

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 20, NO. 5

OCTOBER 1989

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Art Exposed '89

ART EXPOSED is here again! The West End Arts Council is once again sponsoring ART EXPOSED... an afternoon of art and entertainment that's sure to please the entire family. ART EXPOSED will be held on Sunday, October 15, from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at The Four Corners, the corner of Des Peres and Kingsbury. ART EXPOSED will feature a group artists' exhibition, a children's art exhibition, open artists' studios, musical entertainment, the Second Annual Edible Art Competition, and another of Bill Christman's inventions, "VOO DOO CHILI."

The group artists' exhibition will be hung in Bill Kohn's studio and will feature many West End artists including: Lara Alberti; Deborah Bauer; Michael Eastman; Phil Roberts; Barb Harman; Bill Kohn; David Lobbig; Tom Rassieur; Bill Yonker; John Rozelle; Gene Hoefel; Bob Moskowitz; Marjorie Moskowitz; Linda Horsley-Nunley; and Tom Sleet. The studios of Ken Anderson, Kate Rosenbloom, Bill Christman; Jack Frasure; Andy Erickson; Aline Gittleman and B. Nicole Thompson; Jerry Whitter and Fabian Buntun will be open.

"Animal Friends" is the theme for the Children's Art Exhibition in which the art work of children from local schools will be featured. The children's art work will be sold for a nominal fee, and the proceeds will benefit the Humane Society and the West End Arts Council.

The musical entertainment this year will feature former "Spatz" members, Lydia Ruffin, Charlie Pfeffer and Steve Mote performing live from 2:00-4:00. The "New City School Express" featuring children from the New City School will perform at 1:00, and the "St. Louis Arches," Circus Flora's children's group will perform between 1:45 and 3:30.

Vince Bommarito, Joe Pollack and Marcia Smith will serve as judges for this year's Edible Art Competition which promises to be entertaining and appetizing with such entrants as Blueberry Hill, Cafe Zoe, Sunshine Inn, and many local culinary artists. Winners of the Edible Art Competition will receive dinners for two at local restaurants including Fio's La Fourchette, Blue Water Grill, La Veranda, Richard Perry, Duff's and Riddles Penultimate. Awards for the Edible Art competition will be presented at 1:30. It's not too late to enter to win one of these delicious gift certificates!

There is no charge for ART EXPOSED. Refreshments will be available, and can be purchased during ART EXPOSED from the West End Arts Council, Golden Grocer, and of course, the VOO DOO CHILI van.

For more information about ART EXPOSED, call Nancy Farmer at 862-5122.



For The Second Annual Edible Art Competition on Sunday, October 15, Mick de Bitzko (pictured above) will once again make a cameo appearance.

City Program Boosts Area's Continued Improvement

Part 1

In October, 1988, Mayor Vincent C. Schoemehl launched "Operation ConServ," a program to strengthen city neighborhoods. Thirteen neighborhoods, including Skinker-DeBaliviere, were selected for Phase I of this program. Three major components of the ConServ program are:

1. A one and five year strategic Neighborhood Plan;
2. Concentrated city services to help neighborhoods improve according to the plan;
3. Neighborhood-based housing corporations to implement housing strategies according to the plan.

Each of these components has been discussed on these pages over the months, but the relationships between them have not been clearly defined. ConServ is still a very new program and changes in its operations are frequent. The following is intended as an overview of the Planning component of the ConServ program. Two other components, concentrated services and the Housing Corporation, will be discussed in future issues.

Operation ConServ is housed in Room 402, City Hall, and employs a Director, Susan Feinberg, a Deputy Director, Don Roe, and ten ConServ Officers. The ConServ Officers are assigned to the target neighborhoods and act as liaisons between the neighborhoods (residents, organizations and institutions) and the Central ConServ program.

Seven of the ten ConServ Officers are assigned to only one neighborhood; three ConServ officers are responsible for two neighborhoods. Bill Duncan, the ConServ officer for Skinker DeBaliviere, is also assigned to Clayton-Tamm. The six neighborhoods which share a ConServ officer typically have paid staff already working

for their neighborhood, such as we have at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council.

Neighborhood Plan

Mayor Schoemehl asked the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council to establish a planning committee to work with ConServ and develop a one and five year strategic plan for Skinker DeBaliviere. Volunteers were recruited from throughout the neighborhood to serve on this committee which is chaired by Lu Green. About thirty neighbors first met with the Mayor, the director of ConServ, the director of the Community Development Agency, the Director of Operation Impact, 28th Ward Alderman Dan McGuire and other city officials on March 27 to define the mission and goals of the planning committee.

Following that meeting, Chairman Green appointed seven subcommittees to develop plans for these respective areas: Beautification (chaired by Catherine Forslund), Commercial District (chaired by JoAnn Vatcha), Education (chaired by Rochelle Nwadiibia), Recreation (chaired by Irv Clay), Security (chaired by Rose Flynn), Social Service (chaired by Wilma Cantwell) and Traffic and Transportation (chaired by Marj Weir). Each member of the planning committee was assigned to one or more of the sub-committees. Additional volunteers were recruited by sub-committee chairmen and through articles in the neighborhood newspaper, the *Times*; approximately 40 neighborhood residents serve on the various sub-committees. In addition to the planning sub-committees, the SDCC Historic District Review Committee (chaired by Katie Kurtz) was also asked to develop a plan. The sub-committees were asked to assess

the neighborhood's strengths and weaknesses for their areas, make specific recommendations and set priority goals for one and five years.

Green also appointed a steering committee which will combine the sub-committee reports into one document, the Neighborhood Plan. Serving on the steering committee are: Nancy Farmer, Green, Esther Herron, Karleen Hoerr, Rochelle Nwadiibia, Msgr. Polizzi, Cal Stuart, and JoAnn Vatcha. Alderman McGuire serves as an advisor to the committee.

The sub-committees are scheduled to finish their work and submit their reports by mid-September. When all of the sub-committee reports are completed, Green will convene the steering committee; she hopes this group will have a draft of the plan ready by late October.

The steering committee's draft will be reviewed first by the full planning committee and then by the neighborhood through the Community Council and at least one neighborhood meeting. After the plan is approved by the neighborhood, the City will formally adopt it. ConServ will expand each year to eventually include every neighborhood in the city. As individual strategic plans are developed, approved and adopted by the City, ultimately St. Louis will have a new city-wide plan.

The Neighborhood Plan is not intended to be static but to evolve with the neighborhood; it is subject to revisions and amendments. The document will provide guidance for the future development of our neighborhood for the City, for ConServ and for our own organizations.

Annual Halloween Festivities Planned

Rosedale's annual Halloween party will be held from 5-6 p.m. in the St. Roch School gym, 6040 Waterman, on Halloween night. Prizes will be awarded for the ten best costumes and entertainment will be provided.

