

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 20, NO. 1

APRIL 1989

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Overnight Parking Of Autos To Become Illegal On Neighborhood Streets

by William I. Cose

It has just been learned that Operation CleanStreet, a new City initiative, will be implemented as a pilot program in Skinker DeBaliviere in early June. Under Operation CleanStreet, overnight parking of automobiles in three targeted neighborhoods, including Skinker DeBaliviere, will be prohibited by City ordinance. The law is designed "to create a more suburban appearance by removing unsightly autos from our streets at night," according to Maurice Lockenstard, the Director of Operation CleanStreet. The other City neighborhoods in which this program is being piloted are Hyde Park and Marine Villa. The Operation CleanStreet program was to be announced at a press conference in late April, but this reporter learned of the plan by finding a memo left on a computer screen at City Hall.

According to Lockenstard, this strategy has been implemented successfully in other areas across the country, including Seattle, Reno, and Burlington, Vermont. Lockenstard says that the ban on overnight street parking will commence at 8:00 pm and remain in effect until 6:00 am.

Autos found parked on the streets during this time will receive a parking violation and be subject to a \$10.00 fine. The program will begin on June 1 and be tried for six months. After the six-month period, Lockenstard says, there will be a "full scale evaluation with neighborhood residents allowed to provide input (sic) to impact the process."

Lockenstard expects that there will initially be some concerns and criticisms of Operation CleanStreet's overnight parking ban. "People are always resistant to new ideas," he says, "after all, there even used to be some people who didn't think refurbishing the Admiral was a wise move."

Lockenstard says that this new law shouldn't create a problem for most residents who have garages or parking pads behind their homes. City funds will be available as no-interest loans, he continued, to create asphalt driveways to the sides of those homes not having garages. Lockenstard emphasizes that this is a pilot program and is subject to review. "We might," he went on, "decide not to ban all cars, but just older models, maybe those built before 1984, or even ban cars by color. If we only allowed red cars to be parked

Photo by King Schoenfeld



Operation CleanStreet will make this view of 6100 McPherson a thing of the past.

on the streets, we'd look more like Creve Coeur or Ballwin."

Before you go and complain to Lockenstard or some other City official,

before you sell your 1982 auto or paint your present car bright red, remember that this is the April issue. Yep, April Fool's! Hope we "gotcha!"

Mary Henderson In Concert



Mezzo-soprano Mary Henderson

Mary Henderson, mezzo soprano, will perform a program "All American Song" on Sunday, April 30, 1989, 4 p.m., at Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. Henderson will be accompanied by pianist Karen Laubengayer.

Henderson states that this program "will trace the development of the Classical American art song from the 1900's to the 1970's." Henderson will perform works by composers John Carpenter, Charles Ives, Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber and Leonard Bernstein.

The program is divided into pre-World War I music, music composed between the wars, the neo-romantic period following World War II up to the more contemporary works of Bernstein, and will also feature selections of spirituals. Henderson will comment on what she thinks each com-

poser was trying to do, and on what influences have gone into creating the music of each era.

Mary Henderson is Artist-in-Residence at Washington University. A native of South Carolina, she received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and continued her studies at L'Ecole Hindemith in Switzerland, and at the University of Cologne in Germany.

As an Opera soloist, Miss Henderson has sung at the Chautauqua Opera in New York, and was resident mezzo-soprano soloist at the Hagen City Opera (Germany) from 1974-1980. As a guest soloist, she has sung in theaters in Oldenburg, Germany, in Berne, Switzerland, at the Royal Opera in Ghent, Belgium, and with the Opera/South in Mississippi.

Miss Henderson has sung with the St. Louis New Music Circle and the St. Louis Symphony Chamber Orchestra. Since 1985, she has been a vocal consultant at the Syracuse University L'Ecole Hindemith in Vevey, Switzerland.

Karen Laubengayer has appeared in recital and as a soloist with orchestras extensively in the Midwest. Among the competitions she has won are the Jefferson City Symphony, the Webster Symphony, the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra, the Dimitri Mitropoulos National Piano Competitions, and the St. Louis Artist Presentation Society Competition.

Ms. Laubengayer holds the Ph.D. in Music from Washington University. She has performed at the American Academy of the Arts in Verona, Italy, and at the L'Ecole Hindemith in Vevey, Switzerland. In addition, she has studied and performed at the Aspen School of Music in Aspen, Colorado. In 1987 she and Henderson were chosen as a duo team to perform in the International Art Song Festival held at the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland,

Brightside Blitz April 29

It's "Blitz" season in St. Louis. The annual city-wide spring clean-up/spruce-up program sponsored by Operation Brightside begins this month. Skinker DeBaliviere is scheduled for Blitz on Saturday, April 29.

The goal of Brightside's Project Blitz is to bring together neighborhood volunteers, the business community, and city resources to clean-up and beautify public areas. The city will collect refuse all day on Blitz Saturday (including bulky items), and provide seedling flowers (marigolds, hibiscus and periwinkles); Brightside will loan tools (brooms, rakes and shovels).

Neighborhood businesses contribute cash for prizes in a two category contest of special projects—best beautification and best clean-up. Anheuser-Busch donates garbage bags. Neighborhood volunteers (a.k.a. YOU) take advantage of the special services and materials available for Blitz Day and clean up/beautify alleys, parks, vacant lots, etc.

Nancy Farmer, Director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and Sam Green, veteran Brightsider, will co-chair the area for Blitz. Orders for flowers, tools, bags, special equipment, etc. will be made

through them. The items ordered will be available at Area Headquarters, 6010 Kingsbury, the morning of Blitz.

Farmer and Green are currently recruiting block captains. They will schedule a meeting for block captains and take flower/tool orders in the next two weeks.

Neighbors are encouraged to organize a special project for Blitz and compete for cash awards. Special projects must be entered in advance and completed by the afternoon of the Blitz day. First (\$100), second (\$50) and third (\$25) place winners will be selected in each beautification & clean up category in each region. Regional winners are entered in a city wide competition for prizes of \$100, \$500 and \$250. (The Rosedale Neighborhood Association is entering a special project; see related article for more info.)

Special thanks are in order to neighbor Jan Pitts, operator of Rainbow Finishes, 5839 Delmar. Jan solicited cash donations for the special projects awards in this region. Thanks to all who donated and to Jan Pitts for taking on the fund-raising task.

If you want more information about Blitz or if you can serve as a Block Captain, please call the SDCC, 862-5122.

Ohio. Currently, Dr. Laubengayer is Assistant Professor of Music at Jackson State University.

