

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 21, NO. 4

SEPTEMBER 1990

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

2nd Annual Neighborhood Dog Show Coming

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council will sponsor a Dog Show/Contest on Saturday, September 29, beginning at 10 a.m. and lasting until about noon. Georgi Fox is chairing the event. Fox chaired the first Dog Show sponsored by SDCC last year and she hopes that the event this year will again capitalize on the enthusiasm already generated by the pet photo contest sponsored by Mary Ann Shickman at the Kingsbury Kiosk. Fox also believes this is a fun and inexpensive neighborhood event.

Categories and prizes include:

- largest dog
- smallest dog
- best trick
- most obedient
- best thoroughbred
- best mixed breed
- best puppy (under 6 mos.)
- longest tail
- best dressed
- pet owner look alike.

The following guidelines for entering the dog show have been established:

- 1) **Dogs must be on leashes.**
- 2) **Dogs must have current rabies vaccination. (The owner must present vaccination certificate)**
- 3) **Children 12 and under entering their dogs must be accompanied by an adult.**

These guidelines must be strictly observed.

If you plan to enter the show it would be helpful if you registered in advance. Please call or stop by the SDCC, 6010 Kingsbury, 862-5122, and leave your name, address and phone number. Fox also needs volunteers to organize and work at the event; if you can help, call SDCC.

"Rags To Riches" Will Be September 8



The Rosedale Neighborhood Association (RNA) will sponsor the ninth annual "Rags to Riches" on Saturday, September 8, 1990. RNA invites everyone in Skinker DeBaliviere (Washington Heights, Rosedale and Parkview) to register and have a yard sale that Saturday. The registration fee is \$15. Free maps for shoppers will be at the Kingsbury Animal Hospital at 8:30 a.m.

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RNA sponsors this event as a fund-raiser for the organization which helps support the *Times*, and also as a neighborhood service. RNA publicizes the event with classified ads in the *Post-Dispatch*, the *Journals* and *Student Life*, as well as with press releases and public service announcements. With help from the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, RNA produces a Guidebook for shoppers which locates the sales on a map and lists some of the items available at each address.

In addition to the yard sales, RNA sponsors a bake sale and barbecue. Coffee and donuts are available in the morning; hot dogs, salsiccia and cold drinks are available beginning at 11:00. Home baked goodies are available while they last.

If you want to have a yard sale and do not have a flyer/registration form, call 862-5122. The more sales there are on your block the more shoppers you are likely to attract, so plan a sale and encourage your neighbors to have one too.

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CWE House Tour Features Lindell Homes

Gary Griffin, Chairperson of the 1990 Central West End Association annual house tour, announced that this year's house and garden tour will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 22 and 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The tour will feature eleven mansions on Lindell Boulevard overlooking historic Forest Park.

Griffin said that "this year's tour highlights the architectural richness of a single residential street that traces its early development to the 1904 World's Fair." Houses on view include Tudor mansions, in-town estates, a French chateau, and a post-modern "Bauhaus" residence.

The History Museum at the Jefferson Memorial will be serving as headquarters for the weekend event. They have installed two exhibits that show off "Palaces in the Park-St. Louis and the 1904 World's Fair" and a second exhibit which shows the fair and early views of Lindell, the Pike, and Forest Park.

Tickets for the house and garden tour are available in advance for \$12.50 each at the CWEA office and the History Museum Shop. Tickets can be purchased by phone with Master Card or Visa credit cards by calling the CWEA office at 367-2220. To purchase tickets by check, call the office for an advance order form. Tickets will be \$15.00 on the day of the tour.

Free parking will be provided in the upper and lower Muny lots with continuous shuttle service to the History Museum grounds. Food and beverages, catered by the Adam's Mark, will be available under the big tent throughout the day.

Proceeds from the house and garden tour are earmarked for the restoration of the Nathan Frank bandstand, a project of Forest Park Forever initiated by the Central West End Association.

Coming in October... Earthquake! Are you prepared?



The "Arts in Transit" program dedicated "Assemblage" this summer to mark the Metro Link station that will be at the corner of DeBaliviere and Forest Park Parkway. The sculpture, curated by Skinker DeBaliviere residents John Nunley and Linda Horsley-Nunley, represents facets of Forest Park by using bicycle wheels, golf clubs, and doorknobs inscribed with Thomas Jefferson's head.

Letter To The Editor

June 25, 1990

Dear Editor:

Governor Ashcroft's veto of the \$1 million appropriation to begin the proposed Cooperative Engineering Program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis suggests that there is something wrong with Missouri's higher education. Voters should be hesitant in their support of an increase for higher education until certain questions are answered.