At 6 p.m. the party ends and "trick-or-treating" begins. To insure the safety of children: check costumes for fire-proofing, masks for visibility, and costume hem-lines for curb clearance. Dark costumes should be highlighted with reflective tape. Children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult and all children should carry a flashlight. It is helpful to have as many adults on the street this evening as possible; the cul-de-sacs are popular gathering spots for adults while children are trick-or-treating or, if you plan to stay home and pass out "treats," sit on your front porch or steps. Finally, children should be encouraged to introduce themselves, to say "thank you," and to keep candy wrappers and litter in their pockets or in their bags. Neighbors are encouraged to stop passing out treats 7:30-8:00 p.m.

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

Vehicle Theft Is Big Problem

It's an expensive problem. A big part of the challenge is to take away the opportunity for the theft to occur. We've all done a pretty good job of learning to "Lock i & Pocket the Key!" Now let's create some more good habits.

You know that trunk of yours? It is capable of holding more than the spare tire. I you don't want your window smashed and your tools, briefcase, and package taken—lock them in the trunk. There are 2½ times more people victimized by theft from their car than theft of their car. Upcoming November and December is the steal ing season.

License plates and license tags are also frequently stolen, and often used on stolen cars. Get in the good habit of checking your plates. A few drops of solder on the bolt or blurring the threads will help safeguard your plates. Take off old tags before applying new ones. Make cuts across the tags after they are applied so that they won't peel off easily.

Park in well lit and busy areas. Avoid unattended parking lots. Strongly consider security devices on your car. This may include an alarm, a steering column collar, a fuel or electronic "kill switch," locks for the tape decks, batteries and wheel hubs. It's often not the first battery that gets stolen that they want. It's the new replacement battery that they will be back to steal.

Last but not least let's understand that most stolen cars are recovered, but often without their stereos or tires. Please be wary of buying used parts, tires, and stereos because if you buy stolen goods you are directly encouraging an auto thief to rip-off another victim.

TAKE ACTION—

Familiarize yourself with the cars and people on your block. Observe, record, and report any suspicious cars and people.

Take some preventive action so that you're not a victim.

If you know someone who's been victimized, help them out with a ride or support in prosecuting.

Don't buy property that may be stolen. In fact, verify the VIN plate is intact and check it against the VIN on the ownership documents to make sure that the used car you're buying isn't stolen.

If we can help, give us a call at Operation SafeStreet—622-3444.

Parkview Picnic On October 14

The annual Parkview fall picnic will be held on Saturday, October 14th at 3:00 p.m. in Pershing Park (rain date will be October 15th). Bring the whole family!

The picnic will be potluck style. Everyone should provide their own main course, a blanket or some chairs. Bar-B-Q pits and charcoal will be provided. Potluck dishes should be brought according to the street you live on. Pershing and Waterman—appetizers, McPherson—paper plates, napkins and plastic utensils, Westminster and Washington—side dishes, Westgate—dessert. Drinks will be sold: soda will be 50 cents and beer \$1.00. Tickets for the beverages can be purchased through Sheryl Dobbin, October 2nd through October 6th, door to door or by phoning her.

If you have a card table, chairs, volleyball or badminton set you would allow us to use for the picnic please contact Sheryl Dobbin at 721-5909.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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

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Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by King Schoenfeld

1989 Kiosk summer reading winners.

Kiosk Party Honors Summer Readers

by Mary Ann Shickman

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Headquarters was the location of the St. Louis Public Library Kiosk summer reading awards program on Saturday, September 16th. About 35 children attended. Punch and sweets were served and there were door prizes for children as they received their certificates. The Central West End Journal snapped a picture of Janet Holler's group who were making puppets. After the "conferral" of certificates tiny, Alexander Schiller said that his mother reads to him in Swedish. Rose Flynn mesmerized both children and adults, including her husband Jim, whose hearty laugh was often heard, with the story *McBroom Tells a Lie*.

Three groups received certificates. The first group is the pre-school category and includes Alicia Webb, Bonnie Obel, Rohan Newton, Theresa Hannegan, Alexander Schiller and Yetunde Adegboye. They had at least 15 books read to them.

The next group read at least 15 books during the summer: Leslie Vincent, Melanie White, Luther Long, Maurice Long, Willie Long, Erica Webb, Anne Meyer, Catherine Williams, Rico Hunt, Daniel Flynn, Margaret Flynn, Talmage (Newt) Newton, Willa Obel, Alicia Sindell, Jessica Sindell and Louisa Hitchcock.

The third group read 75 books or more: Cecelia Hannegan, Teresa Hannegan, Bethany Havens, Rebecca Havens, Mary Ann Ramos, Genevieve Gamble, Corena Gamble, Mohammed Adegboye, Mary Wiltenberg, Katherine Wiltenburg and Adenike Adegboye. All three groups were invited to a party at the St. Louis Central Library.

The Kiosk would like to thank the following people for their generosity: Lois Schoemehl, Leandra Lucas, Dorothy Hood, Elizabeth Renard and Rose Neilson. 80 students from the neighborhood signed up but many did not finish. We hope to see everyone next summer.

28th Ward Meetings, Party Planned

The 28th Ward Regular Democrats Organization has closed its offices at 6010 Kingsbury but continues to be an active organization with regular meetings and events.

The September meeting was held September 21 at Columbo's on Manchester in the south part of the ward. The October meeting is scheduled October 18, 7:00 p.m., at Westmoreland at the Park, 245 Union (formerly the Gatesworth Manor). The Ward Organization leadership plans to schedule meetings at a different location each month to encourage participation by residents from all parts of the ward.

Plans for a cocktail party honoring John and Nancy Daniel were recently announced by the 28th Ward Executive Com-

mittee. The Daniels, 61XX Lindell, are the recipients of the 1989 Cervantes Community Service Award. The party will be held November 18, 5:30-8:00 p.m. at 47 Maryland Plaza. Watch for the November Times for more information or call Dee Suda, 622-3555, 647-4977, or Bruce Yampolsky, 454-1863, 454-6696, for more information.



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October Calendar

Continuing

Encounters by Leslie Laskey—prints, drawings, paintings, and sculpture at Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker, Gallery II. Thru October 15.

New works by Serena Bocchino: Paintings and Drawings; at Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker, in Gallery I. Thru October 15.

October

6 National Theatre Of The Deaf performs an adaptation of Homer's "Odyssey"; Oct. 6 and 7; 8 p.m., at Wash. U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth. For more information call 889-6543.

7 Craft Alliance presents a special exhibit, "The Cranbrook Tradition: Shared Boundaries." Opening reception 6-8 p.m. at the Gallery. Call 725-1151 for more information. Thru October 31st.

