

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Cardinal Bat Boy: Dewitt Campbell

by Mary Ann Shickman

Seventeen year old Dewitt Campbell is a tall, good-looking, personable young man in his junior year at Roosevelt High School. He attended St. Roch's Elementary School and, after a freshman year at DuBourg, he transferred to Roosevelt.

Dewitt was selected to be a bat boy for the St. Louis Cardinals in a very stiff competition. After he was called in for an interview, he was chosen. His duties include taking care of bats, balls and other equipment or basically anything the umpire asks him to do.

When there is a day game, Dewitt gets to the stadium by 9:00 a.m. as there is a great deal of work to do before the game. After night games he often does not return home until midnight and then must get up early to be at school the next day. His mother Margaret Campbell, a teacher in the public schools in St. Louis, chauffeurs him between work, school, and home.

Dewitt is happy to be working with so

many different people and is awed by the famous ones, but he also says how down to earth they are. Ozzie Smith receives a lot of fan mail and is very nice to work for. When Mike Shannon came up to him and started a conversation, Dewitt decided he would like to stay with the Cardinals and work his way up to the front office. Teasing goes with the job and Dewitt is often kidded by the players about his first name.

One day, he was sitting in the dugout doing his homework when the realization hit that "this is really neat, working with the Cardinals in the background." In spite of his new job, Dewitt is expected to keep up his grades and he is doing well.

This writer will never forget the day Dewitt came into the St. Louis Public Library Kiosk and announced that he had been chosen bat boy. He was transformed, almost floating on air. We wish Dewitt success and happiness with the Cardinals all the way "home" to the front office.



Skinker DeBaliviere resident Dewitt Campbell is a bat boy for the St. Louis Cardinals. He is pictured here in front of the Kiosk at Des Peres and Kingsbury.

Photo by Mary Ann Shickman

Touching Bases

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



Melva Ware

Photo by King Schoenfeld

by Tom Hoerr

"St. Louis has been good to me," says Melva Ware. Melva is a Research Associate and Administrative Coordinator for the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She lives on Washington in Parkview with her husband, Leland, and their son, Leland Jr. The family moved to St. Louis from Washington, D.C. just a couple of years ago. Leland is an assistant professor at the St. Louis University School of Law. "There are lots of opportunities here," Melva continues, "for a person who knows Washington and knows fund-raising."

Melva's pleasure with her accomplish-

ments in St. Louis is warranted. She's responsible for UM-St. Louis receiving \$5,000,000 over a five year period from the National Science Foundation. This money will be used to increase the numbers of underrepresented youth who go into science and technology. The program—one of seven across the country—creates a consortium with Harris-Stowe State College, the Community College System, UM-Rolla, and the St. Louis Public Schools.

Things haven't always been this rosy for Melva, however. She vividly describes at-

tending high school in 1964 in Atlanta, in a middle class area, and being one of seven students to integrate the high school. She recalls having milk thrown on her and having her hair set on fire. Her sister is permanently scarred from being hit by a pipe that was thrown from a passing car. "And," says Melva with no small touch of irony, "we were going to the closest school to our home. Every night I went home angry and cried. Our community, our ministers, could only tell us that somebody had to do it, and we were that somebody."

From high school in Atlanta, Melva went to Spellman College. "It was wonderful, it gave me confidence, self-esteem, and let me be in control of my life" she relates. She graduated with a degree in English and Secondary Education. "I wanted to be a teacher because I wanted to be in charge," she says with a slight smile that can come from only truly understanding oneself.

After college, Melva taught in Atlanta, Boston, and Washington, D.C. She also directed a Head Start and Family Development Programs in Alexandria. After this she worked at the national office for the League of Women Voters as a Senior Specialist for Management and Training Services. She was also the Assistant Director of Minority Affairs for Georgetown University. If her face looks familiar from the 1984 Presidential and Vice-Presidential debates, it's because she was the Special Assistant to the Director of Debates! She was responsible for everything from seating to media access. She also worked as a consultant for Southland (the 7-11 Corporation) and was responsible for developing child care as part of their employee benefits program. Whew! This is one busy and active lady!

In response to how she handles racism today, Melva says, "All of the -isms are the problems of the people who have them; they're not my problem and not my problem to resolve. Anger would be counterproductive for me. Some of us have been lucky; some of us are born with positive spirits. I'm able to focus on the positive!"

Melva has given much thought to the issue of race in our society and the world. It's an important issue for her, and one that has special significance for her with her son, Leland Jr., an eighth grader at St. Roch's School. "We all have to take responsibility for telling the truth. As a parent I have a responsibility to my child to make sure that the educational environments in which he participates are responsible." Acting on this belief, Melva arranged to have Alice Windom visit the children at St. Roch's. Alice lived in Africa for ten years, and has been instrumental with the Egyptian Foundation for Western Civilization. Melva and her husband also like to take their son traveling with them outside of the continental U.S. It's important, she believes, to put her son in situations where he can see how various races act and interact in other cultures.

One doesn't have to be with Melva long before she begins to talk about her trip to Africa last summer. She spent three weeks in Egypt and traced the Nile down to the Nubian homeland, the area where black Egyptians originated. "I looked at the drawings and inscriptions on the walls," Melva says, "and I saw my friends and myself, black people who had been drawn thousands of years ago." Melva smiled and quickly agreed with the comment that Liz Taylor was racially miscast for the role of Cleopatra, saying, "It's incumbent on black people to rediscover our past. We need to help black youth, for whom we feel much despair, to know that they're a part of the world."

Melva talks about how the Greeks built upon the culture of the Africans and how the Europeans then built from the culture of the Greeks. African history has been lost and ignored for too long she says, "it's important to recognize that it's a united effort that got us to this point (in time). Once we've all bought in, we call all move forward!"

"There are some people writing now who understand where we've come from,

Continued on page 4.

