

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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FEBRUARY 1990

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

"Ragtime To Rock 'N Roll: St. Louis African American Music" Opens At History Museum

From the turn of the century to the present, St. Louis has been the cradle of African American music and musicians, giving the city a world-wide reputation for producing ragtime, jazz, blues, Gospel and rock 'n roll. Opportunities to perform regularly in the river city have never equalled the number of talented musicians with roots in St. Louis, and many left to achieve national and international fame.

"Ragtime to Rock 'n Roll: St. Louis African American Music" opens at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park on Sunday, February 4 with an exhibition and programs that will continue throughout 1990. Honoring St. Louis' black history, the exhibition focuses on individuals and music that brought recognition to their hometown.

Musical instruments, posters, photographs, record albums, sheet music, performance clothing and awards will be on exhibit, and music recorded by St. Louis artists will play in the gallery.

Musicians represented include Scott Joplin, who lived and worked in St. Louis at the turn of the century. Because ragtime was made popular through piano rolls, the exhibition will feature a player piano from the period with ragtime piano rolls.

As St. Louis' black population increased with migration from rural Missouri and the South, the city became a home for the blues. Largely a musical genre by and for African Americans, the blues expressed the joy and pain of daily life and traced its origins to the South. Blues singers who played piano and guitar found a ready audience in saloons and on the streets, though St. Louis' most talented bluesmen, such as Henry Townsend, did not receive recognition until the 1960s. He will be featured in the exhibition and will perform in a free program on Sunday, February 18.

A new kind of sacred music—Gospel—also made its way to St. Louis. Though some of the founders of the Gospel movement came from a blues tradition, their mission was evangelism, not entertainment. St. Louis' most influential Gospel musicians achieved national recognition before Gospel moved into mainline black churches and commercial concert halls. Considered one of the pioneers of Gospel

music, Willie Mae Ford Smith was a major influence on artists during the 1950s. The exhibit will include her performance robe and other memorabilia.

St. Louisans created some of the earliest and most innovative rock 'n roll music. Rooted in the cultures of working class Americans, rock 'n roll transformed blues and southern hillbilly into a new kind of music. With its expression of rebellion against the establishment, rock 'n roll appealed to young people looking for a distinct voice. Working in St. Louis in the 1950s were Ike and Tina Turner and Chuck Berry, who will be represented in the exhibit.

Coordinated with the exhibition will be a series of programs featuring African American musicians in St. Louis.

"Jazz in the Afternoon," featuring Fontella Bass, opens the series of special programs honoring African American music in St. Louis. On Sunday, February 4 at 2 p.m., the renowned jazz singer will perform, accompanied by the David Hines Ensemble. Featured vocalist with the Oliver Sain Revue in the 1960s, Bass eventually moved to Chicago. In 1965 she recorded "Rescue Me," which rose to the top of the rhythm and blues charts and was one of the biggest-selling records made by a St. Louis artist.

Following the performance, the History Museum will host a reception celebrating February as Black History Month.

Also scheduled in conjunction with the exhibit are the following programs:

"Henry Townsend Plays the Blues"—Sunday, February 18, 2 p.m.

"Ragtime in St. Louis," with the St. Louis Ragtimers—Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m.

"The Lady Sings the Blues," featuring Barbara Carr and her band—Sunday, March 4, 2 p.m.

Young Audiences Presents "A Salute to St. Louis," with musical selections written by hometown "greats," performed by the Gateway Expansion Project, Sunday, March 11, 2 p.m.

"Rockin' with Johnnie Johnson," the original Johnny B. Goode, who played piano with Chuck Berry—Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m.



Henry Townsend, blues legend, will be featured in the History Museum's new exhibition "Ragtime To Rock 'N Roll: St. Louis African American Music," opening in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park on Sunday, February 4. Townsend will sing the blues and play the piano and guitar in a free program on Sunday, February 18 at 2 p.m.

Photo by Bill Greensmith

What's Your Historic District Know-How?

Just for fun, below are ten questions relating to the Skinker-DeBaliviere/Parkview/Catlin Tract Historic District and the building permit process. Answer true or false. The answers follow (but don't cheat!).

- 1) Buildings located in historic districts maintain and increase property values at a higher rate than similar properties not within a district.
- 2) The general boundaries of the Skinker-DeBaliviere District are the City Limits (300 feet west of Skinker), Lindell, Delmar and DeBaliviere.
- 3) In order to do work in a historic district, a property owner needs to hire an architect.
- 4) Tuckpointing, replacing front downspouts, storm windows, and new roofs require permits.
- 5) Demolition of a garage or a rear porch does not require a permit because such work is not visible from the street.
- 6) Chain link fences are not allowed in the Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District.
- 7) Building permits are required to protect property owners and the public from shoddy workmanship and materials.
- 8) Retaining walls such as those in terraced front yards do not require building permits.
- 9) If a property owner hires a contractor, the contractor is the one responsible for obtaining the necessary building permits.
- 10) Maintaining or rehabbing a house in a historic district is more expensive than in other areas because materials and labor cost more.

Answers:

Continued on page 4

FIRST CALL FOR THESPIANS

For anyone who doesn't know it already, community theatre is a great tradition in Skinker DeBaliviere. Several productions were sponsored annually in the 1970's and after nearly a decade the tradition was revived in 1986 with "Penelope, Pride of the Pickle Factory."

EVERYONE is invited to participate; there's always a part for anyone who wants to act, sing or dance, and there's lots to do behind the scenes with the set, props, ticket sales, etc. Tom Clear, who directed last year's production of "Too Many Nights in a Barroom: A Burlesque Melodrama," will direct again this year. If you are even remotely interested in being part of the production, which will be scheduled late in May, come to the SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury, Thursday, March 1, 7:15 p.m. If you want more information, call SDCC, 862-5122.

Thank You...

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

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Metro Link Presents Station Models

Metro Link, the light rail system being built by Bi-State Development Agency, is hosting a series of community meetings to present the designs of the tunnel and at-grade stations.

There will be a public meeting on Monday, February 12, 1990 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council office, 6010 Kingsbury. Metro Link staff and design team members will present the models and schematic design for the station platform canopies and downtown tunnel stations.

