

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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DECEMBER 1989

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Urban West Center Serves Area Elderly



Ethel Guy (left) and Emily Williams serve turkey dinners at the Urban West Senior Citizens Center.

Photo by Sue Rothschild

A good lunch, a game of bingo, conversation with friends, and more await senior citizens who take advantage of one of Skinker-DeBaliviere's "best kept secrets"—the Urban West Senior Citizens Center. Serving the home-bound with delivered meals, the center also houses a busy program of activities for every interest.

The Urban West Senior Center, located at 5370 Pershing, in the Branscombe Apartments, serves area elderly with a variety of programs and activities. Open from 8:30 to 5 weekdays, all senior citizens in the area bounded by Forest Park, Skinker, Delmar, McPherson, and Taylor, are welcome. From 11-12 daily, a hot lunch is offered at minimal charge. Before and after lunch, a different activity is scheduled every day of the week.

Monday: Arts and crafts, including ceramics.

1:00 p.m.—Bible class

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.—Exercise class

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.—Walking
Bingo in the afternoon.

Thursday: Po-Ke-No in the afternoon
Plus guest speakers.

Friday: Every 1st and 3rd Friday, a bus takes participants to National or Schnucks for grocery shopping.

Other opportunities include a van which takes interested seniors to 1408 N. Kingshighway to get commodities, and a van which can be reserved for trips to area clinics, doctors and other appointments. The center is managed by the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and the center's director is Benjamin Germany.

In addition to the center's social activities and meals is the hot meal delivery service, which takes meals to sick and shut-in seniors. Although there is currently a waiting list for the home-delivered meals, a call only one day in advance will reserve a meal for those able to come into the Center. Call Ben Germany or Alma B. Harris at 361-0640.

On the day we visited, a full Thanksgiving dinner was served. Menus posted for the coming week included a variety of nutritious and very appealing meals. One was: fried codfish, with oven brown potatoes, sliced zucchini, citrus cup, hamburger, and banana pudding.

Continued on page 5

Building Inspections To Be Done In 1990

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood is scheduled for a door-to-door inspection of the exteriors of all property by the City's Building Division beginning in the spring of 1990. Currently, building inspections occur randomly or in response to specific complaints. "Door to door" simply means that every building in our area will be inspected over the course of next spring and summer.

Building inspections cover these major areas: exterior walls, foundations, windows and doors, porches and steps, gutters and downspouts, chimneys, roofs, garages, yards, side lots, fences, sidewalks, trash/outside open storage. Homeowners will receive a "Property Maintenance Checklist" brochure along with a letter from Operation ConServ about this inspection program in the next few weeks.

The checklist will help owners assess the condition of their property and determine what repairs, if any, are needed. Additional copies of the brochure are available at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6010 Kingsbury.

Inspectors will look for violations of the city's building code. These codes require basic maintenance of buildings and property to insure safety and prevent deterioration. Keeping property up to code protects the owner's investment and directly contributes to the maintenance and improvement of our neighborhood.

Two agencies, Neighborhood Housing Services and the Urban League, offer loan programs to assist low income home owners with building repairs and maintenance. NHS lends money exclusively for exterior repairs; the Urban League will make loans for both interior or exterior repairs. For more information call the SDCC, 862-5122.

The door to door inspection will occur at the request of the Skinker DeBaliviere Planning Committee, Operation ConServ, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and 28th Ward Alderman Dan McGuire in response to recommendations made by four of the planning sub-committees. The security, housing, commercial district and historic district review committees all recommended strict code enforcement for our proposed Neighborhood's One and Five year Strategic Plan.

The planning steering committee will complete a draft of the neighborhood Plan by the end of the year. The Planning Committee, ConServ, SDCC and Alderman McGuire agreed that neighbors should have as much advance notice of the inspections as possible and be given the opportunity to abate violations before they are cited, arrange for financing if necessary, etc.

Please see the related article about our local Historic District by Katie Kurtz.

Historic District Standards, Building Permits, And You

by Katie Kurtz

As a companion to Nancy Farmer's article on the upcoming door-to-door building inspections, the following will try to clarify building permit issues and historic district standards. While the inspections are not due to be performed until the spring, this endless fall seems to be a good time for owners to assess their property and start work if necessary. The same information will be made available in late winter/early spring as the actual inspections are being done.

There are quite a few historic districts throughout St. Louis City. Each has its

own set of standards which are enforced by the Heritage and Urban Design Commission (HUDC). In all districts, required building permit work must go through this special branch of the Building Division. With proper plans and photographs, the amount of additional time required to receive a building permit is minor—ten days for staff review and a bit longer if full commission review is required. Specific issues relating to Skinker-DeBaliviere are outlined below.

Continued on page 6

King Commemoration Program Jan. 7



The New Sunnyside Baptist Church Choir, directed by Greg Gettys, took part in the 1989 Martin Luther King Commemoration. The 1990 Commemoration will take place on Sunday, January 7 at Grace and Peace Church, Clara and Delmar.

Photos by King Schoenfeld

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, Grace and Peace Fellowship and New City School will co-sponsor a program commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 7, 1990. The program will be held at Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar, tentatively beginning at 5:30 p.m. The theme for this year's program is education.

Ms. Alice Windom will deliver the keynote address. Windom is a coordinator for the University of Missouri St. Louis' Center for Metropolitan Studies. A native of St. Louis, Windom was the first coordinator of UMSL's Bridge Program. Through this program the University works with students in five area high schools to encourage their enrollment in college, particularly in the fields of math and science. Windom holds a Masters Degree in Social Work and she lived and worked in Africa for several years.

Planning for the commemoration is still in progress; watch for flyers or call the SDCC, 862-5122 for additional information.

Winter Shelter Has Opened

The Winter Shelter at Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar, opened its doors again this year on Sunday, November 12. Since 1986 the winter shelter has provided overnight shelter to homeless women during the coldest months of the year.

Volunteers are needed to stay during the evening or overnight, and to provide evening meals. To find out how you can help in this effort, or for more information, phone shelter director Jennifer McComb at 725-2140.



Photo by Sue Rothschild

Members of the Explorer Post from the Regional Medical Center sorted and packed canned goods brought in by Cub Packs and Scout Troops during "Scouting for Food" on November 18. 93 boxes were filled by donations from the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood.

