

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 21, NO. 1

APRIL 1990

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Operation Brightside Blitz Day Is May 5

Operation Brightside's annual Blitz Day is scheduled for May 5 for our area. "Blitz Day" is a clean up program which brings together neighborhood volunteers, city services, and private industry to clean up and beautify city neighborhoods, particularly alleys and other public areas. Mark your calendars and plan to spend a few hours cleaning your alley on May 5.

Through Operation Brightside, the city will provide volunteer workers with tools (shovels, rakes, brooms and weed whips), seedling flowers (marigolds and petunias this year) to plant in public areas, and wood chips for use on public or private property. The City's refuse division will collect both regular and bulky trash at least two times in each alley between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Blitz Saturday.

If you wish to order flowers, please contact your block captain or the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. If you are willing to volunteer as a Block Captain or to work on a special project, also call the SDCC at 862-5122.

Please follow these important trash instructions on Blitz Saturday (and most of them throughout the year!):

1. Trash pick-up will start at 10 a.m.
  - a. Trucks will come several times throughout the day.
  - b. Please stop putting trash out at 3 p.m.
  - c. If trash has not been picked up at 3 p.m., call the **Blitz Hotline** at 781-4556.
2. Place everything at your normal refuse collection point.
  - a. Place all small items into trash dumpsters, being careful not to overload. Large and bagged items should be placed 4 feet away from dumpsters.
  - b. Place large items, such as stoves and sofas, into one pile at least 4 feet away from dumpsters.
  - c. Make sure **nothing** is within 4 feet of dumpsters or the container **will not** be emptied.

- d. Do **not** block a street, alley or sidewalk with bulky items.
- e. Place items at your regular trash collection point, not on private property.
- f. Do **not** shovel loose debris into a pile and expect city employees to load it.
- g. Limbs and branches **must** be bundled.

Skinker-DeBaliviere has been lucky to have many blocks where lots of the neighbors pitched in on Blitz Day. Be sure you are one of them this year.



Photos by King Schoenfeld

Blitz Day in 1989 brought out these Skinker-DeBaliviere neighbors.

## Door To Door Inspections Completed

Approximately 12 inspectors from the City's Building Division began door-to-door inspections of the exteriors of all buildings in our neighborhood March 1st. The Division projected the inspections would take two full weeks, but they finished well ahead of schedule on March 9. "There were some objectors," said Jerome Turner, Building and Inspection Supervisor I, "but the majority like this program because they know it keeps their property values up. A good inspection program preserves the stature of the community."

The exteriors of over 1100 buildings were inspected and over 700 of those were found to be in violation of one or more city codes. The property owners with code violations were sent a cover letter and a list of the violations cited. If you received a citation, please note that in the fourth paragraph of the cover letter it states "I have scheduled a reinspection of this premise on or about..." and it gives a date in May—60 days from the date the letter was written (date at the top of the page.) **THIS DATE IS CORRECT.** In the next to the last paragraph, it states that "...it will be necessary to refer this matter to the City Counselor's Office for possible prosecution within the next 30 days, if compliance...has not occurred!" **THIS IS NOT CORRECT.** It should read, "within the next 60 days."

The door-to-door inspections, when and how to get building permits to make needed repairs, and resources available to owners for making repairs have been discussed on these pages in the December, February, and March issues. To reiterate some of the major points: The inspections occurred at the request of the neighborhood (through the Planning Committee and the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council) and Alderman Dan McGuire, as part of the Operation ConServ Program. The inspections were no more severe than the random or response-to-complaint inspections that occur throughout the year. City Codes cover basic building safety and maintenance which protect the property owner, often prevent minor problems from becoming major and more costly, and code enforcement improves neighborhoods and increases the value of property. Nearly all work on the exterior of buildings in our neighborhood requires a permit; call 622-3313 before you schedule or begin work.

Finally, the Building Division will work with you in correcting violations. If you can't comply with the code within 60 days, call the inspector who signed your letter and explain why. The Building Division will grant extensions if you are making a good faith effort to correct problems. The SDCC, at 862-5122, may also be able to help if they are aware of your special circumstances.



Photo by Roy Roncal

## Letters To The Editor

To the Editor:

Spring is here, and like the swallows to Capistrano, the St. Louis Public Schools are returning for another increase in property taxes. This time it is for a \$100 million bond issue to provide more funds for the Capital Improvements Program.

Least we forget, since 1985 the public schools have benefited from two postponements in the property tax rollback which was intended to offset the effects of increased assessed property values due to state mandated reassessments. The result has been a steady increase in property taxes. My own taxes have increased 250% within four years.