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Skinker DeBaliviere Planning Committee Meets

The Skinker DeBaliviere Planning Committee met for the first time on Monday, March 27. Mayor Schoemehl and ConServ Director Susan Feinberg explained the ConServ program and asked that the neighborhood begin work on a plan for the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. After the plan is complete, the City will formally adopt the document and use it as a reference guide for future development and prioritization of neighborhood needs.

Several area residents were invited to attend the meeting and to serve on the committee. Efforts are being made to expand the committee. If you wish to be involved or know someone who would like to volunteer, please call Lu Green at 862-4187 or Nancy Farmer at 862-5122.

The committee will be comprised of several sub-committees, some of which are already at work on neighborhood issues. These sub-committees and their chairpersons include:

- Housing Karleen Hoerr
- Security Rose Flynn

- Recreation Irv Clay
- Beautification ... Catherine Forslund
- Education Rochelle Nwadibia
- Commercial District ... JoAnn Vatcha
- Traffic & Transportation Marjorie Weir
- Historic District Review .Katie Kurtz
- Social Services Wilma Cantwell

Sub-committees will be asked to meet regularly over the next two months and submit their plans by June 30th.

Steering Committee: Green has appointed a steering committee who will work with various sub-committees. After sub-committee work is complete, the Steering Committee will meet regularly during the summer months to make final decisions on items to be covered in the plan. The final plan will be submitted in the Fall to the full Planning Committee and the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council for approval. Steering Committee members are: Nancy Farmer, Lu Green Esther Herron, Karleen Hoerr, Dan McGuire, Rochelle Nwadibia, Msgr. Sal Polizzi, Cal Stuart, and Jo Ann Vatcha.

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From The Mayor's Desk

by Vincent C. Schoemehl, Jr.

The Missouri General Assembly recently approved a measure that would extend for another two years the authority of St. Louis City and St. Louis County to levy the 1/2 cent sales tax earmarked for transportation. A large percentage of the funding derived from the sales tax is utilized to finance the Bi-State Development Agency.

All of the funds collected by the City under the sales tax are turned over to Bi-State. The County keeps some money for other purposes and in the past matched the City's contribution on a 2 to 1 basis. Last year, the City provided Bi-State with funds totaling \$17 million, the County \$30 million. The existing funding agreement is based on need, population and subsidy cost.

Bus transportation is critical in relieving the congestion in the two central business districts of the region: the downtown area and Clayton. In addition, public transportation is vital to those with low incomes and the elderly. It is estimated that 2/3 of low income individuals and 1/2 of the elderly do not own a car. Approximately 1/4 of all households do not have a driver. Reducing transit revenue would severely restrict the independence and mobility of these individuals.

Some County officials have complained that St. Louis County pays a disproportionate share to Bi-State. However, I believe you must look at the total transportation picture.

St. Louis County receives a much larger subsidy for road construction from the state than the City. Approximately \$350 million in federal highway dollars was allocated to the urbanized areas of the St. Louis region by the State Highway Department in both 1987 and 1988. Over the two year period, the City received 4% and 1%, respectively, of the highway money. In 1987, St. Louis County received 69% of the funds and 65% in 1988. This translates into approximately 16 and 69 times as much funding as the City.

Overall, the County contributes more funding to Bi-State than the City; however, the County receives more highway money. On a straight dollar basis, it is clear that the County receives a much greater tax subsidy than the City. I have not objected to the County receiving the lion's share of this money because I feel that the transportation needs of the community as a whole should be addressed, rather than focusing on inequities in funding among the City and County. Only through a cooperative approach to transportation can the economic viability of the region be ensured.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editorial Board: Sue Rothschild, 361-0880 or 725-0878
Katie Kurtz
King Schoenfeld

Calendar: Sue Rothschild Business Manager: Marjorie Weir, 863-7558

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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.



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June Calendar

Continuing

"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.

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.

June

- 1 "City Life," a collection of works by Matt K. Lundberg will be on display throughout June, 8 a.m.-10 p.m. daily in St. Louis U. Busch Memorial Center, 20 N. Grand. Call 658-2820. Free.
- 2 Craft Alliance Gallery hosts the National Glass Competition, June 2-July 1. Reception, June 2, 6-8 p.m.; U City Delmar Loop. For more information call 725-1177 or 725-1151.
- 3 "Painted Funky": Clothes and Furniture by Theresa Disney. Componere, 6509 Delmar. Through June 30.
- 4 *Bethany Kreigsman and Blane de St. Croix: Totems and Taboos*, New Paintings and Sculptures; Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker. Through July 9.
Elaine Blatt: Photographs; Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker. Through July 9.
- 6 *The Thin Blue Line* (film), fascinating documentary which led to the overturning of an accused killer's guilty verdict and a call for a new trial. Art Museum, 7:30 p.m., \$3.
- 7 Pianist Evan Hirsch will perform works by Mozart, Schumann and Liszt at Washington U's Graham Chapel, 8:00 p.m. The concert is open to the public. For more information call 889-5581. Free.
- 9 *Play It Again Sam* (film), with Woody Allen, Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3.
Summer Dance Program for children; June 9—children ages 8-10; June 10—children ages 2-7. Mallinckrodt Center's Dance Studio, Room 205. For more information call 889-5858 or 367-1321.
- 10 COCA Dance Collaboration: Regina Till, Suzanne Grace, Jan Feager will perform "The Waltz Project in Black & White," 524 Trinity, U. City, at 8:00 p.m. Call 725-6555 for information. \$8.
Passions, Inc.—Sponsored by Market in the Loop, 6655 Delmar, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 13 *House of Games* (film), with Lindsay Crouse, Art Museum, 7:30 p.m., \$3. The Saint Louis Art Museum reopens the Decorative Arts Collection and the Period Rooms in the lower level of the West Wing.
- 14 Lecture given by Mary Bagley, Ph.D. of St. Louis U.; 6:30 p.m.; Ritter Hall, 220 N. Grand, Room 237. For reservations call 658-2331. Focus on some of Missouri's outstanding writers.



The empty lot at Des Peres and Westminster has been newly landscaped by the city.