Tales from "Arabian Nights" will be performed by the Little Theatre of the Deaf at 2 p.m. in Wash. U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth Blvd. Ages 8-12. Call 889-6543 for more information.

Babatunde Olatunji and his Drums of Passion appear in concert at C.A.S.A., 560 Trinity, U. City Loop; 8 p.m. Call 727-3663 or 863-5292 for tickets and information. \$12.

8 Washington University Wind Ensemble to Perform a free concert at 2:30 p.m. in the Saint Louis Art Museum Theatre. Also featured is the St. Louis Brass Ensemble. Call 889-5581 for information.

History Museum's sixth annual fire engine rally will be held at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. 9 a.m.

10 A Taste of Honey (film) with Rita Tushingham, Dora Bryan and Murray Melvyn. Art Museum, 5:30 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$3; \$2 for Senior Citizens and Students.

Parkview Agent's meeting. 7:30 p.m. Call 361-0880 for location.

Washington U's School of Fine Art will offer a workshop in watercolor, 9:30 a.m.-noon at COCA, 524 Trinity, Room 207. Call 889-4643 for more information.

11 Sculptor Nancy Graves will give a slide lecture on her work and on contemporary art in the Auditorium of the History Museum, 7:30 p.m. Free.

"The Journey of the Fifth Horse"—St. Louis University Theatre, 3733 West Pine; 8 p.m. Thru October 14. For reservations or more information, call 658-2998.

13 Mid-America Dance Network 10th anniversary conference will be held at Washington University beginning at 8 p.m. Open to the public. Thru October 15th.

"The Scottsboro Boys," Nine black men on trail for a crime that never happened; with Yank Rachell, blues artist. October 13 and 14 at COCA, 524 Trinity; 8 p.m. For information call 569-8006.

The Adventures of Robin Hood (film), with Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland, Basil Rathbone and Alan Hale. 1:30 p.m., 7 & 9:15 p.m., Art Museum.

14 **Parkview's Annual Fall Picnic**—This potluck style picnic will be held at Pershing Park at 3:00 p.m. See related article.

Ronald Pearl and Julian Gray appear at The Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton, as part of The St. Louis Classical Guitar Society's "The American Guitar Series." 8 p.m.

15 **Art Exposed '89**, sponsored by the West End Arts Council. Noon to 5 p.m., Kingsbury at Des Peres. See related article on page 1.

"Harvesting the River": Life and work on the Illinois, talk by Craig Colton in conjunction with the exhibit on the Riverboat "Belle Reynolds," History Museum, 2 p.m. Free.

17 *Georgy Girl* (film), with Lynn Redgrave, who received an Oscar nomination for her role in this film. 5:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.; Art Museum. \$3, \$2 for Senior Citizens and Students.

Stephen Greene in St. Louis: *Images of Suffering and Salvation* (Exhibition) at Saint Louis Art Museum, thru February 11. Gallery 120.

18 Consumer advocate Ralph Nader will deliver the Isserman Lecture. He will speak on "Corporate Power in America"; Washington University Graham Chapel; 11:00 a.m.

19 *Visit From a Prince*, talk by Tom Keiser about the royal tour of Edward VII, Prince of Wales, through Canada and U.S. in 1860. 1:30 p.m., History Museum, \$5. For reservations, call 361-9265.

20 "Tap the Loop" concert at COCA, 524 Trinity. 8:00 p.m. I'll Cry Tomorrow (film), The story of singer Lillian Roth; with Susan Hayward, Richard Conte, Eddie Albert. Art Museum, 1:30, 7 & 9:15 p.m. \$3; \$2 for Senior Citizens and Students.

"The Life and Times of Gerard Manley Hopkins"—A two man show, presented at Austrial Gallery, 2115 Park. Hosted by St. Louis University, 8 p.m. For more information call 658-2010.

21 *Classics in African-American History*, opening short course with discussion led by William Harrison, Ph.D. History Museum, 10 a.m.-noon. Call 361-9265 for information.

Production of poems & plays by the Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J.; St. Louis U. Medical Center campus, 3544 Caroline. A buffet style dinner will be served. Call 658-2010 for information. 8 p.m.

World Peace One Workshop—Foster your personal growth as you create a more peaceful lifestyle: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Holy Communion Church. See related article.

22 *Between Art and Political Action*: Philip Guston and Stephen Green (Lecture)—Saint Louis Art Museum Auditorium, 2:30 p.m.

Tibetan Buddhist Monks will perform ancient ritual dances, many never seen before in this country. History Museum Auditorium, 5 and 7:30 p.m. Admission \$12.50.

COCA celebrates the Indian "Festival of Lights," 1:30-3 p.m. Children learn traditional dance; make diyas, clay lamps and enjoy the sweets of this celebration. 524 Trinity. \$5.00.

24 *Darling* (film), Julie Christie won an Academy Award for her role as an ambitious young woman in this film. 5:30 & 8 p.m. Art Museum. \$3; \$2 for Senior Citizens and Students.

25 *St. Louis in the Colonial Mississippi Valley: A Synthesis*, talk about a work-in-progress by William H. Leckie, Jr., History Museum, 4 p.m. Free.

Robert MacNeil, co-producer, co-anchor and executive editor of The MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour will speak on "Coming to Grips With the World"; Washington U's Graham Chapel, 11:00 a.m.

26 "Animal Farm": George Orwell's classic novel is Theatre Project Company's annual family show; New City Theatre, 5209 Waterman, thru November 19. Call 531-1301 for more information.

27 *I Want to Live* (film), Susan Hayward won an Academy Award for her portrayal of Barbara Graham in this film. Directed by Robert Wise. 1:30 p.m., 7 & 9:15 p.m. Art Museum.

David Parsons, dancer and choreographer, will bring his dance company to Washington University's Edison Theatre at 8 p.m. on October 27 and 28. For information call 889-6543.

28 Halloween Party: spooky stories by Wanda the Witch, costume parade, treats. History Museum, 1 to 4 p.m. Free.

29 "Spirited Sing for Halloween"—Treat your children to the magic of music in a Halloween Hootenanny, 3:30 p.m., COCA, 524 Trinity \$5. In costume or for friends of COCA \$4. Call 725-6555.

31 *The L-Shaped Room* (film), directed by Bryan Forbes; with Leslie Caron, Tom Bell and Brock Peters. Adult tale. 5:30 & 8:00 p.m. Art Museum. \$3; \$2 for Senior Citizens and Students.

Three-week watercolor class for beginners offered by Wash. U's School of Fine Arts from October 31 thru November 16. Call 889-4643 for more information.

November

6 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.

9 Walter Alvarez, a geology professor at University of California at Berkely, will speak on "Giant Impacts & Extinction of Life on Earth" 4:00 p.m., Washington U's Graham Chapel.