I am not convinced that present city property owners should bear the responsibility of reversing in a few years the decades of neglect of the public schools. I am not convinced that the city's redevelopment policies result in a fairly shared property tax burden. I am also not convinced that the needed funds could not be found, at least in part, within a budget which already supports a system known to be top heavy in administration and an excess of school buildings in operation.

I do not plan to support Proposition 1, and suggest that others consider doing the same. Just say no.

Robert Dowgwillo

To Businesspersons in the Community:

My name is Linda Emerson, and I was recently hired as Breitmayer Community Minister at Grace United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Waterman and Skinker. The Breitmayer Ministry is currently developing a program for a job referral service for unemployed people in the community.

There are many problems present in the community right now, and unemployment is one we have chosen to attack first. We feel that people and businesses in the community can help us and also receive benefits through a strengthened community. That is why we are contacting you.

There are several things that you can do to help us:

1. Notify us whenever you have or know of any job openings, so that we may refer people to you to apply for the position.
2. Share your expertise. We will be setting up various training sessions for our applicants. There will be a need for people of various professions to instruct the sessions. Would you or someone in your business be able to help with a one-day seminar?
3. Make a donation. We are in need of funding for our program. Would your business be able to help?

These are ways in which businesses that are supported by the community can give something back to the community. If we can be of any service to you, don't hesitate to call us. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



State Representative William L. Clay, Jr.

## A Fair Stake

by State Representative William L. Clay, Jr.

The quality of education holds a direct correlation to the quality of our lives. The quality of our people, our businesses, our property, and our services are all linked to the strength of our school systems.

Currently, the St. Louis City School District is fraught with problems which keep it from being competitive with others in the metropolitan area. Many of these problems may be traced to the structure of the school board itself.

The present system calls for 12 board members elected in citywide elections. This has resulted in a board paralyzed by indecision and factionalism. Most of the board members do not even live in the area where the majority of the district's children reside.

I have introduced legislation in the House this session (HB 1273) which would correct this situation. This bill has already been approved by the House and is now under consideration by the Senate.

Under the terms of my measure, the board would be reduced to nine members. This odd number would greatly assist the decision-making process by eliminating any possibility of tie votes.

Seven of these members would be elected from subdistricts, which means they would live in the area which they represent and be elected by voters to whom they are directly responsible. This revision would provide members who are more knowledgeable of the subdistrict they represent as well as designated members that parents may contact with their concerns.

In addition, the new structure of the board would create two at-large districts, representing both the northern and southern sections of the city, so that the board would not lose its over-all perspective.

Critics of my proposal have stated that subdistrict representation would lead to parochialism. If this argument were to hold true, all of our current board members elected at-large have a biased interest in particular facilities since all of them live near specific schools. In fact, parochialism should be even more deep-rooted since the majority of them live near the same facilities.

With my re-structuring, six other subdistrict members are certainly sufficient balance to offset any factionalism.

As for the charge that my plan would institutionalize racial antagonism, actually the opposite would be the case.

My proposition would lessen racial resentment since subdistricting would encourage a more racially balanced composition on the board.

The voters would also benefit from my proposal because school board members would be elected every four years instead of the present six year terms. By this reduction, board positions would come up for review by the public more frequently.

Until the St. Louis City School Board is organized to provide better representation to the whole community and members who are directly responsible to specific neighborhoods and school patrons, we will continue to struggle as a district.

An old adage states: "No man with four aces demands a new deal!"

For too long, only a few people have held the trump cards in our school district. The time has come to reshuffle the deck and give all of our citizens a fair stake in the game.

## 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 Braun	Katie Kurtz	King Schoenfeld
Robert Dowgwillo	Venita Lake	JoAnn Vatcha
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(10% discount 5 to 8 issues contract; 15% discount 9 issues contract.)  
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.

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# April Calendar

## Continuing

"More Fun Than Bowling" will be performed at the New City School, 5209 Waterman; 8:00 p.m.; Through April 15. For more information and reservations call 531-1301.

*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.

Paintings, prints, sculptures, ceramics and glasswork by students of Wash. U's. School of Fine Arts will be on exhibit during April. For more information, call 889-4523 or 889-4643.

Mary Sprague: *Paintings and Drawings* and Ronald Christ: *Paintings, Drawings, Prints* Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker. Through April 29.