Why are resources continuing to go to the University of Missouri-Rolla, a dying campus, and UM-St. Louis, the only growing campus in the UM system, is thwarted at every turn in its quest for resources? Why has the governor gone out of his way to insult the Cooperative Engineering Program developed by UM-St. Louis, with the help of Washington University and UM-Rolla, to bring engineering to the citizens of St. Louis? All studies conducted to date have declared that this program is vital to the economic development of the state.

It is predicted that one-third of the total American work force will be comprised of minorities by the 21st Century. Why, then, have Lincoln University, Harris-Stowe State College and UM-St. Louis received so few resources for engineering while UM-Rolla, and UM-Columbia received a disproportionate share of resources? These institutions have so few African-American students, UM-Rolla less than 3% and UM-Columbia fewer than 5%.

Until I can receive satisfactory answers to these questions, I will not be able to vote in good conscience for a tax increase. I find it incredible that the governor of our state would risk killing the higher education tax campaign to prevent an engineering program, previously approved by the Board of Curators, from developing in an area of demonstrated need.

Perhaps it is time to begin thinking of organizing UM-St. Louis as a separate institution from the University of Missouri system with its own board of curators from the St. Louis region.

Sincerely,

William L. Clay, Jr.
State Representative (D)
59th District



Molls' Grocery, DeBaliviere and Delmar, 1932, photo from the Block Brothers Collection, Missouri Historical Society. From the exhibition, "Boulevard and City Street: Views of Lindell and DeBaliviere," at the History Museum in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park, September 20 through December.

Social Concerns Programs At Grace Methodist

A series of programs has been planned by the Social Concerns Commission of Grace United Methodist Church for Wednesday evenings this fall. Programs will follow church pot-luck dinners beginning at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include discussions of capital punishment, Sept. 12th, abor-

tion, Sept. 19th, racial and religious prejudice, Sept. 26th, and issues surrounding death and dying on Oct. 3rd. Programs will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the church, located at Skinker and Waterman. For more information call the church office at 863-1992.

Fall Classes At CASA

Registration for fall classes at CASA Schools for the Arts will begin the week of August 27 at CASA's four locations.

CASA is for everyone, regardless of age, talent, or skill level and offers private music lessons in orchestral instruments; piano; voice; guitar; jazz piano, saxophone, and trumpet; pre-school classes; orchestras; ensembles; adult special interest courses; adult concert band; theatre; dance; and art instruction.

Registration days and times for CASA Midtown, 3207 Washington; CASA University City, 560 Trinity; and CASA Webster Groves, 23 North Gore, are as follows:

Tues., Aug. 28, 10 am to noon, 2-6 pm
Wed., Aug. 29, 2-6 pm
Thurs., Aug. 30, 2-6 pm

Registration days and times for CASA West County, 13550 Conway Road (on the Maryville College campus) are:

Mon., Aug. 27, 10 am-12 noon and 2-6 pm
Fri., Aug. 31, 10 am-1 pm

For information on fall programs, call 863-3033. CASA receives partial support from the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission, the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and is a funded member of the Arts and Education Council of Greater St. Louis.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Display Advertising:

Col width, 2 1/4". Minimum ad size, 2" x 1 col.: \$24/insertion;
(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.

Art Exposed

is coming

Sunday, October 21, 1990

at Four Corners Plaza, Kingsbury at Des Peres

featuring

the 3rd annual
Edible Art Contest

Group Exhibit

Studio Tours

Children's activities

Music, Refreshments

and more!

Sponsored by the West End Arts Council
with support from the Regional
Arts Commission.

September Calendar

Continuing

The St. Louis Art Museum presents a special exhibition of one of its newest acquisitions—an Egyptian mummy. The exhibition will be on display in Gallery 120 through November 25.

