

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 21, NO. 7

DECEMBER 1990

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

I Dream A World: Portraits Of Black Women Who Changed America

I Dream A World: portraits of Black Women Who Changed America, features 75 photographs of remarkable women who made their mark on American life. This special exhibition is at the St. Louis Art Museum, Forest Park, through January 6, 1991. The exhibition encompasses two years of work by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Brian Lanker. The subjects on his large-scale, black-and-white photographs include women from all walks of life who have made valuable contributions to American society. Many of these women are prominent in fields ranging from arts and education to politics and the military.

A 168-page book, which is available in the Museum Shop, was published in conjunction with the exhibition and features full-page reproductions of the images by Lanker, interviews with each woman and a foreword by Maya Angelou. In the book's introduction, Lanker, who spent from 1987-1989 interviewing and photographing the women, describes the process of creating this powerful photographic essay. He remarks: "My hope is that this project will allow readers and viewers to see something of those lives and feel the strength of those hearts for a brief moment, and to be informed by them and inspired by them as I have."

A 24-minute video, available for viewing throughout the exhibition, offers a thoughtful, behind-the-scenes look into the creative process as Lanker and his associates worked on *I Dream A World*. The video will run continuously inside the Special Exhibition Galleries.

Among those in the exhibition are six women who either come from, or live and work in, the St. Louis area. They include Katherine Dunham, Willie Mae Ford Smith, Bertha Knox Gilkey, Maxine Waters, Faye Wattleton and Maya Angelou.

I Dream a World includes Lanker's black-and-white photographs of the 75 featured women accompanied by excerpts from his interviews. Speaking of the importance of the exhibition and catalogue, Lanker states, "This celebration of sisters is not an attempt to elevate or lower any segment of society, it is merely an opportunity to savor the triumphs of



Portrait of Willie Mae Ford Smith (b. 1904)

© Brian Lanker 1989



Portrait of Katherine Dunham (b. 1909)

© Brian Lanker 1989



Portrait of Clara McBride Hale (b. 1905)

© Brian Lanker 1989

the human spirit, a spirit that does not speak only of black history. My greatest lesson was that this is my history, this is American history."

The original and second tours of *I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America* by Brian Lanker are circulated by the American Federation of Arts and made possible in part by generous grants from the Professional Photography Division of Eastman Kodak Company. The original exhibition was organized by the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and made possible in part by a major grant from US WEST Foundation. The exhibition photographs were printed by Gary Schneider of Schneider/Erdman, New York, New York.

The St. Louis installation was made possible by the Southwestern Bell Foundation. Additional funding was provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and by the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Friends,

Many of you have commented on our Amazing Grace banners that are displayed on Skinker and Waterman. These beautiful banners were designed by one of our own local artists, Dr. Gene Hoefel. Since they were displayed many have asked how they can obtain one of these banners to display in their home, or to give as a gift to another.

We are very happy to inform you that we now have a company taking orders for reproduction of a banner like the ones that proudly hang from the light posts on Skinker and Waterman.

The size of the banner will be 24" x 12". The cost per banner is \$35.00.

To purchase your banner, please fill out the order form below and return it to our Grace Church office at 8199 Waterman, St. Louis, MO 63112. Order today to assure delivery before Christmas.

Sincerely,

Dr. Larry E. Gallamore,
Senior Minister, Grace Church



From The Mayor's Desk

St. Louis is a city of neighborhoods. Common to most City neighborhoods is the corner bar or tavern. Years ago the corner tavern served as the neighborhood gathering place. Today many of the neighborhood bars and taverns remain, but the clientele has changed. A sign of the times, neighborhood bars and taverns are giving way to problems of loitering, rowdiness and violence. Many liquor establishments are becoming trouble spots in the City's quiet neighborhoods.

The City of St. Louis is striving to address these concerns through revisions in its liquor ordinances. In May of 1989, new liquor ordinances were adopted by the City of St. Louis. The new ordinances allow neighborhood residents greater control over liquor establishments in their neighborhoods.

