

The TIMES of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 19, NO. 5

OCTOBER 1988

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Art Exposed Is October 16th

ART EXPOSED, an arts extravaganza, is planned for Sunday, October 16 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the "Four Corners," at Kingsbury and Des Peres—four blocks north of Forest Park Parkway on Des Peres.

Sponsored by the West End Arts Council, ART EXPOSED will feature something for everyone: eleven West End artists will display their work in a group exhibit; ten West End artists will open their studios to the public; children from neighborhood schools will participate in a children's art exhibit; and the popular singing group "Jasmine" will be performing from 2:00-4:00.

In addition to all of these exciting events, ART EXPOSED '88 will feature the first public Edible Art Competition in St. Louis. All local independent restaurants, caterers, bakeries, and individuals who have a knack for art or cooking and are willing to bake, sculpt, paint, cook, boil, frost, blend or glue a beautiful, colorful, silly, interesting or artistic culinary concoction are encouraged to enter. West-Enders Mary Strauss, Herb Balaban and Elliot Smith will judge the contest.

Celebrity judges for the Edible Art Competition will include West End-er Mary Strauss. Judging for the Edible Art Competition will take place at 4:00 p.m., and will be followed by an auction of all entries.

Anyone interested in entering the Edible Art Competition should call Nancy Farmer at 862-5122 for more information.

West End artists included in the group exhibit are: Lara Alberti; Doug Boals; Barb Haremon; Bill Hawk; Linda Horsley-Nunley; David Lobbig; Mike Miksicek; Phil Roberts; Tom Sleet; Bob Smith; and Bert Vander Mark.

The following artists will open their studios for ART EXPOSED: Kareema Ahmad and Lynn Harvey; Ken Anderson; John and Poogie Bjerklie; Andy Erickson; Jack Frazier; Bill Kohn; Karla Oehler; John Rozelle; and Kate Rosenbloom. The studio of Bill Christman will be converted, for ART EXPOSED, into the 1940's "Radio Eats Diner," complete with burgers and Cokes.

ART EXPOSED promises to be truly an arts extravaganza featuring something for everyone!



Art Exposed '88 features character Mick deBitzko, a creation of Bill Christman.



Jasmine will be in concert from 2-4 p.m. at Art Exposed '88.

Register To Vote By October 19th

Citizens must register to vote by October 19th to be eligible to vote in the November 8th election. People may register at any public library, including the Kingsbury Kiosk, at any high school, at the election board, or at special registration booths at local stores. The requirements for registering are that a person must be 18 years old, have a valid I.D. such as a driver's license or state I.D., and register in the city where he lives.

The November 8th election will decide the next president of the United States. Also up for election are a United States senator and congressman, the governor and other state officials, and representatives to the Missouri Legislature.

There are four amendments to the Missouri Constitution on the ballot, two of which involve taxes. Amendment 7 asks voters to extend the 1/10 of 1% sales tax for soil conservation until 1999. Amendment 8, also called "MedAssist," would create a fund to provide health care coverage for certain uninsured persons, and for people with catastrophic or high-risk illnesses. The money raised by this controversial amendment would come from a 6/10 of 1% earnings tax on workers and businesses in Missouri.

Register, learn about the candidates and issues, and be sure and vote on November 8th. Your vote counts!

From the Editor

by Katie Kurtz

Five years ago I wrote a "welcome" editorial as I took over being editor from the *Times* editorial board made up of King Schoenfeld, Venita Lake, and JoAnn Vatcha. Now, I'm writing one of farewell as I hand the reins to Sue Rothschild.

In looking over a five-year span, there is a certain temptation to get nostalgic and to muse over past accomplishments and challenges. However, I shall resist and simply say that editing *The Times* has been one of the most fulfilling volunteer projects with which I have ever been involved.

To me, *The Times* is one of Skinker-DeBaliviere's most important institutions. When it was started almost twenty years ago, the neighborhood was beginning its climb from depression. Today, we believe we have made it. And I truly believe that this little newspaper has been part of that success. Always made up of volunteers and independent from all other area organizations, *The Times* has served to inform, to entertain, and to provide a forum for discussion. Hopefully, it has acted as a catalyst for the area's diverse population, enabling that which we all have in common—rather than our differences—to be focal points.

The future of Skinker-DeBaliviere is a great one—our rich housing stock; excellent location; diverse, cosmopolitan mix of people; cultural activities; and outstanding religious, education, and social institutions make it a neighborhood that is the only place, to me, in St. Louis City to live. *The Times* is an essential part of the area's future, just as it has been a backbone of its renaissance.

As our second decade of publication draws to a close, a new editor is taking the responsibility of the day-to-day challenge of production of the paper. *The Times* is in good hands as Sue takes on this important task. I wish her the very best of luck and I am certain that everyone who gave me help and support these past five years will be there for her.

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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. Signature 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.

Winners At The Kiosk

by Mary Ann Shickman

The Kingsbury Kiosk's annual party for the St. Louis Public Library Summer Reading Program took place on Saturday, August 27, at the 28th Ward Democratic Headquarters. Punch and sweets were served and magician Harold Russell performed before more than fifty parents and children.