Henderson and Laubengayer performed "An Afternoon of Spirituals" concert last year at Grace Methodist. That program featured traditional spiritual music arranged/composed by William Grant Still, Margaret Bonds, H. T. Burleigh and John Carter. The selection of music, the ambience of the sanctuary at Grace and the tremendous performances by Henderson

and Laubengayer made for a memorable afternoon.

This concert is sponsored by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and the West End Arts Council with grants from the Regional Arts Commission and support from Grace United Methodist Church and Washington University. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under and students. Group rates are also available. Call the SDCC for more information, 862-5122.

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Party-goers at the Times fundraiser on February 25th look at a model of DeBaliviere Place West. From left are Dee Schoenfeld, Venita Lake, Rich Emerson, and Kathleen Williams.

Times Fundraiser Successful

The annual fundraising party held for the *Times of Skinker DeBaliviere* on Saturday, February 25th, was a success. Almost \$500.00 was cleared, 65 people visited DeBaliviere Place West, and the hors d'oeuvres donated by area restaurants were delicious.

The following restaurants donated hors d'oeuvres: Burrito Brothers, House of Jamaica, Koh-i-noor, Red Sea, Redel's,

Subway, and West End Wines. We encourage our readers to patronize these community spirited restaurants.

The Times thanks Rich Emerson and Westminster Company for allowing us to use their display condominiums. They are an impressive renovation. As a side note to those who stayed till the end, Dean Burns, president of Westminster Company, thanked us for the fine clean-up job.

Try-outs For Dinner Theatre

The date is set; the place is confirmed; a director has been named; and, at last, we have a play, "Too Many Nights in a Bar Room: A Burlesque Melodrama." Director Tom Clear has put together a script for this production based on the classic melodrama "Ten Nights in a Bar Room." Clear explained at the last meeting March 22nd that this production can accommodate a cast of thousands and incorporate every melodramatic "trick" in the book (Skinker DeBaliviere thespians have yet to tie a helpless damsel to railroad tracks just in time for the 5 o'clock train...). There are parts for children in Clear's "Too Many Nights;" too. Twelve eight-sixteen year olds will be chosen to perform as a chorus (read on for try-outs dates and times). Clear plans for lots of audience participation with cue cards and prompting from the cast.

Learning, and remembering at the critical moment, lines is always a problem for amateur actors (one cast member forgot his name in last year's "West

of Pecos" and another didn't just drop a line, she dropped three pages of the script in 85's "Penelope, Pride of the Pickle Factory"). Clear has a solution for this too: not many lines. Instead, this production will be full of action, music, dance and laughs.

For most of you readers interested in participating, the best news is MINIMAL REHEARSAL TIME. Clear anticipates a rehearsal schedule of two times a week for four weeks (fewer for smaller parts), one dress rehearsal, one performance and one party.

TRY OUTS ARE SCHEDULED SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 10-5, and SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 1-5 at 28TH WARD DEMOCRATS HEAD-QUARTERS, 6010 Kingsbury. Scripts are available at the SDCC now; call and arrange to pick one up (children, too), 862-5122.

Mark your calendars: April 8 & 9 try-outs, and MAY 20, 1989, 8:00 p.m., CURTAIN; be there or be square.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Katie Kurtz
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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.

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April Calendar

Continuing

Perspection and Perception VII, works by painter Clayvon Ambrose Wesley, at Hamilton Community School, 5819 Westminster. Through April 28. See related article.

The Unique, the Unusual, the Utilitarian: Functional Clay at Craft Alliance, 6640 Delmar. Through April 11.

Gary Passanise: Paintings and *Sam Wayne: Paintings*. Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker.

Harry Callahan: New Color Photographs, 1978-87. Sponsored by Hallmark Cards, Inc. Through April 16. Art Museum.

Shadows of the Dragon: The Image of Power in Chinese Art. Through July 16, Art Museum.

Dragons of Gold, Clouds of Silk: Chinese Textiles from the Fette Collection. Through July 30. Art Museum.

"A Strong Seed Planted: The Civil Rights Movement in St. Louis, 1954-1968": exhibition of photographs, newspaper accounts and video program. Through Sept. 5, History Museum, Forest Park. Free.

Glasnost: Works on Paper by Soviet Artist Dmitri Prigov. St. Louis Gallery of Contemporary Art, 524 Trinity. Through April 29.

April

- 1 *Art Nouveau in Munich: Masters of Jugendstil*. An exhibition of German-based decorative arts at the Art Museum through May 28.
- 3 *Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting*, 7:30 p.m., 6010a Kingsbury at Des Peres.
- 4 7th District Public Affairs meeting, 7:00 p.m., 7th District Headquarters, 5240 Enright. *Otello* (film), with Placido Domingo. Art Museum, 5:30 and 8:00 p.m., \$3.
- 5 "Exodus, Black Colonization and the Promised Lands," Primm Lecture by David Brion Davis of Yale University. 7:30 p.m. History Museum in Forest Park. Free.
- 6 "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," presented by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company. 23rd Street Theatre, 2240 St. Louis Avenue, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through April 23 at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.
- 7 "Taking Heart: Women on the Frontier," presented by the Holy Roman Repertory Company. 8:00 p.m., The Sheldon, 3648 Washington. Call 569-8006 for information. Also April 8. "Spring Shapes and Shadows": Painted Sportswear by J. Michael Davison. Componere, 6509 Delmar. Through April 30. *Amazing Grace and Chuck* (film), with Gregory Peck. Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3.
- 8 "Membership in Concert," a performance of solo and ensemble classical guitar music by the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society. 7:30 p.m., Washington University. 725-0739. Free.
- 12 The Guarneri String Quartet; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity.
- 14 Garth Fagan's "Bucket Dance Theatre"; Edison Theater at Washington University; 8:00 p.m., also April 15. *Naughty Marietta* (film), with Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald. Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3.
- 16 "Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott," presented by the Black Repertory Company. History Museum at the Jefferson Memorial. 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 17 St. Louis University Amici Quartet presents a chamber music recital, Cupples House, 3673 West Pine Mall. 8:00 p.m. Free.
- 18 *La Traviata* (film), with Placido Domingo. Art Museum, 5:30 and 8:00 p.m. \$3.
- 21 *Maytime* (film), with Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald. Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Sarah Brown (foreground) and Takla West go cross-country skiing on Waterman in Parkview the night of the "Big Snow of 1989."