New Show At Science Center

Looking for the "coolest" possible science experience? The St. Louis Science Center's Science Showplace introduces a brand new show beginning September 9. "The World of Hot and Cold: It's All Relative" investigates the concept of temperature, focusing on the behavior of matter as it becomes super cooled with liquid nitrogen and how matter behaves as it is heated.

"The World of Hot and Cold" is shown at 1 and 2 p.m. daily and is free.

Science Showplace is located at the St. Louis Science Center in Forest Park. Science Center hours are: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Please call (314) 289-4444 for more information about Science Center activities and programs.

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Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Halloween is right around the corner. Halloween parties are probably my favorite—sure beats having birthdays—and I'm convinced that this holiday is wasted on kids. But the young 'uns insist upon also having a good time on this occasion, so it behooves us all to resolve to take certain reasonable measures to make sure that our offspring all survive enjoying this night on the town.

First, bring 'em in early. Parkview, for example, is definitely shutting its doors at 7:30 P.M. and it would be an idea for everybody else to do this too, as 7:30 is plenty late for little tykes. I am not sympathetic with big tykes who have no business horn-ing in on the youngsters' act.

Second, put the kids in sensible costumes. Sensible costumes are visible at night, easy to see out of, and fireproof (lotsa folks line their sidewalks with candles in bags).

Third, travelling in groups is a terrific idea. It helps deter those yahoos that try to literally take the candy from the baby. Make sure at least one adult accompanies the group. It is also good tact not too have too big of a group. Many folks are intimidated by large groups of kids and turn off the lights.

Fourth, if a trick-or-treater doesn't wear a costume, he deserves what more and more folks are giving out: nothing.

Finally, if you're old enough to drive, you are too old for trick-or-treating. I think twelve to fourteen ought to be the upper limit, but I'm encountering some resistance from my twelve year old. Oh well, I hope she has a good time and that all of you do, too.

Halloween season is a good opportunity to point out that once again there are aliens among us. Over on 60XX McPherson, Miriam Roy has left la belle Francais to serve as a Teaching Assistant at UMSL. There are also some nefarious critters called Exchange Students lurking about, but I am still tracking them down. Please notify me immediately if you see any in the neighborhood.

We export as well as import around here. Bob Horner of 62XX Westminster (the younger of the two Bob Horners living there) has almost joined the Navy to See the World. Almost? Well, the Navy observed the Pat Holtz Singers perform and invited them to spend next March through June giving performances at various Naval installations in the exotic Far East. Bob is the only member of the group from around here. So he gets to see at least a big chunk of the world at gummint expense without having to say, even once, "Yessirrrrrr!". And Grant thought war was hell.

Our favorite part-time Belgians were here to visit us last month. Tom and Ginni Klevorn (of 61XX Washington when Monsanto eventually transfers them back) came in to visit. Both of them look terrific; the rich Belgian cuisine has obviously not gotten to their waists. We learned to our delight that they are expecting their second child in January.

John Nunley has been getting lots of favorable press for his "Caribbean Festival Masks" exhibit. After its extremely successful debut at the Art Museum, the exhibit is now on national tour. Spies tells me that he received great writeups in both *Smithsonian* and outstate editions of *Newsweek*.

Neville Vatcha (61XX Westminster) turned 50 on September 15, with friends throwing a nice surprise party. About fifty showed up to throw a bash that Neville'll (I've always wanted to do a contraction like that!) probably not forget for another half-century.

Bruce Smith (60XX Pershing) has been certified as a state Hunter Safety Instructor. This is a handy skill to have in the neighborhood, as anyone born after 1967 (and it seems like there are more of these people with each passing day) must take a ten-hour hunter safety course to obtain a hunting license. Bruce is available to scout troops, etc. to teach this material. Hunter safety revolves mainly around the concept of how to make absolutely sure that your firearm isn't pointing where it shouldn't be, thus assuring that it doesn't go off by accident; or that the wrong sort of things are not endangered when it goes off deliberately.

I always seem to miss the stories that are happening right under my nose. Joe and Nancy DeBettencourt (62XX Washington), right down the street from me, are expecting their second child in February.

We also note with sorrow the passing of Olga Ahrens of 61XX McPherson. A long-time resident of the area, she was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church.

How do you upstage a birdhouse patterned after the (in) famous Coral Court Motel? Watch for the Everyday section of the good ol' *Post-Dispatch* to feature Bill Christman of Christman Studios on 60XX Kingsbury (right next to the good ol' SDCC orifice). The article spotlights an old milk truck that Christman & Co. have transformed into a Voodoo Chili Parlor. You got it friends; this is humor in a jugular vein. This ghoumobile will be on prominent display during the Art Exposed affair on October 15.

Organization Activities:

The annual St. Roch Book Fair will be held from Oct. 12 to Oct. 14, probably at the gym. Their Youth Activities Dinner will be Saturday, Oct. 28.

St. Roch's Bridge Rondelet meets once a month at various houses in the neighborhood. They currently have 11 couples (all ladies), and there's always room for a new face or two. Contact Jane Hart (62XX McPherson).

Camerata Chorus has started rehearsals for their Christmas concert. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights at DuBourg High School. We would like to have a few more folks from the neighborhood join. Call me at 727-0839 for more information.

Ottie's Corner

Our good friend Officer Ottie Edwards thought that last month was really slow and Your Correspondent was lamenting the fact that this would lead to a skimpy October column.

Then Ottie got caught napping on the job.

What actually happened was that he got the itch. In his eyes. It seems that Officer Edwards is one of those rare individuals that suffers from allergies. Recently, while on patrol in the famous Parkview Pursuit Chevette, he put some drops in his eyes to alleviate the itching, then closed them for a couple of minutes while the medication took effect (this was all done at curbside, of course; Ottie seldom drives when he's blind). While thus indisposed, he overheard two youths, who approached him

"Rags To Riches"



Moving down Westminster and looking great, (from left) Erin Price, K'Lerrice Howard and Laurice Schields shopped a dozen yard sales on Rags to Riches Saturday, September 23rd.



September 23 was Rags to Riches day in Rosedale. Hundreds came to shop—at yard sales like this one at Ken Cohen and Margie Brammeier's home on Kingsbury.

and duly remarked that he appeared to be asleep. This pair then proceeded to steal a bicycle from a nearby porch. Boy, were they surprised when, shortly afterwards, Ottie opened his eyes, opened the car door, and nailed the offenders in flagrante delicto! This put an end to a summer-long bike stealing spree in the area.

Ottie also put paid to a car thief who was more clever than most. This particular fel-

on's modus operandi was to steal a car, then equip it with plates stolen from another vehicle of the same make and model year. His mistake was to park these cars in front of a house that Ottie knew was unoccupied during the day. The car thief was a local resident; an ex-thief who was training the folks in one of our local department stores on how to detect thieves. He doesn't live here any more.