September

- 4 Lois Gruberger and Ken Mort's *Watercolors* exhibit will be on display in The Gallery of the University City Public Library, 6701 Delmar. Through Sep. 30.
- 7 *Structured Influences* on view at Craft Alliance features works by the pioneer of "Xerography," Ed Meneeley. Additional mixed-media works by national artists. Through Sep. 30th.
- 8 **Rags-to-Riches day of sales and barbecue**, sponsored by the Rosedale Neighborhood Association. See story on Page 1.
Northside Preservation Commission's 9th Annual Awards Banquet & Meeting; Clayton Plaza Holiday Inn, 7730 Bonhomme; \$30 per person. For tickets call Ms. Dantzer/Ms. Orelt at 367-6668.
- 9 *Weaver' Choice: Patterns in American Coverlets*. Traveling exhibition of 19th century coverlets featuring the intricate patterns created by weavers on the loom. History Museum.
Pattern in American Coverlets: A Guide to Identification for Non-Weavers—Lecture by Janice Trauer Wass, with weaving demonstration. Jefferson Memorial, 2:00. Free.
Open House on the House at COCA from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Be COCA's guest for an afternoon of fun and activities for all ages. Sample a variety of classes, workshops and performances.
- 10 **Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting**, 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- 14 *Urban Living*—mixed media. Juried by Marcia Smith. Preview reception 5-8 p.m. Componere Gallery, 6509 Delmar. Through October.
- 15 **Party to celebrate the Summer Reading Program** will be at the Kiosk, Kingsbury at Des Peres. 12:30 to 2:00.
- 16 The Laclede Quartet in Residence at the History Museum. Concert includes "Tennessee Devil Music" and late 19th-century music for strings. 2 p.m. Free.
- 18 CASA artists Taras Gabora will perform at 8 p.m. at CASA, 560 Trinity. Free
- 20 *Tea Lecture: Boulevard and City Street: Views of Lindell and DeBaliviere*. Slide illustrated talk on the SDCC neighborhood. History Museum, 1:30 p.m. \$5 per person. Call 361-9265.
- 21 *LadyGourd Sangoma*, an African-American ensemble will open this season's Ovarions series at 8:00 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night in the Edison theatre at Washington University.

- 22 **Skinker DeBaliviere 2nd Annual Dog Show**. Four Corners, Kingsbury at Des Peres. See related article.
Boulevard and City Street: Views of Lindell and DeBaliviere. Maps, photographs and other documents illustrate some 20th century changes along these two well-known streets. History Museum.
- Hats Off to Lindell—Chapeau party benefiting Missouri Historical Society and Central West End Association. Jefferson Memorial Building, 6:30 p.m. \$35. See related article.
- Eighteenth Annual House and Garden Tour** organized by the Central West End Association. \$12.50 per person. See related article.
- 23 **Eighteenth Annual House and Garden Tour** organized by the Central West End Association. \$12.50 per person. See related article.
- 25 Maria Benita's Dance Company to perform at 8:00 p.m. at CASA, 560 Trinity. (Ticket information: Guitar Society, 725-0739)
- 26 *Baby With the Bathwater*, by Christopher Durang. Theatre Project Company production through October 14. New City School Theatre, 5209 Waterman. Call 531-1315 for information.
Fashion Show & Luncheon sponsored by the CASA Auxiliary; Clayton Plaza on Bonhomme. (Call: Marilyn Ast, 532-5993).
A String Concert—performed by CASA artists will be held at 8:00 p.m.; 560 Trinity Avenue. Free.
- 28 Brazilian Percussion & Dance Workshop (SAMBA) to be held this weekend at CASA; Friday—7:30 p.m., Saturday—9:30 a.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Call Gary Muszynski, 863-2007 for reservations.
- 30 Hamilton Douglas Play Classic Piano Rag—Program features Missouri composers James Scott, Tom Turpin, Scott Joplin and Artie Mathews. Jefferson Memorial, 2:00. Free.

October

- 3 A String Concert featuring CASA artists will be held at 8:00 p.m. this evening; 560 Trinity. Free.
- 5 "Then Let Men Know"—A portrait of Shakespeare's Women is a dramatic reading presented by Claire Bloom as part of the Ovarions series. Edison Theatre, Washington University, 8:00 p.m.
- 6 Excerpts from "The Turn Of The Screw" illuminate the most famous ghost story in the English language is presented by Claire Bloom; 8:00 p.m.; Edison Theatre, Washington University.
- 7 **Seventh Annual Fire Engine Rally** at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. See related story.
- 8 Violinist Sidney Harth will be featured at CASA at 10:00 a.m. Free.
CASA's special event—Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel, "Brahms: The Passionate Classicist"; 8 p.m.; General admission: \$9; Students and Senior Citizens \$6.

Hats Off To Lindell Party On Sept. 22nd



5855 Lindell will be one of the houses on the 1990 Central West End House Tour. Built for millionaire Morris Corn, it is the only French chateau on Lindell. Prize winning Arabian horses once grazed in the side yard. A bowling alley is still in use in the terrazzo-floored basement. Photo by Alise O'Brien.

The tent of the lawn north of the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park will serve as the festive center for "Hats Off to Lindell," a party honoring the 1990 Central West End House Tour, on the site of the main entrance to the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. Guests are invited to don their chapeaus on Saturday, September 22, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for the first benefit of the fall season.

De rigueur are hats of any era, any style, any size, for men and for women. The members of Tiger Rag Forever will entertain with lively ragtime music.

Tickets are \$35 per person, with a \$10 discount for members of the Missouri Historical Society, which operates the History Museum in Forest Park, and the Central West End Association. The price includes entertainment and a light buffet supper. Party tickets may be reserved by sending a check, payable to the Missouri Historical Society, to "Hats Off to Lindell; Jefferson Memorial Building Forest Park; St. Louis, MO 63112." For more information, call the History Museum's membership office at 454-3100.