Arts in Transit, the organization sponsoring the involvement of artists in the design of Metro Link, will introduce Art Link, a community program targeting seven Metro Link neighborhoods, one of which is Skinker-DeBaliviere.

Metro Link, St. Louis' 18-mile, 20 station light rail project, is scheduled to begin service in 1993.

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:

Ray Breun	Katie Kurtz	King Schoenfeld
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For complete list of sizes and rates, write The Times, 6010 Kingsbury, 63112 or call 863-7558.

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 20th 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 6010 Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 20th of the month.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I must write to your paper as a senior citizen living in a senior's building. I cannot believe that your Community Council would deny we seniors a drug store within walking distance of the Winter Garden and the other seniors' buildings on Pershing and Waterman. You don't seem to mind a halfway house in the neighborhood.

Your board members are not considering older residents. We could fill our prescriptions in our neighborhood. Shame on you. This neighborhood is not in Ladue. Come down to earth; think of us seniors.

The jazz club—NO!
The Walgreen's—YES!
We need it.

Sincerely,
A. Smith

Dear Editor:

I write on behalf of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors in response to a letter from a resident of the Winter Garden Apartments, 5708 Kingsbury. In that letter, A. Smith questions why the SDCC opposes the proposal to locate a Walgreen's at 301 DeBaliviere, on the lot south of the DeBaliviere Retail Centre.

In late August/early September, 1989, the developer of the project, Gary Mestman Realty, confirmed that he had an agreement with Walgreen's for this site. A member of the SDCC board was aware that neighbors on 4200 West Pine have problems with the Walgreen's located north of them on 4200 Lindell. The SDCC Executive Committee met with a representative of the 4200 West Pine Block Organization on September 27 to find out what kinds of problems they have experienced and how Walgreen's had responded to their concerns.

The representative from West Pine outlined problems in four areas:

1. Public consumption of alcohol/public drunkenness—Buying a bottle of liquor at the Walgreen's and consuming it on the premises (parking lot, alley, etc.) was common. Residents of the north side of West Pine, directly behind the Walgreen's store, frequently called the police to rouse drunks who had passed out in their alleys and even in their back yards.
2. Security—Pan-handling on the parking lot was also common. Incidents of purse snatchings and muggings increased after Walgreen's opened.
3. Traffic—The West Pine residential street experienced an increase in commercial traffic. Trucks were often left idling at the store, creating noise and fumes which effected the residential neighbors.
4. Litter—In addition to liquor bottles and cans, food wrappers, bags, receipts, etc. created an ongoing litter problem for the area. Nearby residents complained that the trash containers at the store are always full.

Representatives of Walgreen's were contacted about these concerns by West Pine neighbors and they were also invited to neighborhood meetings. Residents of West Pine felt their concerns were completely ignored.

On September 27, members of the SDCC board, residents of 5700 DeGiverville and 5700 Waterman met with the developer, Gary Mestman, and on November 16 they met again with the developer and representatives of Walgreen's.

The site plan, building design, and proposed signage for this project were reviewed at these meetings. There was concern expressed that the proposed site plan is significantly different than the plan which was approved nearly three years ago. The building is at the back (west) of the lot with the rear of the building approximately 30 feet from the nearest residence on the south side of DeGiverville. In addition, the commercial dumpsters and loading dock are located on the north side of the building—approximately 100 feet from the front doors of residential buildings on the south side of DeGiverville.

Following this review and discussion of problems and concerns the board unanimously adopted the following resolution at the December 4 board meeting:

"Resolved, That the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors opposes the proposal to locate a Walgreen's on DeBaliviere at DeGiverville, Site A of the DeBaliviere Retail Center.

"The Site plan and building design, and the high volume nature of the business, particularly the high volume sale of discount priced package liquor are not compatible with the residential character of the neighborhood.

"The Board is concerned that residential neighbors of the Walgreen's at 4200 Lindell have experienced problems with litter, loitering, public consumption of alcohol, public urination, security and traffic related to the business.

"The Council believes a Walgreen's on DeBaliviere at DeGiverville would be a detriment to the entire Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood."

Copies of the site plans and other drawings related to this project are at the SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury. If anyone would like to see the plans or talk in greater detail about any of the meetings or SDCC's position, please call me, 862-5122.

Sincerely,
Nancy Farmer
Executive Director

Residence: 862-5071
Office: 367-6100

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February Calendar

Continuing

- Our City: St. Louis Urban Views:* Paintings, prints and drawings from the Missouri Historical Society's collection depict St. Louis from the 1800's to present. History Museum. Thru July.
- Prints of Richard Bosman to be exhibited at Washington University Gallery of Art through March 11. Call 889-4523 for more information. Free.
- Stephen Greene in St. Louis: Images of Suffering and Salvation* (Exhibition) at St. Louis Art Museum, thru February 11. Gallery 120.
- "Down by the Gravois" exhibition at the History Museum. Photographs documenting German South St. Louisians from 1900s to 1930. Free. See related article.
- Photographs by Dr. Alfred Schwartz at the University City Library Gallery through February 28.

February

- 3 The Mury Student Theatre Project presents "Rip Van Winkle" as part of Children's Theatre Festival; Wash U's Mallinckrodt Ctr. Room 208; 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Call 889-6543 for ticket information.
- Brazilian brothers Sergio and Odair Assad, of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society, will appear at CASA, 560 Trinity. 8 p.m.
- 4 "Jazz in the Afternoon": performance by Fontella Bass and the David Hines Ensemble opens new exhibition at the History Museum in Forest Park. 2 p.m., reception follows. Free.
- Ragtime to Rock 'n Roll: St. Louis African-American Music:* exhibit focuses on ragtime, blues, Gospel, classical, jazz and rock 'n roll music. History Museum. See related article.
- 5 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 7:00 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- Paleoanthropologist Richard E. Leakey, director of Kenya's Wildlife Services, will deliver the William Ferguson Memorial Lecture at 4 p.m. in Washington U's Graham Chapel.
- Pianist Abbey Simon in concert at CASA, 560 Trinity, 8:00 p.m.
- 7 Orville Schell, a journalist specializing in China, will speak at 11:00 a.m. in the Graham Chapel at Washington University.
- 9 Craft Alliance hosts the exhibit *Form and Function: Teapots II*. 6640 Delmar. Hours are Tuesday-Friday 12:00 to 5 p.m., Saturday 10:00 to 5 p.m. Through March 3.
- 10 Wash. U's Performing Arts Dept. presents "Princess Rabbit"; in Room 208 Mallinckrodt Ctr.; 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.; \$5 for parents, \$3 for children. Call 889-6543 for more information.
- The Waverly Concert—One Performance Only!* Dedicated to the friends of Edison Theatre; 8 p.m.; 6445 Forsyth. Call 889-6543 for more information.
- 12 Public meeting to present the light rail system designs of the at-grade stations. Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. 6010 Kingsbury. 7:00 p.m. See related story.
- 13 Parkview Agent's meeting. 7:30 p.m. Call 361-0880 for location.