- 16 *Sleeper* (film), with Woody Allen and Diane Keaton, Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00 and 9:15 p.m., \$3.
- 17 Workshop: Tim Cimino of World Peace One presents *Becoming an All-Around Peacemaker*, Grace Methodist Church, 9 am. to 4:30 pm. For registration and information call 725-4241.
- 20 ARCHITECT-FOR-A-DAY: DESIGN YOUR HOUSE: THE PAST AROUND YOU, six week summer series for children 6 to 13; History Museum, 10:30 a.m.; Free.
The Last Picture Show (film), with Timothy Bottoms, Cybill Shepherd, Jeff Bridges, Cloris Leachman, and Ben Johnson. Art Museum, 7:30 p.m., \$3
- 22 ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE: Children will learn how to read architectural clues in their own neighborhoods. 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., History Museum.
- 23 *Love and Death* (film), with Woody Allen, Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00, and 9:15 p.m., \$3.
- 24 *Slice of the Caribbean*—sponsored by Market in the Loop, 6655 Delmar; 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 27 WHY DON'T YOU FALL THROUGH THE FLOOR? Howard S. Miller shows structural basis for buildings and bridges with sticks, ropes and other materials. History Museum, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
The Conversation (film), with Gene Hackman, Harrison Ford, Terri Garr, and John Cazale. Art Museum, 7:30 p.m., \$3.
- 29 DIGGING UP THE 1904 WORLD'S FAIR: Remnants dug up in Forest Park of buildings from the World's Fair featured. Children make their own plaster ornaments. History Museum, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- 30 *Annie Hall* (film), with Diane Keaton. Art Museum, 1:30, 7:00, and 9:15 p.m., \$3.

July and August

The TIMES takes a holiday. Our volunteers need a break! We'll see you in September.

Grace Methodist Church To Sponsor Day Camp

The Breitmayer Community Ministry has announced the dates of their annual summer day camp, beginning June 12 and closing August 4, 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. 5 days a week.

Information is now available through Linda Emerson, Director of the Breitmayer Community Ministry (863-8900) or the office at Grace Church (863-1992).

Planned activities include dance, music,

arts and crafts, drama, storytelling and exercise by Vic Tanny. There are field trips planned to bowl, to attend the Circus Flora, a Cardinal baseball game, the Magic House and many other places of interest.

Hot breakfasts and lunch will be served at Grace Church in Fellowship Hall. Registration is open to ages five through thirteen.

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SDCC Play



"'Too Many Nights in a Barroom: A Burlesque Melodrama' was a resounding success," said the large audience who saw the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council production on Saturday, May 20. Tom Clear skillfully adapted the play to take advantage of a large cast of neighborhood residents, who, as these pictures will attest, had a lot of fun with their parts.

His children try to convince Joe Morgan (Dan Shea) to come home.

Photos by King Schoenfeld

The principal players were: Dan Shea, Mary Bea Stout, Peter Schmit, Terry Vanicelli, Ed Stout, J. Terrance Farris, Karen Kelsey, and Lisa Horner. Assorted wastrels, temperance ladies and children were: Richard Beitler, Roy Bell, Meg Flynn, Rose Flynn, Laura Horner, Ann Judy, Christa Kelsey, Claudia Lawrenz, Al Nerviani, Jeremy Schoenfeld, Martin Stout, Rita Sweets, Monica Vanicelli, Madeline Vanicelli, and Kathleen Williams.



His wife (Mary Bea Stout) and the temperance ladies try to convince Joe to come home.



The bartender (Ed Stout) and assorted wastrels try to convince Joe to go home.

This feature highlights our neighbors—

Continued from page 1

that no one race or culture is superior. They know that progress comes when the cultures mix." Melva cited a number of interesting books that explain the African legacy: *Black Athena* by Martin Bernard; *The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization*; *The African Presence in Ancient America: They Came Before Columbus* by Ivan Van Sertima; and *The Africian Origin of Civilization* by Cheikh Anta Diop.

"Black youth need to see connections to the past and present and to be in control of their future," Melva continues. "The historical context is critical; it's the missing link!" She believes that once black children connect to the past, we will be able to see some changes in behavior.

Melva has some strong thoughts about her role in bringing about change in our society: "I'm in control of this life. Given challenges and opportunities, what I do with that depends on me. That works well individually, it works well for me, but I also know that I can't discount group problems and group discrimination.

"Leland and I have certain ad-

vantages—we were both born to middle-class parents—and we are responsible to make sure that we take every opportunity to use those advantages not only for ourselves, but for our people."

Melva does this through her professional work, her work as a wife and a mother, and her role in the community, talking and guiding at every opportunity. "I've built relationships between institutions and individuals," she says with pride. Her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, has adopted a village in Africa and is working on a public health project. She believes that taking the initiative is important: "Black people need to be in control of the things that shape their communities."

It's a nice symbiotic relationship: St. Louis has been good to Melva and she's been good for St. Louis. She says, "St. Louis is a nice town for raising a teenager, and we live in the best area to do that." Still, her east coast roots are evident when she says, "The Loop is wonderful. It's the closest thing to Georgetown and Adams Morgan!"

Summer Pre-School Classes At COCA

The Center of Contemporary Arts (COCA) will sponsor several classes for pre-schoolers this summer. Children ages 2-4 and their parents will be introduced to songs and rhythm accompanied by guitar and banjo in *Humming and Strumming*. This class meets four consecutive Sundays in July from 10-11 a.m. *A Morning of Music and Movement* for ages 4-6 will introduce children to creative dancing and

music. This meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday, June 5-16 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. In *Dress-up and Drama*, children ages 4-8 will use make-up, puppets and props to become their favorite characters. Sessions start in June, July and August. Registration is on-going. COCA is located at 524 Trinity in University City. Call 725-6555 for information.

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Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Parkview is languishing under The Mummy's Curse. The mummy in this case is Cheops, builder of the Great Pyramid. While repaving its streets, the subdivision violated Cheops Law. This law reads:

No Construction Project is Ever Finished On Time or Within Budget.