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News From The St. Louis Public Library Kiosk

by Mary Ann Shickman

What do a Catholic nun, a police officer, a forest ranger, an artist and a stockbroker have in common? The answer is that they all have winning photos in the 1990 Pet Picture Contest at the Kiosk. The contest was judged by Dr. Steve Brammeier of the Kingsbury Animal Hospital and Georgi Fox, an insurance agent and dog trainer.

Gift certificates were given by Coyote's Paw in the U. City Loop, Classical Coffee Shop at 313 Belt and West End Wines at 307 Belt. Chris and Bruce Smith and Lucy Hannagan made donations in memory of deceased pets.

For the second year in a row, Lois Schoemehl will present certificates to the winners as well as those who received

honorable mention at Art Exposed at Four Corners on October 21st.

If you drop by the Kiosk between 4:00 and 6:00 any day you will meet Crystal Wilson, a new staff member at the Kiosk. Crystal is a senior at St. Elizabeth's Academy and lives in the neighborhood. She is a whiz at helping you find things on the CD Rom.

The Summer Reading Program will have its party on Saturday, September 15th from 12:30 until 2:00. A Police Evidence Van and Canines will be part of the entertainment. There will be refreshments and door prizes and certificates will be handed out.

Winning Entries From The Pet Picture And Essay Contest



Cubby, owned by Ken and Kate Anderson, won both the cutest kitten and funniest cat awards.



The grand prize winner was this picture of Sam, owned by Tommy and Anne Tomlin.



Cutest puppy Rob Roy belongs to Betty Renard.



Teaser, owned by Scott Jones, won the best looking cat prize.



Rex the Iguana belongs to Rose Flynn. This picture won the most unusual pet award.

Our Pets

A pet, by definition, is an animal which by invitation lives in your house or yard, depends upon you for sustenance, and is able to achieve a level of interaction which brings mutual pleasure to your household. In my experience, the connection that can exist between people and their pets goes much deeper. In our household, a dog named Floyd, cats Abigail and Louisa, rabbits Josephine, Hazel and Jane Marple, and Rex the iguana are permanent residents. Our summer guests (pets on loan from preschool classrooms) are guinea pigs Muffin and Ginger, and Ginger's new babies Tootie, Squeaks and Bonnie, hamsters Geraldine and Samantha, and three nameless chameleons. These pets share our personal worlds, our daily routines, our household space. We touch them, feed them, admire them, clean up after them, and show them off. We learn to care, and to value life in a form different from our own.

Rose Flynn



Livingston belongs to Jerald Barnes. He tied for best looking puppy.



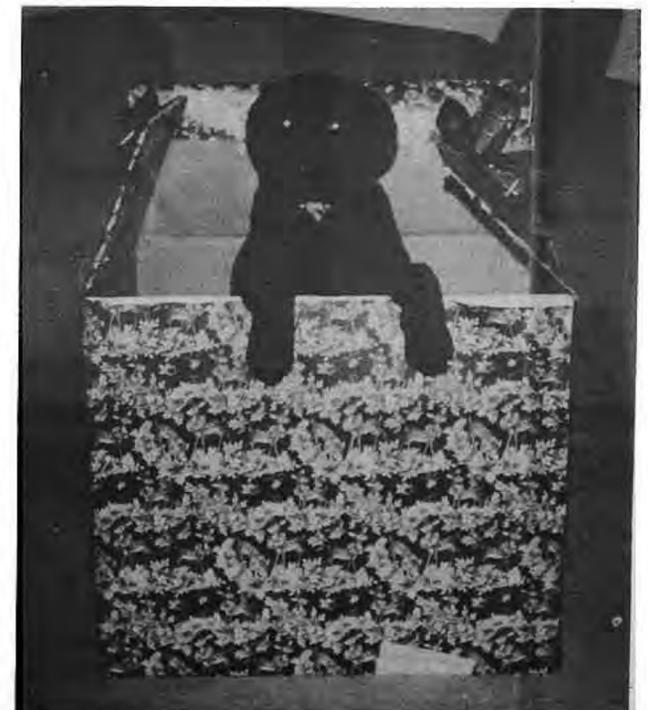
The winner of the best looking dog was Tony Billups' Big Boy.



Pretty cat Zsa Zsa belongs to Mary Cawley.



Pepper won the funniest dog prize. He belongs to Carla Mash.



Rocki, owned by Sister Leo Anne Bubb, was tied for best looking puppy.