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Photos by King Schoenfeld



A faithful crew of neighbors manned the Rags to Riches headquarters at the Kingsbury Animal Hospital, September 23, serving homemade bakery and barbecued salccia and hot dogs. (Left to right: JoAnn Vatcha, Lana Stein, Marj Weir, Clara Kerz, and Margie Barmmeier.)

Time Limit On Cashing Checks

There will be something new on all Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) checks October 1. All government checks issued on or after October 1 will contain a notation "VOID AFTER ONE YEAR."

Public Law 100-86 requires the Treasury Department to put a time limit on cashing any government checks. There had never been a limit before, but now checks must be negotiated within 12 months of the issue date or they will be void. This means Social Security checks issued on October 3, 1989, for example, will be good until October 2, 1990.

The purpose of the new law is to improve the Federal government's financial management. The Treasury Department issues about 550 million checks annually.

Although the new law will void old Social Security and SSI checks, recipients with expired checks will be able to get a replacement issued by calling Social Security at 1-800-234-5772.

Classifieds

FOR SALE: Dinnerware, Poppytrail pattern by Metlox: service for 12 plus serving dishes and coffeepot. Haviland/Limoge china: six 6-piece place settings plus serving dishes and 10 luncheon plates. Also invalid's commode. 725-4239

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New Officers Nominated For SDCC

by Catherine Forslund

As the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) Board readies their slate of directors, officers and committee chairs, things get busy on DeBaliviere.

In attendance at the September meeting were Randy Bailey, Margaret Campbell, Bill Duncan, Nancy Farmer, Mary Fleener, Georgi Fox, Greg Freeman, George Genung, Kathleen Hamilton, Paul Kurtz, Bob Mahon, Dan McGuire, Shirley Polk, Neville Vatcha, Arline Webb, Charles Wren and Jack Wright.

Charles Wren spoke to the Board about his planned cocktail lounge in the DeBaliviere Center, which would seat under 100 people. He began by expressing his deep concern for maintaining neighborhood relations and describing his background in law enforcement and community service. His plans include live, quiet jazz daily and catered food that changes every few weeks. Local musicians and singers will be featured regularly with occasional national performers. Hours will be reasonable, no package liquor sales and/or illegal activities will be allowed or tolerated. It seems that Wren has considered all aspects of the business including parking, security, noise, and litter, and the Board was impressed with his proposal. He hopes to be open by mid-November, starting with an open house first for the neighbors. Wren has obtained the necessary petition signatures for his liquor license and the Board viewed his enterprise favorably excepting any neighborhood resistance.

The Board approved the August minutes and the month-end Treasurer's report. Kurtz reported on the new officer nominations proposed by the Executive Committee in their capacity as nominating committee:

- President - Bob Mahon
- Vice President - Catherine Forslund
- Secretary - Frank Driscole
- Treasurer - Kathleen Hamilton

There may be some new nominees for the Board by the election at the October Board meeting. Also committee chairman will be named for each of the following new Board Committees:

- Development and Funding
- Business and Commercial
- Special Events
- Social Service
- Recreation
- Police Liaison

They join the existing Planning, Beautification and Historic District Review Committees of the Board.

It appears the Shell Station at Delmar and Skinker is undergoing repairs and may be expanded to include a Food Mart.

The Mead-McClellan bankruptcies occurring in some parts of the City will not be affecting any Skinker DeBaliviere properties.

It was reported that shortly after school started, 7th District police rounded up a number of truant children. The Board will let local police know that we support such actions to help encourage and insure that area kids get to school.

Webb reported that the Pershing alley pot holes have been fixed and the erosion seems to be improving.

Wright requested that a 58XX Waterman vacant property be locked up to avoid vandalism or drug activities.

Fox reported that the Dog Show is scheduled for September 30 with the categories and prizes all set except for upcoming fliers and entry forms.

Farmer prepared a comprehensive review of the Conserv/Planning Committee/Housing Corporation for St. Roch's parishioners.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Farmer advised the Board that Mestman Realty is continuing negotiations with Walgreens for a store at DeBaliviere Center, backing up to 57XX DeGiverville. There will be a meeting in late September/early October with Board members and concerned citizens to discuss details of the proposal.

The Grace Methodist parking lot expansion is still in the plans to commemorate their upcoming 100th birthday.

The SDCC Planning Committee should have at least a draft or more by Mid-October.

Farmer inquired about the Board's policies regarding group use of the SDCC offices for meetings or other gatherings. The Board agreed to allow Farmer to use her discretion in making such arrangements.

The Board decided to share an information booth with the CWE Association at Clowning Around DeBaliviere, sponsored by the City West Business Association on September 24.

A fall concert in conjunction with Clowning Around DeBaliviere will complete the SDCC 1989 Concert schedule. Two more concerts will take place in the spring.

Committees

Housing Corporation

The Housing Corporation report was given by Farmer. They obtained title in early August to the Rosedale Square buildings. They are meeting every two weeks to deal with immediate problems like painting and parking. They want the units to form an anchor for even more improvement of those blocks of Washington. One of their primary goals is owner occupancy in addition to density reduction.

Parkview

Mahon reported that a few activities were in the planning stages including leaf pick-up and a Halloween event. Electrical maintenance has been completed.

Rosedale

New officers were elected recently and they are planning the Sept. 23 Rags to Riches.

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Former Dr. King Staff Member To Speak

Non-violent civil rights activist and internationally recognized human relations specialist Dr. C. T. Vivian will lecture on the status of the civil rights movement in the United States on Thursday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m., at Central Baptist Church, 2842 Washington Ave.

Vivian, an ordained Baptist minister and founder/director of the Black Action Strategies and Information Center (BAS-IC) Workshop Program, an ethnic awareness and sensitivity training group, will lecture on the racial violence predicted by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., which is now plaguing this country. Vivian will discuss strategies to offset the increasing incidents of racial violence and polarization. Audience discussion will follow.

Vivian's lecture is sponsored by The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. Louis Support Group. Charles Alphin, president of the support group, said that encouraging people to follow King's philosophy on changing negative behavior in society in a non-violent manner is as important today as it was in the 60s.

"We must get the message across to our youth that books and knowledge—not guns and drugs—will provide them with the strength and vision that they will need to provide leadership in the future."

Alphin made it clear that the surge of racial hatred that is being seen throughout the country cannot be tolerated. "Unless we take the necessary measures to educate ethnic communities about the people and world around them, we will lose our young people and our future to hatred and ignorance. Citizens, clergy, educators and politicians cannot allow our cities to be taken over and directed by such ignorance."