Times Needs Distributor

The Times needs a new distributor for the 61xx block of Waterman. The task takes about one hour once a month. If you are interested, please call Sue Rothschild at 361-0880 or 725-0878.

Thank You...

The Times gratefully acknowledges the generous gifts from the following people:

Marjorie and Ken Cohen
Karleen and Tom Hoerr
Marcia Kerz
Katie and Paul Kurtz
Venita and Rich Lake

Sue and Sandy Rothschild
Dee and King Schoenfeld
Joann and Neville Vatcha
Marjorie and Brad Weir

Notes From Operation Safestreet

Believe It!

Not one GM car with a tilt steering column that has been installed with a steering column collar has had the collar broken and the car stolen! It's a doggone good \$50 investment. Call Operation SafeStreet at 622-3444 for the number of the installer closest to you.

Save Yourself

Doing something after a crime has been committed is often fruitless. Unless you've been a victim, it's difficult to explain the frustration that is shared by the victim, Operation SafeStreet, and the police. In many instances criminals are neither apprehended, prosecuted, nor convicted. Even when the criminal justice system is able to work, the victims are not spared the irreparable losses of life and property that may have resulted from the crime.

This is particularly true of the one crime which occurs most frequently...home burglary. Only after a family returns home and discovers that their privacy has been violated, their home ransacked, and valuable belongings have been stolen, do most people truly feel the frustration. It's difficult to explain to a victim that there is little urgency in responding to a burglary complaint after the fact. The clearance rate for residential burglary in the City of St. Louis during the first nine months of 1989 was only 15%.

Burglary is truly a crime of frustration. Burglary is also a crime of opportunity. And this is the root cause of the frustration and frequency of the crime. Reducing the opportunity for burglary can and does work. No one (except the criminal) should have to live in a fortress! But, without going to such extremes, you can slow the average burglar down. Poor security habits during the holidays, locks which are easily defeated, unlocked windows and doors, not being observant, not calling the police and being willing to identify suspicious persons to the police, are examples of opportunities for a burglary to occur.

We are not talking to those of you who have been victimized. You probably know only too well what could have been done differently. We need to get the message across to the hundreds who don't go to a neighborhood meeting, who haven't thought about their risks and the habits they should be using to secure themselves and their neighbors...all of those people who haven't been victimized, and believe it can't happen to them or in their neighborhood. Reducing criminal opportunity is clearly the responsibility of every citizen.

Call Operation SafeStreet if we can help, right now when you need it!

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

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.

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Winter Calendar

Continuing

Raptor '90, exhibition by the Raptor Rehabilitation and Propagation Project. Special Exhibit Gallery, Museum of Westward Expansion, under the Gateway Arch. Through January 31, 1990.

Noel, Noel: Scenes of a St. Louis Christmas: exhibit focuses on holiday celebrations in St. Louis through vintage ornaments, photographs, and decorations. History Museum, through January 7th.

Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker presents three exhibitions by Joan Hall & Tom Lang, Robert Cottingham and Carol Carter. Through December 31st.

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

Washington University Faculty Art Show—features works by the School of Fine Arts, School of Architecture, and Art History Dept. Reception Nov. 12, 3-5 p.m. Call 889-4523 for information.

"La Ville De Pain Court"—St. Louis 1764-1820; This exhibit of paintings, maps and artifacts tells story of the development of St. Louis during this period. History Museum. Through December.

"Down by the Gravois" exhibition at the History Museum. Photographs documenting German South St. Louisians from 1900s to 1930. 9:30 to 4:45 Tuesday thru Sunday. Free.

"Counter Parts"—exhibit of paintings by Lucy Harvey and furniture sculptures by Jon Cournoyer. Componere Gallery. Exhibition ends December 30.

December

- 2 Cathedral Parent Teacher Association sponsors its annual Arts and Crafts Fair. 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Cathedral School, 4430 Maryland. Call 531-3375 for information.
- The Friends of the Trappists of Missouri sponsor a workshop entitled "Light from the Cloister", featuring Father M. Basil Pennington. Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 a.m., Incarnate Word Academy, 725-0791.
- "The Miracle Worker"—the story of how Annie Sullivan achieved her miracle with Helen Keller is the West End Players Guild December show. Call 367-0025 or 567-6341 for reservations.
- William Kanengiser, of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society appears at The Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton Road. 8 p.m.
- 3 Cathedral Parent Teacher Association sponsors its annual Arts and Crafts Fair. 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Cathedral School, 4430 Maryland. Call 531-3375 for information.
- Opening of *Christmas Around the World*, holiday displays from other countries. Gateway Arch Visitor Center. Through December 31.
- 4 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- Synchronia—St. Louis' acclaimed new-music chamber ensemble announces the second concert at The Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton, 8 p.m. Call 664-9313 for ticket information.
- 5 Hermann Prey will perform Schubert's "Die Winterreise" at the St. Louis Conservatory and Schools for the Arts, 560 Trinity, 8 p.m. Call 863-3033 for information and reservations.
- 6 Opening of exhibit "Public Figures—Private Moments" at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building.
- 8 Robert Small will perform a solo dance concert at Washington U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8; \$5 for senior citizens and students. For information call 889-5858.
- 9 *You Are There...Enjoying Holiday Festivities in St. Louis With New Immigrants, 1910*—free program for children ages 6 to 13. History Museum, 10:30 a.m.
- 10 **The Camarata Singers** perform their Christmas concert at 4:00 p.m. St. Roch's Church, Waterman and Rosedale. Free.
- Classical Diversions Ensemble Program II: "Serenading Strings"; Wash. U's Graham Chapel; 2 p.m.; Roger Kaza, Horn; Joseph Davison, Tenor. Call 889-5581 or 256-6782 for reservations.
- Kwansa-Multi-Disciplinary Arts Experience—celebrate African cultural heritage. Creation of a mural, stories of Anase the Spider. Enjoy a Nigerian cookie. COCA, 524 Trinity, 1:30-3 p.m.
- St. Louis, An Outpost Of Spanish Empire*—free gallery lecture by Robert R. Archibald, in conjunction with "La Ville de Pain Court"; History Museum; 2 p.m.

