the Phoenix Cardinals. Is that a hoot? We keep reading about the Sun Belt cities and how they're the wave of the future and how the old industrial cities—that's us—are dinosaurs whose best days are behind them. Well, that may be, but we get the last laugh: the Big Dead football draft is just around the corner and now they get to be surprised! The only bigger trick than sending them George Boone would be to send them the U.S.S. Admiral. (I wonder how we could do that? Maybe it could be docked by the London Bridge?)

So, you are due for a parole hearing next month? I wish you lots of luck. This time, you might not want to black out your front teeth and wear the plastic nose and glasses when you go before the board. I agree with you, I think that a sense of humor will help you in the outside world, but they may not. Also, uncle, I don't mean to give you advice, but remember how the last time you showed them how you could use your breathing exercises to make the tattooed lady on your belly do a dance? Why not keep her under wraps this time? I can loan you a spiffy tie if you'd like.

You also asked about the DeBaliviere shopping mall and how much money I've spent there. So far, not a lot. They're making nice progress and I'm hopeful it will be open in a summer, maybe even this summer! It will be nice to have an ice cream place, a video shop, two or three shoe stores, a cleaners, a bookstore, and a drugstore so close. Of course, then we'll have all kinds of vacant storefronts on Pershing, but that's not my problem. I hear that a combination Church's Chicken and methadone clinic is planning to go in on Pershing. Heck, having eaten their chicken, the methadone can only help!

Nina Place is something else. Remember a year or so ago when there was the very clever and well-written story in *The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere* about Nina Place becoming an amusement park? I thought it was a joke, but the joke's on me! It is an amusement park, but the theme has changed and it's a giant haunted-house complex. They have all of these old brick buildings that they restored and then fixed up to look vacant and dilapidated. I never cease to marvel at technology.

The local political scene has been pretty quiet. There were all kinds of people who had houses for sale and airplane reservations to Washington, but then Gephardt lost. It would have been nice to have a local boy in the White House, and I guess everyone is a local boy somewhere. Heck, Gary Hart is probably local in lots of places.

The Mayor and the County Supervisor haven't been squabbling much since the Big Dead football team left, although I did hear a rumor that McNary was trying to get the Bowling Hall of Fame relocated somewhere near Earth City. He wanted to tie it into a restaurant complex and use the slogan, "Buddy, can you spare a dine?" The Supervisor never was a very funny man. (For my money, I'd have the restaurant and the Bowling Hall of Fame right next to the anatomy exhibit in the Dog Museum; you could then feature "barbecued spare & ribs.")

We still have our local traffic problems. At the last Skinker-DeBaliviere meeting there was a proposal to have all of the neighborhood streets be one-way out. Westminster, for example, would go both east and west from Rosedale; you could drive out, but not in. It makes a lot of sense to me and I'm sure it will be approved at the next meeting. This, you'll remember, is the same august body that several years ago voted to close Skinker and re-route all the traffic across Rosedale.

Today wasn't a good day for me. I knew there would be a problem when I started out before breakfast by going to my CWES&L automatic teller machine (A.T.M.). Things have really changed, Zeke. Today if you need a little cash, you don't have to rob a bank or swindle some unsuspecting suburbanite; you can simply go to your ATM, insert your magic card, and "zows," money appears. Or so they say.

My problem is that I can never remember my P.I.N. (personal identification number). I solved the problem, though, by writing it on the back of my driver's licence (D.L.). The problem is that the back of my driver's licence also contains the number for my Schnuck's check cashing card, my Telex check cashing card, my locker combination at Wash U., and three other four-digit numbers whose derivation escapes me.

I inserted the card and pressed what I thought was the right number (R.N.). After a long pause the A.T.M. asked me to try again. I did, and we danced this song twice more before I heard a "woosh" sound and the A.T.M. ate my card. There I was, ready to go to a breakfast without any cash. You would've been proud of me though, Zeke. After some



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wonderful blueberry waffles, I was conveniently in the rest room when the check arrived. Unfortunately, the waitress was slow and I had to stay in there for a very long time. Did you know that a roll of toilet paper contains 1,268 panels? I now know that, but I still don't know my P.I.N. number.

I'll close now, I know that you have to study for your parole hearing. When you come out we'll go to dinner at Doughboy's and take in a Steamers game. Remember, it isn't easy being charming.

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