Two groups received certificates: The Preschool category included Ryan Lipina, John Erdman, Charles C. Parker, Miranda Fay, Genevieve Gamble, Rohan Newton, Caroline Holler, David Holler and Daniel Flynn. These children each had fifteen books read to them. The second group, those who read at least fifteen books during the summer, included Kareem Adegbeye, Adenike Adegbeye, Meg Flynn, Farrah Lunceford, Bethany Havens and Rebecca Havens. All were invited to a celebration at the Central Library.

Schoemehl, Joseph Schoemehl, Aaron Thomas, Kiesha Hicks, Farrah Lunceford, Sean Lipina, Bethany Havens, Rebecca Havens, Mary Wiltenburg, Katherine Wiltenburg, LaVaughn Haynes, Dwayne Banks, Melanie White, Michelle Person.

The spotlight shone on the following children who read forty books as a minimum for Fourth Grade and up, and seventy-five books for Preschool through Third Grade: Kareem Adegbeye, Adenike Adegbeye, Meg Flynn, Farrah Lunceford, Bethany Havens and Rebecca Havens. All were invited to a celebration at the Central Library.

A truly outstanding young reader this summer is Kareem Adegbeye who read a grand total of 150 books.

Many other children from the neighborhood registered but did not finish. We hope to see all the children again next summer.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Children pictured above had at least 15 books read to them during the summer and received certificates.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Children pictured above READ at least 15 books during the summer and received certificates.

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October Calendar

Continuing

New Sculpture/Six Artists presents recent works by a group of highly innovative contemporary sculptors. Special Exhibition Galleries, Art Museum. \$3 adults, \$2 students, \$1 children.

"Inner Weaving": Artists Kathi Hermann and Marjorie Johnson, using fabrics and ceramics, at Componere, 6509 Delmar.

Greater Tuna, presented by the Theatre Project Company. Runs through October 23. 8:00 p.m., New City School, 5209 Waterman.

October

8 The Wisdom Dancers, led by Chief Dennis Alley, of the Otoe-Missouria tribe, interpret native American Indian dances. 10:30 a.m., History Museum. Free.

"Henry VIII's Reign of Terror," presented by the Holy Roman Repertory Company. 8:00 p.m., The Sheldon, 3648 Washington. Call 569-8006 for information.

9 The Missouri Collection, a celebration of Missouri arts and cuisine, to benefit the Craft Alliance Educational Center. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Market In The Loop, 6655 Delmar.

12 "See How They Run": political satirical revue, Embassy Building Ballroom, 530 N. Union, 8 p.m. (Also 10/13 & 14; 10/15, 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.)

CASA in Concert—Conservatory Orchestra, George Silfies, conductor; featuring as soloist, pianist Wendy Groth. 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity. Free.

13 City West Business Association Board Meeting, Cox, Curry & Associates, 5622 Delmar. 8:30 a.m.

14 "Simply Stunning" talk with slides on fashions from the 1780s to the 1980s; History Museum. 1:30 p.m.; \$3, call 361-1424 for reservations.

American Madness (film), with Walter Huston and Pat O'Brien; 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.

15 Indian dances presented by the American Indian Center of St. Louis. 1:00 p.m., in front of the Kiosk, Kingsbury at Des Peres. There will also be a display of arrowheads.

Arts Group guest Dr. Harold Best will speak on the role of the arts in the life of faith at 1:00 p.m., Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar. See related article.

16 Benson & Hedges Blues Festival: film and live performance workshops of blues music. The History Museum, noon to 6:00 p.m. Free.

Art Exposed '88—a festival of the visual, performing and culinary arts. 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Four Corners Plaza (Kingsbury at Des Peres.) See related article on page 1.

18 City West Business Association regular meeting. Speaker: Anne Horner, CPA. "Tax Planning for Small Business." 11:30 a.m., Marlboro Community Room, 5696 Kingsbury at DeBaliviere.

The Wansee Conference (film-German with English subtitles); recreates a meeting where the Nazis discuss the final solution of the Jewish question. 8:00, Art Museum.

21 Arts Group Concert Series presents pianist Daniel Schene playing Schubert, Beethoven, Liszt and Chopin; 8:00 p.m., Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar. \$2.00.

The Bitter Tea of General Yen (film), with Barbara Stanwyck; 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium. \$2, \$1 for Friends.

Kazuhito Yamashita in concert at the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society. 8:00 p.m., Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton Road, \$10.

22 A Yank from Missouri: program for children features a volunteer from the Union Army recounting stories about everyday events in the life of a Civil War soldier. 10:30 a.m., History Museum.

25 The Dybbuk (film-Yiddish with English subtitles); a passionate Jewish tale of love, demonic possession and exorcism. 8:00, Art Museum.

27 Containing the River Des Peres: A ceremony to designate the River Des Peres a Civil Engineering landmark and the opening of an exhibit of photographs through the 1930s. History Museum.

28 Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra from Budapest; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity.

It Happened One Night (film), with Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert; 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., Art Museum Auditorium, \$2, \$1 for Friends.

29 Halloween Party: Wanda the Witch brings fun; magician, costume parade and treats. The History Museum. 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Free.

30 Magical Monsters and Bewitching Beasts: Family day at the Art Museum. Storytellers, films, games and exhibits. Noon to 4:00 p.m., Art Museum. Free.