The Parkview agents got a good price for the materials to perform this long-overdue task and Parkview is well within budget as a result. To compensate for this money saving, it seems as if Cheops' ghost is determined to mess with the time schedule for the project.

Mechanical breakdowns, weather, and bad karma have plagued the work crews. The Residents became Restless; Washington was finally recapped on May 24, after five tries. Let's hope that Old Man Cheops will now be content to let the work continue without hindrance.

I hope you had a chance to read in the *Post-Dispatch* a fine article about Jerry Hunter, who has been nominated as chief counsel for the National Labor Relations Board. The article was incorrect in one respect, however. Jerry is not a resident of Jefferson City; he and his wife Yvonne and their two children have lived in the 62XX block of Washington for quite some time. Now, it appears that instead of living on Washington, the Hunters will be living in—or at least around—Washington (D.C.). We wish him best of luck on this appointment.

The Hunter's good news is bad news for this paper, I am afraid. Yvonne Hunter is on the board of directors for this paper, so we are losing more than just some fine neighbors.

Nesby Moore, Jr. of 62XX McPherson has been appointed by the Governor to the Police Board. Despite the promotion, we get to keep this neighbor and we wish him all success.

It may seem strange to see the Governor appointing people to the St. Louis Police Board; this system was set up around the beginning of the Civil War. The pro-Southern governor and legislators made this arrangement in order to weaken the pro-Union St. Louis power structure.

Dan Shea and Kathleen Williams (61XX Kingsbury) are recovering from playing their parts in the SDCC melodrama by taking a trip to England and Ireland. 'Tis said that Dan has some literary research to perform, but we suspect his inquiries will be more along the line of determining the vapor characteristics of Tullamore Dew.

While Dan and Kathleen are languishing in the land of warm beer, Bob and Jean Ducker (& children) will be in Florida, ascertaining whether it is hotter and muggier than good ol' St. Lou'. They'll be back at 61XX Kingsbury by the time you read this.

Peter and Mary Schmit of 61XX McPherson have been harboring a French exchange student, one Blandine Fremaux. Ms. Fremaux just returned from a visit to Washington D. C. with her school's Close-up Club to see how Congress allegedly functions. Alas, she will return to France in June. Let's hope that what she tells the folks back in *la Patrie* about D.C. won't damage NATO. We will all miss Blandine, as her father is a champagne manufacturer and her care packages did not exactly contain cookies!

Congratulations to David Garin of 61XX Westminster. He has been named as the Interim Director of the brand-new UMSL Center for Science and Technology. The Center provides training and research opportunities to area industries, as well as lectures and workshops on current technology-oriented issues to the general public.

Bill Horner of 61XX Westminster has joined AJF Trailer Leasing. He will be working in marketing and operations. AJF leases reconditioned trailers nationwide and they're big; I was astounded to note how many semitrailers on the road sport AJF mudflaps.

One of the roughest aspects of this column is trying to keep track of the Hoefels, of 61XX Mc Pherson. Gene & Dolores Hoefel spent last August en route to France, where they stayed from September to December in Paris on sabbatical. While in Paris they managed to squeeze in trips to most of Western Europe south of Denmark. January through March were spent visiting long-lost friends in Costa Rica. They then visited St. Louis ("Really exotic!", says Delores) long enough to marry off their oldest son, then it was north to Minnesota and the family farm in Wisconsin. They finally returned home for keeps at the end of April.

Joe and Betty Botz (61XX Kingsbury) recently returned from a Caribbean cruise, a 40th wedding anniversary present from their seven children. I hope my gang is reading this.

The Botz's will become in-laws again this year. Daughter Susan is committing matrimony in September.

Ottie's Corner: Officer Edwards had a relatively peaceful May. He did manage to become involved in a rather neat car theft scenario.

During the recent street repair work in Parkview, many of the residents simply parked behind their homes in the alley. Ottie observed a car cruising suspiciously around one of these parked cars. He turned on his bubble gum machine and the stranger took off, but not before Edwards was able to see that the car had been hot-wired. While calling for City Police backup, he set off in pursuit. This was no mean feat, considering that the only thing slower than his Chevette "cruiser" is a Yugo. Anyhow, he managed to corner the culprit down a dead-end street, so the thief abandoned the car and took off on foot. This fugitive was easy to catch; to fool a license check he had substituted the plates off of his own car. Ottie confronted the thief in a lineup and used a classic ploy to identify the suspect. Edwards simply walked up to the thief and fantasied what he would have done to the car thief, had he been the one to make the arrest. Stung, the thief blistered the air with a retort that clearly gave him away. As if our culprit were not in enough trouble, it turned out that the stolen car belonged to a member of the staff of Judge Michael Hart, of 62XX McPherson. Ottie loves to point out that many criminals are real pros at digging themselves in deep, but this guy is our Loser of the Month.

I just realized that this is my last column until after the summer. Whew! After doing this for three months, I am incredibly impressed by Lisa Horner, who held down this spot for many years. I would also like to thank her ten bushels (that's the biggest number I know of in Italian) for her help in getting started and her encouragement since. I am also indebted to my wife Mary for helping me find stories, proofreading, and letting me know when I'm going off the deep end. Last, but not least, I need to thank the Editor and Boss, Sue Rothschild, for giving me the chance to do this column, for her light-handed editorial touch, and for those extended deadlines!

Have a wonderful summer, everyone. As my Anglo/German in-laws would say: For Bitters or Wurst, we'll see you in the Fall.

Playing With The Big Kids At The Kiosk

by Mary Ann Shickman

If you were to come in the Kiosk now you would see a rather large handsome piece of furniture and, enclosed inside it, a screen, a keyboard, and a printer, among other things. This is our new Intelligent Catalog.