## April

- 1 Dello Thedford leads the Voices of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in a concert of Gospel music at 2:30 p.m. at the History Museum. Free.
- 2 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- 3 The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio will perform at CASA as part of the Great Artist Series; 8 p.m. Single tickets are \$25, \$21, \$17, \$12, \$10, \$8. Call 863-3033 for information.
- 5 Stephen Greenblatt a Shakespearean scholar will speak on "Resonance & Wonder: The New Historicism in the Representation of Cultures."—Room 110, January Hall; 4:15 p.m.
- 7 *From Ragtime to Rock 'n Roll*—David Hines plays trumpet and piano, shows the development of ragtime, jazz, blues, Gospel and rock 'n roll; 10:30 a.m. in the History Museum. Free.
- The CASA Artists will present *Opera Scenes*—April 7 and 8; 8:00 p.m. at CASA, 560 Trinity Ave. Call 863-3033 for more information. Free.
- 8 *Joplin, Jazz and a Latin Beat*—Laclede String Quartet plays 20th century music by black American composers; 2:00 p.m. at the History Museum, in Forest Park. Free.
- 9 Performance by the CASA Percussion Ensemble artists will be held at 8 p.m.; 560 Trinity. Free.
- 10 **Parkview Agent's meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Call 361-0880 for location.
- 14 COCA presents "Beowulf" in the third performance of the Frank Fowle Children's Theater Series at COCA Theater; 2:00 p.m. \$7.00 per child or adult. Call 725-6555 for more information.
- Craft Alliance Gallery hosts the First Annual Saint Louis Gallery Association Members Exhibit. Through April 29. 6640 Delmar.
- 16 **Workshop for homeowners on financing home repairs and improvements and on garage remodeling.** Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman, 7-9 p.m. Sponsored by SDCC and Parkview.
- 17 Silvan Iticovici, violin and Carole Tafoya, piano will perform at CASA, 560 Trinity; 8 p.m. Call 863-3033 for more information. Free.
- 18 Tea Lecture: "The Hearth In The Home: 19th Century Log Cabin Quilts"; History Museum; 1:30 p.m.; Reservations requested by April 16, call 361-9265. \$5. Tea and pastries served.
- 19 28th Ward Regular Democrats Ward meeting. New City School, 5209 Waterman at Lake. 7:00 p.m.
- A performance by the Early Music Ensemble will be held at CASA; 560 Trinity. 8:00 p.m. Free.
- 20 "Making The Beast" presented by Dangerous Visions Productions; 8 p.m.; Zone 8 Nightclub, 75 Maryland Plaza; call 434-6600 for tickets, \$10; Thur., Fri., Sat. evenings through May 19.
- Laurie Anderson, part composer, part stand-up comic will appear at the Edison Theatre, 6445 Forsyth; April 20 and 21; 8 p.m. For more information call 880-6543.
- 23 A performance by the CASA Chamber Ensemble artists will be held at 8 p.m. Free.
- 26 Bolcom & Morris with William Bolcom, piano and Joan Morris, mezzo-soprano will perform at CASA, 560 Trinity; 8 p.m. Single tickets: \$25, \$21, \$17, \$12, \$10, \$8.
- 27 Washington University's Edison Theatre presents "Susan Marshall and Company"; April 27-28 at 8 p.m., and April 29 at 2 p.m. Call 889-6543 for more information.
- 28 *A Forum On Art, History and George Caleb Bingham;* History Museum followed by a special viewing of the Bingham exhibition at the Art Museum; 1:30-6:30 p.m.; space limited; call 361-9265.
- 29 "Music Sweet, Hot and Blue"—Pianist Jimmy Jones and musicians featured in his book, play blues and jazz favorites; History Museum, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- String Favorites—Featuring the Pachelbel "Canon" and Barber's "Adagio for Strings"; presented by Classical Diversions; Graham Chapel, Wash. U.; 2 p.m. Call 889-5581 for more information.
- 30 Performance by the Brass Chamber artists will be held at 8 p.m. CASA, 560 Trinity. Free.

## May

- 4 The St. Louis Dancers will give a farewell performance on May 4 and 5 at 8 p.m. and May 6 at 2 p.m. in Wash. U's Edison Theatre. Call 889-6543 for more information.
- 5 **Operation Brightside Blitz Day!**  
New City School Annual Highlights Auction, 5209 Waterman Ave., 6:00 p.m. Call 361-6411 for information.
- 7 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting.** 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- 10 World premier of the multi-media arts performance *Sanctuary*. Art Museum, 8:00 p.m. Also May 12 and May 13 at 4:00 p.m.

# Thank You...

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

- |                                      |                                   |
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| Venita and Rich Lake                 | Tyrone and Gabrielle Wilson       |
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Jazz pianist Jimmy Jones will perform at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park on Sunday, April 29. The free one-hour performance of jazz and blues favorites begins at 2 p.m.

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## Acquisition Auction Gala To Benefit New City School



New City School will have its annual auction on Saturday, May 5. Planning it are, from left, Richard and Mary Wolf, Auction Festivity Co-chairs; Dr. Thomas Hoerr, School Director; Michelle Swatek, Development Director; Jim and Dr. Jane Orling, Acquisition Co-chairs.