- 14 Photojournalist Mary Ellen Mark, will deliver the Cultural Celebration lecture in the May Department Stores Auditorium in Simon Hall. Call 889-4620 for information on the lectures.
- Robert B. McKay, Professor of Law Emeritus at New York University, will discuss "The Rise of the Justice Industry and Decline of Legal Ethics" in the Graham Chapel at Wash U. 11 a.m.
- J. Patout Burns Jr., Professor of Religion at the University of Florida, will deliver the Edward G. Weitin Lecture in Religious Studies, in Wash. U's Steinberg Hall auditorium. 8 p.m.
- 15 Harry Brod, associate professor at Kenyon College, will speak on "The Making of Masculinities: Issues for Men Today" at 4 p.m. in the May Dept. Stores Company Auditorium in Simon Hall.
- 16 Two solo exhibitions: Joseph Piccillo presents "The J Series, A Suite of Drawings" and "Landscapes" by Nancy Rice at Elliot Smith Gallery.
- 18 St. Roch's Early Childhood Development Center Open House, 6040 Waterman. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- "Henry Townsend Plays the Blues": blues legend Henry Townsend performs. History Museum, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 19 St. Louis Black Repertory Company performs "Takunda," a play about South Africa's apartheid system. St. Louis University's Busch Memorial Center. 7:00 p.m. \$2.
- 21 "Tintypes," featuring music by Scott Joplin, George M. Cohan and John Phillips Sousa, performed by St. Louis University Fine Arts Dept., University Theatre, 3733 West Pine. Call 658-2998.
- "Tensions in the Contemporary Roman Catholic Church" is the title of the Circuit Lecture by Rev. Charles Curran, a Roman Catholic priest, at Wash. U's Graham Chapel; 11 a.m.
- "Burn This"—a romantic thriller by Lanford Wilson will be presented by the Theatre Project Company, at New City Theatre, 5209 Waterman. For information call 531-1301. Thru March 11.
- 22 Kate Shea, Commissioner of Heritage & Urban Design, speaks on historic district standards. Sponsored by the Rosedale Neighborhood and SDCC. 6010 Kingsbury. 7:00 p.m. See article.
- Author Maya Angelou, Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest Univ. will speak at the Assoc. of Black Students/Council of Students of Arts & Sciences lecture; 4 p.m.; Graham Chapel.
- 23 American Indian Dance Theatre: A 26 member troupe of champion Native American dancers will perform at Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth; Feb. 23-24; 8 p.m. For more information call 889-6543.
- 24 Saint Roch School Association is sponsoring a 50's-60's dance in the Parish gym.
- American Indian Dance Theater—Native dances, songs and costumes; 2 p.m.; Washington U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth. For children ages 8-12.
- Exhibition of more than 100 paintings and drawings by George Caleb Bingham will be on display at the St. Louis Art Museum. Through May 13.
- "Mirandy and Brother Wind": dramatization of Patricia McKissack's award-winning children's book by the St. Louis Black Repertory Theater. History Museum, 10:30 a.m. Free.
- 25 Classical Diversions Ensemble Program III—"The Dance is On"; Graham Chapel, Washington University. 2 p.m. For more information call 889-5581 or 256-6782.
- "Ragtime in St. Louis": St. Louis Ragtimers with Trebor Tichenor perform music of Scott Joplin and other turn-of-the-century composers. History Museum, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 26 Jeffrey Siegel, pianist, will perform "The Romantic Music of Clara and Robert Schumann" at CASA's auditorium, 560 Trinity; 8 p.m. Call 863-3030 for information. \$9.
- 28 William Conway, director of the New York Zoological Society, and a specialist in zoo and conservation biology, will deliver the Thomas Hall Lecture; 11 a.m. Call 889-4620 for information.

March

- 1 Tea Lecture: "Peanut Delight: A St. Louis First," culinary historian Suzanne Corbett demonstrates peanut butter recipes, tea with pastries served after. History Museum 1:30. \$5.
- I Solisti Italiani* with Michala Petri, recorder soloist. CASA, 560 Trinity. 8:00 p.m. Tickets from \$8 to \$25.
- 2 Saint Roch Children's Science Fair will be held in the Church Hall through Sunday, March 4.
- Spalding Gray, the definitive performer of autobiographical monologues, will make his first St. Louis appearance in Wash U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth; 8 p.m.
- Shakespeare's Heroes*—by the National Theatre of Great Britain; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Edison Theatre, Washington University, 6445 Forsyth. For ticket information call 889-6543.
- 3 "Endgame": by Samuel Beckett, presented by National Theatre of Great Britain; at Washington U's Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth. 8 p.m. For more information call 889-6543.
- 4 "The Lady Sings the Blues," featuring Barbara Carr and her band. History Museum 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 5 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.

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Library Kiosk Honors Black History Month

by Mary Ann Shickman

St. Louis was an exciting place in 1963. Gaslight Square was in full swing and the Arch was being constructed but discrimination in jobs and housing were major problems for black St. Louisans. On August 31, more than 150 demonstrators, sponsored by the Congress on Racial Equality, gathered in front of the Jefferson Bank to protest against discrimination in hiring. Although most of the bank's depositors were black, there were no white collar jobs for them. The Kiosk has several books that tell of civil rights struggles both in St. Louis and in the rest of the country.