A tavern license now requires the approval of a majority of the property owners and a majority of the registered voters in businesses within 350 feet of the establishment. Package liquor stores no longer can sell their businesses and turn their license over to the new owners. Each time the store ownership changes, the new owners must get a new license and thus go to the neighborhood for consent.

All liquor licenses are subject to protest by citizens. If it can be shown through opposing neighborhood consent petitions or any other substantial evidence that the issuances, renewal or continuation of a liquor license would be detrimental to the community, then the Commissioner has the right to refuse or place terms and conditions on the license.

In addition to the new liquor ordinances, the Excise Commissioner has been working with the Police Department and the Missouri Division of Liquor Control to crack down on liquor establishments considered to be problematic by the Police Department. In 1987, there were 85 liquor establishments deemed as trouble spots. In 1988 and 1989, the number of establishments dropped to 50 and 45, respectively. This translates into a 41.2% decrease in 1988 and a 10% decrease in 1989.

The City of St. Louis has successfully strengthened the liquor laws, yet the involvement and participation by the neighborhood and Police Department are vital to the successful application of these new laws to the problems we face today. Through a cooperative effort, we will achieve our goal of improving the quality of life for our citizens.

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The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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

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Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

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

Continuing

I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America, by Brian Lanker, Special Exhibit at the Art Museum, see related article.

Elliot Smith Gallery, 360 N. Skinker will feature an exhibit by Carol Carter in Gallery I; exhibit by Jim Dine in the Print Room, and Terry Moeller paintings in Gallery II.

Mark Barone to exhibit at University City Library Gallery, 6701 Delmar. The exhibit will be on display through December 30.

December

13 The Library, Ltd. bookstore, 30 N. Brentwood, proudly presents an evening with George Will, nationally known columnist and political commentator; 7-8:30 p.m. Call 721-0378 for information.

Concert by the Synchronia Ensemble—a special Christmas treat—will begin at 8 p.m. at the Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton. \$10; \$4 for students and seniors. Call 664-9313 for information.

14 Benny Andrews—*America Series and other work*—exhibit will be on display at The Gallery at COCA, 524 Trinity. Opening reception 6-9 p.m., Dec. 14.

Traditional Holiday Music—Carl Smith on harpsichord, with vocalist Lee Hoffman; St. Louis Art Museum; Grigg Gallery 6-8 p.m. For more information call 721-0067, ext. 235.

"Born Yesterday" (film), starring Judy Holliday and William Holden. Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30 p.m., 7 & 9:15 p.m. \$3.

15 Children's program: "Kwanzaa: The African American Celebration" Children learn about Kwanzaa, which recognizes the first fruits of harvest. History Museum; 10:30 a.m.

18 "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" (film), starring Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. Art Museum Auditorium, 5:30 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$3.

21 The Legend Singers—a popular St. Louis choral group performs a wide variety of traditional holiday music in the Grigg Gallery; St. Louis Art Museum; 6-8 p.m. Call 721-0067, ext. 235. Free.

"The Seven Year Itch" (film), starring Marilyn Monroe. Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30 p.m., 7 & 9:15 p.m. \$3.

25 **Happy Holidays** from *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere*. We take off over the holidays so there will not be a January issue.

28 Opera singers Laura Thompson, Debbie Stinson, Antoine Wallace and Scott Sikon perform traditional and classical holiday favorites; Grigg Gallery, St. Louis Art Museum; 6-8 p.m. Free.

"Funny Girl" (film), starring Barbra Streisand and Omar Sharif; Art Museum Auditorium, 1:30 p.m., 7 & 9:15 p.m. \$3.

January

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

8 "The Color Purple" (film), starring Oprah Winfrey, directed by Steven Spielberg. Art Museum Auditorium, 5:30 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$3.