The New City School Annual Highlights Auction will be held Saturday, May 5, 1990 at 5209 Waterman Avenue, featuring cocktails, silent and oral auctions, and an array of hors d'oeuvres and confections throughout the evening. The theme for this year's gala will be "The Masquerade Ball" with a colorful selection of masks and dress to adorn the crowd. Decorations will be by Opera theatre's John Roslevich with Gary Griffin.

Items auctioned will include special theme parties, events at the Fox Theatre, gourmet dinners at some of St. Louis'

finest restaurants, private catered dinners in your home, accompanied by selections from members of the St. Louis Symphony, lunch with St. Louis' own Jerry Berger, Kevin Horrigan, or dinner with Ramon Gallardo, a personalized drawing of your child by local artist Mary Engelbreit, your very own personal dress rehearsal from Theatre Project Company for up to 240 friends, a day's hunt at the New London Hunt Club, trips, a cruise for seven days to the destination of your choice on Norwegian Cruise Lines, a 1904 roll-top desk,

antiques, artwork, and much, much more!

The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres during the silent auction. The oral auction begins at 8:30 p.m. with dancing and an array of delicacies to follow.

Proceeds from the Auction are earmarked for programs and improvements at New City School. Tickets are \$40 per person and reservations will be taken until April 27. For information, please call 361-6411.

## Financing Home Repairs Seminar On April 16

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council will sponsor a workshop for homeowners on financing home repairs and improvements on Monday, April 16, from 7-9 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman. Six institutions will be represented at the workshop: Boatmen's Bank, Central West End Bank, Neighborhood Housing Services, Roosevelt Bank, Urban League and Visitation Credit Union. In addition, a representative from Birdsong Company will make a presentation about repair and replacement of garage doors.

Each of the representatives will make a 10-15 minute presentation about what types of programs their organization offers. After a general question and answer period the meeting will adjourn at

8:30 p.m. From 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. the representatives will be assigned a booth where neighbors can pick up brochures, ask more specific questions, and in some cases, pick up applications.

Information on low-interest loan programs that are funded in part with City Federal Block Grant funds, and reduced interest loans that are funded by the Missouri Housing Development Commission will be discussed. Loans with market rate interest but more flexible eligibility requirements and terms will also be discussed. See JoAnn Vatcha's article in the March issue of the Times, "Building Inspections Begin: What You Can Do" for more details about these programs before attending the workshop.

The Birdsong Company specializes in

the installation and repair of garage doors. The police department and Operation SafeStreet advise individuals to use garages if they have them; secure, off-street parking is one of the best defenses against auto break-ins and theft, both of which are on the rise nationwide. Birdsong stocks hardware and replacement parts for repairing older wood doors and they can equip even these doors with automatic openers. The SDCC is not promoting this particular company. Property owners are encouraged to solicit bids from several companies and to check each company's references before entering a contract.

For more information about this workshop or any of the presentation, call SDCC at 862-5122.

## The Carpenter And The Kiosk

by Mary Ann Shickman

Residents of Skinker DeBaliviere will be rolling up their sleeves and putting on their jeans in order to satisfy the building standards required by the flood of Operation Conserve inspectors in the neighborhood. The St. Louis Public Library Kiosk stands ready with books full of hints and instructions to help residents with their repairs. Here are some titles to ask for:

*Old Houses: A Rebuilder's Manual*; by George Nash.

*Do It Yourself Roofing And Siding*; by the editors of Sunset Books and Sunset Magazine.

*How To Buy And Fix Up An Old House: A Guide to House Renovation* prepared and edited by R. M. Bruns and Staff of Home Tech System.

*How To Replace And Install Doors And Windows*; by William T. Jeff.

*Concrete Floors And Sidewalks. A Practical Treatise Explaining The Molding Of Concrete Floor And Sidewalk Units*; by Albert A. Houghton.

*Lawns, Ground Cover, and Vines*; by Rosanne W. Mattson.

*Better Homes And Gardens Deck and Patio Projects You Can Build*; by the editors of Sunset Books and Sunset Magazine.

*Renovation, A Complete Guide*; by Michael Litchfield.

*Old House Woodwork Restoration*; by Ed Johnson.

*Handcrafted Doors and Windows*; by Amy Z. Rowland.

*Practical Guide To Home Restoration*; by William F. Rooney.

The Old House Journal New Compendium. *Basic Carpentry*; by John Capotosto.

Don't delay getting your request in at the Kiosk. The above books and many more are available, but hurry!