- 12 **Parkview Agent's meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Call 361-0880 for location.
- 14 Tea Lecture: *Urban Affairs, The Art Of City Living*—Post-Dispatch columnist Elaine Viets speaks on holiday customs unique to St. Louis. History Museum, 1:30 p.m. \$5.
- 15 "The Green Knight": December 15-16; 8 p.m.; at Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster. The funniest Holiday program in St. Louis. For ticket information call 569-8006.
- 16 **Holiday party sponsored by the St. Louis Public Library Kiosk.** SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury. 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- You Are There...Participating In A Kwanza Celebration In St. Louis In 1966*—free program for children ages 6 to 13. History Museum, 10:30 a.m.
- 17 French Creole Christmas—party with stories, holiday music, and refreshments; History Museum, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 25 Happy Holidays from *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere!* The volunteers who work on the Times will be busy with family and friends and will not publish a January issue.

January

- 7 **Martin Luther King Day celebration** with speaker Alice Windom. Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar. 5:30. See related article.
- 8 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- 9 **Parkview Agent's meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Call 361-0880 for location.
- 13 COCA presents *The Paper Bag Players* as part of the Frank Fowle Theater Series. Visual effects, ragtime music, audience participation. 11:00 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 725-6555 for information.
- 19 Prints of Richard Bosman to be exhibited at Washington University Gallery of Art through March 11. Free. Call 889-4523 for information.
- 21 Multi-Disciplinary Art Experience—Asian New Year's Celebration—Chinese New Year, Vietnamese Tet Festival & Tsao Chun. Asian decorations and snacks. 1:30-3 p.m., COCA, 524 Trinity.
- 24 *Betrayal*—by Harold Pinter. A love triangle involving a married couple and their best friend; New City Theatre, 5209 Waterman. Call 531-1301 for information. Thru February 11.
- 26 Kronos Quartet—the quartet of tomorrow, in a triumphant return to Edison Theatre, will perform 2 concerts, January 26 and 27. 6445 Forsyth; 8 p.m. For information call 889-6543.

February

- 3 Brazilian brothers, Sergio and Odair Assad of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society will appear at CASA, 560 Trinity. 8 p.m.
- 5 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.



"The Golden Striker," portrait of Percy Heath, bassist, Modern Jazz Quartet, 1987, by Carole Patterson, from the exhibition "Public Figures-Private Moments," at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park December 6 - January 26. Photo courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society.

THE NEW CITY SCHOOL TREE LOT OPENS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1989

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Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

What did one frog say to the other?
"Time's fun when you're having flies!"

Well we've been having lots of fun around here. I decided to give up on honest work and become self-employed on a full-time basis. This means, of course, that forty-hour work weeks are past history; what with startup adventures and all I've been busier than a one-armed paper-hanger. That's how I utterly missed the deadline for last month's column. Sue Rothschild hasn't shot me because I had a note from my mommy. So let's get on with the rest of the news.

First and foremost, let me urge you to come to the Camerata Singers' Christmas concert at 4:00 P.M. December 10 at St. Roch Catholic Church. The concert is free and open to the public. There is also a reception afterward. This chorus originally was brought together as a scratch group to do a Christmas concert at St. Roch last year. The group had such a good time that the members decided to stay together and form a permanent group. Under the direction of Greg Schweizer, who persists in doing the difficult so well that it looks easy, the chorus gave a successful presentation of the Schubert Mass in G earlier this year. They will continue to perform in this area, so don't miss out on what I assure you will be an excellent time.

St. Roch is suffering from another strange epidemic. Last time, the pastor, assistant pastor, and parish secretary took turns getting banged up. This time, the epidemic is almost scandalous. Every adult woman in the Contemporary Choir is pregnant!

Fortunately, there are only two of them. Carolyn Farrell is expecting in June and Alison Barcheck is due around the first of February. Congratulations to both.

Incidentally, Contemporary Choir Director Bob Dowgwillo (and his wife Heidi) of 61XX Pershing, had a little boy named Alex on the day before Halloween. Everyone's fine.

Lana Stein, of UMSL's political science faculty, has been elected the resident representative to the Nina Place Condominium board.

Nancy Farmer, Executive Director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, was named by Mayor Schoemehl to a special committee for input on the budget cuts that will be necessary because of the failure of the sales tax election and other revenue losses.

We are sad to have to relate that Mrs. Irma White of 61XX Pershing passed away a couple of weeks ago after a bout with cancer.

Most months I report the coming and going of peoples' lives. It's not often I have the opportunity to report the saving of a life. It is with great pleasure that I relate to you that such an event has occurred.

On November 17, Officer Ottie Edwards, the Parkview patrolman, overheard on his scanner an emergency dispatch, directing a rescue team to a neighborhood house to save a six-month-old baby who was choking. Officer Edwards rushed over the the house, found the infant, and cleared the obstruction before rescue workers arrived.

While setting up the new business, I had occasion to visit Joe's Copy Shop on De-Baliviere. This place has a marvelously whimsical atmosphere; manager Michelle Harrison has named all of the copying machines after characters from the tales of King Arthur and the Round Table. This is cute and in no way interferes with her ability to do a good job quickly and spice it properly with good advice. She saved my neck twice in the last two weeks.

OTTIE'S CORNER

This month there is lots of good news. We don't have any good arrest stories, as malefactors seem to have avoided the area. However, we have the Halloween Report and an old crime story for you.

This was a banner Halloween night: no trouble at all. Many families in the area bring their children to Parkview to trick-or-treat. In the past, there has been trouble with older bullies stealing candy from the little kids. This year, Ottie fielded extra volunteers, two on mopeds and several on foot. Each one had a radio. Result: no trouble at all.

One story we missed last month was that the garage belonging to Luke Hart of 63XX McPherson burned down. This was not a trivial fire—this garage was big enough to have its own basement! Ottie was helping clean up when he discovered two automobile fender skirts—in prime condition,—in the wreckage. He pointed them out to Mr. Hart. Luke told him that he had found them in the wee hours of a summer morning in 1948, when he was sneaking into the house after a rather boisterous night out. Figuring that their loss would be reported, he stashed them in the garage. There they had sat ever since.

Officer Edwards was then going through some of the old watchman reports to compare complaints and crimes of older periods. While going through the 1948 records, he discovered that John Green's sister, on Westgate Avenue, had reported the theft of some fender skirts that matched the ones he had found in Luke Hart's garage. Fortunately, the Greens still live at the Westgate residence, so Ottie was able to return the stolen merchandise to its rightful owner. After 41 years, case closed.