- 22 CASA in Concert—Opera Studio; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity. Ravi Shankar in concert at the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society. 8:00 p.m., CASA, 524 Trinity.
- 23 CASA in Concert—Opera Studio; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity.
- 25 St. Louis University's Jazz Band presents its annual spring concert. 8:00 p.m., Aunt Hatty's of Busch Memorial Center. \$2. *Amadeus* (film), Academy Award Winner. Art Museum, 5:30 and 8:00 p.m., \$3. Jorge Bolet, pianist; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity.
- 26 St. Louis University presents "The Death and Life of Sherlock Holmes" 8:00 p.m., St. Louis Room of Busch Memorial Center. \$15.
- 27 Tea Lecture: "Pain Court's Pantry: A Taste from Our Past"—Suzanne Corbett, culinary historian, cooks samples of French Creole foods. History Museum, 1:30 p.m. Reservations 361-1424. CASA in Concert—Early Music Ensemble; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity. Free.
- 28 Father Edward Kelly of St. Louis University, will lecture on Gerard Manley Hopkins. Presented by the Arts Group, Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar. 7:30 p.m. *The Chocolate Soldier* (film), with Nelson Eddy and Risa Stevens. Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3. CASA in Concert—Don Walker, piano; 8:00 p.m., CASA, 560 Trinity. Free. *William S. Burroughs: Paintings*; Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker. *Nudes: Provocative Images of Men and Women*; Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker.
- 29 **Operation Brightside Blitz Day.** Civil Rights for Children—people who participated in civil rights demonstrations will discuss their experiences with school-age children. History Museum, 10:30 a.m. Free. Prague Black Light Theatre in "Alice in Wonderland"; Edison Theater at Washington University; 8:00 p.m.
- 30 "All American Song," a concert by mezzo soprano Mary Henderson, 4:00 p.m., Grace United Methodist Church, Skinker and Waterman. \$4 for adults, \$2 for children and students.

Wesley Show At Hamilton Community School

The works of futuristic surrealist painter Clayvon Ambrose Wesley will appear at Hamilton Community School at 5819 Westminster in the Skinker DeBaliviere area. "Perspection and Perception VII" is the theme of the exhibit which will run in conjunction with Hamilton's Spring Black History Series, March 14-April 28. The exhibit is available for viewing from 1 p.m.-9 p.m. Monday thru Thursday.

Wesley's paintings deal with the complex subjects of spirituality, humanitarianism and philosophy, and the psychological interpretations of subconscious emotions and thoughts. They contain a statement about the artist, his art and life.

Wesley is a graduate of Augustinian Academy in St. Louis. He received a bachelor's degree in art and art history from St. Louis University in 1973. He later taught art and art history at St. Louis University's Metropolitan College. Wesley studied at the Institution for the Arts and Restoration and Painting in Florence, Italy.

He has participated in an International Group Show in South America through the sponsorship of Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. In fact, there have been more than 15 major exhibits involving Wesley's paintings in the United States and Brazil between 1973 and 1986.

For more information on "Perspection and Perception VII," Clayvon Wesley's one-man show, call Alva Jacobs at (314) 367-6996.

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Barricade Study Report

by Marjorie Weir

There have been two meetings of the Barricade Study Committee since it was formed in November, 1988.

At its first meeting, January 25, it was decided that the committee needed to survey the neighborhood to determine the prevailing opinion on both the appearance of the barricades and on the value of studying their removal and/or relocation.

This survey, titled "Barricade Poll," was inserted in the February issue of *The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere* for the blocks which comprise the Rosedale Neighborhood Association (RNA). Extra copies were made available at the offices of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council.

At the second meeting of the Barricade Study Committee, held on February 28, the results of the survey were reviewed. They are summarized below:

Block and Street	Total # of Addresses	Choice #1 (Beautify) Addresses/Signatures	Choice #2 (Study Revision) Addresses/Signatures
6100 Pershing	5	5/8	0
6000 Pershing	1	1/1	0
6100 Waterman	2	1/1	1/1
6000 Waterman	2	1/1	2/2*
6100 McPherson	15	15/30	0
6000 McPherson	10	4/6	6/6
6100 Kingsbury	25	22/45	2/2*
6000 Kingsbury	2	1/5	1/1
6100 Westminster	18	12/14	7/7*
6000 Westminster	8	5/6	3/3
6100 Washington	5	3/4	2/2
6000 Washington	5		5/8
Totals (3 split)	98	70/121 (70%)	29/31 (29%)
6100 blocks (2 split)	70	58	12
6000 blocks (1 split)	28	12	17

*This denotes a household which sent poll results with differing opinions from signers within that household. There were 3 such instances. Where possible, these were tabulated in each column, which will account for individual tallies which do not total the overall number of households.

Many respondents to the poll included comments which the committee reviewed. All poll returns will be retained in the SDCC office.

After reviewing these results, the committee decided that the need to improve the appearance of the barricades was a general concern and that Operation Blitz, scheduled for April 29, provided the ideal structure through which to achieve that improvement. The committee approved a motion to this effect to recommend to the general meeting of RNA on March 10.

Roy Bell, a member of the committee, asked that Joyce or Pete Littlefield be invited to attend the March 10 meeting to provide background on the original issues and process surrounding the installation of the barricades.

The committee also asked Nancy Farmer to contact area universities to determine what kinds of services are available without charge which the organization might use to study this issue further.

The committee did not commission such a study, nor did it move to recommend such a study to the general RNA meeting.

Future Of Barricades Discussed At Rosedale Meeting

The March 10th meeting of the Rosedale Neighborhood Association featured a progress report from the Barricade Study Committee, which was formed at the organization's November meeting. (See Barricade Study Report for more detail.)

The meeting attracted approximately 30 area residents, who discussed the poll results and passed a motion to beautify the barricades as a project of Operation Blitz, which will be held on April 29 in our area. Catherine Forslund and Dee Joyce-Hayes have agreed to co-chair this effort. Those wishing to help may contact the SDCC office, 862-5122, to volunteer. Prizes are given each year to the best projects within Blitz regions and for the entire city. RNA will be working jointly with SDCC Executive Director, Nancy Farmer, in this project.

Another motion authorizing further

study of area traffic patterns was also passed.

Bill Duncan, CONSERV officer for our area, presented some additional information about Operation Blitz.

It was reported that Rosedale had donated \$500 to the *Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere* and had a balance of \$525 in its account.

Nancy Farmer made announcements about two up coming neighborhood events: "DO ART...A Celebration of Imagination" sponsored by the West End Arts Council and New City School will take place Saturday, March 18, 10-4, at New City; and the SDCC sponsored community theatre production is scheduled for May 20. Anyone who is interested in participating in the production should attend a meeting at SDCC, March 22, 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:15.

Neighbors Meet With Washington U

A delegation of neighborhood leaders met with officials from Washington University in late February to discuss neighborhood/University relations. The objective of the meeting was to share neighborhood concerns with University officials and to allow the University to describe its expansion needs.