The Kiosk is expanding its services at a rapid pace. A copier was added a few months ago, and a fax machine will be installed shortly.

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# SDCC Covers Mixed Bag

by Catherine Forslund

At a small, quick March meeting the Board of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) took up housing corporation, building inspection, MCI building roof-top sign and historic district business among other things.

Present at the March meeting were: Nancy Farmer, Mary Fleener, George Genung, Karleen Hoerr, Bob Mahon, Shirley Polk, Roy Roncal, Art Santen, Neville Vatcha and Arline Webb.

Santen brought the issue of the downtown MCI Building rooftop sign before the Board. He asked for neighbors to contact the Alderman, Mayor and/or the Aldermanic President to express their opinion on the project. He wanted the Board, Parkview Agents, and Rosedale Neighbors to vote on the issue and present resolutions opposing the sign to the Board of Aldermen. Mahon said that the SDCC Board has no authority or jurisdiction to decide on issues outside our neighborhood.

The February minutes were approved as read and the Treasurer's report was reviewed. The Community Development Agency (CDA) has increased the SDCC grant for the current year which will help balance the budget. The report was approved.

### Director's Report

Door-to-door exterior building inspections in the neighborhood have started as a part of the City's ConServ program. The Times will be running articles about making and financing repairs. On April 16 a seminar is scheduled about re-use and repair of garages. If the Board feels it is desirable, SDCC can schedule presentations by some potential lenders such as the Urban League or Boatmen's Bank. The Board decided to think about future offerings.

\*\*\*\*\*

Walgreen's obtained approval from the Heritage and Urban Design Commission (HUDC) for their revised building plans. They have not yet applied for their zoning variance or liquor license. It seems unlikely that they will be able to gather the necessary number of signatures for their liquor license. Farmer will keep checking on the situation.

CDA Director Tony Williams will be meeting with neighborhood leaders in March at an informal reception to discuss the neighborhood plan.

The community theater group has started meeting. A good number of people were in attendance, including some new faces. They will be giving two performances. The Friday night program will consist of the play only. Saturday night the Times will help sponsor and the performance and parties will be a fund raiser for both SDCC and the Times.

West End Arts Council needs a letter of support from SDCC for its Regional Arts Commission grant proposal and the Board approved providing it.

The May 5 Blitz presentation will be made at the April SDCC Board meeting.

The ConServ brochure is in the works and Farmer asked interested Board members to make contributions.

The Fina station has re-opened under new management.

Work should be beginning soon on the Delmar Shell station to turn it into a mini-foodmart and car wash. Shell responded favorably to all suggestions made by SDCC committees and Farmer hopes this is indicative of the kind of neighbor we can expect.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Blitz Coming May 5**

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### Committee Reports

#### Beautification

Forslund reported on the success of the neighborhood survey. Almost 15 neighbors helped complete it one cold February Saturday morning. The data will be compiled to help develop a priority system for the work of the committee. Farmer said that other ConServ areas will be using our survey form.

#### Housing

Hoerr reminded the Board that the Housing Corporation directors have nothing to do with the day-to-day maintenance of the properties. They have a paid, off-site manager who has been doing a good job. But, if neighbors see a problem, they should notify Farmer who will in turn pass the message on to the manager. They can't take care of problems if they don't know they exist. They are still trying to purchase a shell HUD property on 60xx Washington. There is a new architect on the Corporation's Board who is working on remodeling plans. They will be creating some larger units with 2 and 3 bedrooms and multiple baths. Their constant goal is to reduce density and these larger units should help.

#### Parkview

Pershing will be resurfaced beginning March 26, Mahon advised. Also, the "negative speed bumps" on Washington were really new trenches for the street light cable, and they'll be re-paved in April. The Center Gate will remain closed for the time being until repairs and an opening schedule can be worked out. The Skinker walls are being tuckpointed. The annual meeting is scheduled for May 21. The Thurtene Carnival is coming and will close at 8:00 p.m. this year due to security concerns.

#### Rosedale

Roncal reported on the meeting with HUDC. In connection with that discussion, Hoerr asked that the Historic District Review Committee look at our ordinance and make a presentation at the next Board meeting.

## Project Casefind Serves Residents

Project CaseFind is a community outreach program to find and identify mentally retarded and developmentally disabled residents of the City who are not currently receiving services.

"We know that in our community there are literally thousands of persons who could benefit by the many programs available to help developmentally disabled persons lead fuller and more productive lives," says David J. Richter, executive director of the office. "There is also a great need to help them and their families plan for their future needs."

Project CaseFind will have several components, according to Richter.