Ottie Edwards (second from left) organized volunteers and Wells Fargo officers to patrol in Parkview on Halloween night.

★★★★★★★★★ Feathers ★★★★★★★★★★

by Christine Smith

We started "feeding birds" because of one with a fuzzy tail and only one eye...a beat-up squirrel dam who was too hungry to run. We gave her a slice of bread, and watched the back yard. For 7 years of her one-eyed life, and kids... and saw:

In March (usually) we clean and till our little garden, and see boat-tail and common grackles. Most just call them "black birds", but they have a purple iridescence on the shoulder. They relish the grubs we rake up.

Be-Doom, Be-Damn! We think the fellow trying to render our neighbor's tree to matchsticks is a hairy, not downy woodpecker, because we can't see a flash of red on his be-damning head.

Pest? That mockingbird? Sits at dawn and sings the same song—again, again and again. Large bird, flash of white on the tail, comes to the feeder, then sings again and again.

In late April or May come red-winged blackbirds. They flock with the grackles, fly off in flights towards Forest Park, and then go north to summer.

We have had a wren—an irascible being who scolded from the nearest fence—Bruce said, "Isn't she the cutest thing!"—and ruby-wing hummingbirds, both of which came to our Rose of Sharon but are seldom seen now. Pesticides? Habitat?

We ever have bluejays. Large birds (almost as big as a pigeon), they have overgrown young. A bird as big as mom will cry "Poor Bird, Poor Bird" and get fed. Mama seems to think this ok; I think it poor feminist logic, but birds will be birds.

Any St. Louis household should have cardinals. One snowy day, we had four pairs—eight individuals—saying "chip-chip" on our patio; we seldom have less than two. The males sit in the bushes and let the khaki-clad females scout out the feeder. So much for male dominance?

We also have the "nuisance birds"—starlings and sparrows. Did you know that one variety of sparrow and all starlings were brought here by some ecological nincompoop who wanted "all of Shakespeare's birds" in the U.S. of A.? (They had no biological controls).

Bruce (husband) claims to be able to tell a European Tree (the imported one) from a House from an American Tree from a Chipping—and says we have no song-sparrows by their cocks. All their lens are brown. (Wonder if the cocks can tell?) As long as my gutters are cleaned of their nests, I couldn't care if it is a Jones sparrow. They chip, twit, flirt, and fly in girlish flights. Rather charming!

Maybe the starlings were meant to be made into pies, as in nursery rhymes. Once imported, they took on to roosting and defecating on parked cars. This last has a social value: it gives males the excuse to "wash-the-car" rather than "visit-the-in-laws." But the best excuse for starlings are that they are funny!

For several years, a one-legged starling came to our feeder. How he lost one leg is a mystery, but he made great two-point landings (leg and bill) and righted himself with almost regal majesty.

Once, in zero weather, I filled the bird-bath with hot tap water. The starlings perched in a ring as each took his turn to wade out and twiddle his bony toes in the warm water.

We also have snowbirds (slate-colored juncos) coming in fall, using the feeder when times are hard, then going north. And the robins, who may come and go, come or stay, who is sure? That's why the cock is called "Alderman Robin".

Starting Easter 1989, I went out on the back porch and was roundly chastised for my sins—in the name of my daughter—Dee-Dee-Dee! We had a Carolina Chickadee!

All of this—not to mention the passing thru doves and the one-or-two rabbits that have appeared in hard times—on a 30' by 110' St. Louis City homestead. We still feed our fuzzy-tailed neighbors, who started all this, and none of whom our plethora of well-fed cats, despite 20 years of crick-necks, has ever made a captive.

A good book for wildlife watching in our urban area is *The City Kid's Field Guide*, by Ethan Herberman.

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Jazz Club Rejected

by Catherine Forslund

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) Board at its November meeting tackled DeBaliviere Retail development in addition to numerous other issues facing the area.

Present at the meeting were Randy Bailey, Lois Clay, Preston Cole, Frank and Flossie Driscole, Nancy Farmer, Karleen Hoerr, Bob Mahon, Ron Norris, Joseph and Rochelle Nwadia, Shirley Polk, Phil Roberts, Roy Roncal, Lana Stein, Neville Vatcha, Arline Webb, and Jack Wright.

The Board accepted both the October meeting minutes and the October treasurer's report.

The Nwadia's addressed the Board regarding the proposed jazz club in DeBaliviere Retail Center. They are spearheading the protest of Charles Wren's Lounge's liquor license application. Mr. Wren presented his plans to the Board at their September meeting. The Nwadia's concerns center around increased late night traffic, drunk drivers, and parking problems. They incorrectly reported that Wren would not be serving food. Many questions were raised about Wren's actual planned operations. After much general discussion and votes on 3 motions, including a proposed motion for SDCC to act as a mediator to negotiate answers to neighbor's objections, the Nwadia's were not willing to negotiate. The Board voted to oppose Wren's license application and notify the liquor commissioner accordingly.

Old Newsboy's Day should see area volunteers at the Forest Park Parkway/Des Peres and Waterman/Des Peres intersections. Mahon and Fox are coordinating the details.

Wright is heading up the group making plans for the Sunday, January 7, 1990 Martin Luther King Commemoration. New City School will be the site and the Board will again lend its support.

A spring and/or summer house tour and fundraiser was discussed.

Director's Report

Farmer reported no new developments as to the proposed Walgreens on DeBaliviere. She passed along the Board opposition to Mestman Realty and was advised Walgreen's was shocked to hear of the neighborhood's opposition. She will let the Board know when a meeting has been scheduled with Walgreens representatives.

A meeting will be scheduled for concerned neighbors with a representative from the airport about the perceived increase in airport traffic noise.

Organizers of the 1990 Earth Day celebration planned for Forest Park are looking for office space near the Park in which to set up their headquarters. Farmer asked for the Board's response to possibly subletting some of the SDCC space. They gave her and the executive committee authority to negotiate a sub-lease as long as the group had no political activities and it was determined to be in the best interests of SDCC to give a sub-lease.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation (SDCHC) has reached a compromise with the new owner of J&W Package Liquor on Delmar. The owner will provide litter pick-up; eliminate sales of cheap wine, pints, and half-pints; and reduce operating hours. If the liquor commissioner approves the license restrictions, the SDCHC will not oppose the license.

Farmer discussed plans for changes of the annual Halloween Party format with perennial organizer Art Santen. He agrees, but is already making plans for the 25th annual event in 1992 to make it very special.