18 Laura Dean Dancers & Musicians will appear at Wash. U's Edison Theatre, 8 p.m.; with a performance on Jan. 19 at 8 p.m. Call the box office at 889-6543 for ticket information.

25 Robert Small in Concert—an evening of compelling choreography and mesmerizing movement. Edison Theatre, Washington University 8 p.m. Ticket information call 889-6543.

February

1 Body Musician Keith Terry performs at Wash. U's Edison Theatre at 8 p.m., with performances at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Feb. 2. Call 889-6543 for ticket information.

Washington University Association Travel Lecture Series, "The Real World of Hawaii and Tahiti," Rick Howard, filmmaker. 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Graham Chapel. Ticket info., call 889-5212.

2 *The Birthday Of The Infanta*, Margaret Hermes's stage adaptation of Oscar Wilde's fable, will be performed by Metro Theatre Company at the Art Museum at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

4 Guest guitarist Rodney Stucky joins the Synchronia in Toru Takemitsu's "Toward the Sea" and "Fantasia" by William Neil; 8 p.m.; The Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton. Call 664-9313.

6 Assembly Series William C. Ferguson Memorial Lecture, with James Gleick, author of "Chaos: Making a New Science"; 11 a.m. Graham Chapel, Wash. U.; 889-4620 for more information.

Halloween Party Held



Photo by King Schoenfeld

Rosedale Neighbor's held its 23rd annual Halloween party at St. Roch's Gym on Halloween night.

Entertainment was by Jacques Dupress (Lee Hendrix, a Rosedale resident), a French trapper who told stories about his life in St. Louis 200 years ago. The costume winners were:

Centipede	David Holler
Mermaid	Caroline Holler
Tinkerbelle	Natalie Bailey
Elvis	Daniel Flynn
Prince George & The Dragon	Daniel & Laura Knarr
Trash Can	Matthew Bailey
Vampire	David Ducker
Football Player	Brian Vincent
Playing Card	Beth Kuhl

The judges were Kate Anderson and Nancy Farmer. The crossing guard was Scott Santen. Art Santen was the committee chairman.

Missouri Historical Society Offers Holiday Cards And Gift Catalog

The Missouri Historical Society has produced its first catalog of items for sale in the Museum Shop in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. *The Holiday Gift Collection*, a 16 page booklet, presents a variety of books among the gift suggestions.

Items in the gift section include reproductions from the MHS collections, earthenware dishes in Madame Chouteau's china pattern, imported glass tree ornaments and porcelain baby dolls.

The extensive book listings include 100 titles organized in ten sections. Among these are St. Louis, aviation, early American history, African American studies and children's books.

The Holiday Gift Collection was designed by Jim Dickinson of Dickinson Graphic Design. Jim Hall was the photographer, and the booklet was printed by Jefferson/Keeler Printing.

Holiday Christmas Cards are also on sale at the History Museum. A one-horse open sleigh dashes across the 1990 holiday card, produced to benefit the Missouri Historical Society. The card is for sale in the Museum Shop in the Jefferson Memorial Building at a price of \$8.50 for ten cards with envelopes, or \$1.00 each.

The image of the sleigh is framed by a cut-out in the top fold, with the message "Season's Greetings" in white on green across the bottom. The photograph of the jaunty white horse and Victorian sleigh depicts a metal toy on exhibit in the toy galley on the lower level of the Jefferson Memorial Building. The toy, ca. 1890, is attributed to the Hubley Manufacturing Company and is from the collections of the Missouri Historical Society.

The card was designed by Geoffrey Wyatt, art director of the Missouri Historical Society.

Exhibit Of Frontier Artist Carl Wimar To Open In St. Louis



"Indians Crossing the Mouth of the Milk River" by Carl F. Wimar

Images of the Western frontier by 19th-century painter Carl Wimar (1828-1862), considered one of the most important early artists who depicted the American West, will be on exhibit from Jan. 26-March 24, 1991, in the Washington University Gallery of Art in St. Louis.