The neighborhood delegation was headed by Twenty-eighth Ward Alderman Dan McGuire and Community Council Executive Director Nancy Farmer. It also included representatives from Parkview, the Catlin Tract and the Rosedale neighborhood. Participating for Washington University were Jim McLeod, the University's liaison with the neighborhood; Joe Evans, Associate Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs; Justin Carroll, Associate Dean for Student Services; and James Burmeister, Director of Special Programs.

Issues which were discussed included the noise generated by the University's fall outdoor concert; the litter created on Skinker by last year's homecoming parade; the litter, noise and loitering which occurs in conjunction with Thurtene Carnival; and the proposed eastward expansion of the parking lot on Millbrook Boulevard. On the first three items, the University offered to help resolve problems and concerns, and provided the appropriate faculty coordinator to discuss specifics.

In regard to the expansion to the parking lot, the University indicated that it had tabled, for the time being, its previously announced expansion plans and was examining other alternatives. The University expects to complete this review by March of 1990. It agreed to notify the Community Council as future plans evolve.

Health And Beauty At The Kiosk

by Mary Ann Shickman

The St. Louis Public Library Kiosk has a good collection of books on nutrition, exercise, and improving one's appearance with clothes, cosmetics, and the right hair style.

Beginning with nutrition is *How to Live Longer and Feel Better* by Linus Pauling, Nobel Prize Winner for Chemistry and the Nobel Peace Prize. Pauling's view on Vitamin C and the common cold is one with which we are all familiar and this book contains new nutritional ideas. *Fit for Life* by Harvey and Marilyn Diamond is a popular book that proclaims "It's not what you eat but when and how." *Food and Fitness After Fifty* by Frederick J. Stare, M.D. and Virginia Aronson, R.D., M.S., provides a menu for good health in the later years.

In the category of exercise and weight loss is a book called *The Best Spa's* by Theodore B. Van Itallie, M.D., and Leila Hadley. The book tells where to go for weight loss, fitness programs, and Pure Pleasure in the U.S. and around the world. (This book is brand new and begging to be checked out!) *Body* by Gilda Marx offers examples from the dozens of famous names who have used her salons. Kathy Smith has written *Kathy Smith's Winning Workout* or 12 weeks to a better body using free weights. *Workouts that Work for*

Women Who Work features exercises that can be done in bed, in the shower or tub, and watching T.V. *Jane Fonda's Workout Book* gives a whole new approach to health and beauty and *The NFL All-Pro Workout* by Michael Creedman is a complete conditioning program for people of all ages and fitness levels.

To improve one's appearance, the possibilities are endless. *The Silver/Gray Beauty Book* by Tony Ray and Angela Hynes will help those who are gray look dazzling and glamorous. *I'll Make You Beautiful* by Liana Harkavi is an excellent book on creating new hairdos and whispers beauty secrets of the stars. It has many wonderful photographs to illustrate the latest trend in make-up. *Set Free: The Book About Hair* is by Richard Stein and describes no-bother methods for cleaning, conditioning, and drying hair and how to select a cut. *The Benetton Color Style File* explores colors and styles. *Color For Men* by Carole Jackson (author of *Color Me Beautiful*) gives a complete new approach to clothes for men whatever their age or lifestyle. *Maternity Style* shows how to look one's best when biggest, and *Sleek Chic* tells how to dress if you have figure flaws.

With all these possibilities available, the Kiosk can book you for beauty this Spring. Come on in.

KINGSBURY ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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SDCC Sees '89 As A Great Year

by Catherine Forslund

Lack of a quorum and a foot of snow caused cancellation of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council's ("SDCC") February and March meetings respectively. But at an interim assemblage March 20, the SDCC Board took some forward-looking actions which will usher in another era of neighborhood improvement.

In attendance were Nancy Farmer, Georgi Fox, George Genurg, Kathleen Hamilton, Karleen Hoerr, Paul Kurtz, Phil Roberts, Neville Vatcha, Arline Webb, and this reporter. Alderman Dan McGuire was a guest.

New Board member, Phil Roberts, was introduced. He is the representative from Delmar Baptist and was warmly welcomed.

A number of agenda items were tabled for discussion at the regular April 3 Board meeting. They were: the 1988 year end financial report and review of the January meeting minutes. The treasurers report through 2/28/89 was reviewed and accepted.

Questions about the existence, volume and loudness of school buses "Cruising" the neighborhood were raised by Fox. She reported that especially in the early morning, many blocks are subjected to high numbers of the rumbling vehicles roaring down the streets. They are frequently empty. They sometimes park and sit idle. The Board asked Farmer to write the bus companies mentioning our concerns and asking for some explanations.

Hoerr gave an update on the status of the Housing corporation. She along with Jim McLeod, Tom Scatizzi, Katie Kurtz and John G. Storey acted as incorporators. They are investigating not-for-profit corporate status with assistance from City Hall. Skinker DeBaliviere will serve somewhat as the "pilot" Housing corporation for the city-wide plan which is a companion project to Operation ConServ in 13 city neighborhoods. As a result, the initial details are time consuming and complicated, Hoerr reported. It will be fully worth the effort, however, once this initiative gets going. The Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority ("LCRA") proposes transfer of title to the Rosedale Square Apartment Project to the Housing Corporation once it's fully operational. Further details will be reported as they develop.

The Board approved formation of a Planning committee. Approximately 20 people will be asked by Board President Kurtz to serve on the committee. Its charge is to establish short and long-term goals for the Skinker DeBaliviere area. They will advise our ConServ officer, Housing corporation and SDCC Board. Lou Green will be the chairperson. Their first meeting in late March will be reported at the April SDCC Board meeting.

Forslund raised the question of vacant space in the Skinker DeBaliviere Retail Center. Farmer will check into the situation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The 1988 neighborhood crime statistics were presented. Overall, we had a 24% reduction from 1987; specifically larceny and auto theft were down 33%, and burglary down 36%. Unfortunately, assaults were up 11% and after no rapes in 1987, one was recorded last year. The number of homicides and robberies remained the same as 1987.

Farmer reported that the Delmar McDonald's had received a variance from the City Board of Adjustment for their 50' high sign. But, as the paperwork went through City Hall the property was flagged as being located in an area covered by an old LCRA Urban Renewal Plan! The Plan allowed only 25' high signs. It's not known what the owner's plans are for the future.

A representative of Rally's Restaurants met with a group of Board members in March following the cancelled regular meeting. The position previously stated by the SDCC Executive Committee in opposition to the location was reiterated. The next day, at the scheduled Board of Adjustment meeting, Rally's variance was denied.