While we have an entire book to describe it, here are some of the highlights: The Catalog allows you to search for materials at all St. Louis Public Library locations. It recognizes any type of entry. The Catalog can search every word in all text fields. It allows for shelflist browsing for serendipitous discoveries and also suggests other areas to search and display the first page of novels it recommends. It can provide non-verbal access via maps and graphics and has images that zoom up and down to point at items of interest. You can even check library and community events. The friendly human voice that coaches patrons makes suggestions via telephone headset, earphones and built-in speaker.

Its resources are so vast we encourage you to come and discover for yourself.

To accommodate the Catalog, shelves in the Kiosk will be rearranged.

Another popular new item at the Kiosk is a handsome set of World Book Encyclopedias, already put to daily use. And more items may be coming! It's beginning to feel as if this little Kiosk will soon be playing with the big kids.

One last item, the 6th birthday party of the Kiosk was a great success with more than a hundred people (mostly children) in spite of a very chilly day. They were entertained by the fire engine and the free raffle and enjoyed the birthday cake and punch. Many thanks to such wonderful helpers as artist Marlin Fields, Rose Flynn, Janet Holler, Rachel Crees, Lois Schoemehl, Rose Nielsen, Lois Clay of Classical Coffee, Sam DiLorenzo, Tony Billups, my shelver Robin Chambersand, Ramona Clark and last but not least my supervisor, Leandrea Lucas of Cabanne.

Attention Gardeners:

Do you get a great feeling watching green things pop their heads through the soil and put on a splendid display of color? Do you love to putter in the yard? Do you think this neighborhood could be spruced up with a few choice plantings? Have you noticed the Rosedale barricades lately or spotted the daffodils and mums at Four Corners?

If you answered yes to any of the above, today is your lucky day. We have got a way for you to satisfy that nagging green thumb while helping out our neighborhood!

A group is now forming that will work to: 1) maintain Rosedale, Four Corners and

other existing area plantings, 2) seek additional beautification projects, 3) explore community gardening possibilities and, 4) generally improve the botanical environment that we share.

Anyone interested in sharing time, ideas, materials or money should contact the SDCC office at 862-5122 or Catherine Forslund at 725-7144. We want to celebrate the goodwill and neighborliness that comes from working collectively for a common goal. Let's make good use of our green surroundings and coax from them the best they have to offer us, whether it be beauty, fragrance, erosion control, food, privacy or just the joy of being alive.



Catherine Forslund resets the planter at one of the barricades.

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The Sedalia Trail

by Ray Breun

Frankly, most St. Louisans don't consider the place a cattle town. Most equally never consider St. Louis a meat packing center. Hardly anyone knows that the Whittemores were among the cattle barons of Montana, along with the Niedringhaus family and other large range owners in the West. The Danforths made a fortune in feed preparation for cattle and horse ranching. Only later did they get into dogs and cats. A few have heard of "Butcher Town," but even fewer will know that it was a part of the village of Bremen just above the river bottom at the north end of Salisbury Street. Hardly anyone remembers that the local herds of livestock used to be driven east on Market Street to Jefferson Avenue where they turned north to go to Butcher Town. Only small private meat packers and sausage makers work there now. When Krey moved out long after Hunter moved over to the east side, that entire episode in St. Louis history was just forgotten.

It all began because of the Civil War. By the end of the war in 1865, all the livestock herds east of the Mississippi were either depleted or destroyed by the war effort. Grain and vegetable food stocks were badly damaged as well, but they came back, some by the fall of 1865. That was not true of the livestock, especially cattle.

All of a sudden there was a meat shortage in the east and there were men floating around looking for work after living in the army camps in the open. In the Nueces River Valley just north of the Rio Grande River in Texas were millions of Spanish longhorns which had thrived in the wild during the dozens of decades since they had been introduced. Happily, no one owned them. They were "wild" animals there for the taking. In the spring of 1866, the first year after the Civil War, drivers, most of them refuse from the Civil War, started 260,000 head toward Sedalia, Missouri. The goal was to get to the meat packing facilities of St. Louis. The reason to go first to Sedalia was simple: the Missouri Pacific Railroad. That was as far west as it went, and from there east to St. Louis was a simple trip for the animals in cattle cars.

There were two problems: trees, and Missouri farmers. It is easy to see why taking long horn cattle through the forests of the Ozarks south of Sedalia would be a problem. A number of the animals died stuck in the woods, literally. The farmers were a more serious concern. They had heard of Texas fever and did not want their cattle infected; they also were receiving prime dollar on their livestock and didn't want the competition.

Enter the hero—from Chicago. Joseph G. McCoy was an Illinois meat dealer who wanted to corner the meat packing market and wanted it in Chicago. He learned that the Kansas Pacific Railroad was heading west from Kansas City. By July, 1867, he had his men heading down the Sedalia Trail to tell the herders, now called cowboys, that they could avoid the problems of Missouri and bring their cattle to

Abilene, Kansas. Not many did that first year because McCoy's men got to them too late. But Joe McCoy left calling cards with the foremen and cattle drivers, offering \$45.00 a head in Abilene in 1868—some \$10.00 more than the 1866 price and without either the woods or the Missouri farmers in the way.

Joseph McCoy's "real McCoy" (that is the source of the phrase since he always paid as he promised) promises worked and the Sedalia trail faded. St. Louis did not fight Chicago for the meat packing title, and soon the railroads from the cowtowns, including Dodge City, Ogalala, and Cheyenne, all went to northern Illinois. Late in the 1870's, the MKT completed trackage in Texas and the long drives began to wane. The MKT brought much of the livestock to St. Louis, and a late challenge to Chicago's meat packing leadership emerged.

But mother nature played the most important role in the mid-1880s. The winters of 1885-86 and 1886-87 were the worst the cattlemen would ever see that century. Over 90% of the cattle in the West froze. Charlie Russell began his artistic career with a little painting of a near frozen cow sent to the newspapers of Chicago depicting the harshness of the weather. Meat prices skyrocketed, and cattle ranching entered a new era. Open range ranching was too risky. Feed lots emerged immediately, and along with it the need for feed grains and feed suppliers. It was better to bring the food to the cows than to let the animals wander around subject to weather, rustlers, and disease. Soon St. Louis was producing cattle feed for ranches throughout the West. The Ralston Purina mills emerged as clear favorites by the turn of the century. Chicago still held the meat packing power, but the meat packed was fed on St. Louis feed.