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**Poem For A
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O, Leopard in my Lap:
...Chase crickets!
...Mouse! What mouse?
O, you of lambent eyes!
O, Cougar of my Couch!
...Refrigerator door?
...Litter on the floor?
O, you make me Glad!
You Purr.....
Christine Smith

Camera Available For Permit Picture Taking

The Historic District Review Committee has met several times over the summer. There are four items to be reported on.

1) The Skinker DeBaliviere Council office now has a Polaroid camera which may be borrowed to take the pictures required for building or "Heritage-only" permits. Both types of permits require a photo of the front and rear elevations. The camera may be borrowed for a 24-hour period. A valid Missouri driver's license or a major credit card must be left at the Council as a deposit. In cases when neither is available, a \$25 cash deposit will be permitted. Borrowers must pay for the number of photographs in advance, an estimate is \$1.00 per photo. This service is being offered by the Council to keep the building permit process work easily for everyone. Call to reserve the camera at 862-5122.

2) A quick reminder of what improvements require building permits: *almost everything*. If it does not require a building permit, it probably requires a "Heritage-only" permit. This includes: window replacements; storm windows and doors; major tuckpointing; repair and/or replacement of cornices, brackets, soffits, porches, balustrades; additions of shutters or trellises; demolitions of any kind; new construction of any kind; siding; and the painting or repainting of brick or stone masonry. Please do not be taken in by sales people from home improvement companies saying that siding, windows, bracket work, etc., does not require a permit. It does and as the homeowner you will be responsible for undoing work that was incor-

rectly done. There is a hand-out available from the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office, 862-5122 or call Katie Kurtz, 727-6377 for further information.

3) Beginning sometime in September, there will be a building-by-building photo survey of the entire Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District. These photographs will serve as an architectural record of our neighborhood and a source for neighbors planning work on their properties. The survey will cover the fronts of buildings only (or the sides or rears if visible from the street).

4) As a follow-up to item #2 above, letters have been sent to several window and home improvement companies which have been soliciting business in our area. These letters seek to inform the companies of our area's status as an historic district and what standards are in place because of this designation. Please remember that much of what these companies are trying to sell are not part of our historic district standards. In fact, there is evidence that vinyl siding incorrectly applied, without proper ventilation, may cause severe dryrot, and that many replacement windows have to be re-replaced after fifteen years. The Historic District Review Committee is working on various long-term costs of various products and hopes to be able to provide some cost-effective comparisons in the future.

If you have any questions about any of these items or for anything else, please call Nancy Farmer at 862-5122 or Katie Kurtz, 727-6377.

Notes From Operation SafeStreet

You choose just the right house you want to live in. You sweat blood out of turnips to make it your home. Then a house, invariably the one right across the street from you, starts going from rick to ruin. Maybe it's not a crime, but it ought to be. Truth is, that sort of mess often is the forerunner of "real crime."

And so it is hats off to the neighborhood crime prevention committees who make those creative attacks on "the bricklayers," the "thuglets," the derelict landlords, and the just plain thoughtless slobs.

Some efforts have paid off fast, others are more long-term and tedious. All of them needed someone to start the effort and help, at least get things organized and rolling.

Briefly, here are some examples:

A buddy system. When you're wakened by loud boisterous people or horn honking, having neighbors who will agree to come out with you to ask your neighbors to "keep it down." This can even be a system of documenting when you've been disturbed and giving one person on the block the job of kindly notifying the "disturber" and requesting their consideration. If the block can meet and agree to some "block rules," you'll be doing terrific. If "the problem" adamantly refuses to subdue the noise then calling the police to underscore your seriousness may help. If this doesn't cause a change in behavior, do consider prosecuting and have an agreement with other neighbors that they will share the responsibility of prosecuting with you. Don't be mean, vindictive, or inflexible. Just be honest about the concern, be clear about your expectations, be creative in your approach to solving the problem, be open to a win/win solution, and stick with it until it's resolved.

There have been a lot of successful landlord stories...landlords who appreciated being informed, being the "go-between," being given ideas from committees, neighbors or other landlords about good tenant screening, good tenant contracts, and good tenant referrals. Sometimes a call to give support and elicit cooperation can go a long way.

If your neighborhood association does not have a crime prevention committee, Operation Safestreet encourages you to start one. Then give us a call at 622-3444 and we'll be there to help.

June SDCC Minutes

The June meeting of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council was attended by: Directors M. Campbell, F. Driscoll, C. Forslund, G. Genung, P. Kurtz, B. Mahon, J. McLeod, S. Polk, R. Roncal, A. Webb, J. Wright, executive director N. Farmer; and guests F. Driscoll, E. Herron, M. Jaffe, A. Johnson, M. Karina and E. McLean.