A Life in the Struggle: Ivory Perry and the Culture of the Opposition is by George Lipsitz. Perry grew up in Arkansas in a sharecropper family, and served in the Korean War before settling in St. Louis. The racism that he encountered all through his life prepared him to actively participate in the civil rights struggle of the sixties. In St. Louis he met Bob Curtis, a dedicated young lawyer who served as the leader of CORE. Percy Green, another strong personality in the civil rights leadership, and white members of the Catholic Worker organization. Lipsitz describes the nonviolent demonstrations held at Jefferson Bank and a Christmas boycott of Famous Barr. He tells how Perry brought a very young Jesse Jackson to St. Louis in an effort to fight against discrimination in public housing. Perry, without a high school education or many social advantages, helped a community mobilize to act in social protest against racial injustice.

Another book about a St. Louis activist is Dick Gregory's autobiography *Nigger*, which was published in 1964. Born in poverty like Ivory Perry, he finished his education at the University of Illinois at Carbondale, after distinguishing himself in high school as president of his class and athlete of the year. At Carbondale he was a track star before going on to become one of America's premier comedians. He has worn many hats during his life, including civil rights activist. He led protest marchers in Birmingham, Alabama where he was jailed, spoke to a voter registration rally in Greenwood, Mississippi and was also jailed in Chicago for demonstrating. He has written several other books including his most recent on nutrition.

Mississippi Burning by Joel Norst is based on the screenplay by Chris Gerolmo and tells of three civil rights workers who were murdered by whites in Mississippi. In the story two FBI agents investigate the crime. Another book on the same subject is *We Are Not Afraid. The story of Goodman, Schwerner, and Chaney and the Civil Rights Campaign for Mississippi* by Seth Cagin.

In 1960, John Howard Griffin wrote his book *Black Like Me*. A white man who specialized in race issues, he admitted to himself that he really knew nothing of black problems. So he went through medical treatments to change his skin color and shaved off his hair in order to journey through the deep south in an attempt to experience the life of blacks who lived there. His story makes troubling but important reading.

These books and others are available at the St. Louis Public Library Kiosk.

The Kiosk now has a new copy machine. Copies can be made for 10 cents apiece.

Saturday Children's Programs At History Museum Celebrate Black History

The St. Louis Black Repertory Company brings a dramatization of Patricia McKissack's award winning book, *Mirandy and Brother Wind* to open the History Museum's series of Saturday programs for children. On February 24 at 10:30 a.m., the Black Rep's touring company will enact the story of Mirandy as she tries to capture the wind for her partner, to win first prize in the Junior Cakewalk. The free program will be presented at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park.

Mirandy and Brother Wind was named a Caldecott Honor Book by the American Library Association and received a Coretta Scott King Award. The story was adapted for the stage, for children kindergarten

through eighth grade, by Ron Himes, artistic director of the Black Rep.

Black entertainers have been at the forefront of new directions in 20th century music. Children look to stars such as Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson and Bobby McFerrin, who help keep alive the dream that "you can do anything when you believe in yourself."

On Saturday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m. Young Audiences presents "If You Believe..." which celebrates the black influence on American culture. Kingsley Leggs, singer, dancer and actor, and Charles Creath, a nationally-recognized pianist, composer and conductor, team together to present the free program.

"Our Black Heritage" Celebrated At The Old Courthouse And The Gateway Arch

January 14, 1990 begins "Our Black Heritage," the National Park Service's celebration of the black community's contribution to St. Louis's history and the westward expansion of our country. Black heritage is saluted at the Old Courthouse and the Gateway Arch with various special programs and exhibits through March 31.

A juried exhibit of original mixed media art by Missouri black artists and a poster exhibit acknowledging the accomplishments of black women are available, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., daily at the Old Courthouse

January 14 through March 31. Special programs presented at the Arch and Old Courthouse include musical celebrations, story telling, and historic re-enactments of Buffalo soldiers and the Dred Scott trial. Special programs are available January 14 through March 31.

Join the National Park Service and the Jefferson National Expansion Historical Association as they pay tribute to "Our Black Heritage." Call 425-4465 for reservations and additional information.

"Mothers' Morning Out" At Resource Center

Thursdays will be "Mothers' Morning Out" at the Young Learning Center of the YWCA Women's Resource Center beginning in January. The Center, located at 6665 Delmar, will offer play time and a snack to children ages 2-5, while their mothers do errands, shop, or just have some time alone.

Fees for "Mothers' Morning Out" are \$35 per month (\$31.25 in months with 5 Thursdays); a discounted rate of \$40 per month (\$30 in months with 5 Thursdays) is offered for two children from a family. Registration is necessary, and payment is required at the beginning of the month.

The WRC's Young Learning Center also offers a weekday morning pre-school for children ages 2-5. Parents may enroll their children for one, two, three or five days a week, or may bring them on a drop-in basis from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Fees vary according to the number of days the child is enrolled, and as with all YWCA programs, may be adjusted according to ability to pay.

For more information about "Mothers' Morning Out" or the Young Learning Center, call Valerie Robinson at the Women's Resource Center, 726-6665.

Historic District Continued from page 1

Answers: 1-T 2-T 3-F 4-T 5-F 6-F 7-T 8-F 9-F 10-F

If you found some of the answers surprising, or want to know why the answers are what they are, or if you want to know more (and there is much more to know), save Thursday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. for a slide program by Kate Shea, Commissioner of the Heritage and Urban Design Commission. The location will be the SDCC office at 6010 Kingsbury.

The S-D Historic District Review Committee and the Rosedale Neighborhood Association are co-sponsoring this special meeting to help prepare Skinker-DeBaliviere residents for the building-by-building code inspections. The inspections, which are part of Operation ConServ, will be in early spring. Many repairs necessary for code compliance require either building permits or special Heritage permits. Of course, the talk will be of vital interest to all building owners within the District whether their properties presently need work or not.

Ms. Shea will describe the historic district standards, why we have such standards, how they are interpreted, and how

they are enforced. Slides will be shown to illustrate standards as well as to present good and bad examples of work. Ms. Shea will also explain the information and procedures necessary for filing applications, the time applications require, and the appeal process. In addition to Ms. Shea, other members of the Heritage staff will be introduced.

Please plan to attend. The Skinker-DeBaliviere/Pariview/Catlin Tract Historic District represents the high standards of residential and small-scale commercial architecture prevalent in the first three decades of the twentieth century. Now as we enter the century's last decade, maintenance, energy retrofitting, new construction, rehabilitation, and demolition are all considerations for property owners. Decisions on how and what to do with our buildings affects all of us, today and in the future.