31 Halloween Party at St. Roch's 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Costume prizes, juggler. Trick or treating afterwards until 7:30.

November

1 7th District Public Affairs meeting, 7:00 p.m., 7th District Headquarters, 5240 Enright.

Late Summer Blues (film-Hebrew with English subtitles); 18-year olds joining the armed forces in 1970. 8:00, Art Museum.

2 7th District Banquet.

4 "Tri-Angulations": Weavers Jean Larson McLane and Lyne Sableman present their work at Componere, 6509 Delmar. Reception for the artists 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

5 Red Cross Blood Drive: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., St. Roch's Church Hall, 6054 Waterman. See related article.

CASA in Concert—Opera Studio; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity. Free.

7 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting, 7:30 p.m., 6010a Kingsbury at Des Peres.

8 Election Day—Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Halloween Party At St. Roch Before Trick-Or-Treating

Rosedale's annual Halloween party will be held from 5-6 p.m. in the St. Roch School gym, 6040 Waterman, on Halloween night. Prizes will be awarded for the 10 best costumes and St. Louis' premier juggler, Thomas Thale, will entertain from 5:15 to 5:45.

At 6 p.m. the party ends and "trick-or-treating" begins. To insure the safety of children: check costumes for fire-proofing, masks for visibility and costume hem-lines for curb clearance. Dark costumes should be highlighted with reflective tape. Children under ten should be accompanied by an adult and all children should carry a flashlight. It is helpful to have as many adults on the street this evening as possible; the cul-de-sacs are popular gathering spots for adults while children are trick-or-treating. Finally, children should be encouraged to introduce themselves, to say "thank you" and to keep candy wrappers and litter in their pockets or in their bags.

The Halloween party is organized each year by Art Santen. It is free and open to all children in the neighborhood. The cost of prizes and entertainment is underwritten by the Rosedale Neighborhood Association.



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Krueger Pottery Opens On Delmar



Dennis Krueger

Dennis Krueger, artist potter, has opened his gallery and studio at 6227 Delmar. Dennis makes functional stoneware and porcelain pottery, working on the potter's wheel and with clay slabs. He decorates his work in a contemporary style using layers of colored glazes and ceramic stains applied by dipping, pouring and brushing. He has over 300 colors to choose from and can match most interior colors. He enjoys custom work and commissions. He has made large planters, lavatory basins and tiles, baptismal fonts, and custom designed dinnerware. All work is fired to cone 6 in oxidation (2100 degrees in an electric kiln). All work is signed by the artist. Dennis is self-taught in pottery.

Dennis grew up in Ferguson. He graduated from St. Louis University High School and St. Louis University (Class of 1964). He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in German literature from Northwestern University in Chicago. He taught German at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. from 1968 to 1970 and at Jackson State College in Jackson, Mississippi from 1970 to 1976. In 1975 he formed Springwood Pottery, Inc. in Florence, Mississippi with a partner, spent a year building his studio and opened for business in October of 1976. Until March of this year he worked at Springwood. Dennis has published articles on German literature and on pottery, has done research on the use of loess as a glaze ingredient under a grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission, and has served as the President of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi for four years. He has taught children's and adult pottery classes at Millsaps College in Jackson, but does not plan to teach here. His work is in the permanent collections of numerous museums in the South and he has won many awards at art shows and fairs over the years.

Gallery hours are 10-5 Tuesday through Saturday and by appointment. His phone number is 726-1969.



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Nwadibia Named To UMSL Post



Rochelle Fortier Nwadibia

Skinker DeBaliviere resident Rochelle Fortier Nwadibia has been named the new director of the Affirmative Action Office at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Nwadibia's responsibilities will include formulating affirmative action policies, plans, procedures and guidelines. She also will prepare annual reports and audits for the campus, the University of Missouri system and for federal and state agencies. In addition, she will work with academic units in conducting job searches and facilitating grievance procedures.

Before joining UMSL, Nwadibia was a trial attorney at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in St. Louis. She has been on the legal staff of the Federal Reserve Bank, and worked with several St. Louis law and consulting firms.

Her academic background includes serving as an administrative assistant at the Southern Asian Institute at Columbia University in New York and teaching and research positions at Washington University. She received her law degree from Washington University.

Nwadibia has lived in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood since 1982. She presently resides in the 5700 block of Waterman with her husband, Joseph, and two-and-a-half-year-old daughter Chinaedu.

From The Mayor's Desk

by Vincent C. Schoemehl, Jr.

One of the greatest fears of most individuals is being without health insurance or not having the funds to pay for health care when it is needed. It is startling to reveal that one in five Missourians either do not have health insurance or are without adequate health insurance coverage. In an attempt to address this debilitating and growing problem in our society, an initiative petition campaign was instituted calling for a statewide program to give uninsured and underinsured Missourians access to affordable health insurance. As a result of a successful initiative campaign, the MedAssist health insurance proposal was placed on the November 8, 1988 ballot. The proposal is an amendment to the state constitution.

Individuals who can not afford needed health care or who incur medical expenses not covered by insurance will be eligible to participate in the MedAssist program. Groups that will benefit from the MedAssist program include: individuals employed by businesses that do not offer group health insurance, individuals who lose their jobs and health care coverage, victims of "high risk" or chronic disorders, elderly individuals who require nursing home care or who can not afford supplemental Medicare insurance, working mothers, children and disabled children.