First there will be an effort through the media to inform the general community about available services. This will be bolstered by a grass roots effort, in which neighborhood associations, political organizations, block units, churches and other sources will be contacted and asked to permit speakers to explain what services exist and how to qualify for them.

Additionally, a special program, funded by the office and administered through the Child Day Care Association, will contact employers throughout the area, providing them with information to share with employees who may have family members with developmental disabilities.

"We must let families know that programs and training for developmentally disabled persons will help them achieve levels of independence and human dignity far beyond what society traditionally thought possible," Richter points out. "They also need to know that the time for planning for the future of their family member, when parents are no longer able to provide care, is now, rather than in an emergency context when appropriate services might not be available."

Project CaseFind is headquartered in the St. Louis Office for MR/DD Resources, 3663 Lindell. For more information on Project CaseFind call Elayne Davis, 533-2700. Arrangements can also be made for speaking engagements.

## Alley Address Plates Available

Many neighbors were cited for not having a legible address in the rear of their property in the recent door-to-door inspections conducted by the City's Building Division. City code requires that house numbers be visible from both the street and the alley. Perhaps this seems like a superfluous requirement, but it, like most of the code, protects the property owner. The police, especially, are frustrated when they receive calls about a suspicious activity in an alley and when they respond, can't find the address. In many ways, a visible address in the rear of a property is just as important as a visible address in the front.

Two local distributors handle address plates which meet the city code for the rear of a property. The plates are 2" high black numbers on a white base which measures 12" x 3". The two companies use different materials for the base. The plates are pre-drilled with holes at each end so that they may be nailed, bolted or wired to a fence, doorway, garage, etc. These address plates have the approval of Operation SafeStreet.

The cost from either company for a plate with up to four digits (e.g. 6010) or four digits plus one letter (6010 A) is \$4.00. The cost for a plate with four digits plus two digits (6008-10) is \$5.00.

Samples of these plates can be seen at the SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury. Orders for the plates may be placed also at the SDCC; orders must be prepaid. The plates will be delivered to the SDCC in 3-4 weeks. The Building Division will grant an extension for owners to comply with the code if an address plate has been ordered.

The SDCC is not promoting either of these companies or these products. The distributors require a minimum of 12 plates per order and the SDCC is acting only as the coordinator of orders. The SDCC collects \$.25 per plate for this service.

If you would like to see a sample, call the SDCC, 862-5122.



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## Notes From Operation SafeStreet

### "I've been burglarized!"

That's the opening line on the majority of calls that we receive at Operation SafeStreet. Burglary is the most common of the serious offenses. It dramatically affects the lives of thousands of people every year in our city alone. Burglary is also one of the most preventable of crimes. Let me remind and explain to you two ways that burglary occurs, and what you minimally can do to reduce your chances of being the next victim.

First, a reminder. Up to thirty percent of burglaries occur through open windows and doors. If you have locks, you have to USE them.

Secondly, an explanation. Operation SafeStreet installs double-cylinder deadbolts, and for a reason. Understand that a double-cylinder deadbolt is a lock that uses a key on both the inside and the outside of the door. When the "throw" is extended, it cannot be pushed in...the lock is "dead". Think for a minute how these features can prevent a burglary.

The reasons we use double-cylinder deadbolts are: 1. They cannot be defeated by slipping something like a credit card in the door jamb and pushing the bolt back; 2. A burglar may break the glass in or near the door but still cannot unlock the deadbolt from the inside; 3. If a burglar enters the home through a window, since he cannot open the door from the inside without a key, he will have to exit through a window, limiting what he can easily carry and making himself very conspicuous. You would agree that seeing someone carrying a television out through a window is suspicious and warrants a call to 911, wouldn't you?

Unfortunately, the woman who called Operation SafeStreet this morning had a deadbolt...but left the key on the inside when she left by another door!

We want to reduce your risks and reduce losses. From now on, please, LOCK IT AND POCKET THE KEY!

Operation SafeStreet offers a home security package to every resident of the City of St. Louis. Specifically, Operation SafeStreet will install a double-cylinder deadbolt lock in your front and back door for \$30.00 each (installed); position a peep-hole in your front door for \$10.00; attach bars on all of your basement windows for \$60.00; put a removable basement barricade on a basement door for \$24.00; pin all of your wooden first floor windows for \$10.00; and place smoke detectors in your home free of charge. If you are over 62 and retired, over 65 whether retired or not, disabled, or a burglary victim, all of this security is absolutely free!

Call us at 622-3444 if we can help you.

## Hey Neighbor, Can You Spare A Golf Club?

Bicycle wheels, horse shoes, a rocket cone, doorknobs in scribed with Thomas Jefferson's head, golf clubs, metal arrows, and small railroad ties. What do these items have in common? They're all pieces that have something to do with Forest Park and they'll all find their way into a Metro Link sculpture the last week in April.