The St. Louis group will also honor three area citizens who embody the philosophy of Dr. King through the community services that they provide.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. Louis Support Group provides year-round activities for adults and youths in the metropolitan area that are designed to educate and promote the philosophy of Dr. King and outline how King's non-violent methods for community change are practical today.

For more information, call 679-1001.

Center Offers Support Group For Women

The Psychological Service Center at Washington University is accepting new members for an on-going support and therapy group called "Women In Unfulfilling Relationships." The group has been meeting since last February.

"The women in this group are successful in their careers and other areas of their lives, but find themselves trapped in unfulfilling relationships," says Amy Bertelson, Ph.D., the center's director. "The group helps women explore their patterns of relating to others."

Other issues addressed in the weekly meetings include identity; dependence and independence; separation and closeness and the socialization of women from a feminist perspective, Bertelson adds.

Meetings are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, in Eads Hall, on the university campus. Group leaders are Elizabeth Sondhaus and Carol Dyer, doctoral candidates in the psychology department. The graduate students are supervised by faculty members, who are licensed clinical psychologists.

The fee for the weekly group is \$40 per month. For more information, call (314) 889-6555.



Little Clarence Harris had his face painted by Margaret Starks at the Hamilton Community School booth during the family fair on the Bi-State Bus grounds, Sunday, September 24.

Photos by King Schoenfeld

An Evening Of Tap

"Tap the Loop," the first effort in St. Louis to bring together area hoofers, will be presented October 20 and 21 at the Center of Contemporary Arts. The concert, presented by the University City Community Foundation, will be part of the annual Loop in Motion Arts Festival.

Dancers will include DeJuan Collins, the 1985 national "Star Search" winner and a member of the Second Generation Step Brothers; Jeff Craven, a local tap artist; Jan Feager, Artistic Director of Tapsichore; Kari Ladig, owner of Steps Unlimited Studio; Karen Kelsey, who has appeared in the three most recent SDCC melodrama productions; and Sanjay Shastri, who won the St. Louis area "Great Tap Challenge" in January, 1989. Skinker-DeBaliviere resident Susan Fay is producing "Tap the Loop."

"This is a great idea. Whose idea was this? I think it's a wonderful idea!" said Collins, when he found out about "Tap the Loop."

The concerts will be presented at 8:00 p.m. at the Center of Contemporary Arts, 524 Trinity Avenue, in University City. A matinee will be presented at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 20, for school children.

Financial assistance for this concert was provided by the University City Community Foundation, the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis, and the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

World Peace One Workshop

Learn how to develop and live a comprehensively peaceful lifestyle. The workshop will be on Saturday, October 21st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Holy Communion Church, 7401 Delmar, in University City.

Participants will take an inventory of their effects on various systems (the environment, the economy, personal relationships, their physical and mental health, etc.) and then develop personal goals and plans that foster peace in these areas as well as nurture their own personal growth. Those participating will also learn a problem-solving/goal-attainment model as well as some "learning-to-learn" skills.

The registration cost is \$15, and the deadline is Oct. 18th. Call Tim Cimino, acting director, for further information at 725-4241.



On Sunday, September 24, the City West Business Association sponsored a family fair fund raiser on the Bi-State Bus grounds to benefit Stella Maris Child Care Center and Hamilton Community School. Watching Jenna Becker (foreground) check out the game in Stella Maris' booth were (from left) Bruce Yampolsky, President of the Association and a Stella Maris board member; Karl Mueller, Stella Maris Board President; and Kathy Becker.

Walk For Hunger

The Walk for Hunger will take place on Sunday, October 22, 1989, at 1 p.m. in Forest Park. Grace United Methodist Church Food Pantry will benefit directly from this walk, depending on how much money our walkers are able to raise. No walker is required to complete the entire 10 kilometers. Sponsors sign up to donate money for each mile walked.

There is a sign-up sheet on the office counter at Grace Church, Waterman at Skinker, for those who wish to participate in the Walk for Hunger. Both those who want to walk and those who want to sponsor a walker should sign the sheet.

Kansas City Christmas Tour

Al and Shirley Polk, 57XX DeGiverville, are organizing a tour of Christmas decorations and lights in Kansas City the weekend of December 9. A chartered bus will depart St. Louis late afternoon/early evening on Saturday, December 9th and return Monday morning, December 11th. \$110 per person covers the cost of transportation and hotel accommodation. A \$50 deposit is required for each reservation. For more information, call Shirley Polk, 361-2094.

Touching Bases

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

by Tom Hoerr

Can you imagine getting a loan to pay for your post-high school education, and only having to repay the principle? "Preposterous," you say? Then you haven't talked to Faith Sandler, a new resident of Skinker-DeBaliviere and the Executive Director of the Scholarship Foundation. Has she got a deal for you!

Faith has just moved to the 6000 block of Westminster. She and her husband, Mike Holohan, live there with their two cats, Rosseau and Esther. Esther is named after a synchronized swimmer; Rosseau is not. Mike is the Artistic Director of PRO-ART located on Pershing, just east of De-Baliviere. He selects art for the exhibits and determines which artists will be exhibited there.

Faith grew up in University City. Her parents work at Bethel Lutheran School, just west of us on Big Bend and Forsyth. Talk about local girl goes away, sees the world, and returns, Faith holds a BA degree in sociology from the University of Redlands, in Southern California, 60 miles east of L.A. She returned to go to grad school at Washington University, planning to receive a doctorate in Anthropology, with her areas of interest being urban studies and schools.

Faith says, "The department was too conservative for me. I spent two years defending urban areas of the U.S. and schools as a proper subject for anthropology." Instead, she worked for Harvard University in a study of the St. Louis voluntary inter-district desegregation plan and wound up with a master's degree in Cultural Anthropology.

But, back to Faith and these interest-free loans! No, this isn't the annual April Fool's issue of *The Times*; this is true. Summon all of your friends and neighbors who would be post-secondary students if they could afford it, and begin to read aloud: The Scholarship Foundation, a 70-year-old St. Louis institution, began as an effort to aid Jewish children. The Foundation became non-denominational in 1960; it began accepting black applicants in the 1950's.

Last year the Scholarship Foundation distributed \$1,025,000 in interest-free loans. The funds are generated from sales at the Scholarship (located at 8215 Clayton Road, just north of the Galleria), repayment of previous loans, and through donations. Of the 730 students receiving loans for the 1989-90 school year, 80% were undergraduates (25% of whom were freshmen). Faith points out that students who received loans attended colleges, universities, trade schools, and community colleges.

The loan amount is based on the financial need of the student. A student can receive a loan of up to \$3,000 per year for as many as five years (a total of \$15,000). The recipients must be from St. Louis. The decisions about who receives a loan are made by Faith and the entire board; it's definitely a "working board," she notes. Since the pool of applicants is larger than the pool of money to be distributed in any one year, the decisions are not easy ones. The board looks at the applicant's work experiences, goals, character, and volunteer experiences.