Farmer will again co-chair our Blitz day operations with Sam Green. Watch for it April 29!

The expansion of the Grace Methodist parking lot on McPherson is "on hold" for the present.

April 30 will be the date of the first of many wonderful events made possible by the Regional Arts Commission ("RAC") grants. Co-sponsorship with the West End Arts Council ("WEAC") brings back Mary Henderson for a concert on April 30 at Grace Methodist. The Spring Concert Series will take place on four Sundays in May, with artists and locations still being finalized. And, on May 20, the Dinner Theater returns to New City School. A busy arts season awaits us right here in our own backyard. SDCC hopes many will attend and enjoy.

Plans for participating in the City's Presentation Week (May 13-20) are still being formulated.

SDCC Board approved a motion for Farmer to make application to an area Title V employment program for an office assistant. Locally administered for Federal and State governments by the Cardinal Ritter Institute and the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging, this program sponsors workers, 55 and older, for up to two years to perform various jobs for qualified agencies. SDCC, as a not-for-profit organization, may apply for an employee who will be paid for by program funding, and provide some much needed assistance around the ever-swamped SDCC office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORIC DISTRICT REVIEW

Monthly meetings have been established and the committee membership is almost complete. Their plans are to track building work within the historic district. That includes checking into what needs and how that permit process is working in connection with Heritage and Urban Design Commission review. Their hope is to present an evaluation of the "evolution" of the historic district with respect to the intent of the original ordinance.

PARKVIEW

There is nothing new to report except that meetings are planned with student organizers of Washington University's Thirteen Carnival to discuss complaints and problems that Parkview neighbors want resolved.

ROSEDALE

Webb gave a review of the actions of the Rosedale Barricade Study Committee. A clean-up and fix-up is planned for the Blitz Day project and some neighbors will be doing further study of possible traffic pattern improvements.

From The Desk Of State Representative Clay



State Representative William L. Clay, Jr.

Dear Constituents:

This letter is to inform you of the unscrupulous tactics deployed by some contractors working in the area of home improvement and rehabbing. I would just like to bring to your attention, that like in all other walks of life, there are good as well as bad apples in every bunch. Several of the homeowners residing in the 59th Legislative district have encountered an unsavory contractor, and some have lost their homes as a result.

The usual scheme that one of these contractors will follow is to first win the homeowner's confidence by doing well on a minor job. Afterwards, the contractor will entice the homeowner to enter into a contract for major repairs to the home. Once the homeowner is in debt over his or her head, the contractor will then offer the homeowner a payment plan or long-term financing to pay off the debt incurred. The end result of this long-term financing will result in the homeowner paying double, triple, or even quadruple the amount of the original loan. Please read any contract you enter into very carefully and understand what you are signing. If you have any doubts about a particular contractor, contact the Better Business Bureau and inquire as to whether there have been any complaints lodged against the contractor. Also, ask to see a copy of the contractor's license for specialties such as electrical work or plumbing. If you wish to report an unscrupulous practice by a contractor, notify the State Attorney General's Office, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, or the Better Business Bureau.

If you would like a referral on a reputable contractor, contact Mokan/Construction Contract Assistance Center, and ask for several firms with a good track record. I urge you to proceed cautiously when entering into an agreement with individuals or firms for the purpose of remodeling or rehabbing your home.

Sincerely,
William L. Clay, Jr.
59th District Representative



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Photo by Jeremy Schoenfeld

The West End Arts Council sponsored "DO ART!" at New City School on March 18th. Here youngsters hear a story from Susan Fay in a body movement session.

Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

I used to think that the most humiliating thing that could happen to a Journalist was getting scooped. My predecessor in this column has given that art a new twist.

It all started when Sue Rothschild asked my wife if I'd be interested in writing this column. I talked to Sue a little bit, then I consulted with Lisa. I had pretty much made up my mind to do it, but first, I called Lisa again with some more questions. She then informed me that word was already out on the street that I was going to write the column. So I was scooped on the story of my own new job!

Yup, Lisa Horner is gonna be a tough act to follow.

I won't try to fill her shoes—she's quite petite and they'd pinch my feet something fierce. I can emulate her standards and this column will continue to be informative and fun for all of us. Jerry Berger had better watch out.

Heidi and Bob Dowgwill are expecting another baby. This one is due on Halloween.

Greg Schweitzer, the choirmaster at St. Roch's, was so encouraged by the success of the Christmas concert last December that he has kept the group together to do more performances in the neighborhood

during the year. This Camerata Choir will do the Schubert Mass in G on May 21, at St. Roch. This is a nonsectarian group, so anyone in the neighborhood is welcome to join. Greg is an equal opportunity exploiter and a fine musician. Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights at DuBourg High School. Call me for more information.

The Times received the following note from Helen Sanders, who has moved to Chandler, Arizona. "I am doing my best at keeping busy and caring for my mom. I miss the gang, think of past good times, love you all and miss the paper. Please send it to me." We're happy to oblige, and have Helen's address for anyone who would like it.

Congratulations to Jim McLeod on his reappointment to the St. Louis County Youth Advisory Commission.

Sorry the column is so skimpy this month; this whole thing fell together at the very last minute and I didn't have time to fire up the old grape vine. We'll have lots for you next time. If you have a story, took a trip, had a baby, or anything else, please call me evenings at 727-0839. Help our grape vine continue to produce fine vintages.

Circuit Attorney Promotes Joyce-Hayes

Skinker DeBaliviere resident Dee Joyce-Hayes has been appointed as First Assistant Circuit Attorney by St. Louis Circuit Attorney George Peach. Ms. Joyce-Hayes is the fifth person to hold this position since 1977, when George Peach took office; and she is the first woman to hold this position in St. Louis.

Joyce-Hayes received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary, and her J.D. from St. Louis University. She began work in the

Circuit Attorney's office in February, 1981. Since April, 1987, she has been Chief Misdemeanor Assistant, while still trying felony cases. Her most recent trial was the successful prosecution of the man who, in January, 1988, robbed and murdered a TWA flight attendant outside of Talayna's restaurant. She will try the second defendant in that case in early April.

Joyce-Hayes lives with her husband, Gary, and children Rob and Elena, in the 6100 block of McPherson.

Tips From Operation Safestreet

Greetings from Operation Safestreet. This is the first of regular articles that we will be writing to alert people of the crime risks and some detailed suggestions on how to avoid becoming a victim.

First, let's lay some groundwork. Crime prevention is for everyone. Crime prevention works if you follow the rules. Crime prevention is an elegantly simple concept. We define it as "anticipating" risks, "recognizing" risks and "being prepared to take some action" to eliminate or reduce those risks.