Washington University Master Plan Update—McLeod presented a map of the University campus and explained that the master plan was developed to avoid haphazard building and to establish standards which would answer the future problems of more cars and slightly increased student population. Architects have proposed the plan which will accommodate 14 additional buildings on the 150 acre campus without making radical changes in its character. He emphasized that this plan is an architect's proposal; only two buildings of the 14 are committed—a new law building and one on Forsyth. Any new building is negotiated by the department it will house, the administration, etc., as well as architects. He mentioned the acquisition of the Famous-Barr building in Clayton which will be used for a variety of purposes and that University employees will be encouraged to park in the garage there and use a shuttle service to the main campus.

Committee Reports Beautification

Forslund told of efforts by the committee members to plant flowers in some of the barricades barrels that were not full of debris. She also said that several people had made suggestions about how things could be made to look better in the neighborhood but there seemed to be little or no interest in undertaking these projects.

Housing Corporation

Farmer reported that SDCHC is soliciting bids for work on Rosedale square. The corporation is currently negotiating on some additional property in the area.

Parkview

Mahon and Genung collectively reported that at the last meeting three new agents were elected, that 80 residents attended the meeting, and that agents reported that all streets were resurfaced and some curbing work was accomplished both under budget and ahead of schedule. 48 new trees were planted in the last three years and the wall along Skinker was tuckpointed. Only minor crime problems were reported—primarily garage break-ins and bicycle thefts.

Rosedale

Roncal said the board would be meeting in the near future to plan the Rags to Riches event—any interested persons are welcome to participate. RNA plans to purchase 50 Central West End Directory/

Guides to be included in the New Neighbor Packets. SDCC was asked to purchase an additional 50 at an appropriate point in the future.

Director's report

Farmer said that three block units are meeting on a regular basis. The Historic District Review Committee is very busy monitoring permits and citations following the door-to-door building inspections. The St. Louis AIA is also meeting twice a month to plan the design charrette for Delmar this fall. SDCC received an award from the Regional Arts Commission for \$5,000 for 1990-91 and consideration is being given to adding new projects. A Bicycle-skateboard safety clinic is scheduled for Four Corners on June 30 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Otis Edwards, Parkview Security Officer, is organizing this.

While waiting for Martin Jaffe to arrive Mahon pointed out that there would not be a general board meeting in July but that the executive committee would meet on July 9. He then passed out copies of a proposed resolution pertaining to Jaffe's project and provided some additional information: Jaffe had not talked with adjoining neighborhoods; his plans were preliminary; he could build no more than five units; this is a pilot project; Catholic Charities is somehow involved; and he did not have further information on financing, size or style.

It was pointed out that the school "drug-free zone" laws refer to all school-owned property, including day care centers, etc., which with the proliferation of school and related property should make most of the SDCC a "drug free zone."

With the arrival of Jaffe the board was told that SDCC approval would not be needed until September. Jaffe showed blueprints of elevations of a similar project and said the units he is proposing for Laurel will have basements including a utility room. Two bedroom units will have 850 square feet on two floors and three bedroom units will have 1150 square feet. The two bedroom units will sell for approximately \$65,000, three bedroom \$75,000.

On motion by Forslund, Polk second, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That the SDCC Board of Directors hereby authorize the executive committee to approve plans for modular housing units on the vacant lots at the northwest corner of Laurel and the north DeGiverville alley proposed by City Rehab Corp. provided that concerns raised by directors at the May board meeting are satisfied, including: 1) the plans are approved by the 5800 DeGiverville/Westminster Block Unit. 2) the plans are approved by Alderman Dan McGuire."

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Fire Engine Rally To Open Fire Prevention Week

Fire safety will be the emphasis of the History Museum's Seventh Annual Fire Engine Rally on Sunday, October 7 at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. The event opens Fire Prevention Week. The morning parade of over 100 pieces of firefighting apparatus will include Safety Houses, antique hose carts, steamers, pumpers and new rescue trucks and fire engines.

Activities will begin with the arrival of the parade at the Jefferson Memorial Building. Firefighters will unroll their hoses and prepare their pumpers to draft water from a near-by lake in Forest Park, and private owners and fire departments will ready their apparatus for display. Teams of firefighters will compete in contests of skill, such as the popular water fight and bucket brigade. Prizes will be awarded to tournament winners and to owners of vintage fire trucks in the best condition.

The members of the St. Louis Area Fire Educators (SAFE) are planning demonstrations of fire safety and skill. They will promote the use of smoke alarms and fire extinguishers, and a talking fire plug, Dalmatian fire dog and robot will instruct children in fire safety.

The Fire Engine Rally is organized by the Missouri Historical Society, which operates the History Museum, and is sponsored by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The annual event began in 1984 in conjunction with the museum's exhibition on volunteer firefighting in mid-19th century St. Louis and has grown to be one of the largest in the United States.