If you cannot attend, there will be follow-up information in the April issue of *The Times*. Also, call the SDCC office for information, 862-5122.



Heritage and Urban Design
Commissioner Kate Shea

Photo by King Schoenfeld

St. Roch's Early Childhood Development Center
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Neighbors Commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Members of the audience at the Martin Luther King, Jr. commemoration.



Grace and Peace Fellowship, New City School and the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council sponsored the Commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 7, 1990. Dr. Alice Windom presented the keynote address, "The King Legacy and the Need for Multi-Cultural Education."



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Photos by King Schoenfeld

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Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Thank heavens we don't publish this paper in January. I'd then feel obligated to offer you New Year's Resolutions. Now I don't have to tell you about them, because I broke 'em all. However, some folks out there apparently decided this was the year to start those cards and letters coming in. So I am going to start out by thanking Ottie Edwards, Mary Ann Shickman, Heidi Dowgwillo, Debbie Genung, Sue Rothschild, and Mary Vanicelli (yes, my wife) for helping me with goodies for this month's column.

This is the first issue of the new year, so we have to start with babies. Tom and Ginny Klevorn, still exiled to Belgium from their true home on 61XX Washington, had another baby (#2), but details didn't come in by presstime. Joe and Nancy de Betten-court of 62XX Washington became the parents of a little girl, Catherine Ann, on January 25th. This is their second child, as well.

Kathy Duckett became a grandmother for the first time in January. It's a Sign of the Times that a baby shower had to be held for the grandmother-to-be. Oh, sure, they had a baby shower at work for Kathy's expecting daughter-in-law. This young lady, however, is an engineer; can you imagine the things that her co-workers bought her? Well, I'm sure Buckminster Fuller will be proud of the swingset design, etc., but it seems the guys came up a bit short in the Baby Buntings department. Some of the local ladies, to assure an adequate supply of more traditional New Baby Necessities, held this Grandmother Shower for Kathy.

Malcolm Lloyd, who lives right across the street from the Kingsbury Kiosk, received his second Phoenix Award from Mayor Schoemehl in December. For those of you who may have missed Mary Ann Shickman's profile of this accomplished paramedic a couple of issues ago, the Phoenix Award is given to a person when he successfully revives someone who is clinically dead. Imagine, snatching back another human being who had already passed through Death's door. Now imagine doing this twice. Congratulations, Malcolm, on your award. Nobody could ever ask anyone for more.

Those of you who attended the Edible Art show at Four Corners will undoubtedly remember the Corn Dog Mysticism exhibit, which traced this venerable and ancient



Mayor Vincent Schoemehl presented the Phoenix Award to Skinker-DeBaliviere resident Malcolm Lloyd at a City Hall ceremony in December. The Phoenix Award is given to those who resuscitate a person who is clinically dead. Lloyd is a crew chief with the City of St. Louis Emergency Service.

cult back through the veil of time. Bill Christman of Christman Studios (6014 Kingsbury) is currently showing this terminally tongue-in-cheek work in Boston. It is on exhibit at the Charlestown Working Theater, where Bill also designed the set for a play running there at press time.

Nita Littlejohn, perhaps better known as The Jersey Lilly from 1988's SDCC melodrama *West of Pecos*, is a lawyer in real life. She was recently promoted to Division Counsel at the McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Division.

Shannon and Dale Purves of 63XX Pershing will be moving to Chapel Hill, NC. Shannon will be an editor at the *Algonquin Press*. Dale is the new Chairman of Neurobiology at Duke University Medical Center.

Debbie Genung of 63XX Washington rates a double mention. Not only has she started a new business, she has located her office in the SDCC area. Her firm, Gilbert-Dolan Group, is located at 325 De-Baliviere, Suite 323. The company markets advertising specialty/promotional items and executive gifts. This young outfit already lists several major firms as clients and Debbie assures me that she can provide a promotional product to fit almost

any program.

While all this was going on, Dee and Gary Hayes of 61XX McPherson went to Puerto Vallarta over Christmas. You folks may remember that Dee is the prosecuting attorney who obtained a conviction in the purse-snatching/ murder outside Talayna's last year. Dee and Gary also went through the joyous but exhausting experience of adopting a baby from south of the border last year. Guess they deserve the break.

Meanwhile, the Hayes' next-door neighbor Mary Schmit is recovering very well from surgery and is already back to work on a part-time basis. She has to get in shape fast, as the Schmits will be hosting an exchange student from France in a few weeks.

Ottie's Corner:

Ottie had an experience the other night that goes to show how deceiving appearances can be.

Officer Edwards observed a young man walking through the area and observing the houses carefully. Since this man's method of observation bore a resemblance to a procedure known in some circles as "casing," Ottie stopped the individual to ask him some questions.

Block Meeting News

On Tuesday, January 23, the 6000-6100 blocks of McPherson and Kingsbury held a block meeting at the SDCC office. Sgt. Bob George, Sgt. Beverly Noble, Officer Jerry Barnes and Officer Tom Bergman of 7th District Police were guests at the meeting. Two items that were discussed are important to our entire neighborhood:

WHEN SHOULD YOU CALL THE POLICE? ANYTIME YOU SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS—breaking glass, a gun shot or an unfamiliar person hanging around your block. If you don't call, the police don't know something may be wrong. The police would rather be called for a false alarm than after a crime has been committed.

HOW SHOULD YOU CALL THE POLICE? DIAL 911—even if it is not an emergency, the 911 operators dispatch all patrol cars.

Sgt. Noble and Officers Barnes and Bergman have only recently been assigned to Skinker DeBaliviere; their area includes City Limits to Kingshighway, Delmar to Lindell. They were welcomed by Kingsbury/McPherson neighbors and given a special thanks—all three of them were off duty the night of the block meeting.

A passing female pedestrian stood by and listened while Edwards heard the man assert that he was a student, into electronics, and active in Job Corps. At this point, the woman interrupted, identified herself as a lawyer, and berated the officer for harassing this fine well-dressed (he was wearing a \$200.00 jacket with matching slacks) man of such obvious good antecedents. She then departed in a huff. Edwards finished hearing the man's story and escorted him out of the area.