The feed business also was good for the chemical business. Anti-disease additives, growth hormones, and dozens of other products for removing insects, dissolving waste, and fertilizing grain growing on the open plains now safe from buffalo, Indians, and grazing cattle, helped other industries prosper in St. Louis in concert with the feed business.

The Sedalia Trail was used for only a short period of time. Missouri herders continued to take their animals to Sedalia even after Joe McCoy managed the Texas herders into going to Kansas. The railroad went around St. Louis to Chicago with the animals to meet the meat demand in the east after the Civil War. In fact, if there had been no Civil War there would not have been cowboys as we romantically remember them, no long drives, and probably no Indian Wars either. Dependence on western cattle, built up during a period of mild winters after the Civil War, made the turn to feedlots almost automatic after the winter of 1886-87, the second in a row of killer blizzards on the open ranches. With the development of feedlots came the need for feed, feed suppliers, chemicals, and product control technology.



The Past Around You, the History Museum's six-week summer series for children ages six to 13, focuses on architecture, building styles and St. Louis neighborhoods. The opening program is Tuesday, June 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. The series continues Tuesdays and Thursdays through July 27, and there is no admission charge.

The programs are coordinated with the History Museum's exhibition, "The Spirit of H. H. Richardson on the Midland Prairies," which includes the James LaPrelle residence, #10 Washington Terrace, 1896, by H. F. Roach, architect. Archival photograph from The Western Architect, 1904, courtesy of Minneapolis Public Library.

U. City Library Adds Books For New Readers

The University City Public Library (6701 Delmar) has recently added a collection of over 400 books written especially for new adult readers and literacy tutors serving these students. The collection, which was purchased with funds granted by the Missouri State Library to the nine independent municipal libraries in St. Louis County, is now available to be checked out.

It is estimated that as much as 20% of the adult American population is func-

tionally illiterate. Libraries serve as sites for volunteer tutors to teach adults to read. The "New Readers" collection in the University City Public Library is intended to support the literacy tutors and their students in their efforts to overcome this serious problem. For further information on the "New Readers" collection, or to inquire about getting involved as a literacy tutor, call Linda Ballard at the University City Public Library, 727-3150.

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A Clear View Of Cataracts

What it is and how it is treated.

Cataract is a leading cause of blindness among adults in the United States, accounting for one out of every seven cases of blindness among persons 45 years of age or over. Although most prevalent among older persons, a cataract can occur in young people, and can sometimes be found in a baby's eyes at birth.

As medical advances have succeeded in lengthening the human lifespan, more and more Americans are—and will be—entering the age group associated with the development of a cataract. It has been said that if we live long enough, most of us will develop a cataract.

The treatment for a cataract is surgery, which offers a safe and successful means to restore vision in more than 95 out of 100 cases!

For the cataract patient this means that he no longer has to accept cataract blindness as the price of aging. A highly effective and proven means exists to return the patient to a world of vision.

What is a cataract?

A cataract is an opacity, or clouding, of the eye's lens which blocks or changes the passage of light needed for vision. The lens of the eye is located behind the pupil and the colored iris, and normally is transparent. Its role is to help focus images onto the retina at the back of the eye, which transmits the images to the brain.

The underlying cause of cataract formation has not yet been determined, although it is known that a cataract is associated with chemical changes within the lens. Most often a cataract is related to the normal aging of the person—and the eye. Other factors that play a role are infection; hereditary influences and congenital events, such as German measles in the mother; physical or chemical injury to the eye; and exposure to intense heat or radiation. Eye diseases and certain general diseases, such as diabetes, can also lead to cataract development.

Are there symptoms?

Cataract formation is not associated with "signals" such as pain, redness or tearing. The symptoms of a cataract all revolve around the interference with vision; blurred vision, double vision, spots, ghost images, the impression of a "skin" over the eyes; problems with light, such as find-

ing lights not bright enough for reading or near work, or being "dazzled" by intense light—as one eye physician has described it, "You need more light on your work, but less light near your eyes." The need for frequent changes of eyeglass prescriptions—which don't seem to help—is another symptom. As a cataract develops it may be noticeable to others as a milky or yellowish spot in the normally black pupil.

When the area of clouding is small and away from the center of the lens, there may be little interference with vision except for the annoyance of corresponding loss of detail in the visual image. If such a cataract progresses a great deal, however, or if the cataract began in the center of the lens, visual difficulty may be marked and may even interfere with everyday activities. The eye physician, or ophthalmologist, usually advises surgery when this point of "life-interference" is reached.

A cataract is not contagious, is not a kind of infection, is not a "skim" growing over the eye. It will not be made worse by using the eyes; nor can it be made better by medicines. There are no treatments, eye drops or other medications which will dissolve a cataract or slow down its progression. A cataract may develop rapidly over a period of a few months, or it may progress very slowly over a period of years. In other instances it may progress so far and then stay the same—and many people never experience visual difficulty to the point that the ophthalmologist will advise surgery.

What can be done?

The only effective treatment of cataract is surgery; and although it is a delicate operation, it is one of the safest operations done today. Cataract surgery has been perfected to the point where successful recovery of vision is attained in more than 95 out of 100 cases! The determination of when and if surgery is advised will be made by the ophthalmologist, in accordance with the patient's degree of vision loss and other important factors.

Regular eye examinations, once the diagnosis of a cataract has been made, are important. They permit the ophthalmologist to evaluate the cataract's progress, treat other eye problems if they exist, and elect the best time for surgery—with knowledge of his patient and the patient's medical history.

SDCC To Move In June

by Catherine Forslund

At a quick, but productive May meeting, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council reviewed various committee activities and approved a move for the future.