It should be stressed that MedAssist is an insurance program and not a welfare program. Although MedAssist will expand the state's Medicaid program by making more Missourians eligible for Medicaid's medical benefits, it will not add to the state's welfare rolls. In fact, MedAssist will encourage people on welfare to go to work since individuals can accept low paying jobs and still have the assurance of accessing medical care. MedAssist enrollees will pay deductible copayments and premiums based on their ability to pay.

The MedAssist constitutional amendment will establish a separate trust fund to ensure that sufficient funds will be available for the program and will not be shifted to other programs. Missouri citizens will contribute to the MedAssist trust through an earnings tax. At six-tenths of one percent of reported earnings, the earnings tax translates to approximately \$7 a month for the average Missourian. Missouri businesses will also contribute to the fund by paying the same earnings tax rate. Businesses that already provide a good health insurance package for their employees will receive a tax credit against the earnings tax. This is an incentive for more employers to provide group health insurance.

The MedAssist program provides a type of safety net for those concerned with either losing their health care benefits or not having the funds to obtain health insurance. If the MedAssist constitution amendment is approved, details of implementing the program will be addressed by the General Assembly in the upcoming legislative session. On November 8, 1988, I urge you to support the MedAssist constitutional amendment. MedAssist is a progressive, health insurance program whose time has come.

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September Council Meeting

by Catherine Forslund

The September SDCC Board meeting revealed many plans for the fall and covered neighborhood business of interest to all.

Attendance included Jim McLeod, Paul Kurtz, Frank and Flossie Driscole, Kathy Wobus, Georgie Fox, Arline Webb, Karleen Hoerr, Neville Vatcha, Nancy Farmer, Shirley Polk, Bob Mahon, Randy Bailey and this reporter. The minutes of the August meeting and the current Treasurer's report were both reviewed and accepted.

Of major import was the election of new officers and additional at-large directors. After introduction by the nominating committee, the Board unanimously elected new officers for the upcoming year. They are Paul Kurtz, President; Bob Mahon, Vice-President; Catherine Forslund, Secretary; and Kathleen Hamilton, Treasurer.

After August's amendment of the Council's by-laws to allow for more at-large members, the following people were introduced by the nominating committee and unanimously elected: Shirley Polk, Marty Hussey, George Genung, Randy Bailey and Catherine Forslund. These directors will fill the seats left vacant by Eddie Lee Sanders and Paul Repetto and also begin to increase the total Board as anticipated by the amendment.

Mr. Courtney Redmond made a short presentation to the Board on behalf of the new owners of the former BonaFide gas station at Skinker and Westminster. He is the new operations manager hired by Midwest Petroleum (Sunoco). Midwest acquired this and other local stations in recent months. He acknowledged past appearance and other problems at the site, but attributed them to the bad prior management. Redmond described the numerous changes that they have instituted. Besides the obvious cleaning and painting, he listed the sidewalk repairs, institution of full service during work hours, and the store structural repairs and interior renovation as items done at the station since Midwest took possession.

A major point made by Redmond was that he and Midwest were very anxious for the Sunoco station to be run as a part of the community, while being a good contributor to the area as well. They plan to work to get along with the neighborhood and Redmond expressed their desire to receive input from interested citizens.

Discussion was held between Redmond and the Board with respect to the new station sign, operation as an area "convenience" stop, expansion or replacement of the existing building, and the 24 hour schedule. President Kurtz ended the discussion by advising Redmond that the Board welcomed the opportunity to comment on any future plans of Midwest pertaining to the station. Redmond was encouraged to return for Board review and input as development plans progressed, but he was also informed that the Board did not have the authority to approve anything in the area of building changes. A letter will be sent to Redmond thanking him for the presentation, asking for a 10:00 p.m. closing time, and expressing interest in any proposals for the site.

Georgie Fox will be exploring the possibility of SDCC participation in the area Old Newsboy Day activities.

A neighborhood Christmas House Walk is being organized. SDCC has grant money available for the event. Fox will head a planning committee and there are already a number of interested participants for the Walk.

Randy Bailey expressed concern about the current (and possible future) signage which has been put up near the new DeBaliviere West Condominium Project at Nina Place. The Board will contact the developer about what type of permanent marker, if any, is planned.

The signs at the DeBaliviere Place Center will all have their height regulated based on the size of the store front. They will also be limited to white background with colored letters to match the building trim. Shirley Polk suggested that more trash containers be placed in that area.



The seventh annual "Rags to Riches" sale on September 24th brought out browsers and buyers.

Photo by King Schoenfeld



Early showers dampened "Rags to Riches" but not Karen MacCausland, Norman Eisenberg, and Aaron Eisenberg.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Regional Arts Commission (RAC) approved funding for the West End Neighborhood Arts Council (WENAC) and SDCC purchase of a computer, but the amount was reduced by over half because it was decided that SDCC would use the computer more than WENAC and thus should contribute a greater share of the cost. A committee was established to review the situation, evaluate purchase options and make a recommendation to the Board.

National Night Out in August was a busy night for many neighbors. 6100 Pershing, 5800 DeGiverville and 6100 Waterman all had block parties. Rose Flynn's annual "Love Thy Neighborhood" parade was very well attended. Unfortunately it seemed to be the hottest night of the year and many neighbors were on vacation which lead to a somewhat diminished level of enthusiasm in the neighborhood as a whole.