As the months unfurl we will be identifying a variety of risks. Some may apply to theft, personal assault, or child protection, as well as residential and business crime. You will also find that we will be spending time describing persons, places, seasons, or times of the day that are most vulnerable.

Everyone does not have an equal opportunity to become a crime victim! As you become more informed and educated about crime prevention you will not only be better prepared to recognize risks and know how to better protect yourself, your family and your possessions—you may be able to eliminate a great deal of unnecessary fear.

Watch for "tips" from Operation Safestreet and pass them on!

Fin, Fur, Feather

Moving Rock

by C. Smith

Last September, my husband was awakened as usual at 6:30 A.M. on a Saturday by the cats, so he decided to do some yard work early. He met a perambulating rock striding across the yard in the direction of an equally early rising group of kids. For safekeeping, he put the moving rock in our kitchen. When I arose at the reasonable time of 10:00 A.M. I went for coffee and looked at my feet.

"There is a TURTLE in here!" blared I. We consulted our field guide (Collins, H.H. Jr., Complete Field Guide to American Wildlife, N.Y.; Harper & Row, 1959, pp. 354-355) and—after tickling her "belly" and probably scaring her, we determined we had a Three-Toed Missouri Box Turtle (T.C. triunguis). According to the field guide, males have red eyes. Under her baleful BROWN gaze, we decided she was to be named Tessie Testudinum. The guide said "makes good pet" and of diet "young carnivorous, adults mostly herbivorous"...lots of info to go on!

What to do with our poor "walking rock," who already had an old healed hole in her carapace? We called Kingsbury Animal Hospital (who referred us to Wildlife Rescue Center) and the Zoo. The "Turtle Lady" at Wildlife Rescue suggested getting a "worm motel" to keep in the refrigerator so we could feed her night crawlers. (I'm still trying to get Bruce's second best boots out of the subfloor, so hard did he put his foot down at that idea!) But she also said that turtles both hibernate and estivate in dry weather. Tessie had probably dug in during the Drought of '88, and water was probably as important as food.

The Zoo suggested cat food if she would take it. (By this time, since we have a plethora of cats, we had tried it—she liked it). But no iceberg lettuce because "it's all water!"

Both asked where we kept Tessie and were relieved when I said "downstairs," meaning living room, dining room and kitchen. They have seen too many box turtles with mutilated feet from being kept in concrete basements "to catch bugs" and

their claws sandpapered away. The "Turtle Lady" said that the three worst enemies of turtles are kids (who prod), dogs (who chew and toss) and cars (which crush), but basements rank high.

By this time, we have learned:

1. Diet: Tessie likes cat food, ripe or canned tomatoes, iceberg lettuce and melon. She accepts applesauce and spinach, puts up with chopped apples, carrots or cabbage. We feed her thrice weekly, probably too much as she leaves food behind.

2. Hibernation: She hasn't. She cuddles up to a radiator and isn't torpid. Unless it's very hot, I doubt she'll estivate so long as she has her 12" pie-plate "swimming pool" (filled with 1/4 inch of water).

3. Habits: By day, she crashes. She can be met taking her constitutional most often about 3:00 A.M.

4. Hygiene: At first, she left scattered dry scats that were easily broomed or vacuumed up. With the advent of the "swimming pool," she seems to use it for both elimination and hydration. Since turtles can carry salmonella, it is important to disinfect the pool with bleach when cleaning it, and to wash hands thoroughly after handling pool, dishes, or Tessie.

5. Other Animals: We keep only cats, who tended to sniff and pat, to which Tessie "boxed up." However, when they started trying to steal her cat food, she let out with the only sound she can make, a loud HISS. Since this is also cat dialect for "Quit that, now!," peace has been restored. However, had I a dog, I would keep a watchful eye out; same for small children.

6. Pet Status: The guide says "makes good pet." Bruce habitually wears boots, and feeds the cats. Was it the thud of his footsteps or the food that brought Tessie to peek out at him after only two days? She will let him tickle the sides of her shell, peek out, say "hsst," and turn in a slow-dance circle. A gentle forefinger can pet the top of her head; she blinks and arches her neck. Face it, Tessie is Bruce's turtle!

But then, Bruce is a "Cherokee Turtle," so maybe the "moving rock" is actually the spirit of his great-great-aunt or something!

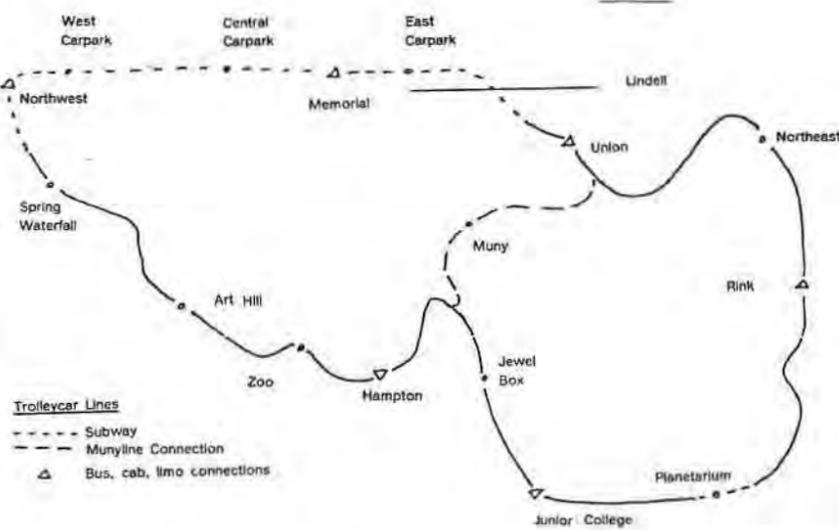
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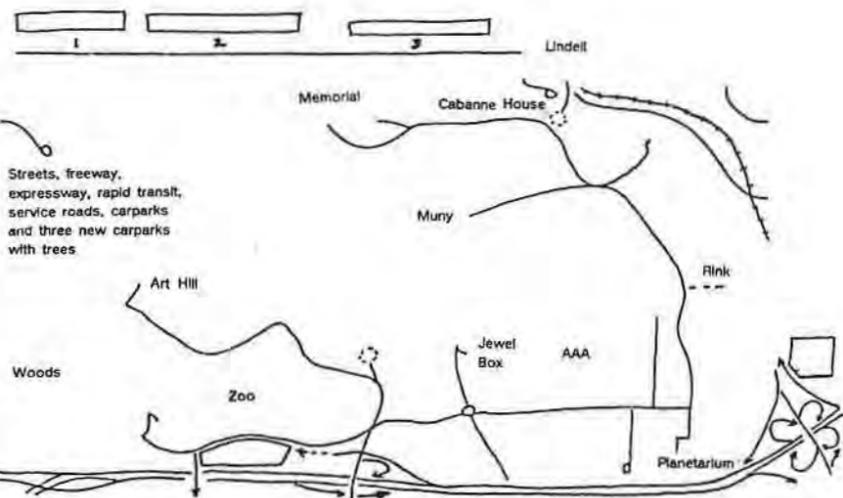
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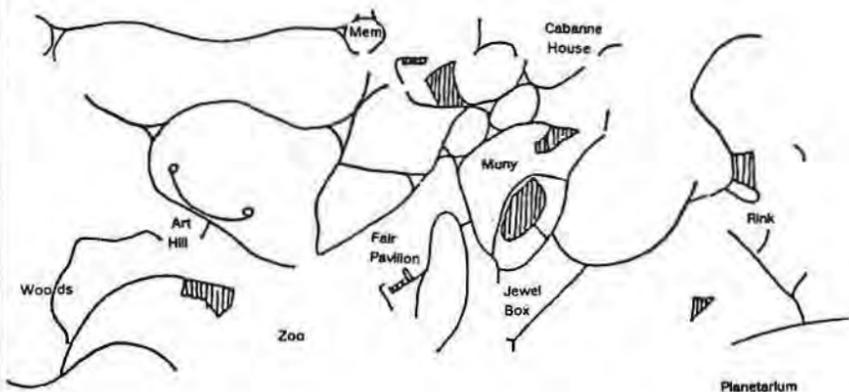
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This advertisement was paid for by a citizen who wishes to remain anonymous. He is interested in the well being of Forest Park workers and visitors. The top two drawings show his plans for the roadways and trolley lines which would be in the park. The bottom drawing shows the roads that exist today that he proposes be taken out.