Present at the meeting were: Randy Bailey, Frank and Flossie Driscoll, Mary Fleener, Georgi Fox, George Genung, Karleen Hoerr, Paul Kurtz, Jim McLeod, Bob Mahon, Shirley Polk, Kathy Wobus and this reporter. Alderman Dan McGuire was a guest.

No treasurers report was presented, and review of April minutes was tabled for the next meeting.

McGuire inquired about the status of the Eddie Lee Sanders memorial plans and fund. Kurtz will investigate and let the 28th Ward Democrats know so they can organize their participation.

An announcement was made regarding the upcoming 5800 McPherson and DeGiverville bake sale.

Director's Report

In Nancy Farmer's absence, Kurtz gave the director's report.

As of the end of May, the 28th Ward will be closing its office downstairs from the SDCC office. The landlord has been approached about letting SDCC move into the space. Comparably favorable rent arrangements have been worked out, and a motion was passed unanimously to allow Farmer to negotiate final details and plan the office move. Many of the fixtures will remain in the space pursuant to arrangements with the 28th Ward leadership. The Board felt this will create opportunities for increased community involvement by providing a larger, more functional meeting space, better visibility and easier access to all residents.

In cataract surgery, the clouded lens is removed. There are varying techniques for the surgical procedure itself; and the ophthalmologist will select the method best suited to his patient, considering such factors as the degree of "ripeness" of the cataract, the age of the patient, the patient's general health and any other important influences.

The patient who feels hesitant about surgery should bear in mind that advances in this field extend to all areas involved, including presurgery medication, drugs used to ease the removal process, the technique and instruments used, the anesthesia, and the recovery process—most patients now go home in a few days.

After cataract surgery, a replacement is needed to provide the eye with a focusing agent to take the place of the removed lens. The "replacement" may be special cataract eyeglasses, contact lenses, or lenses placed inside the eye at the time of surgery. Temporary glasses are usually prescribed until the recovery process is complete—usually about six weeks.

Will vision be normal?

The patient will notice that his new vision is different: Objects are larger, colors are altered, the feel for distances must be adjusted. If only one eye has been operated on, the patient will rely for the time on, either one eye or the other alone, since the image the two eyes will receive will be too different and confusing. After both eyes have been operated on, this problem no longer exists. In instances where only one

There will be only one spring concert this year. The St. Louis Brass Quintet will perform in Pershing Park in Parkview on May 7.

Plans for the neighborhood theater project are moving along. A cast and audience party will immediately follow the performance May 20th.

Committee Reports Planning

The upcoming meeting with ConServ representatives was discussed and SDCC Board members were encouraged to participate.

Rosedale

Forslund reported on the Blitz day project which was completed as planned. Some additional painting will be done at Pershing and Washington to give all of Rosedale a unified look. Everyone agreed the barricades looked much, much better.

Parkview

Mahon reported that they are preparing for their annual meeting May 15 at Grace Methodist. For Blitz day, their concentration was on the Pershing and Washington parks which were mowed, raked and cleaned. This year's Thurtene carnival included 1 fight on Limits Walk, and about 15 towed cars. Trash was bad on Sunday morning but was picked up by Sunday night, although Forest Park Parkway was fairly littered.

(Editor's Note: At the Parkview annual meeting, three new agents were elected to replace retiring agents Gary Carr, Roger Debenport, and Morey Gardner. The new agents are: Sheryl Dobbin, George Genung and Tom Knoten. Re-elected were Mary Fleener, Bryan Gerard and Jim Merlo.)

eye is to be operated on, a contact lens is often prescribed because the "image difference" between the two eyes is small and the patient can usually adjust quite well.

If "best vision" is the only consideration, contact lenses or intraocular lenses do provide less distortion than cataract eyeglasses and more complete side vision. However, other considerations, including the patient's ability and desire to adjust to contact lens handling, or the ability of the eye to adapt to lenses within the eye, are important and decisive.

If you have questions...

The prospective cataract patient who needs referral to an ophthalmologist should ask his family physician, contact his local medical society, or write to the National Society to Prevent Blindness (79 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016).

Various sources of aid are available to those with limited income: Medicare and other governmental or insurance resources may apply; social service departments of medical centers or hospitals can help; and many eye clinics offer fees adjusted to income. The eye physician should be told of such considerations, so that he can offer advice. Local family service agencies, the Visiting Nurse Association, the public welfare department, or public health department can also provide guidance.

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

"Why do otherwise intelligent and reasonable people choose to do something stupid like going camping?" That's the question of the day. I can understand why otherwise intelligent and reasonable people choose to defile their bodies with liquor and tobacco; I can understand why otherwise intelligent and reasonable people choose to drive too fast and not wear seatbelts; I can understand why otherwise intelligent and reasonable people choose to buy lottery tickets, watch Geraldo, and admire the Serra Sculpture; but choosing to go camping? No way, Jose!

My first camping experiences were with the Cub Scouts. For two long weeks the four of us—all fifth graders—shared a tent at night. During the day we were yelled at as we tried to learn how to swim. We were berated as we got lost on an orienteering course. We ate tepid food that was supposed to be hot and cold food that was supposed to be warm. At night we tried to sleep among mosquitoes big enough to wear saddles and crickets who, even then, chirped in Dolby stereo. I can remember writing a "miss you" postcard to the window air-conditioner in my bedroom at home.

I came home sunburned, tired, and bitten by ticks, chiggers, mosquitoes, and some unnamed rodent with a severe overbite. Worst of all, the four of us—Gordon, Michael, Marshall and myself—had been picked on by the big eighth graders who were also at camp. They took our towels when we were in the shower, and made us go to bed while they stayed up and played cards. And the latrines! The latrines were so disgusting, we cut down on our eating so that we could be there less often. On top of everything else, then, we were always hungry.