The RAC funded concert series has been postponed until the spring due to the large number of previously planned events. Revised RAC regulations allow spending on events until June 30, 1989.

October 16 will be the date for the 6th annual Art Exposed to be held at Four Corners. Features include a group art exhibit and children's exhibit as well as artists' studio tours and the first ever public edible art competition organized by Bill Christman.

The Board agreed to help sponsor, plan and give a banquet along with other business and community groups to honor the work of the 7th District Police.

Current problems and other property updates include the following: condemnation hearings were held regarding a vacant

building and garage which back up to 6100 Washington alley and thanks to the Driscos and Delmar Baptist testimony, final orders are expected soon; 60XX Pershing 2-family has been foreclosed, HUD holds title and plans are to sell it soon; the Rosedale Square Apartments will all be staying together as one piece of property and new promotions will begin soon.

The 6100 Pershing block is organizing to start a Neighborhood Watch Program. When fully mobilized, the block will have Watch signs posted to warn criminals that they ARE BEING WATCHED!!!

The newly renamed City West Business Association is trying to recruit more members for its Board so they will be better representative of the variety of businesses in the area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parkview

They have finished some street resurfacing and some sidewalk slab replacement. They are being very cautious to insure that no tree root cutting damage will occur during this work. A trust fund has been established for the money created by the increase in the resident fees, all of which will continue to be used for infrastructure repairs.

Rosedale

The Garden Tour/Wine Tasting was a smashing success. Bigger plans are being made for next year. The event received great press coverage and even drew some participants from far West County!

Historic District Review

September 22, 1988 marks the 10th anniversary of the historic district ordinance. The committee will be planning a commemorative event in early October.



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.



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The Block And The Street

by Ray Breun

If you asked any St. Louisan which was the most important street in St. Louis, answers would include Market, Broadway, Tucker, Washington, Grand, perhaps even Lindbergh or Clarkson or Olive Street Road. Actually, that question is probably unfair since "importance" is relative to the topic. What we are talking about here is the street that historically saw more traffic regarding the opening of the West, since St. Louis is the Gateway to the West.

Rather than telling you which street is most significant for the opening of the West, let's explore some of its characteristics. It never did go all the way to the river. It began at block 66. That block, in some of the oldest street maps and reconstructed street maps, had a turn-around in it, like a large horseshoe or court yard. Block 66 was not very large either; it had no great houses or even warehouses. In fact for years it was the outskirts of the village.

The street is currently cut up rather severely and does not even permit constant travel from block 66 to Tucker Boulevard. The street is St. Charles. It is virtually the only street which has the same name from before the time when Mayor Carr-Lane and Alderman von Puhl, both from Pennsylvania, renamed all the streets after those of Philadelphia in 1826.

Block 66 is the northwest corner of the Arch grounds. The Spanish called St. Charles Street Chemin Royale. Those going by wagon westward would take the road to St. Charles, and it began at St. Charles Street. It left from what we now call Third Street, then Rue de Granges (Street of the Barns), on the west side of block 66. It went virtually due west and around the north side of Stoddard's Mound which was just west of Jefferson at what is now the end of St. Charles Street. From Jefferson Street west, it was called the St. Charles Rock Road. The stretch from Jefferson to the City Limits is now called Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard. At the Missouri River, where the St. Charles Rock Road Bridge is now, a ferry took the wagoneers across the river.

Let's pick up some details. Stoddard's Mound is not a known landmark these days. Captain Amos Stoddard came to St. Louis in 1804 as the representative of both the French and the American governments to transfer formally Upper Louisiana from the Spanish to the French to the United States. All of that happened on March 9 and 10, 1804. Stoddard was the territorial military and political leader for about a year. During that time he lived west of the city with his military detachment, his own headquarters being atop what was for years referred to as Stoddard's Mound. None of it remains now.

We need to continue with St. Charles Street. After crossing the Missouri, the road westward was called the Boonslick Road. It followed the course of the river to Franklin, Independence, Westport, and Kansas City. At these locations, the various trails west, known to history as the Santa Fe Trail, the Oregon Trail, the California Trail, and the Bozeman Trail originated. At these locations, as well as Council Grove, Kansas, the various wagon trains formed in their final arrangement, elected captains, and headed toward their destinations. Some or as much as all of the wagon trains first assembled in smaller units on block 66 and came all the way to the other side of Missouri before joining companion groups of wagons to make the larger trains for the crossing of the plains and the mountains. Some, of course, had money and were able to go by boat from St. Louis to Westport where they attached themselves to the larger trains west.

Block 66 was not significant for the entire period of the wagon trains west prior to the Civil War. When the County Courthouse, now called the Old Courthouse, was completed with its West Wing able to at least partially function, the wagons assembled just to the west of that building, across what is now Broadway in Kiener Plaza. The reason was simple: the basement of the west wing of the County Courthouse had two large latrines, one for men (north side) and one for women (south side). That was before the days of running water, so the system included hand emptying of the pots. Court records show that one David Hunt was paid \$3.00 a month to sweep the latrines every day and empty the pots once a week. This was in the 1840s before the cholera epidemic of 1849 taught everyone the importance of cleanliness. By the way, Mr. Hunt was given Sunday off even though the latrines were open that day as well. Apparently Mondays were pretty "blue" for Mr. Hunt, but the wage was a good one for that time.