The next day, this chap was caught in a house where he did not seem to belong. He was into electronics, all right; the television, VCR, and a stereo system from this house were all in his possession.

A record check, however, upheld his claim to be an electronics student. For five years he had attended a special school where he repaired televisions, etc., for other inmates.

Officer Edwards regrets not having taken the name of the lawyer mentioned above, but since she seemed to be a local resident, he hopes she will recollect the incident and contact him. This way, he can get her in touch with this upstanding electronics student, who seems to be in need of a good lawyer.

More Crime Prevention Tips From Operation Safestreet

Who do you think is the most likely to be a victim of crime? Who do you think is the least likely to be a victim of crime?

Understanding the who, what and where of victimization can not only help protect you against crime, it can also help reduce your fear of crime.

The most likely persons to be victims of crime are young males. The least likely to be victims of crime are senior citizens!

If you didn't know that, then maybe there's a hole in the information. So, let's try to fill it.

Look around you. Most of the crimes that victimize us occur when we've given someone the opportunity to victimize us.

When there are few people around to hear or see criminal activity that is an opportunity. Examples of that are 1) streets that are vacant during the day when people leave for work and school. Peak hours for burglary are from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and occur most often to back or basement doors; 2) waiting for a ride, using a night time automated bank teller, parking on a huge parking lot, all away from lights and activity; 3) the wee hours of the night when thieves find easy prey of GM cars parked on the street without any visible theft deterrent.

Homemakers and retired people home during the day can be extremely helpful reporting strangers in the neighborhood with an accurate description called in to 911. If the fellow cutting through the yards or scavaging aluminum from the dumpsters is legitimate, he will only be inconvenienced for a moment.

A great way to begin the new year will be WITH your car still in your possession. Please consider a collar placed permanently on the steering column, or an alarm.

There is another warning. An exception. Senior citizens are most likely to be victims of purse snatching and fraud. It might do all purse dangles well to carry only what you need, and maybe not carry a purse at all.

Be smart. Stay alert. Report it if it doesn't seem "right" to you. We want to keep you safe. Call Operation Safestreet at 622-3444.

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SDCC: Walgreens Opposed, Fund Raising Proposed

by Catherine Forslund

Along with their normal business matters, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) dealt with the challenge of a proposed DeBaliviere Walgreens that clearly was not welcomed by some area residents.

Attendance at the December and January meetings was as follows: December—Randy Bailey, Margaret Campbell, Nancy Farmer, Mary Fleener, Karleen Hoerr, Martin and Margie Jaffe, Steve Lewis, Bob Mahon, Jim Navies, Shirley Polk, John Roach, Roy Roncal, Lana Stein, Roy and Eva Tagger, Neville Vatcha and Jack Wright; January—Roy Bell, Frank and Flossie Driscoll, Bill Duncan, Nancy Farmer, Mary Fleener, Georgi Fox, George Genung, Kathleen Hamilton, Low Hamilton, Karleen Hoerr, Bob Mahon, Dan McGuire, Phil Roberts, Roy Roncal, Arline Webb, Kathy Wobus, and Jack Wright.

The Board corrected and accepted the December and January minutes and treasurer's reports.

December Highlights

Martin Jaffe and John Roach gave the Board an update on the status of the 5700 McPherson project. After receiving Community Development Agency approval for the proposal three years ago, they are still awaiting the formal funding commitment. They are especially frustrated for the the existing owner/occupants on the block who are waiting for the Phase I alley and sidewalk repairs and landscaping to begin and for the funding to cover their home facade repairs. The presentation was for informational purposes and any help that SDCC could give would be appreciated.

The Board reviewed the proposed 1990 SDCC budget and discussed a number of contribution problems with the usual funding agencies. A number of fund raising ideas were brought up and will be considered in the near future. Possible additional grant funding is also being considered.

An election was held to add another at-large member to the Board. After nomination 62XX McPherson resident Lou Hamilton was unanimously elected.

A discussion of the proposed Walgreens included a review of the problems of the Lindell Walgreens neighbors, traffic congestion, adjacent resident concerns, deed restrictions on pint liquor sales and other area pharmacies. The Board then passed a resolution to formally oppose the Walgreens.

Wright reviewed plans for the 1990 Martin Luther King, Jr. commemoration which SDCC will co-sponsor with New City School and Grace and Peace Fellowship.

January Highlights

Duncan gave a ConSery report. Plans are still in place for the spring exterior inspections. They have been very successful of late in removing derelict cars in the area. The neighborhood plan is still in process and will be for another month or two. It will cover the area bounded by Forest Park Parkway, Skinker, Delmar and DeBaliviere.

Wright reported on the great success of the M. L. King, Jr. commemoration which

included speakers, singers and many children and filled Grace and Peace Fellowship.

McGuire reviewed the plans to extend the existing Rosedale redevelopment area to include all of 6000 Washington and property east of Des Peres to the railroad tracks. A successful meeting was held with property owners who will reconvene to review the required legislation when it is ready.

Although McGuire had no new information about the status of the Fina station, he and Farmer expect that it will not be abandoned, but re-let to new management. Discussion was held as to the requirements for loss of the existing non-conforming use permit. More information on that will be presented at the next meeting if applicable.

Webb, Wobus, and others reported the absence of a security guard at Talayna's of late. Farmer will write them a letter requesting a situation status report.

The Board discussed guidelines for use of the SDCC office space by neighborhood groups and residents. Farmer will draw up a written policy for Board approval.

The February Board meeting will convene 1/2 hour early to develop the numerous fund raising proposals raised by the Board. Farmer welcomed new Board member Lou Hamilton while bidding farewell to Phil Roberts who will be relocating to Seattle.

Director's Report

At Farmer's request the Board approved the 1990 CDA Contract.

The Board also approved retaining CPA Lee Schulte to do the SDCC 1989 year-end financial report.

Farmer reported that the City excise commissioner denied the liquor license application of Charles Wren for his DeBaliviere jazz club. The reason was lack of the requisite number of owner and tenant signatures.

The American Institute of Architects annually selects an area for which several member architects spend about 12 hours developing plans/proposals. The event, called the charrette, has been planned for Delmar from the City limits to DeBaliviere.

Two area Christmas parties are planned, one for the Kingsbury Kiosk and one for the City West Business Association.