The exhibit, titled "Carl Wimar: Chronicler of the Missouri River Frontier," is the first comprehensive examination of his work and its social and historical context, as well as the first exhibit of his art in more than 40 years.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the gallery will host numerous educational programs, including lectures on various aspects of the exhibition and two related exhibits, one on early American prints by Karl Bodmer, George Catlin and others, and a second exhibit, held at the Missouri Historical Society, titled "Prints From the U.S. Geological Survey." The culminating event of the exhibit will be a pow-wow, a native American dance and craft festival, on Saturday, March 23. Approximately 70 paintings, drawings and oil sketches borrowed from public and private collections throughout the United States will be featured in the exhibition, which is co-organized by the Washington University Gallery of Art and the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, and co-curated by Joseph

D. Ketner, Washington University gallery director, and Rick Stewart, curator of western painting and sculpture at the Amon Carter.

"Wimar certainly created the finest images of the early frontier," says Ketner. "Despite a tragically brief career—he died at 34—Wimar painted a large number of significant works depicting life in the pioneer West. It is our hope that this exhibit will help solidify Wimar's place in American art history."

Many art historians consider Wimar to be one of the most important of the early frontier artists. These artists, including noted American artists George Catlin, Alfred Jacob Miller, Seth Eastman and Swiss artist Karl Bodmer, traveled and painted along the trans-Mississippi River frontier prior to the mass settlement that followed the Civil War. Wimar's work is perhaps less well known because it is so rare and infrequently exhibited.

Known by his contemporaries as the "Indian painter," in part because of his sharp features and dark, shoulder-length hair, Wimar is considered the signature painter of the wagon train attack. Well-known "cowboy" artist Charles M. Russell later was influenced by these images. In addition to images of Indians, Wimar often painted the majestic Western vistas he saw on his travels.

Wimar was born near Bonn, Germany, and emigrated to St. Louis with his family when he was 15. He spent most of his life in St. Louis and traveling the Missouri River, returning to Germany for four years of study at the Dusseldorf Academy.

Beginning in 1856, Wimar embarked on a series of summer trips up the Missouri River, where he sketched buffalo, landscapes and Plains Indian culture. Wimar also was one of the first artists to photograph the Plains Indians, but unfortunately none of those photographs survive.

Near the end of his life, Wimar undertook a major commission to paint the interior dome of the Old St. Louis Courthouse. He depicted four episodes in St. Louis and Missouri history: The Spanish discovery of the river; the French found-

ing of St. Louis; the British/Indian attack on the French; and the future of St. Louis as the point of westward expansion via the trans-continental railroad.



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SDCC Hears Neighborhood Reports

Board Membership Changes

Present at the November 5, 1990 Skinker DeBaliviere Community council meeting were: Directors F. Driscole, M. Fleener, C. Forslund, G. Fox, R. Johnson, B. Mahon, S. Polk, R. Roncal, J. Scurlock, L. Stein, N. Vatcha, A. Webb, J. Wright; Executive Director N. Farmer; Guests Fl. Driscole, C. Homan, M. Karina, and L. Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Mahon.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved with two corrections: The Rosedale report was mislabeled and the Parkview report was omitted.

The following amendment to the SDCC Bylaws, as proposed at the October board meeting, was adopted.

"Article 4.3

Neighborhood Directors: Number, Term of Office

a) Each Neighborhood Association member in the SDCC area will have directors according to the following formula: Population 2500 plus or 20 blocks in an area gives five (5) directors; population 2000-2499 or 15 to 19 blocks gives four (4) directors; population 1500-1999 or 10 to 14 blocks gives three (3) directors; population 1000-1499 or 5 to 9 blocks gives two (2) directors; population less than 1000 or fewer than 5 blocks gives one (1) director."

The application for membership in SDCC by the residents association of Kingsbury Square was approved.