So the wagons assembled just west of the County Courthouse because of the public facilities. They headed to St. Charles Street at what is now 11th and St. Charles where they followed the road west to the Oregon Country, the California gold fields, or the Santa Fe mercantile empire of Bent, St. Vrain and Company. Eventually the cattle country of Wyoming and Montana would be as significant as the other lands had been.

The coming of the railroads put an end to the great wagon movements of the mid-nineteenth century. St. Charles Street and block 66 faded into the past. Today hardly anyone in downtown knows that the "alley" called St. Charles is one of the most important streets in the westward expansion of the United States. Maybe someday it will be marked for what it was.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

A stone mason repairs the entrance steps at Grace United Methodist Church as part of the congregation's \$300,000 renovation of its building in preparation for the church's centennial celebration in 1992. Work will continue on the interior in coming months. The edifice, designed by architect Theodore Link in 1892, was moved here from its original location at Lindell and Newstead in 1912.

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Arts Group Presents October Workshop

The Arts Group of Grace and Peace Fellowship has been presenting artists, musicians, lectures, and concerts in our neighborhood for over ten years. Initially starting with a once a year weekend presentation in the fall, the Arts Group has expanded their Concert and Lecture Series to programs throughout the year.

"The Arts Group exists to support and encourage artists in our community," says Nancy Hughes, chairman of the Arts Group, "and to give artists a chance to meet and discuss their faith and work." Hughes has been a volunteer with the group since 1981, when she moved into the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood and joined the Presbyterian Fellowship. Other members of the committee who live here include Ted Smith, Doug Boals, Rebecca Wu Bakeman, Paul and Cynthia Harris, and John Pummel.

In the past year, the Arts Group has presented a slide lecture by painter Bill Hawk, a folk dancing demonstration and workshop, concerts by Seth Carlin, Catherine Lehr Ramos and Manuel Ramos, and readings of T.S. Eliot's work. Funding is provided by the Grace and Peace Fellowship congregation, and, more recently, through a grant from the Regional Arts Commission.

The October Workshops, a continuation of the Arts Group original fall festival, will take place this year on Saturday, October 15th. The day will begin with a *WRITER'S WORKSHOP* at 10 a.m., focusing on the poems of T.S. Eliot and directed by free lance writer Robert Lowes and published poet Bruce Smith, who is currently pursuing a masters in English Literature at UMSL.

At 1:00 p.m., guest speaker Dr. Harold Best will speak on the role of the arts in the life of faith. Dr. Best is dean of the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music, Wheaton, Illinois. He has authored several articles on the relationship of Christianity to the fine arts, issues in

arts education and curriculum. Dr. Best composes in a wide range of media, and his publications include both choral and organ compositions. He is also active as a lecturer and workshop leader both in churches and colleges. Recently, Dr. Best was selected to be a member of the Standard Awards Panel of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

An exhibition of drawings and photographs by Arts Group participants titled *FACTS & FIGURES* will open later that evening at 7:30 p.m. All events are at Grace and Peace Fellowship at 5574 Delmar. There is no admission cost for these events. For further information on the *OCTOBER WORKSHOPS* please call 367-8959 mornings, or 727-4589 evenings.

The Arts Group Concert Series will present pianist Daniel Schene in a concert of Schubert, Beethoven, Liszt and Chopin on Friday evening, October 21st, at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Schene is head of Keyboard Studies at Webster University. He has performed as recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician across the United States and Canada. A founding member of the Schene-Israelievitch-Schuster Trio, he also plays regularly with the Esterhazy Quartet's first violinist Eva Szekely and soprano Carole Gaspar.

Admission for the concert is \$2.00. This concert event was made possible in part by a grant from the Regional Arts Commission.

On Friday, November 18th, at 7:30 p.m., artist Sue Eisler will speak and show slides of her recent work. Eisler is on the faculty at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, with a recent exhibition of new work at the campus gallery through October 14th. In December, the young singers of Missouri will provide an evening of Christmas music. Watch for more information in future editions of the Times.

History Museum Hosts Blues Festival



Snooky Pryor

Selections from rarely-seen blues film footage and an afternoon of blues performance workshops will provide an in-depth look and listen to the development of blues in the United States on Sunday, October 16 from noon to 6 p.m. This session of the Benson and Hedges Blues Festival will be held at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. There is no admission charge.

Michael Chertock, whose renowned collections of blues film footage is reputed to be the largest in the world, will present the-film which shows early Mississippi styles, the classics and the influences on rock and roll.

The country blues of the 20s and 30s will open the program with clips of Son House, Bukka White and John Lee Hooker. Bessie Smith, Ida Cox and Jimmy Rushing will be heard in classic blues. Names from post World War II are Sonny Boy Williamson, Willie Dixon and Muddy Waters. With selections from Louis Jordan, Little Richard and Chuck Berry,

the film will show how blues has affected other styles of music.

Chertock will invite the audience to participate in a discussion following the film.