Walgreens design proposal was rejected by the Heritage and Urban Design Commission due to loading dock location and the building's proximity to residences. They have just started their liquor license application process, but have not yet applied for a building permit or zoning variance.

SDCC is the primary contact for the light rail Arts in Transit program for the Forest Park Station. A meeting for interested neighbors will be held at the SDCC offices on February 12.

Farmer will be submitting the annual grant request to the Regional Arts Commission for the informal concert series and the community theater event for the 1990-91 year.

News From Social Security

50th Anniversary Of 1st Check Marked

Fifty years ago last month—in January 1940—the first Social Security check was issued. Ida Mae Fuller of Brattleboro, Vermont received it. It was for \$30. Since then more than \$2 trillion in Social Security payments have been made and the system is still working despite dramatic changes in the program and in the country.

In 1940 the minimum wage was thirty cents an hour. The Social Security tax rate was 1% and the maximum Social Security tax you could pay for the year was \$30. Ida Mae Fuller's first check was for more than the total Social Security taxes she had paid in her life.

The tax rate for 1990 is 7.65% for employees and employers. For self-employed people the rate is 15.3%. The maximum Social Security tax paid by an employee this year alone will be more than the total maximum taxes for the first 33 years of the program. And today it takes an average of two years to recover all the taxes paid by a worker.

The original Social Security Act of 1935 provided only retirement benefits and scheduled first payments for 1942. In 1939 the law was amended. Benefits for wives and widows were added and the first check was moved up to 1940. Today Social Security is a package of benefits. It provides retirement, survivors, and disability protection in addition to Medicare.

The original Social Security law only covered workers in commerce and industry. Later, agricultural, domestic, self-employed and many government workers were added. Today over 95% of the work force is covered by Social Security.

In 1940 the total Social Security benefits paid were \$48 million and the average

retirement benefit was \$23 per month. This year's total will be \$255 billion and the average will be \$566. Social Security beneficiaries under age 70 must be retired to get benefits. In 1990 someone age 65 to 69 can earn up to \$9360 and still be considered fully retired. In 1940 that limit was \$15 per month.

Social Security is expected to be around for at least another fifty years or so. According to its trustees, the system is in good financial health until 2046.

If You Retire Before 62

Early retirement is growing in popularity. Part of the reason is that an increasing number of people are becoming eligible for a pension from their employer.

Well over half of all non-farm workers are under a pension plan. Workers with above average earnings are especially likely to be eligible for a pension.

Here are some important facts you should know if you retire before age 62.

First, age 62 is the earliest age you can get Social Security retirement checks.

Second, your Social Security check may be smaller than you figured. This is because benefits are based on your average lifetime earnings that were covered by Social Security. Five years of low earnings can be disregarded, but if you retire early a few years with no earnings will be averaged in, and that will lower your benefit.

Third, you can lose insured status for disability benefits if you have a big gap in your earnings record. Recent work is a requirement for disability benefits. In most cases, this means at least five years of work in the Social Security system during the ten years before onset of disability.

For more information about Social Security benefits and the effect that early retirement may have on them, call Social Security at 1-800-234-5772.

SDCC Committee Reports Parkview

Fleener and Mahon reported that the Agents have a 1990 budget and new officers. They will be continuing with capital improvements, maintenance and tree replacement. Genung and Mahon discussed the problems with the west gate and explained that the Agents are working on a schedule of opening times. And the lights went out again.

Housing Corporation

Hoerr described their acquisition of 6036 Washington. This 6-family will be added to the Rosedale Square Project. Their board continues to examine alternatives to achieve the goal of increased owner/occupancy. Plans are being prepared for review by a structural engineer and architect.

Rosedale

Roncal reported that the RNA board met to begin 1990 planning. They made a contribution to the Times and reviewed the budget. Overall, 1989 was a successful year and they hope for an additional fund raiser in 1990. A membership meeting is tentatively planned for late February.

Beautification

Forslund discussed the bulb planting that had been done around Rosedale Square and the Rosedale barricades. Other bulbs will be planted on Des Peres, at the east end of McPherson, in Lucier Park and at each end of DeGiverville.

Medicare Changes For 1990

There's good and bad news about Medicare in 1990 due to repeal of Medicare Catastrophic Coverage. Unpopular financing provisions were repealed. But benefits will be lost and premiums that Medicare beneficiaries pay for private insurance to supplement their Medicare will be higher.

The Catastrophic Health Insurance surtax was cancelled as of January 1989. Officially called a supplemental premium, the surtax would have raised most of the funds for the coverage. Medicare beneficiaries who included the surtax in computing estimated tax payments will receive refunds when they file their 1989 tax returns.

The rest of the financing was to come from higher monthly premiums for Medicare. Premiums were \$4 per month higher in 1989 to help pay for Catastrophic coverage. That additional charge was cancelled as of January 1990. The higher monthly premiums collected in 1989 will be used to pay for the catastrophic benefits that 1.1 million people received in 1989.

Those premiums had been scheduled to increase to \$33.90 in 1990. With repeal the premium will be \$28.60. Unfortunately, Social Security recipients won't notice any difference in their checks for several months. It will take Social Security until May's checks to make the adjustment. Refunds of excess 1990 premiums will begin in June and will take about three months to complete.

The repeal legislation contains provisions related to "medigap" insurance policies. It requires insurance companies to rewrite medigap policies to reflect changes in Medicare coverage brought about by the repeal. Medigap policies are Medicare supplements sold by private insurance companies.

Medicare has a toll-free phone number (1-800-888-1998) set up to answer questions about the changes.



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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

This was a fun Christmas! I got all kinds of neat presents (things that I like but don't need like books and cigars and chocolate) and some o.k. presents (things that I don't like but need like clothing). One of the most intriguing presents was a book that was left somewhat anonymously on my porch. The card that accompanied the book said, "To Tom, from the Famous Writers' School." This puzzled me. I didn't know that Famous or, for that matter, Dillard's even had a Writers' School!

The book is entitled *Mrs. Byrne's Dictionary of Unusual, Obscure, and Preposterous Words* (University Books, published by Citadel Press). Wow! Some people collect bottle openers, some people collect quilts, and some people collect dust (generally lethargic people). I collect clocks and words. You see, I have a plastic box on my desk containing hundreds of 3x5 vocabulary cards. These are cards that I make when I read a word that I don't know, and then I work on learning the word. So right away I understood that this would be my kind of book.