Committee Reports

Nominating

Mahon reported that the executive committee had met Oct. 22 and nominates the following slate of officers for the December elections: President, Catherine Forslund; Vice President, Lana Stein; Secretary, Frank Driscole;

and Treasurer, George Genung. Nominations are open until the elections at the regular board meeting December 3.

Housing Corporation

Farmer reported that SDCHC now has some advisory/technical support from Lou Berra's office, a consulting firm that specializes in housing. The consultants are working with the board on plans for Rosedale Square as well as SDCHC's other properties at 6025 Westminster and 6029 Washington. The board hopes to begin marketing 6025 Westminster and 6029 Washington.

DeGiverville

Scurlock reported that their block units plan to donate two Holiday food baskets for needy families to the social worker at Hamilton School.

Nina Place

Stein reported that three units in Phase I of the condo project are now being leased to tenants by the owners. All three of the owners moved out of their units because of job transfers, not because they were dissatisfied with the project or the area. Phase II is still under construction.

Parkview

Fleener reported that there are still problems with some of the perimeter lights in the subdivision. She also reported that about 250 children, many from outside of the neighborhood, were trick-or-treating on Halloween night.

Rosedale

Roncal reported that RNA will have general membership meetings at least quarterly. The last meeting was held in October and featured presentations about the proposed half-cent sales tax by Board of Alderman President Tom Villa, and about Housing Conservation Districts by Alderman Dan McGuire.



The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council celebrated the election of new officers, the end of a successful year and the holiday season at its December 3rd board meeting. Outgoing President Bob Mahon was thanked for his leadership and hard work this past year. New officers - President Catherine Forslund (third from left), Vice-president Lana Stein (right), Secretary Frank Driscole (second from left) and Treasurer George Genung (left) were congratulated on their new posts. Photo by Roy Roncal.

Director's report

AIA Design Charrette "Delmar Blvd.: Edges and Connections"—The charrette, Oct. 27-28, was very successful with over 20 design teams participating. The committee was disappointed that so few neighborhood residents attended. All of the proposals that were developed in the charrette are the property of the St. Louis AIA for six months. The board agreed that SDCC should try to display the work in the office and possibly host a reception for the charrette committee and participants, probably after the first of the year.

Resignation of Secretary—R. Chambers has been the part-time secretary in the SDCC office for over two years; she is resigning Friday. There has been discus-

sion of making this position full-time over the years but SDCC has not had the resources to do so. Additional resources may be available at this time through the Arts Council which would like to employ someone for 10 hours per week, and possibly through SDCC's funding institutions.

ConServ Officer—Bill Duncan, who has been assigned to Skinker-DeBaliviere from Operation ConServ, is retiring November 9. Jan Waits will be replacing him. Farmer, Ald. McGuire and ConServ Director P. Sortino met last week and discussed the role of ConServ in the neighborhood.

"Building a Supportive Multi-cultural Community" workshop—Farmer is unable to attend this program Sat., November 10. She distributed registration forms if any board members would like to attend.

Pawn Shop—Farmer reported that a pawn shop may try to locate on Delmar Blvd. She will keep directors posted on developments with their application.

Neighborhood plan—Farmer has a neighborhood map indicating "existing building conditions" prepared by Lou Berra's office. She asked that directors look at it after the meeting and make note of any questions or comments they have.

"Delmar Link: Edges and Connections"



Photo by King Schoenfeld

On October 28, 1990, seven jurors critiqued design proposals for sections of Delmar from the Wabash Station to Skinker as part of the 1990 charrette "Delmar Link: Edges and Connections" Winning plans will hopefully be on display at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office in early 1991. The charrette was sponsored by the St. Louis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

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The Laura Dean Dancers and Musicians will perform at "Ovations!" on Friday and Saturday, January 18 and 19 at 8:00 p.m. The company is dedicated to live performance of both music and dance. The ensemble of 11 dancers and four musicians performs and teaches throughout the world. Laura Dean's work has been described as "primal, hypnotic and visceral," and the titles of pieces such as "Drumming," "Gravity," "Space" and "Night" reinforce those driving, swirling images.