Ron Edwards of St. Louis and John Campbell of Festival Productions in New York will lead the instrument workshops, with Edwards playing the bottleneck guitar. Campbell said the line-up of musicians would include Doc Terry and Snooky Pryor on the harmonica; Pinetop Perkins and James Crutchfield on piano, with Henry Townsend playing St. Louis blues; Hubert Sumlin, guitarist for Howling Wolf; Jimmy Rogers and James Deshay on the electric guitar; and Sam Lay and Bob Stroger as accompanists.

"There should be considerable discussion among the players, and the interaction will most likely spark an open jam session," said Campbell. The audience will be encouraged to join in the discussion of the unique styles demonstrated by the musicians.

Classifieds

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Deaf people need help calling hearing people. CONTACT-St. Louis provides a telephone service for deaf people and volunteers are needed to help facilitate these calls. Last year, volunteers made over 71,000 calls through CONTACT's Service. For more information and an application, please call 771-8181, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Classes begin on October 11.

SUBLEASE: 2080 sq. feet beautifully renovated building in CWE. Below market. Phone system negotiable. Free parking. 367-3400.

Blood Drive Nov. 5th

Grace Methodist Church and St. Roch's Church will jointly sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, November 5th, at St. Roch's Church hall, 6054 Waterman. The hall will be open for donors from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Giving blood through the Red Cross is extremely safe. Your blood pressure and iron counts are tested before giving, and juice and cookies are provided afterwards to keep you going.

Blood is in very short supply in the area's hospitals. Giving blood is giving life itself to someone in need.



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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Ah, the men's locker room: Standing with a dozen sweaty guys, holding a razor in your hand while trying to find an open space amidst the condensation on the mirror. What a place!

No, I'm not referring to that former bastion of El Ropo cigars, XY chromosomes, and power breakfasts, the MAC. I'm talking about "Racquetball And More" on Hanley, not far from highway 40.

I recently decided that it was time to stop procrastinating and to begin working out on a regular basis. Not that I "need" it, mind you, simply that I figure that the alternatives are pretty clear: I can either eat like a normal human being, work out regularly, or start buying "all" sized clothing (as in "one size fits all"). As you can see, the second option, working out regularly, quickly rises to the top in this group of choices.

I made this decision about seven years ago, but it's taken me this long to get around to doing it. No, getting started hasn't taken this long because a Board of Freeholders has been in charge of it, the major part of my problem has been trying to figure out a good time to schedule a one hour racquetball game. There may officially be 24 hours in the day, but by the time I get to allocating my share there's not a whole lot left for me.

Playing racquetball during the day sounded great and I was all ready to get started until I remembered that I have a job. I keep planning on getting that call from Ed McMahon, but until I do so day-time racquetball is out of the question.

Playing in the late afternoon sounds good until I try to leave work. I don't know about your day, but it would have been easier to get in to the Indiana National Guard in 1969 than it would be to get out of my workplace in 1988. If I'm home before six I'm ecstatic. I even see my first wife more often than I see Dan Rather. On those occasions when I do scoot out early from work, the paper monster gets revenge by squatting on my desk when I return in the morning, smiling at me with a sadistic grin, and making sure I pay heartily for every minute. If I leave at 5:00 pm it's as if a hidden signal goes out to everyone I know: Call Tom at work immediately. Leave a message that says it's very important that you talk to him and where is he, anyway? Besides, except for the academicians and dilettantes, everybody else is unavailable because they're working in the late afternoon. (In case you have trouble distinguishing between the academicians and the dilettantes, just remember that the dilettantes don't need tenure.)

Playing racquetball in the evenings came to mind next, but that was quickly dismissed because of (a) God's invention to keep couples married, evening meetings, and (b) the fact that I'm not at my best—whatever that is—between 6 and 8 pm. Late night racquetball is even less of an option; that would mean giving up my cigars and the close relationship I'm developing with David Letterman.

With daytime and late afternoons and evenings out of the question, that moved me to consider playing on weekends. But weekends are made for honeydos ("Honey, do this..." and "Honey, do that..."). (Does Anheuser-Busch produce Honeydo Beer?) Weekends are the only opportunity for me to sleep later than the first run of "Morning Edition." They are also the only chance I have to catch up on all the stuff I didn't do during the week in the evenings when I was too tired to do anything because I had spent the day fighting with the paper monster and the phone monster and the I-need-to-see-you-and-can't-wait monster. So no weekends.

"What's left?" you may ask, and that brings me to MORNING RACQUETBALL! Yes, this from one who in the past willingly submitted to the rack monster. I've been playing racquetball several times a week at 6:30 am. (Actually I've not played recently due to a

recent injury. This is a problem when one's body is so finely tuned like a fine musical instrument. I think my body is a trombone.)

Yep, set the ol' alarm to 5:45 am and suddenly 6:30 am is there before you know it! Awakening isn't too tough. Two cups of steaming hot caffeine-laden coffee will generally do it, one to drink and one to splash on the face.

Now you may not even know that there is a 6:30 am. Believe me, there is. It's not too pleasant, and you'd be astonished how many other people are out fully dressed and driving around. I hear that farmers get up early all the time, but I'm not sure I believe it. Maybe it's somehow related to drinking from a trough or voting Republican in the Iowa primary.