Applicants submit a paragraph, talking about their goals, and include references. Faith points out that the program "...is not just for straight A students." The loans are interest-free—honest!—and are due six years after the graduation date. Given all of the bad publicity we've heard about government loan programs, Faith notes with justified pride that 95% of the Scholarship Foundation loans are repaid! To date, over 8,000 St. Louisians have attended colleges, trade schools, universities, or junior colleges with the Scholarship Foundation's help.

Faith says that The Scholarship Foundation program has grown enormously since 1980, largely because of its move to the present location (it formerly was south of the then-Stix store at Clayton and Brentwood). She was also quick to point out that the endowment of over \$1,000,000 has been very well managed by the board.

In addition to the loan program, the Scholarship Foundation also works with Ranken Technical School and has another program that helps individuals wanting to go into nursing. Both of these programs are designed to help minorities.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Faith Sandler

Faith gave an extra big smile when she talked about the nursing and the Ranken Tech. programs, because of their focus on helping minorities. This thrust continues an important part of her life.

Prior to joining the Scholarship Foundation, Faith worked for the court-appointed Committee For Quality Education in Non-Integrated Schools. This Committee was established by the Federal Court to ensure that the minority students remaining in City schools (those not transferring to County districts) receive a quality education. Faith worked for CQ, as it is called, for four years, first as an Evaluation Assistant, then as Associate Director, Interim Executive Director, and again as Associate Director.

Her work with CQ began in spring of 1985. As she put it, she "had become very concerned with the kids who were left behind in the City, particularly at the north side schools. I felt that those schools could become less successful as those parents got their kids on busses."

In describing her work with CQ, Faith says, "It was a real education in how the judicial system works—or doesn't work—in this country. I felt like I spent four years working hard to tell the truth, but it didn't matter!" When asked if she has any messages for Judge Limbaugh, the Federal Judge who oversees the City-County desegregation plan, Faith pauses and replies, "Things are not going to get any better for minority kids until the court develops a more active role. It's too soon to close up shop, to call the system 'unified.'" She left her position with CQ in 1989 because she became frustrated with her efforts.

Faith's work with the Scholarship Foundation is much more rewarding. She has a

staff of three, but notes that "every board member works." She continues, "The thing is, it's true! They stuff envelopes, they push paper, they file. They do all the things that are necessary." Faith spends a good deal of time working with the board, developing procedures and policies. She also spends time dealing directly with students, helping them figure out how to apply and where else to get additional funds. She says, "I do whatever research the board needs regarding higher education or higher education in St. Louis. I try to be the conduit for all of this!"

While there's no interest on the loans that the Scholarship Foundation makes, Faith has more than enough other interests to make up for this (sorry, I couldn't resist!). In addition to painting and sprucing up their new home, Faith and Mike enjoy riding bikes and cooking Mexican food. Faith says that she was attracted to Skinker-DeBaliviere by "the mix of ages, races, and incomes." She liked "the price of the housing, what we got for our dollars" and "the architectural integrity of the neighborhood."

In her secret life, Faith, ever the cultural anthropologist, collects Elvis Presley postcards and memorabilia. In discussing a recent vacation, Faith says, "I went to New Mexico for my college reunion. All of my friends have liberal arts degrees and they're all incredibly socially conscious. Even if they're selling vacuum cleaners, they look at it in a way that it helps the social good!" That's an encouraging thought! Who knows, the promise of the 1960's may come true, after all!

(If you're interested in obtaining more information about the Scholarship Foundation or its interest-free loan programs, call 725-7990. Faith notes that all the funds for the 1989-90 school year have already been allocated. The application deadline for 1990-91 loans is April 15.)

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

My dog watches television. No, not Lassie, The Adventures of Rin Tin Tin, or Donnybrook; my dog, Boomer, watches Wheel of Fortune. Avidly, it turns out.

I first noticed this a month or so ago. The first wife and I were enjoying a leisurely dinner in our "rec room"—formerly our kitchen—and watching our evening staple, Wheel of Fortune. The wife is actually quite enamored with Wheel. I used to think she was watching just to peek at Vanna's shoes, but, in fact, she was really in to figuring out the puzzles.

"How was your day today?" I asked perfunctorily with my nose in the newspaper.

"A person," she replied.

"A? What do you mean, 'a person'?" I asked.

"A person, D-U-blank-blank-blank-blank. Then blank-blank-blank-blank-blank-A-N."

By the time I heard the third or fourth blank, I looked up and saw her looking away, focusing on the tiny screen sitting on our hoosier cabinet (from Indiana, not South St. Louis).

I returned to reading the paper when, a few moments later, my concentration was broken by her yelling, "Dustin Hoffman!" Sure enough, she had once again beaten the trio of contestants and had solved the mystery puzzle.

"What do you think of the Drug Czar's program?" I asked.

"C!" she replied.

"See what?" I asked.

"C!" she answered.

"See what?" I asked a bit more loudly.

"C-A-P-R-I-C-O-R-N; CAPRICORN!"

She exclaimed, and then, "That dummy's going to blow it!"

Sure enough, I looked at the screen, peering over the tops of my reading glasses, and the dummy was going to blow it. "I'll take a D, Pat," said the middle-aged housewife. Do they go to Central Casting for these people, or what?

"No, sorry," said Pat, looking not sorry at all.

I looked back—actually down—to the paper when suddenly the first wife shrieked, "R! R! R! Ask for an R!!!" In my surprise, I dropped my piece of Domino's pizza on the floor. Our dogs will eat just about anything that doesn't move, and they think anything that's on the floor is theirs, so I simply waited for one of them to come and grab it. Moxie was out of the room, standing vigil at the front door and barking at squirrels, so I figured that Boomer would shortly find the good fortune. I waited and waited.

Boomer was sitting on the floor facing the television. I assumed that she was daydreaming, perhaps reminiscing about a chased cat or two, so I called her name. No response. I called it again, a bit louder, but still no response.

At this point I wondered what in the world was going on. After all, in our house a piece of "found pizza" is a delicacy (for not just the dogs!). Since we had our stove removed and our kitchen turned into a small, yet cozy, rec room, Domino's is about as cooked as we get. The dogs know this, too; any scent other than toasted bagels or Lean Cuisine sends them wild. Generally both Moxie and Boomer watch us while we eat, with stares kind of like you'd see on vultures peering through a skylight at a meat packing house.

This time, however, nothing. Moxie was gone and Boomer hadn't turned even when the pizza hit the floor with a caloric splat. Something was wrong.