This "Arts in Transit" project for the Bi-State Metro Link station at the corner of DeBaliviere and Forest Park Parkway is on its way. An "Assemblage" of metal parts from neighbors and institutions in the park will be welded together the last week of April to make an attractive sculpture. Once welded and cemented in the spot, the sculpture, curated by Skinker-DeBaliviere

residents John Nunley and Linda Horsley-Nunley, will be Art (representing the St. Louis Art Museum), or at least amusing—and certainly a beginning to a worthwhile transit project.

Volunteers and items are needed! Please give golf clubs and bicycle wheels and see your old metal take shape. Contact the Nunley's at 727-7496 or the SDCC at 862-5122. There will be a ceremony to mark the finished sculpture the first week of May.

P.S. The rocket cone is from the Science Center, the doorknobs are from the History Museum, and the railroad ties from the Zoo. Said Zoo Director Charlie Hoessle, "Sorry, no old cages!"



Photos by King Schoenfeld

This issue of The Times marks the beginning of our 21st year of publication and our 21st annual call for neighbors and would-be journalists to help create each monthly issue. Writers, photographers, paste-up artists, advertising salespeople—your talents are welcome! Call Sue Rothschild at 361-0880.

## Walk Of Fame To Honor Inductees

The St. Louis Walk of Fame is pleased to announce the 10 people who will be honored in the Walk during a special ceremony on Sunday afternoon, May 20, 1990 at 12:30. The inductions will take place at the corner of 6500 Delmar and Westgate.

All of the inductees are great St. Louisans who have contributed immensely to our cultural heritage. They are:

Josephine Baker (entertainment)  
William Burroughs (literature)  
Kate Chopin (literature)  
Miles Davis (music)  
Betty Grable (acting)  
Ulysses S. Grant (military/U.S. President)  
Howard Nemerov (poetry)  
Marlin Perkins (zoology)  
Leonard Slatkin (music)  
Willie Mae Ford Smith (music)

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

Previous inductees are:

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

For more information, please contact: Joe Edwards, Chairman.

P.S. The Original St. Louis River Critters ragtime band will perform beginning at noon. The concert and induction ceremony are free, and the public is definitely invited!

## Homeless Mother And Infant Need Loving Family

An adolescent mother cat and her week old kitten presented themselves at Shirley Brammeier's doorstep on Tuesday, March 13. The friendly and affectionate calico mother and white spotted son have temporary shelter at Kingsbury Animal Hospital. The kitten will be ready for adoption late in April. The mother and kitten could be placed in the same or different homes.

Prospective owners should be willing to provide a safe, loving home for a cat.

Appropriate immunizations and neutering surgeries will be provided free of charge by Kingsbury Animal Hospital. Interested families or individuals may call 721-6251 or come by for a visit.

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# Social Security Taxes To Go Up This Year

Social Security taxes will be taking a 7.65 percent bite out of employees' paychecks in 1990, up from the 1989 rate of 7.51 percent, according to the Social Security Administration. Also, employers will pay a 7.65 percent for their employees in 1990.

The maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security taxes will be \$51,300 this year, an increase from 1989's \$48,000 earnings cap.

Self-employed people pay both the employer and the employee shares of the tax for a 15.3 percent bill. However, a change in the Federal tax laws for 1990 allows the self-employed to claim a

business deduction on one-half of the self-employment taxes paid.

Most of the taxes Social Security will receive this year will be used to pay for current benefits. The remainder will be invested in Treasury bills at prevailing interest rates to fund future Social Security benefits. About 1 percent will go for administrative expenses.

Questions about the self-employment tax deduction should be directed to the toll-free Internal Revenue Service phone number, 1-800-424-1040. Social Security questions can be answered by calling Social Security.

# Social Security, SSI Benefits Increased

A 4.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will increase the amount of 1990 Social Security and supplemental security income (SSI) payments, according to the Social Security Administration.

The annual rate change raises the amount of the maximum Social Security retirement benefit for a person retiring this year at 65 to \$975. The average Social Security retirement benefit paid nationally is \$566.

The full Federal SSI payment goes up this year to \$386 for an individual and \$579 for a couple. In some States, a supplement raises the payment amount. Living arrangements and other income also affect SSI payment amounts.

Other changes effective for 1990 in-

volve the retirement earnings test—the amount of earnings a beneficiary can earn and still receive full Social Security benefits. The figures for 1990 increase from \$8,880 to \$9,360 for people ages 65 to 69 and from \$6,480 to \$6,840 for people who are under 65. After age 70, no limit is placed on earnings.