Touching Bases

This feature highlights our neighbors — the famous, semi-famous, not-so-famous, infamous, and anonymous.



Dan Shea

by Tom Hoerr

Dan Shea tells a wonderful tale about Skinker-DeBaliviere in the early '70s, a story that he calls a metaphor for the spirit of the neighborhood. The setting is an evening dress rehearsal at Grace Methodist Church for the first neighborhood dinner theatre, "The Fastest Thimble in the West." Dan says that he and the other cast members were all dressed in their cowboy costumes, complete with hats, string ties, chaps, six guns loaded with caps, and so on. Suddenly there was a cry as a woman outside had her purse taken. "All of the cowboys and the sheriff spilled out of the church, running after the thief," Dan recalls. "There we were, chasing him down Waterman wearing our cowboy outfits, looking like something out of the movies." It sure must have been an exciting time to live in Skinker-DeBaliviere!

Dan is a professor of English at Washington University. He and his wife Kathleen, a psychiatric social worker, live in the 6100 block of Kingsbury. It's a home that has seen Dan raise his five children since he purchased it in 1967.

Recalling the purchase of his home, Dan says, "I was advised not to buy in the neighborhood by many people, including my department chairman. There were many 'doorbell thieves' here in 1967. Yet we found it an elegant home at an affordable price with grosses of children to be seen for our kids to play with.

"The neighborhood has always reminded me of a '30's movie," Dan says, "I thought I was in *Marty* or something, an old black and white movie set in the Bronx.

"Skinker-DeBaliviere is a neighborhood that inspires loyalty. It's like a small town, the people know and look after one another and the church bells ring on Sunday morning. It seems like a little town. Of course the mayor lives a block away. Isn't that always true in small towns?"

A Minnesota native, Dan came to St. Louis from Stanford University in 1962, armed with a master's degree and an almost-completed Ph.D. (which he finished in 1966). He and his first wife lived in University City for three years. They then rented on the 6100 block of McPherson until they purchased the home on Kingsbury.

We always hear that fate works in strange ways, and Dan's presence at Washington University is proof of this. A colleague of his at Stanford had been offered a job in the English Department at Washington University and turned it down, but in doing so mentioned Dan to the department chair. The chair then wrote to Dan and hired him sight-unseen!

In October 1983 Dan had a quintuple coronary bypass surgery. It both saved and changed his life. "I didn't realize until the last couple of years what the impact was," Dan says. "Step One is realizing that I could die on the table. Step Two is feeling frail, weak, mortal. In the long run, you can stay with that step, or you can recycle yourself entirely into a kind of Step Three. I feel younger now than I did before the operation. There's some kind of leveraging that happens. I now swim for 30 minutes four to five times per week, I'm on a low cholesterol diet, and I'm 10-15 pounds lighter than before the surgery.

"After the surgery, I got into acting," Dan continues. "I was going back to something that was great fun in high school. Acting has a quality of play to it; it's a kind of sanctuaried fantasy that appeals to me. If tomorrow was your last day, what would you want to do? And how do you know it won't be?" Dan asks.

In addition to his family, Dan's life revolves around three interests today: teaching, writing, and acting. When asked which of these he would choose to define himself, he ponders and replies, "I was a scholar-teacher ten years ago. Now it's like keeping all of the plates spinning on the ends of sticks. Ten years ago I wouldn't have even said 'writer' or 'actor'; now I do those things.

"The most rewarding part of being an English professor is teaching. I'm enjoying it more than I ever did. I'm amazed. Acting has helped, not because one acts as a teacher. I mean because acting is connecting. If you don't connect with the other actors on the stage, nothing happens. If actors don't connect with the audience, nothing happens. I'm aware that there are real people out there in the class, and I've got to connect with them. I look forward to it working."

In addition to the local Skinker-DeBaliviere dinner theatre group, Dan has also performed for The New Theatre (most recently in "And A Nightingale Sang") and has done local commercials for "Geraldo" and cataract surgery, among others. He is represented by "Talent Plus," an area talent agency. Dan recently received the Richard Beale Davis Prize of 1988 for the best essay to appear in *Early American Literature*, a journal of the Modern Language Association of America. For this, he says, he earned a free trip to the convention in New Orleans and a certificate, "the size of a holy card." Dan is living proof that good teachers continue to grow and learn.

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

The Angel of Death touched his sweet lips to the body and silently moved on to another household. Robert had been in bed, sleeping, and never knew when his life ended. His wife, Carmen, thought that she heard a noise in the bedroom, and opened her eyes ever so slightly, but she saw nothing. The Angel of Death is, after all, invisible to mortals.