The pay phones outside the laundromat on Des Peres will be removed by Southwestern Bell after numerous complaints from neighbors regarding loitering, late night noise and suspected drug activities.

Farmer reports that progress is being made on the Neighborhood Plan. The steering committee is meeting weekly to work out the initial draft before year's end. The Board voted to make a formal request of the City to do an inspection of front and back exteriors of all residential and commercial buildings. This was going to happen in 1990 anyway and the Board's action merely allows for more advance notice to neighborhood residents.

Dobb's Goodyear is staying on in their recently purchased space on Delmar, which is receiving a face-lift.

Wild Thang upholstery has moved in on Delmar, just east of Church's Chicken, after being requested to vacate their Chouteau premises. They are an upholstery shop, but have yet to receive their City sign and occupancy permits.

The Delmar Bi-Rite is now selling jewelry and beauty supplies.



Photo by Sue Rothschild

Sarah V. Boose displays the Christmas decoration made by participants at the Urban West Senior Citizens Center.

Center

Continued from page 1

the people doing crafts had made. Ms. Ethel Guy let us tour the ceramics room, with its own kiln for firing projects. Ms. Emily Williams was busy serving meals to all who came.

The lively group at the Urban West Senior Citizens Center has friendship and

fun to offer. Ms. Sarah Boose showed us the Christmas decorations and fancy dolls

For additional information or to reserve next day's meal at the center, call Mr. Germany or Ms. Harris at 361-0640 or drop in at the Branscombe, 5370 Pershing, in the heart of the DeBaliviere Place neighborhood.

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SDCC Committee Reports

Beautification Committee

As part of the City's ConServ program, Forslund reported that Skinker DeBaliviere is participating in a landscaping competition sponsored by Union Electric. The \$2,000 planting award is hoped for SDCC's beautification committee plan for Phillip Lucier Park. A suggestion was raised to try to obtain lights for the Lucier Park ball field. The Committee will be planting over 500 bulbs around the neighborhood to start its beautification tasks.

Parkview

Mahon reported that Halloween went well this year with no vandalism or juvenile trouble. They had extra security which

apparently worked. Their leaf pick-ups are proceeding and they are planting 15 new trees in the parks. They are trying to replace all the trees lost each year. Budget planning is proceeding.

Rosedale

Roncal advised that the Halloween Party went well and the kids seemed to enjoy it. Doughnuts and coffee were sponsored on the McPherson barricade for parents out trick-or-treating.

Housing Corporation

Hoerr described the winterization activities in Rosedale Square. They are also trying to increase lighting and improve the parking situation. (See related story.) Vatcha inquired as to dimming or shielding the lot lights on the rear of south side 6Lxx Washington buildings which shine directly into the back of some Westminster homes.

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Historic District Standards, Building Permits, And You

Continued from page 1

Boundaries: Our neighborhood's historic district boundaries are basically DeBaliviere, the City limits, Delmar, and Lindell. There are areas such as Kingsbury Square which are not included.

What work requires a building permit? Almost all exterior changes within the district require permits, including but not necessarily limited to:

1) *Window and door replacements;* however, storm doors and windows do not require permits if they are color finished.

2) *Roofing*—If new roofing material is not identical to the old roof covering, i.e. if clay tiles or slate shingles are being replaced with asphalt shingles; if more than 25% of the roof sheathing is replaced; if the roof being applied is the third layer or more.

3) *Removal, replacement, or alteration of any architectural detail,* such as cornices, soffits, brackets, porch railings, columns, original ornamental iron work, chimneys, window trim, etc.

4) *Any demolition work,* including frame or brick garages, porches, building additions.

5) *Any permanent closure* of windows, doors, porches, and commercial store fronts.

6) *Painting* of any previously unpainted brick or stone surfaces.

7) *Construction* of any permanent structure 18 inches or more high including: fences, decks, porches, garages, storage sheds (over 35 square feet), and retaining walls (such as in front yards with railroad ties, as an example).

Building permits are required to protect a property owner or tenants from poor design and construction practices. In historic districts, there is also the need to maintain architectural integrity. In addition, the requirement for permits for fences and new construction can spot any property line or easement encroachment. The amount charged for a permit is based on the cost of the work, and is quite moderate. (A \$10,000 addition would cost about \$45 in permit fees.)

Standards:

1. *Materials:* when visible from the street, exterior building materials should be of the type originally used when the neighborhood was developed; brick, stone, stucco, wood, and wrought and cast iron. Aluminum and vinyl siding as well as artificial masonry are generally not acceptable.

2. *Architectural details* (see #1 and #3 above) should be maintained or replicated whenever possible. The Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood was built at a time when such craftsmanship was at its peak and our buildings represent a variety of examples.

3. *Fences:* when visible should be wood, stone, brick, brick-faced concrete, ornamental iron, or dark-painted chain link.

But it is not visible from the street! There has been a long-standing misunderstanding in the neighborhood concerning work which is not visible from the street. The S.D. historic district ordinance only requires that permit work has to be reviewed when visible from the street; however, neighbors have been frustrated when doing work on garages, porches, decks, etc. Several items require clarification: 1) Even though the work isn't visible, it still requires a permit; 2) the building division cannot determine when they take a permit application whether or not the porch or deck or garage is visible or not; 3) the city-wide ordinance which enabled the passage of the individual historic district ordinances requires that all permit work must be reviewed by the HUDC. What that means to property owners is that permit work on the rear and sides must be reviewed by the HUDC staff but not the full commission. If all paper work and photographs are submitted in a correct fashion, the permit should be issued within ten days of application after being reviewed by the HUDC staff. The only additional requirement for these permits are rear and front photos of the property. The same plans and specifications are required whether or not a property is in a designated district or not.

This is a brief outline of the district's fairly flexible standards. The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, 862-5122, the Historic District Review Committee, myself as chair—727-6377, and the Heritage & Urban Design Commission, 231-6566, are available to help interpret guidelines and permit requirements. The Historic District Review Committee has a responsibility to act as an advocate for property and other appropriate situations. The committee as well as the SDCC and HUDC also have the responsibility to protect the safety and the architectural integrity of the neighborhood. To that end, work that is being done without the necessary permits will be reported to the building division for appropriate action.