The Seventh Annual Fire Engine Rally at the History Museum in Forest Park opens Fire Prevention Week on Sunday, October 7. Beginning at 9 a.m., the parade leads old and new fire trucks to the Jefferson Memorial Building for display and pumping throughout the day. Above, the St. Louis Fire Department's 1951 Mack Truck at the 1989 Fire Engine Rally.

Preparation Speeds Social Security Applications

If you plan to apply for Social Security benefits you can speed up the process if you are prepared when you apply.

Applications are designed to obtain information about you, your spouse, children, and your work history. If you are disabled the application also records information about your disabling condition.

You will need certain documents to support your claim. Only original copies of documents or copies certified by the issuing agency can be used. Uncertified or notarized photocopies are not acceptable.

You will need some or all of the following documents if you are applying for retirement: birth certificate, proof of military service and your W-2 form or self-employment tax return for the most recent year.

Marriage and death certificates are needed if you are applying for survivor

benefits. If you are applying for disability benefits you should have names and addresses of doctors, hospitals and clinics that have treated you for your medical condition.

Don't delay applying for benefits because you don't have all the required evidence. People at Social Security can help you acquire the documents you need.

When possible you should apply 2 months before you want retirement benefits to begin. This will allow plenty of time to process your claim so that benefits will start on time.

You do not have to visit a Social Security office to start your application. You can call a toll-free telephone number to start the process or to set up an appointment with your local Social Security office. The number is 1-800-234-5772.



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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Well, my vacation is over and it's time to get back to the old grind. Actually, the old grind was with me. The first wife and I went to Europe for three weeks and, of course, it was wonderful. I mean, how can having someone else make your bed and eating out for three weeks *not* be a great experience? Heck, I'd be happy with three weeks at a Day's Inn; the wife would too if lots of shoe stores were nearby.

We were lucky in that we returned just before the Middle East Craze started acting up. Still, the intense airport security that we encountered while leaving Europe was both comforting and disquieting. Part of me was pleased that they were going to such elaborate lengths—"No, for the third time!" I responded to the uniformed airport security guard, who was wearing a side-gun and a frown, "I packed my bag, it hasn't been out of my sight, and I'm not transporting a package for anyone else"—and part of me wondered WHY this now? Was this something done every day with every flight, or did they know something that I didn't know?

I'm no dummy, and have learned a bit about the nuances of airport security in my travels. A few years ago we were in an airport, returning from Portugal, and while going through my carry-on luggage, the guards discovered a metal cigar lighter that I had packed. The minor problem is that it was a cigar lighter in the shape of a hand grenade. The situation became very interesting.

The guards couldn't speak English and I couldn't speak Spanish. The lighter cost around \$30, so I wasn't prepared just to let them take it from me. Finally, in an attempt to cut across the language barrier, I grabbed the grenade from the table, held it at arm's length, and pulled the pin so it would light. This would solve the problem, I figured, because the flame would flicker and everyone would understand that it was only a lighter. Naturally, the flame didn't flicker, and I looked even more foolish when the security buzzer brought other guards from throughout the airport to join in the discussion. We won't be visiting Portugal again.

The first wife thought the recent trip to be extraordinary because she was able to purchase shoes in every city we visited. She even bought a pair of slippers in the Duty Free shop in the New York airport as we were leaving the country. Our trip began in Italy. We had a great time staying in a pension in Florence: an old city, full of quaint restaurants, artists, and shoe stores.

From Florence, we went to Venice. Think of Six Flags on a very, very hot day, triple the size of the largest crowd that you can imagine being there, add two or three thousand gross of pigeons, then flood the whole place so it is surrounded by water. That's Venice, only there's no roller coaster. I understand that the city council of Venice has asked McDonald's to place a franchise in the church square, near St. Mark's, but that McDonald's has refused because the place is too crowded and "touristy." The highlight of Venice, aside from visiting all of the shoe stores, was seeing all of the other tourists from the States, Italy, and Germany walking around taking photos of one another. The first wife and I had a cup of coffee in St. Mark's square which cost \$9.00 each, not including tip. I never thought that breakfast at Balaban's would seem like a bargain!

The highlight of our trip was the time we spent in the country of the wife's mother's birthplace, Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia is often spelled Jugoslavia, which puzzles me. You know, yet travel may have made the world smaller year by year, yet there are still some enormous cultural differences. I wonder if their nursery rhymes talk about Yack and Yill?

The Dalmatian Coast of Yugoslavia is beautiful. Imagine miles and miles of winding two-lane highways, inlets, islands, and tourist busses that can't be passed. The views while driving along the coastline are even better than those from the highways in California. Of course Yugoslavia doesn't have all of the frozen yogurt shops (jogurt shops?) that you'll find in California, but, hey, no place is perfect.