I vowed never to camp again. Why intentionally subject myself to heat, humidity, bugs, dirt, outhouses, sleeping on the ground, and trying to eat from a can that had been heated over the fire? Why on earth, I asked myself, would any reasonable and prudent person subject himself to such primitive conditions? My goal was to get an education which would allow me to have a job which would enable me to stay in an air-conditioned environment, sleep on a soft mattress, and order fine food from Domino's. No way, I vowed, would I ever camp again.

The U.S. Army didn't pay much attention to my vow. There I was, just six weeks into basic training, walking across some field in Fort Ord, California. I was carrying all of my field gear, my M-1 rifle (fully loaded with the best blanks in town), and my camping equipment. To top off all of this, I was wearing genuine U.S. Army fatigues, and I simply don't look good in green.

The military, in its infinite wisdom, takes the opposite tact of any reasonable person. My assumption is that if it feels bad, don't do it. The military says that if it feels bad, do it. As if pure camping isn't bad enough, the military decided to make it even better, i.e. worse, by adding the element of tear gas to our festivities.

That's right, we didn't just "camp"; no, we "enacted." Yep, "enacted" is military jargon for "camping while under fire." Since they didn't want to shoot live ammunition at us (someone might have been hit and that would have caused a great deal of paperwork), they decided to simply "gas" us as we hiked and camped. Our unit's cooks even traded our desserts to some other unit so that we'd have more tear gas for fun and games. The cookies always were great fun.

If you've never retched while wearing a gas mask, you don't really know what camping is. There I was, around midnight, lying in a ditch at the side of the road, trying to throw up while wearing my gas mask. It wasn't a pretty sight, but, as I said, I don't look good in green.

We camped for three nights, but it seemed like three eternities. On the second night they even awakened us at 2:00 a.m. so we could pack, hike, and unpack in the darkness. One thing about the military, it sure makes you appreciate home, even if home's not too hot.

Perhaps my favorite memory of camping in California is not taking a shower or a bath for three days. Not three days of sitting and reading and reflecting, but three days of marching, packing, being gassed, unpacking, and more marching. We all smelled so bad that I bet the latrines didn't even want to be downwind from us.

After returning from my mini-active duty, I served, more or less, in the Army Reserves for six very long years. I protected the area of south Kingshighway from foreign invasion. (Was I successful? Have we been invaded?) Each year the reserves had an annual overnight at Ft. Leonard Wood. Most years I managed to use the law firm of Hook & Crook to escape the torture, but one year lady luck grabbed me by my poncho and I was caught. A Trailways bus dumped us in the middle of nowhere and we were told to pitch our tents. This was the reserves, remember, so cards, portable radios, chess games, and frisbees emerged from the duffle bags. Late at night we heard a clanging and saw a Mr. Snackee ice cream truck pushing through the wilderness to find our campsight. There we were, green fatigues and all, waiting to get a double scoop with a sugar cone. Even ice cream has its limits, however, and the night was chilly, the ground hard, and the sleep rare.

I vowed never, ever to camp again. Then I married my first wife, an ex-Girl Scout Counselor. "What," she screamed, "you don't camp? Are you a communist?" And this was on our first date. I convinced her that no, I wasn't a commie pinko (after all, I loved apple pie and owned a Chevrolet). "Well then," she said, "if you love me, you'll go camping with me." Even then she had a way with words.

There we were, pitching a tent on the Meramec river. Just the three of us. My first wife, me, and the armada of mosquitoes. We finally fell off to sleep (the wife and I anyway, I'm not sure about the mosquitoes) when I was awakened by something wet and cold on my feet.

St. Louis Walk Of Fame Announces Honorees

The St. Louis Walk of Fame is pleased to announce the first 10 people who will be honored in the Walk during a special ceremony in June.

The St. Louis Walk of Fame will consist of sets of brass stars and bronze plaques to honor individuals who either were born in the St. Louis area or spent their formative or creative years here and who made a major contribution to our cultural heritage. Each star will contain the name of an honoree; an accompanying rectangular plaque will contain a brief summary of the honoree's accomplishments. The stars and plaques will be permanently set into the sidewalks of the University City Loop, centrally located in the St. Louis area.

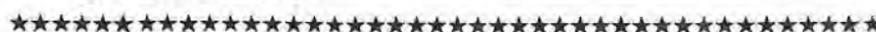
The first 10 inductees (categories) in alphabetical order:

- Chuck Berry (music)
- Katherine Dunham (dance)

- James B. Eads (architecture/engineering)
- T. S. Eliot (poetry)
- Scott Joplin (music)
- Charles A. Lindbergh (general: aviation)
- Stan Musial (general: sports)
- Vincent Price (acting)
- Joseph Pulitzer (general: journalism)
- Tennessee Williams (playwright)

Anyone wishing to contribute to a particular star or to the St. Louis Walk of Fame in general may send a check to 6504 Delmar. Contributors of \$25 or more will receive a special letter of recognition, suitable for framing, with Chuck Berry as honorary signatory.

For more information, please contact: Joe Edwards, Chairman, at Blueberry Hill. The phone number is 727-STAR.



It seems that the tricky ol' Meramec had done it again. We were lying in a flood plain about to be covered with water. My Girl Scout wife had forgotten to consider that all the rain might wind up in the river. Heck, at this rate, WE might wind up in the river! She cried and I packed the car. She cried louder and I packed faster. We were a great team.

The ride home was a long and wet one. I swore upon all that is holy—The Rolling Stones, Ted Drewes, and Macanudos—to never camp again. The first wife swore upon all that is holy—shoes, antique jewelry, and shoes—to never ask me to go camping again. We've existed with this truce from many years now: I don't camp and she buys shoes. Hey, it works for us, so who's to complain? After all, it could be worse. At least she doesn't take my towel while I'm in the shower and she only attacks me with tear gas on my birthday.



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1. Does it pay at least 5% interest (compounded daily) on your balance every month, and not have a minimum balance?
2. Does it automatically pay a higher money market rate if your average daily balance for the month is \$1,000 or more?
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without a penalty or transaction fee?

If it can't answer yes to all three, your checking account may be lying down on the job.

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