Please feel free to call Nancy Farmer or me if you have any questions or problems with this process. One of the desirable qualities of this neighborhood is its architecture. Skinker-DeBaliviere is an excellent representative of early twentieth century craftsmanship, design, urban planning, and materials. It is important to preserve these qualities while providing the necessary amenities which will take the area into the next century.



Halloween Party Winners



Winners at the Rosedale Halloween Party pose in their costumes.

Photo by King Schoenfeld

The 22nd annual Halloween Party of Rosedale Neighbors was held at St. Roch's Gym. Jerry Born entertained the children with his juggling show. The costume winners were:

- David Holler —Alligator
- Meg Flynn —Indian Princess
- Jenna Pitts —Daisy Duck
- Laura Knarr —Fireman & Dalmation
- Daniel Knarr —Fireman & Dalmation
- Clayton Jackson —Bee
- Jessica Hawk —Intrepid Explorer
- Stephanie Bell —Devil
- Natalie Bailey —\$ Bill
- Matt Bailey —Ed Gimsley

The committee was Art Santen, Steve Santen, Catherine Forslund and Roy Roncal.



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Attention All Shutterbugs

by Mary Ann Shickman

The holiday season brings out shutterbugs everywhere whether they own an instamatic, a Brownie, a Nikon, or a Polaroid. There are all those pictures just waiting to be taken: the family group; the new baby crawling; brother Bill and his girl in from Cincinnati; those special places where you're traveling. And, don't forget that unforgettable picture of Fido the dog, or Marmaduke the cat for the 1990 Kiosk pet photo contest.

The St. Louis Public Library Kiosk is here to help you with all sorts of material on the subject. From a technical viewpoint there is *The Single Lens Reflex Handbook* by Michael Langford, a basic "how to" guide to that kind of camera. *Ansel Adams Photography* is a set in three volumes titled *The Print*, *The Negative*, and *The Camera*. These books contain text about the mechanics of photography and are profusely illustrated with his prints.

There also are videocassettes available, *The Art of Ansel Adams*, and *Photographing People* by Kodak as well as a new book for video camera enthusiasts, *The Complete Guide To Making Home Video Movies*.

We asked several of our neighborhood professionals for recommendations from the Kiosk collection.

King Schoenfeld, of King Schoenfeld Photography and Graphic Design, and the photographer for *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere*, felt that *More Joys Of Photography* by the editors of Eastman Kodak appealed most to him. The book describes

many creative techniques as well as offering essays by noted photographers and beautiful color illustrations.

Marlon Fields of Spot Photography offered the following advice: "Probably the best thing an amateur photographer can read (or re-read) is the owner's manual of his or her camera. That will explain its particular capabilities and probably recap the basic rules for taking good photos (avoid cluttered backgrounds; come in close to your subject, etc.). After that, read whatever interests you. The Eastman Kodak *Joy Of Photography* is fun and full of ideas."

Jack Frasure, photographer with the St. Louis public schools, says that for a small library, the Kiosk collection is diverse, offering a substantial number of books about different aspects of photography. It is excellent for people interested in the basics.

For inspiration, this librarian recommends a life-long favorite, *The Family Of Man*, a collection of photographs by artists from all over the world which was first exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The Kiosk will soon be receiving the 30th Anniversary edition.

Whether shutterbugs or not, we wish a happy holiday to all Kiosk patrons and urge you to remember our party for all ages on Saturday, December 16th, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. It will be held at the Skinker DeBaliviere office with live entertainment by Rose Flynn.

SDCHC Buys Rosedale Square

by Nancy Farmer

The Rosedale Square Apartments is a 12 building, 68 unit project located primarily on 6100 Washington & 500 Rosedale with one four family building on 6000 Washington. City Equity, developer and general partner for a group of limited partners, began redeveloping the project in 1984 but went out of business in 1985 before it was completed. The limited partners brought on a new general partner and, with some city assistance, a moderate rehab of the project was completed in 1985-86.

Forest Park Investment Corporation managed the project for three years, 1985-1987. The project was heavily mortgaged and in 1985 and 1986 the limited partners made annual voluntary capital contributions to increase equity in the project and reduce the debt. Rosedale Square then carried a debt of approximately \$2 million which the project still could not support. The monthly mortgage payment alone was \$20,000 and at 100% occupancy the project could only generate \$24,000 a month. When asked for a third contribution to further reduce the debt and increase equity in the project, the investors declined. In February, 1988 the lender foreclosed on the project.

Other projects similar to Rosedale Square in the metropolitan area suffered a similar fate. There are two primary reasons: projections for the rental market were high and subsequently the vacancy rates were substantially higher than predicted. Secondly, the tax law changes in 1986 removed the incentive for investors to contribute cash to investment property projects.

The loan for Rosedale Square was guaranteed by HUD and title to the property transferred to them shortly after the foreclosure. It was the intention of HUD to advertise and accept sealed bids on each of the 12 properties in the project individually. The City recognized that dividing this project would be disastrous for our neighborhood. The City's Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority (LCRA) exercised its right of first refusal and purchased the property from HUD for 90% of its appraised value, based on an appraisal done by HUD. At the time the City acquired the project, a private developer was interested in purchasing it from the City. However, even with the mortgage reduced to \$1.3 million, that developer, and several others after him, could not make the project work financially without substantial additional subsidy.

In the fall of 1988 Mayor Schoemehl launched a new city program to strengthen neighborhoods, "Operation ConServ". One component of ConServ is neighborhood-based, not for profit housing corporations. The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation (SDCHC) incorporated in November, 1988.

The SDCHC was deemed "the purchaser/developer of last resort" for Rosedale Square. The city's LCRA, ConServ and SDCHC negotiated the sale of the project to the SDCHC during the spring and summer; SDCHC closed on the project in August, 1989.

The City's LCRA holds a note and deed of trust against Rosedale Square for \$1.3 million. SDCHC does not make monthly payments against the note but when the project, or any part of it, is sold, proceeds go to the LCRA. Any income the property generates while SDCHC owns it must either be reinvested in the project, or turned over to Operation Impact, who controls SDCHC funding. SDCHC may use the project to leverage additional funds from a private lender, but any loans against Rosedale Square must finance improvements to Rosedale Square.

The SDCHC Board, with assistance from Operation Impact staff, is developing a long range plan for Rosedale Square through an issue analysis. This process involves listing criteria for the project in priority order and cross referencing the criteria with alternative plans for the project. A priority goal for SDCHC with any property is to increase owner/occupancy. The board is looking at ways to achieve this goal in Rosedale Square.