William Gass Named Director Of International Writers Center

Parkview resident William H. Gass, David May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis, has been appointed director of the university's new International Writers Center, according to Martin H. Israel, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

The International Writers Center, which opened Oct. 1, 1990, is temporarily housed in rooms 101 and 103 of the university's Busch Hall. The center is designed to serve as a focal point for writers who are interested in international issues. Conferences and symposia on international topics, such as censorship, exile and imprisonment, will be held at the center as well as lectures, readings and social gatherings. In addition, a newsletter highlighting center activities will be published.

"Professor Gass is highly regarded as a writer in the international community,"

says Israel. "His influence and ideas will be invaluable. I look forward to the center becoming an exciting place for our students, faculty and the residents of St. Louis."

A member of the Washington University faculty since 1969, Gass won the National Book Critics Circle award for the most distinguished work on criticism in 1985. He received the honor for *Habitations of the Word*, a collection of essays on literature, philosophy and language. He won an American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award for Fiction in 1975 and its Medal of Merit for Fiction in 1979.



William H. Gass

New City School Opens Christmas Tree Lot

New City School, an independent elementary school in the Central West End, will open its Christmas Tree Lot on November 29, 1990 at 3:00 p.m. This is the eighteenth year of operation for the lot which sells a variety of trees, many of which are native to Missouri.

In addition to trees, greens, and decorated wreaths the tree lot contains Griffin's Gifts, which sells a variety of lights, gifts, and Christmas accessories.

The hours of the lot are Monday through Friday, 3-7 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Special orders are encouraged and may be ordered at 361-6411 or 361-6712.

The lot is manned by parent volunteers, and all proceeds from the lot are used for student financial aid. New City is a unique school in that 32% of all students receive financial aid, assuring the school that its student body is diverse both economically and racially. The school boasts a minority population of 22%. New City School students are encouraged to learn and grow from the richly varied experiences and perspectives of their peers. The tree lot is a resource which helps fund the rich diversity of New City School.

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A Beautiful Book Is A Work Of Art



Dr. Jerome Schiller

Photo by King Schoenfeld

by Mary Ann Shickman

Bookbinder and philosopher Jerome Schiller was born in New York City across from the old Madison Square Garden. He received his bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College, and his master's degree and Ph.D. from Harvard. He has been on the faculty of Washington University since 1964 and was chairman of the philosophy department from 1980 until 1986. His specialty is Greek philosophy, in particular Aristotle and Plato.

In 1962, Schiller began to develop his bookbinding knowledge while teaching at Knox College. When he learned that his great, great grandfather, who had immigrated from Poland in 1840, had also done hand bookbinding, he was impressed with the coincidence. In 1976 he went to Ascona, Switzerland to Centro Del Bel Libro and studied the use of gold in bookbinding for a month and then spent half time for a year in the London College of Printing, working with Arthur Johnson who was an excellent teacher

but a difficult personality. Johnson's book, *Manual of Bookbinding*, is an important reference that is carried by the St. Louis Public Library.

From 1988 until the present, Schiller has been teaching bookbinding at Craft Alliance. He works in the traditional way—heating his tools on a small hot plate and using an electrically heated glue pot, animal glue and wheat paste. At Craft Alliance he teaches both beginners and advanced students.

He explained that designs are made on the back of the book, the spine and, perhaps, on the front. If both covers of a book are held open, designs can continue or flow from back to spine to front. Leather is used extensively in binding books, especially Moroccan leather which is very responsive to tooling with gold. Other materials include cloth and marbled paper. Gilding the edges of the book is a very specialized skill which Schiller employs. He accepts commissions and repairs and is currently working on three

Notes From Operation Safestreet

Some crimes are seasonal. We can predict when the numbers of burglaries will increase. Any guess?