In another part of town, more upscale, the Angel of Death entered a high-rise next to the river. He used neither door nor window to come in to the apartment, and his entrance left the Brinks security system undisturbed. The Angel floated through two walls and stopped at the foot of the bed. There were two youngsters in the bed, silently sleeping. Their chests raised and lowered at a fairly quick pace. It had been a busy day, full of baseballs and skateboards. The child on the left wore a red t-shirt with "St. Louis Cardinals" written in white letters on it.

The Angel stopped for what seemed forever but was really only a few seconds, and looked at both children. Then he turned to his right and went through a wall into the parents' bedroom. Without hesitating, he lowered his body next to the mother and gently touched her lips with his. Her body shuddered as she took a deep halting breath, and her heart stopped. Silently, the Angel left.

Millions of dreams away, in a room where clouds formed the floor, walls, and ceiling, the Angel of Death's Advisory Board sat around a table drinking Diet-Coke and smoking cigars. The Advisory Board was a small group, made up of three individuals. On the left sat an older man with a bright red mustache and a bald head. He wore a black pin-striped suit, with a shirt opened at the collar and a big gold chain around his neck.

The other two people at the table were women, one young and one much older. The younger woman, sitting on the left, wore a long white gown with a black sateen belt. The woman on the right, by far the oldest of the three at the table, wore a pink jogging outfit, with new Adidas shoes. Almost in unison, as if it had been choreographed, each member of the Angel's Advisory Board inhaled deeply on their cigar and, without pausing, took a big gulp of their Diet Coke. The man and the younger woman were both waiting for the older woman in the jogging suit to speak.

The Angel of Death was in another city by now. He looked down on a street choking with too many cars and buses. It was the early morning rush hour, and the sound of hundreds of horns and sets of brakes was exceeded only by the thousands of grimaces and frowns on the drivers' faces.

The Angel reached into his body, pulled out a 3 x 5 card, and read what was written: "AY5 345, red '77 Pinto, WM." Using his contextual vision and ability to transfer time into space, within a second the Angel had found the car in question and entered the front seat. Without a sound, the Angel now sat next to Jim Briggs, who was already angry because he would be late for an important meeting at work. Jim was wasting time worrying, for the Angel leaned over and caressed Jim's lips with his own. In a moment Jim's car was on the side of the road and his body was slumped over the wheel, without life. The traffic jam would be even worse now.

The lady in the pink jogging suit placed her can of Diet Coke on the table, exhaled a puff of blue-grey cigar smoke, and asked, "Well, what are we going to do?"

There was a brief second of awkwardness as the other two began to talk at once, but the bald-headed man deferred to the younger lady in the long white gown. "It's simple," she said, "we just begin to go alphabetically. We use age, of course, but then we go by last names. All of the A's will die then the B's and so on."

"Impossible!" bellowed the bald-headed man. His face was flushed with anger, and the veins in his neck turning a bright red. "For thousands of years we've taken the living by what they think is happenstance, and now you want us to use ALPHABETICAL ORDER? Are you crazy?" he shouted, squeezing his can of soda with both hands.

"Now, now," spoke the older lady in the jogging suit, obviously playing the role of leader. The younger woman and the man both took long puffs from their cigars. The older woman continued, speaking in a soft and soothing voice, "We've been instructed to establish some kind of order to this transition business. It's been nice, I'll grant you, that up until now we've been able to decide who joins us, and at what time, all on our own. Oh, I know, there's a lot that even we can't control, wars and natural disasters and the like, but you must admit, we've had a good deal of discretion for quite a bit of time."

She paused and looked directly at her two table-mates. Without a word they both nodded and took a long gulp of Diet Coke,

as if on cue. She blew a giant smoke ring and all three watched it waft upwards for a moment, expanding and growing fainter as it floated farther from the table. Then she continued, "As I see it, we still have discretion, but we have to provide some kind of a plan—a framework—to direct us. Age will always be the number 1 loading, but beyond that, He just wants to know how we're making our choices."

"What about social security numbers?" the man asked. "We could borrow the random-number selector from the Famine Department and pick our new arrivals that way."

"Well then, how about lottery tickets?" wondered the younger woman, her eyes wide with excitement.

"Enough," said the chairwoman, her impatience showing as she began flicking cigar ashes on to the cloudy floor. The younger woman and the man paused and the chairwoman continued, "Actually, I have a plan. You see, for several thousand years now, I've suspected that it would come to this sooner or later. Over time as the population has increased up here, He's appointed more and more people to regulatory roles and to bureaucratic positions and that always creates fiefdoms and tensions. Remember that the Dark Ages were caused by that union-management squabble about who controlled telepathy! So this comes as no surprise to me!"

It was dusk when the Angel entered the park. The day had been one which would make any spring proud, and there were still a few hearty joggers and a biker or two trying to squeeze in some exercise before night came and the park was off-limits to people who made a living with their words. The Angel floated to a corner where the jogging path made a hairpin turn and then he stopped, resting several feet above the ground. A solitary jogger passed him, then two younger men running together, a lady walking a dog, and a teenager on a bicycle. The Angel waited silently for his appointment.

The chairwoman crossed her legs, resting one of her new Adidas on her knee, and continued, "I propose that we decentralize, that's the buzz-word now. I recommend that we just let the Angel choose

who he wants, when he wants. We simply review his performance each week, as we do now, but we make no assignments or set goals for each quarter as has been the case."

"But this wouldn't have any effect on how people were chosen for the transition," the younger woman responded, "and I thought that this was the purpose of the directive." She rubbed her hands back and forth on her white dress. "Won't He be upset if that isn't done?"

"No, all He wants is a plan," the chairwoman said, "and our plan is to let the Angel choose his targets. In a way, it'll make our job much easier. No more checking birthdates, medical records, and tallying to make sure that we don't upset the balance downstairs. It'll all be up to the Angel!"

There was a long silence and then, in unison, all three members of the Advisory Board placed their hands together in the center of the table so that they touched. When their hands met, a small blue spark ran across all of their fingers. "And now," the chairwoman said, "on to the next agenda item."

The Angel felt a small surge pass through him when they made the decision. He had been listening to all of this, of course, and wasn't surprised at the outcome. The chairwoman had briefed him in the morning, and he was hoping that they would go along with her idea. Since the beginning of time he had been taking orders; now the decisions would be up to him and him alone. He allowed himself a smile, although his lips did not move.

The Angel's concentration was broken by a loud noise. He looked down and saw a car speeding through the park, its radio blaring. He started to turn away—its occupants weren't on his schedule—and then he remembered what had just taken place. The Angel's smile grew even larger and he began to approach the car. He saw that it contained a driver and one passenger. Without hesitating, the Angel reached into his body and pulled out a coin and flipped it, whispering "heads!" The coin landed with tails facing up, and the Angel began to move closer to the lady in the passenger's seat.



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