So here I am now, back in the men's locker room on a regular basis with a bunch of guys who are all balancing on one foot while trying to pull up a genuine dacron over-the-calf sock over the other leg. The good part is that I haven't had such an experience since my high school days when JFK was president. The bad part is that it hasn't changed much.

There are still some very strong societal rules about men's locker room behavior. These rules were developed centuries ago and are the same regardless of the sport being played, the socio-economic level, race, or age of the participants, or whether they wear striped or solid ties. These rules aren't written anywhere, but young boys learn them just like they learn that pigtails are to be pulled and saliva is for spitting. Herewith the rules forsooth:

1. No matter how many empty lockers are available, you should always grab a locker next to someone else.
2. The less hair you have on the top of your head, the more time you should spend playing with it in front of the mirror.
3. Never tuck your tee shirt into your underpants.
4. It is inappropriate to discuss anything having to do with the nature of man, the search for truth, the concept of original sin, the definition of art, or Vanna White. When in doubt whether or not to bring up a topic, just remember that if it causes you to think, it's not suitable for the locker room. In this respect locker rooms are a bit like political conventions.
5. Sanctioned topics are previous wives or girlfriends, one's ever-expanding waistline, the local sports team, jokes that are in poor taste, automobiles, and how much liquor one drank the night before. (It's almost like being in a time-machine and going back to 1962.)
6. Any conversation that lasts more than 90 seconds is also inappropriate.

7. The guys who are the best at the sport must continually downplay their abilities and attribute every victory to luck or the poor play of their opponent.

8. One should never appear pleased about winning.

9. Guys like me who don't win often inevitably lose their cool and show excitement about winning. This lets everyone else know that we aren't good and, indeed, the victory is due purely to chance (see rules 7 and 8).

10. The older and/or more overweight you are, the more stuff you should put on your body that smells like toilet water or vanilla extract. This can be hair spray, cologne, deodorant, body power, foot spray, after shave, or nasal scoop. It matters less where it goes, and more that it smells bad.

Well sports fans, there you go. Now you don't need to have coffee with KWMU's Bob Edwards or be in your car before the sun rises to experience the macho atmosphere of a country club. If this isn't an argument for daughters, I don't know what is. Oh well, life isn't perfect. Does anyone have any cologne I can borrow?

Note From The City West

Business Association President

by Jessie L. Cox, President

Exciting things are happening in our organization! After months of discussion and consideration, we now have a new name—City West Business Association. Hopefully, this will solve the problem of ignoring many of the locations we serve and will open the door, expanding our membership.

Our September meeting was a great success with over 30 people in attendance. Our speaker was Terry Farris, Director of Development for the newly formed St. Louis Economic Development Corporation. As Terry explained, this is an umbrella organization which consolidates six agencies:

- Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority
- Planned Industrial Expansion Authority
- Land Reutilization Authority
- Port Authority
- Industrial Development Authority
- Local Development Company

Mr. Farris spoke about the projects that are presently in process such as the expansion of the Convention Center, Grand Center, the Arena, the General Motors Plant, Commerce Park (Pruitt Igoe), and Delmar/Hodiamont. "Despite major budget cuts, as much as $\frac{1}{3}$ in some areas, St. Louis continues to be a pacesetter in the revitalization of the inner city," he said. Plans are also in process to revitalize some of the residential projects north of Delmar. Tax abatement is, of course, a critical element in encouraging develop-

ment. The procedure for qualifying an area for city assistance is as follows:

- Area must be declared blighted by Board of Aldermen.
- Plan for area is prepared.
- Advertise for developers.
- Implement plan.

Other programs that were discussed include a rebate program for certain areas allowing businesses to renovate building facades or purchase awnings. There are also funds available through SLATE, an ancillary organization, to partially reimburse employers for hiring certain minorities.

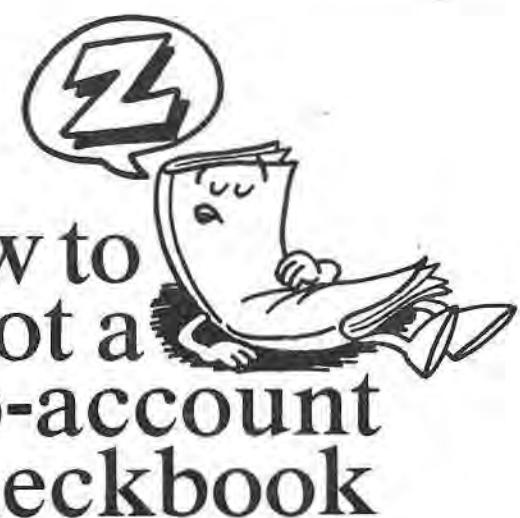
The meeting was a lively one, with many questions and much discussion. We thank Mr. Farris for his comments.

We are excited about our new members and look forward to having more people take advantage of our special membership drive which pays your dues till January, 1990.

Make a note of the dates of our coming meetings. On October 13th, a board meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. at Cox, Curry & Associates at 5622 Delmar. Our regular meeting on Tuesday, October 18th will feature Anne Horner, CPA, speaking on "Tax Planning for Small Business." The meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. in the Marlboro Community Room at 5696 Kingsbury at DeBaliviere. The next regular meeting will be on November 10th.

We hope to see you at our meetings. We are varying times and days to allow more of you to attend.

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