It's not often that I use this lofty position as a columnist in *The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere*, St. Louis' oldest and bestest neighborhood newspaper, to tout a product, but I'm doing so now. Rush out and immediately buy this book! If you can use even some of the words it offers, your conversations will be reduced to rubble. You won't spat with your spouse, carp with your co-workers, or be recusant with your relatives. They won't be upset with you, because they'll never understand you. But, hey, as long as you know what you're saying, who cares if they understand you, right?

I've always prided myself on my vocabulary (not wanting to be just another "pretty face"). After all, my philosophy has always been why say something with a one or two syllable word that everyone can understand when you can use a three or four syllable word that has everyone scrambling for the dictionary! With this bias, I've always tried to *facilitate* progress toward a solution rather than help solve problems; I view myself as an *iconoclast* rather than a rebel; timing is *propitious*, not just good; with my beard, I'm *hirsute*, not hairy; and I'd rather be the *cyenosure* than the center of attention.

I opened Mrs. Byrne's book and my eyes lit up! Talk about obscure, these words make *arcane* seem commonplace! It's laden with words that I've not seen or heard! It's chock full of words that would be foreign even to an avid Scrabble player! It's brimming with words that are guaranteed to confuse, obfuscate, and puzzle! What more could one want???

Volunteer Peacemakers Needed

World Peace One, Inc., a new non-profit organization, seeks volunteers who will be trained to assist others in developing productive and peaceful lifestyles (environmentally, interpersonally, economically, healthwise, etc.). Through workshops, small groups, and one-to-one meetings these volunteers inform and support people as they create their "Peace Pacts." These Peace Pacts represent a stretch towards more peaceful living, as well as a plan for personal growth.

World Peace One is a not-for-profit corporation which helps individuals, families and organizations create and live out fully peaceful lifestyles.

Our training program offers personal development, communication and presentation skills which enable you to be a peacemaker. For information on this and other volunteer opportunities, please call Tim Cimino at 725-4241.

Here are some of the real treasures that I selected randomly—honest!—from *perusing* the book (rather than just reading it): *monstrum* (n. a box for relics; a muster of soldiers); *collywobbles* (n. pain or looseness in the bowels); *plouplou* (n. an infantryman, French slang); *cagamosis* (n. an unhappy marriage); *capric* (adj. goatlike; coming from a goat); *laaba* (n. a storage platform high enough to be beyond the reach of animals); *pericharicia* (n. excessive and violent rejoicing); *gallmatias* (n. gibberish; confused, meaningless jargon); *sackbut* (n. an ancestor of the trombone); *pericitation* (n. exposing to danger); and *tardigrade* (adj. slow-moving or sluggish). Saying these words quickly is a bit like trying to recite the Rosetta stone, whether or not you even know Rosetta.

By trade I'm an educator. That means that I know how to help—oops, facilitate—learning! It's easy: one simply copies what's to be learned over and over and over until it's memorized. It worked for the monks in the Dark Ages, and I haven't found anything better yet! If it's painful, it has to be good for you, right?

So, to help you, the reader, and me, the writer, absorb those wonderful charms from Mrs. Brynes book, I've decided to use all of them in one smoothly flowing cogent paragraph! This paragraph, then, will be copied over and over and over by quill pen by quill pen until it's mastered until it's mastered until it's mastered. Here goes and, oh yes, have fun copying and copying and copying!

One afternoon when school had been called because of snow, Johnny opened his *monstrum* and began to play with his *plouplou*. Johnny's parents, Henrietta and Aesop, were in a *cagamosis*, so Johnny often resorted to fantasy games where he would pretend that the *plouplou* were in a state of *pericitation*! Henrietta was actually very charming, but Aesop was, even on his good days, *capric*! He had a grey goatee, often smelled, and loved to eat paper. When he spoke, it was often *gallmatias*.

Suddenly Johnny heard the *sackbut*. Henrietta was calling him to dinner. He put away the *plouplou* in a desultory fashion and moved *tardigrade* toward the dining room. As he came closer to the door, he could hear the dishes crashing amid laughter. A *pericharicia* was taking place before his very eyes! Aesop reared up (on his hind legs!) and fell against the *laaba*, knocking two custard pies and a gallon jar of tepid prune juice down to the floor. Johnny knew what was coming next, and he felt a sensation of *collywobbles*. Yes, he was going to have to clean all of the dining room floor! Alas, he was lucky that he has his *plouplou* to help!

There, that wasn't too hard, and I bet you didn't even know that I went to law school! Next month: VOCABULARY QUIZ! How many of these words can you use in the same sentence with Dan Quayle?



Mail Delivery, c. 1915. By wagon, or, if necessary, by sled, mail was delivered twice a day in the early 20th century. View of an unidentified street from the exhibition, "Down by the Gravois: Scenes of South St. Louis," at the History Museum in Forest Park.

"Down by the Gravois" Exhibit Shows Life In German South St. Louis

Richard Gruss, known as the "Gravois Photographer," documented the German-American South Side in his photographs, taken between the turn of the century and 1930. The History Museum in Forest Park has selected eighty images of daily life in South St. Louis from the Richard Gruss collection for the exhibition "Down by the Gravois: Scenes of South St. Louis." The photographs are on view in the Jefferson Memorial Building through April during regular museum hours, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday, and there is no admission charge.

The collection of 15,000 glass plate negatives depicts Gruss' South St. Louis. Purchased in 1964 from his studio after his

death, the negatives were recently donated to the Missouri Historical Society, which operates the History Museum, by H. K. Donnelly.

Richard Gruss (1877-1964) emigrated to the United States from Germany in 1900, married his German sweetheart, and settled on Gravois Avenue in 1910. He converted the second story of his home into a portrait studio and spent part of his time photographing community events. His photographs of the South Side portray the established German-American settlement, at a time when more than one out of every seven St. Louisans were of German birth or origin.

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.

Nothing else, however, is changing. The same management and staff is here to maintain our commitment to the Central West End and other traditional neighborhoods in St. Louis.

Just think of us as your same friends on DeBaliviere with the slightly new name.

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