I walked over to Boomer and stood in front of her. She didn't move, but quickly tilted her head to the side to see around me. She was looking at something. I turned around and it hit me: Boomer, our two-year old standard poodle, was watching the television. She was interested in Wheel Of Fortune!

"How can this be?" I wondered. I had worked at being a good dog father. When she was a young pup, I read to her nightly. Many's the cold and dreary night when I walked her around the block, quoting

by Ray Breun

The first Papin came to Montreal in 1653. The fur trade had long been the point of French imperial economic policy. The Iroquois nation had been among the first to feel the brunt of the force of greed among French fur traders. When Champlain sided with the Huron nation, the most efficient fur trappers among the Indians of the eastern Great Lakes, the Iroquois were the enemy of the Huron. The British soon found it convenient to supply the Iroquois with weapons against the Huron and their French overseers. Montreal was the fur capital of the French empire based on the skin of the beaver in North America. When the first Papin came to Montreal (Mount Royal), the Mississippi and Missouri were on the edge of a growing imperial economy. One hundred years later the British were defeating the French.

Joseph Marie Papin (1741-1811) was the only surviving child of Joseph Alexandre Papin and Marguerite Pepin dit LaForce. His mother died when he was still a child. His father took him to France and placed him at the Jesuit College of La Prytanee near Anjou. The younger Papin came back to Canada for a short time after the French and Indian War (1756-1763). He moved on to St. Louis preferring not to live under British rule.

Joseph Papin entered the fur trade when he came to St. Louis in the early 1770s. He courted and married Marie Louise Chouteau (1762-1817), the second daughter of Madame Chouteau and Pierre Laclède, on January 19, 1779. They had thirteen children, all of whom occupied important places in the early history of St. Louis.

Joseph Papin received a Spanish land grant of some 3300 arpents in 1796. He moved his family to that land that same year. He obviously did not like the fur business and apparently was pleased to let his sons take up the profession without him. The Papin tract of 3300 arpents included

poetry and reading from the *N.Y. Times* editorial page. And now, after all this, **she's watching the Wheel?** My heart sunk.

I tested my fears and moved again so that I blocked her from seeing the television screen. Sure enough, Boomer also moved so she could keep looking at the screen. I took a big step forward and stopped in front of her, totally blocking the screen. Boomer walked around me and sat behind me, again focusing on the television screen.

I could hear the wheel spinning on the television. "I'll buy an E," said Pete, a salesman for a major ammunitions firm. "No, you turkey," my wife said, "Buy an A!" Pat said, "Sorry, no E," the wife groaned, and the next contestant spun. I sat down to try to make sense of all of this.

"I'll take a U, Pat," said Carmen, the travel agent from Encino. "You horse's patoozie, take an A!" yelled the first wife. I looked up and Boomer was still fixated on the screen. It was time for drastic measures, so I took another piece of pizza, passed it in front of her face, and sat it next to her on the floor. Boomer didn't move. Moxie, though, charged in from the living room, spied the pizza, and chomped it down in one gulp. Boomer still didn't move. I sat down in a state of shock. "'ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME,' you idiot" shouted the wife to Marjorie, a housewife from Phoenix.

It's been a few weeks now, and Wheel remains a regular part of our lives, all of our lives. The wife complained that the food distracted her from the show, so we eat a bit later. I find that if I call Domino's during the first Wheel commercial, they arrive about 7:05. This gives us enough time to calm-down from the jackpot Wheel and set the table, such as it is. The wife's happy and I'm happy.

And Boomer? She's fine, too. We have to build our lives around Wheel, but I figure it could be much worse. After all, what if she liked Geraldo?

A Fur Trader's Land

almost all of what is now Forest Park and extended north to what was later called Olive Street Road—now Delmar. The Road to Olive Street extended from the Bonhomme land to Olive Street east of Kingshighway. An arpent was about 1.3 acres; the 3300 arpents represented, then, some 4300 acres or nearly seven square miles. In later years this land was divided among descendants of Joseph Papin, including the Kingsburys. Virtually the entire Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood was included among the lands granted to Joseph M. Papin in 1796.

Three Papin sons are listed in the 1821 City Directory of St. Louis: Joseph, Vilray, and LaForce. Joseph (1780-1850) was a grocer and his business establishment was at the corner of what is now Memorial Drive and Locust Street. Sylvestre Vilray Papin (1794-1828) was a blacksmith in 1821 whose shop was probably on the location of the family home. He may have lived in the house at the time at 34 North Main above "A" (Chestnut) Street. He became known for his real-estate activities after the death of his parents, and it was most probably his determination which saw to the division of the Papin Tract after 1817.

Alexander LaForce Papin (1782-1849) was very active in the fur trade and was perhaps one of the first of the Chouteau family to work for John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company. Well respected among the Indians along the Missouri between the Kansas River and Council Bluffs, he was one of the best Indian traders on the payroll of Astor. He stayed with the Upper Missouri Outfit when Pierre Chouteau, Jr., and Bernard Pratte, Jr., his cousins, bought it from Astor in 1834, changing the name to Pratte, Chouteau and Company. He married Julie Brazeau and lived at 90 North Main (First) Street just above Locust Street. Both he

and his wife died of cholera when the pandemic spread into the Mississippi Valley in 1849.

Of the other children in the fur trade, two deserve particular mention. Pierre Millicour Papin (1793-1849) was a very trusted factor for Pratte, Chouteau and Company. For years he was in charge of the trading house in Osage Indian country near Papinsville in Bates County, Missouri. The Indians had great respect for him, and he helped establish the Jesuits in the area who saw to the health of the Indian community after he died. As was true of virtually the entire Chouteau family, he had a great deal of respect for the native culture and did his best to keep it from being exploited anymore than it already had been.

Pierre Didier Papin (1798-1853) was the most frontier active of the Papin family in the fur trade. From his youth he was part of the American Fur company out of St. Louis. He was on the steamboat "Yellow Stone" in 1832 when it made its first successful voyage from St. Louis to Fort Union at the mouth of the Yellowstone River. On that cruise also was his father-in-law, Pascal Cerre. P.D. Papin was in charge of Fort Laramie for several years after it came into the American Fur Company orbit. He is mentioned by numerous early western travel writers, including Francis Parkman. He died at Scott's Bluff on the Platte River about 80 miles below Fort Laramie.

The Papin Tract takes the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood back to the earliest French history of the St. Louis area. Since this is the 225th anniversary year of the founding of St. Louis by Pierre Laclède from New Orleans, it is only appropriate that attention is turned to the roots of European beginnings along the Mississippi at St. Louis.

Neighborhood Savings and Loan Makes A Little Change

For over ten years we've been Central West End Savings and Loan. But because we recently became a federally chartered savings bank, a name change seemed in order. From now on, we'll be Central West End Bank.

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