While long range plans are developed, SDCHC is working to stabilize the project, bring the buildings up to code, lease as many units as possible, and increase the use of off-street parking. In addition to painting, carpet cleaning and general minor repairs, some of the project's units need substantial work to make them ready for lease. Four air conditioner compressors had to be replaced at the end of August and there are serious problems with the lateral sewer lines in at least one of the buildings.

SDCHC has resolved to acquire up to three additional vacant/problem properties adjacent to, or nearby the Rosedale Square project. SDCHC has contracts on two of these properties, one of which has been accepted. The goal is to help stabilize the area around the project. SDCHC is working with Alderman Dan McGuire and residents of 6000 Washington on a plan to expand the Rosedale Square Project Area to make tax abatement incentives available to the entire block.

The current manager of Rosedale Square is Pat Sweet, Personalized Property. She is under contract with Operation Impact on behalf of the SDCHC. Any questions, suggestions, or comments about the Rosedale Square project should be directed to Nancy Farmer at the SDCC, 862-5122.

Drug Treatment For Gay Clients Opens

In The West End

A chemical dependency treatment program designed specifically for gay clients has opened at 5707 Waterman in the city's Central West End. The Lambda Program is the first outpatient chemical dependency treatment program for gay clients in the midwest and is a new program owned by the Recovery Resource Center, a network of outpatient chemical dependency treatment centers based in St. Louis.

The Lambda Program has been created to speed recovery for chemically dependent clients who are gay. "Honest communication is the key to making group therapy effective," says Eddie Grosman, Lambda's Director of Community Relations. According to Grosman, gay clients hide important facts about their lives which can slow or even block the recovery process appreciably. "We think it is important to provide a climate in which clients can honestly express themselves without fear of negative feedback based on their sexuality," explains Grosman. Grosman says

that he has known many gay men and women who struggled for years with recovery because they felt that they were not understood or accepted in traditional treatment centers.

For more information about the Lambda Program call Eddie Grosman at the Lambda Program, 361-2638.

Natural Streams Campaign

Volunteers are needed to help with the Natural Streams Campaign, a statewide effort to preserve some of Missouri's most outstanding rivers from such threats as pollution, excessive development, soil erosion, and unsafe all terrain vehicles. Individuals can help by gathering petition signatures so that the Natural Streams Act gets placed on the ballot, or can help with various office tasks. If you care about the clean and scenic streams of Missouri and would like to protect them, please call the Natural Streams Campaign at 361-7447.



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Free Weatherization Services Available

The Human Development Corporation is offering free weatherization services to eligible low income renters and homeowners in the City of St. Louis and Wellston. The services include: caulk and reglaze windows, replace broken window panes, replace primary windows and doors, weatherstrip, wrap water pipes and hot water tank, insulate heat ducts/insulate attic, cement and caulk holes on foundation. This work is performed on an "as needed" basis.

To take advantage of this program homeowners/tenants must complete an application and be certified as qualified and eligible. (Income for a family of four cannot exceed \$15,125). Residents of Skinker

DeBaliviere need to apply at the Gateway Center located at 3626 S. Grand. However, if enough neighbors express interest in this program, HDC will send a staff member to our neighborhood to take applications. Call SDCC, 862-5122, if you are interested in this program. The Council will schedule a time for HDC to have staff at their office, 6010 Kingsbury.

The weatherization services are offered on a first come first served basis. It is currently about a six week wait from the time an applicant is certified to the time the services are provided. Call the SDCC right away to get your name on the application list.

In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

As a small boy, Paul remembered that he had enjoyed the excitement of trimming the tree and opening the presents. Having all of the relatives over to dinner was fun because he could play with his cousins, Sidney and Hugh. They were all about the same age and would go hunting in the woods, looking for deer or even mountain lions. They never saw a deer, of course, and, fortunately, there didn't seem to be any mountain lions around. It's not real clear who benefited most from this absence, Paul or the mountain lions.

Sidney and Hugh were nice enough, as cousins went, but they didn't have a spirit of adventure. "You pansies," Paul used to say to them, and then they'd do anything to show that they weren't what Paul had said. Once when they were around seven or eight, Paul had dared them to put maple syrup on all the dining room chairs before dinner. Sidney and Hugh later told Paul that Uncle Ebert was so mad afterwards, that he spanked them all the way home. And they lived in Prutledge, over thirty miles from Paul's house. Uncle Ebert's wife, Ellen, was a slow driver too.

The time when the excitement of Christmas started to wear off was when Paul was in the third grade, or maybe it was the fourth, and saw Santa putting on his beard. Paul had gone to the town to sit on Santa's lap and tell what he wanted for Christmas. Oh sure, by then he knew that there really wasn't a Santa, not the kind you read about anyway, but, still, mom asked him if he wanted to go and he thought "I better go, just to be safe."

When they got to the store, Santa's chair was empty and the sign said, "SANTA WILL RETURN IN 5 MINUTES." Paul told his mom that he had to go to the bathroom, real bad, and she gave him permission, along with a stern frown. The stern frown was because he had been in trouble in school that week for playing in the rest room.

Paul and Johnny Drew had jammed up a commode with toilet paper and Henry Barner's stocking cap. They kept flushing the toilet, standing on the toilet seat and watching the water gush on to the tile floor. Because they had put a STAY OUT sign, borrowed from Mr. Eckert's science room, on the door, no one bothered them until Mrs. Chapman, whose classroom was immediately below, came to see why there was water dripping into her room from the ceiling. When Paul met with the principal, Mr. Migneco, "It seemed like a good idea at the time," was all that he could say to defend himself.

"Don't dally, young man," his mom said, and he skipped out of the line for Santa and into the hall. He knew that the men's room was on the right and was just about to turn to the right when he saw a sign on the door to the left. "Electrical Warehouse—Keep

Out" the sign said, and that was all the incentive Paul needed. He went inside anyway. He was the kind of kid who knew that any sign with "Keep Out" on it was protecting something worth pursuing.

Paul looked around, peering to his left behind the door, and saw Santa. Or at least someone who looked like Santa, kind of. This man had on Santa's outfit, including black shiny boots and a red stocking cap. But he was putting on his grey beard! He was hooking it over his ears, like it was sunglasses!