If earnings are over the retirement test limit, \$1 out of each \$2 in earnings over the limit is deducted from benefits for people under 65. For people ages 65 through 69, the deduction rate is \$1 out of each \$3 in earnings over the limit.

Questions about Social Security can be answered by calling Social Security. The number is in the telephone directory.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Dee, Jeff and Jeremy Schoenfeld view a prize-winning science project at the St. Roch School March 6. Neighborhood winners in the 1989-90 Science Fair there were: Debra and Crissy Burke, Sabrina Clark, Andrew Droege, Renee Ducker, Max Ferrigni, John Gotway, Louisa Hitchcock, Katie Mahon, Jeff Schoenfeld, Colleen Sullivan, Maddelyn Vanicelli, James and John Wright.

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## When was the last time you checked your Social Security record?

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## "Promethea: A Burlesque Pageant" Is Spring Play



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Tom Clear, seen here at last year's community theater rehearsal, invites anyone who wants some fun to take part this year.

Play director Tom Clear shared a draft of the script for this year's community theater production with cast members at a rehearsal on March 14 and got an enthusiastic reaction. The play, "Promethea: A Burlesque Pageant," is based on the story of Prometheus with a feminist twist.

There will be lots of music, lots of action and lots of laughs in the play. Clear plans strong visual images (the children's chorus, hidden behind the adult chorus, will hold up flashlights for "a Nuremberg Rally effect" at the trial of Promethea) and he hopes to introduce another first to the Skinker-DeBaliviere community theater stage—a smoke machine.

This play will accommodate a very large cast and the director will accommodate the busy schedule of anyone who wants to be involved. Children (over 7) are especially needed. Call the SDCC at 862-5122 to sign up for cast or crew.

### World Premier Performance At The Art Museum

When Missouri artist Douglass Freed pondered the ultimate abstraction of painting, his thoughts ran to foreign rhythms and dream-like movement between pillars of hot and cold color—a painting in motion.

Freed's vision, a blend of abstract painting, atonal music, and modern dance, is being brought to the stage in *Sanctuary*. The multi-media arts performance will have its world premier at the St. Louis Art Museum Theater at 8 p.m., May 10 and May 12 and at 4 p.m. on May 13.

*Sanctuary* is a collaboration between the In Motion Dance Company of St. Louis, Freed, a nationally renowned painter living in Sedalia, West German composer Wolfgang Thierfeldt, and St. Louis writer Thomas C. Danisi.

Community theater was an annual tradition in the neighborhood in the 1970's and was revived in 1986. This production is sponsored by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council with a grant from the Regional Arts Commission.

A date and place for this year's production has not been confirmed. Check the May *Times* for more information.

## Historical Society Library Closes For Inventory

Closed for inventory—the familiar sign will go up on the door of the Missouri Historical Society's Library and Archives the first of April. The library serves teachers, students, journalists, writers, researchers and historians from the St. Louis area and from all over the United States free of charge. Located in the upper level of the east wing of the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park, it is normally open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Behind the closed doors a task force of librarians teamed with part-time clerks will be checking more than 120,000 volumes currently stored on the shelves. The object of the three month operation is

to determine the allocation of shelf space in the new library, currently under construction in the former United Hebrew Temple at 225 S. Skinker, west of Forest Park. The new facility will be open for use in early 1992.

"We regret the inconvenience this will cause our researchers," said Stephanie Klein, technical services librarian at the Missouri Historical Society. "Their number has increased significantly this year, and we look forward to resuming service at the Jefferson Memorial Building on July 5. The ultimate result of the inventory will be a better knowledge of the collections and better service to those who use this rich source for their research."

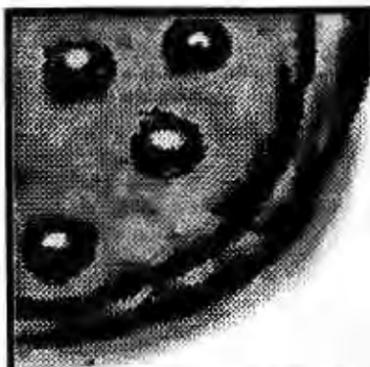


## History Museum Seeks Volunteers

The History Museum in Forest Park is seeking volunteers to staff the information desk in the main entrance of the Jefferson Memorial Building. The Museum Shop also has several positions open. Currently the institution's most pressing need is for people to work on the weekends when the museum has the largest number of visitors. The History Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and there is no admission charge.

The information desk serves visitors to the History Museum. Volunteers are provided with a manual of pertinent information and training on current special events, exhibitions and services the museum offers.

To volunteer or for more information, call the coordinator of volunteer services at 361-9265.



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