Upon arrival in Yugoslavia, we met by Nick, our friendly cab-driver, tour-guide, and raconteur. We first came across Nick several years ago when we were visiting Yugoslavia. He speaks quite good English, and serves as a great driver and tourist guide. I wrote him a couple of months ago, and arranged for him to be our guide during this trip. Nick knows us well, so he had scheduled a stop in a shoe store immediately after greeting us. The wife (whose shoe size is 38 with the European measurement system) absolutely fell in love with a pair of beige sandals which she purchased and named Fred and Ethyl.

The food in Yugoslavia is quite tasty, but, as with oriental food, sometimes it's better to eat first and ask what it is later. We had a very spicy kind of grey colored dish called "black rice." It was full of seafood and we enjoyed it thoroughly (except for Fred and Ethyl who didn't eat). When I asked the waitress, through Nick, how it was blackened, she replied that they used the ink of the squid. Now that's what I call ecologically sound: food that you can eat and write with.

We ended the trip by visiting Vienna for a few days. I always enjoy Vienna; after all, how could you not like any city named after a potato chip? The most exciting part of my trip was—are you ready?—seeing *The Rolling Stones* in Vienna. Honest! Ticket-scalping must be the second oldest profession, because it was quite easy for me to see them. The value of the dollar may not be what it used to be, but it still works quite well in the black market (even if you're not buying squid). The Stones were, as always, amazing. Seeing Mick Jagger hop and bob about the stage at age 48 gives me hope. I was amazed because the German-speaking crowd readily sang along with all of the Stones' English songs!

The other highlight of Vienna was eating Sachertortes. These calorie-laden devils are full, I mean really full, of chocolate and raspberries. It's quite hard to find them, they're only sold at the Hotel Sacher and seven hundred, forty-two Vienna cafes and quick shops. You can't turn around without seeing a Sachertorte for sale. The best evidence of their power is that Vienna doesn't have any skinny residents. Almost all of the people there look like the kind of folks who work at donut shops here in the U.S.

Given how we spent our time on vacation, I'd be remiss if I didn't talk about visiting the shoe stores of Europe. There are even more shoe stores there than here. Since it's only possible to wear two shoes at once, I don't understand this. I'm not sure what an Espra is, but I know that the first wife wants to be one. I know this because she's constantly looking for shoes that are worn while drilling for the try-out; they're called Espra-drills. At one shoe store, I believe it was Florence, although it could have been Venice or Vienna or Dubrovink (after a while shoe stores, like birthdays, all meld together), she had tried on so many shoes that they had to bring in a relief-salesman! Kind of like Bruce Sutter or Lee Smith.

When this happened, the first salesman went to a chair in the corner and leaned back, removing his shoes and taking deep drinks of bottled water. They brought in a new salesman, a bit younger and more energetic, to help her look at shoes ("Leading a lamb to the slaughter," I remember thinking). In no time at all, the new salesman was huffing and puffing with a sweat-soaked shirt. When we finally left (not purchasing anything from this particular store), he sat next to the first salesman and they hugged one another.

Crossing the Atlantic on the way back, I dreaded the thought that a customs officer would actually inspect our luggage. I knew that if they opened the wife's luggage and saw all of the shoes she took, plus those that she bought, no question, we'd be arrested for smuggling something. Other than a family of centipedes, no one would have that many shoes packed. We were fortunate, however. We clearly don't fit the customs office's "suspicious person's" profile, and returned with no inspection. Now we just have to find a place at the dinner table for Fred and Ethyl.

Art Museum Exhibits Egyptian Mummy

The St. Louis Art Museum presents a special exhibition of one of its newest acquisitions—an Egyptian mummy named Amen-Nestawy-Nakht, Priest of Amon, Son of Pa-di-Amen. Amen-Nakht lived during the Third Intermediate Period in the Early 22nd Dynasty (c. 930-880 B.C.) His mummification followed a process popularized about 2500 B.C. After the mummification process was complete, the body was returned to the family so that it could be placed in an appropriate case. The high quality of the Museum's painted plaster case that contains the linen wrapped body of Amen Nakht, indicates he held an important position in life. Amen-Nakht was x-rayed and scanned at Jewish Hospital last year and most recently at McDonnell Douglas. The results showed that he lived a relatively healthy life. These films are on display in the exhibition. Visitors to the exhibition can see the mummy case elevated above a mirror, revealing an open area where grave robbers invaded the mummy in search of valuable objects. A missing portion at the foot of the case allows viewers to see the linen-wrapped feet.

The exhibition will be through November 25 in Gallery 120. This exhibition was supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.

The mummy was given to The Saint Louis Art Museum for the children of St. Louis by Mr. and Mrs. Barney A. Ebsworth.



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