Paul's eyes widened and his mouth dropped. Santa—well, the guy dressed like Santa—looked at Paul and his mouth dropped too. For a minute they both stared at one another, each wanting to speak, neither knowing what to say. Finally the Santa broke the ice, "What are you doing in here, kid?" he asked, with some indignation.

Without skipping a beat, Paul, having regained some of his composure, said, "Your boot's on fire!" and pointed at Santa's foot. Santa looked down and Paul kicked him in the shin, as hard as he could.

"OW!" screamed Santa. He looked at Paul with a mixture of surprise and pain on his face. Again, Paul didn't miss a beat, and kicked Santa in the other shin, even harder this time. Paul was on the school soccer team, a fullback, so kicking was something that he was pretty good at.

"YEOW!" yelled Santa. His beard fell to the ground. He reached down and began to rub each shin; left arm on left leg, right arm on right leg. Paul yelled, "You dirty old fake!" and began to back away.

Santa was now fully bent over, pulling up his pants legs to see what his shins looked like and muttering something to himself. Paul quietly backed up a few steps, yelled "Geronimo!" and began running as fast as he could towards Santa. Then it all happened at once: Santa looked up, Paul's body hit Santa, and Paul's mom opened the door.

Santa crashed, falling on his back with Paul on top of him. They both fell into a large stack of empty cardboard boxes. Paul immediately began to scramble, putting as much distance between himself and Santa as possible. Climbing around and through all of the boxes was an adventure in itself. He imagined that he was in the desert somewhere, crawling across shifting sand dunes and seeking fortune.

The boxes toppled and began to fall. It was good that they were empty, because Santa and Paul were quickly buried under the boxes. Paul's mom was buried too; Paul couldn't see anything, but he could hear a muffled, "PAUL!" from the other side of the room and he knew that she was there. He also knew that he was in big trouble. "This could be worse than the time I glued the cat to the couch," he thought.

One of the boxes fell on top of the table holding Santa's "Playboy" Magazine and his lit cigar. The cigar rolled to the floor where it ignited some cellophane wrapping paper. The cellophane burst into flames

which caused one of the boxes to start burning. The box was located by the sprinkler system, so no sooner had flames began to rise from the box when water began streaming out of all of the sprinklers in the room.

The sprinklers poured water into the electrical box which caused all of the lights in the room to go out. The room was black as pitch, but the sprinklers kept pouring. They made a hissing sound, much, much louder than garden hoses. Paul didn't know what to do; he could hear Santa cursing and pushing aside boxes looking for him; he could hear his mother continuing to yell his name, her voice becoming more and more angry. All he could think was, "It seemed like a good idea at the time."

There was a noise from the side of the room, someone was opening the door. Paul looked up but couldn't see anything; it was just as dark outside the room as it was inside the room. "What the hell's going on in here?" yelled a strange voice.

Paul was silently crawling towards the noise. He knew that the noise was from the hall and that, for now anyway, the noise represented freedom. A few people had flashlights by now, so that when he got into the hall he could see what was happening. Everything was dark, except for the flashlights, and water was gushing everywhere. People were screaming and slipping and falling. Paul could hear his mother calling to him from the room. "Oh my," thought Paul, "this could be worse than the time I put the fleas in the collection baskets at church."

Just then all of the lights flickered and went on. As if by magic, everyone stopped for a moment and looked around. Paul's eyes widened by what he saw: there was water everywhere, the floors were drenched, the merchandise was soaked, several people were sitting on the floor where they had obviously slipped and fallen, and the flashing red lights shining through the window indicated that the fire department had arrived in response to the sprinkler alarm. Worst of all, Paul turned his head and saw his mother and the Santa, his red pants legs pulled up to his knees, standing together and looking at him.

—TO BE CONTINUED—

Arch Celebrates 25th Anniversary With Student Essay Contest

October 28, 1990 marks the 25th anniversary of the Gateway Arch which honors the explorers, settlers, and pioneers who helped expand America's boundaries to the West Coast. To celebrate the silver anniversary of this nation's tallest monument the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial is holding a student essay contest.

The contest provides students the opportunity to express in essay form their thoughts about the Gateway Arch now that it has towered twenty-five years above the Mississippi River on the historic St. Louis riverfront.

Students compete for prizes in four divisions and each division is judged separately. Divisions are: elementary school; intermediate level; high school; and college. A first prize of \$100 and a second prize of \$25 is awarded in each division. The teachers and schools of the top winners in each division also receive awards which are presented at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Symposium banquet scheduled for October 1990. The essay contest is made possible in part by a grant from the CAMELOT/Special Projects Fund of the Arts and Education Council of Greater St. Louis.

All essays must be received on or before June 1, 1990. Judging takes place summer, 1990. For questions, or to receive the complete guidelines for the essay contest, call or write: Executive Director, Jefferson National Expansion Historical Association, 11 North Fourth St., St. Louis, Missouri 63102, 425-4468. No contest guides will be mailed after March 15, 1990.

Classifieds

FOR SALE: Beginner's stamp collection. \$50. Includes \$32 (face value) of uncirculated U.S. stamp blocks. Also invalid's commode for \$25. 725-4239.

Scholarships Available At Washington University

Up to 10 full-tuition scholarships will be awarded to talented college-bound black high school students next year through the John B. Ervin Scholarship Program at Washington University in St. Louis. Washington University is now accepting applications for the program, which was inaugurated in early 1987. To date, Washington University has awarded 33 Ervin Scholarships.

The application deadline for the 1990-1991 academic year is January 15, 1990. Washington University established the merit-based program in honor of Ervin, a nationally recognized black educator and former dean of the university's School of Continuing Education and Summer School.

Under the scholarship program, freshmen will receive renewable scholarships of full tuition and an annual stipend of \$2,500 for four years of undergraduate study at

Washington University. Tuition for the 1990-1991 school year is \$13,600.

The scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit and community service. The university will provide further support to recipients who demonstrate additional financial need. The scholarships are renewable each year, provided the students maintain a satisfactory academic record.

To apply for the scholarships, students must: apply for freshman admission to Washington University; submit an Ervin Scholars application; submit two letters of recommendation; and write two original essays. Interested persons may write to James E. McLeod, chairman of the John B. Ervin Scholarship Committee, at Campus Box 1089, Washington University, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130, or call 889-6000.

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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