Well, consider for a moment that burglary is a crime of opportunity. Burglars don't like to be discovered as they move very fast in and out with the goods. One opportunity that is provided for them is the classic "end of the summer vacation" when many neighborhoods vacate. There's no one there to watch and report! August becomes the burglary peak.

But there is a second peak that is soon approaching—December. Again there is a dramatic loss of people to vacations, but also to Christmas shopping, concerts, and holiday gatherings. The early darkness adds to the opportunity. By the time many of us finally reach home our absence has been highlighted by the darkness of our houses. Dusk to dawn sensors and timers on lights are both simple and inexpensive deterrents if only people believed that it could happen to them.

Although many burglaries occur through open or unlocked windows and doors—or by using the key we too often "hide" outside—the most common forced entry is kicking in the basement or rear door. Even a good deadbolt lock in a solid door can be defeated by a couple of sharp kicks, breaking the deadbolt lock right thru the wooden door frame.

To strengthen your rear door, make sure that you have a substantial strike plate on the frame that is screwed in with 2½" screws. Make sure that the strike plate you use on a wooden door frame is for a wooden frame with offset holes for the screws. Using a strike plate with the holes lined up on a wooden frame can split or weaken the frame.

To strengthen your basement door, secure brackets on both sides of the frame and rest a 2x4 in the brackets across the door. The tighter the hold against the door the stronger the reinforcement.

Operation Safestreet will install a double-cylinder deadbolt lock with a strike plate attached by 2½" screws for a total of \$30.00, materials and labor included. Operation Safestreet can also install a "basement door barricade" for a total of \$24.00, materials and labor included.

If you are a senior citizen, disabled, or a burglary victim there is absolutely no cost. If you do not have the entire amount as a paying customer, we ask for at least 25% at the time of installation and will allow you to pay the remainder in monthly payments.

Please call us. We want to help. 622-3444.

commissions.

The Schiller family lives on 61XX McPherson and includes his wife Britt Marie and their son Alexander. About two years ago Dr. Schiller became a regular at the Kiosk looking for books for young Alexander. They would sit on the floor together, he reading and explaining the books to gleeful Alexander. They always left with a large armful of books and returned to check out more. Alexander took part in all the children's events at the Kiosk along with his father. We are happy to have the Schillers as patrons and we wish them the best for the future.

Two of the many books on bookbinding at the St. Louis Public Library are:

The History of Bookbinding, 525-1950 a.d.; an exhibition held at the Baltimore Museum of Art, Walters Art Gallery, Nov. 12, 1957. Zaehnsdorf Firm, Bookbinders, London, 1895

A Short History of Bookbinding and a Glossary of Styles and Terms used in Binding with a brief account of the celebrated binders and patrons of bookbinding from whom the various styles are named.

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In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

Thanksgiving was over, and he knew what that meant. It was time to put some of the leftover turkey in the freezer. It was the start of the holiday season, and it was time to check on Cindy and make sure that everything was O.K.

It had become a sort of ritual for him. First, the Monday before Thanksgiving, he'd go to the store and buy a turkey for the gala dinner. He had gone to the same store, Carl's Market, for years now. He'd buy the turkey and along with it some rolls, a can of cranberry sauce, a couple of potatoes, and a quart of chocolate ripple ice cream. He'd usually eat most of the ice cream before Thanksgiving. The turkey would stay in the refrigerator freezer until the night before Thanksgiving when he'd put it on the counter to thaw.

The morning of Thanksgiving was spent cooking, with television parade talk and music in the background, bland announcers making bland comments. Once he had tried to watch a parade, the one in New York, but after two or three minutes he was bored. He was eating a bowl of popcorn at the time and entertained himself by throwing pieces of popcorn at the floats on the T.V. screen. If Cindy was still around, she'd be very upset, he thought.

He'd sleep late that Thanksgiving morning. Working at the warehouse wasn't easy and each morning his back pleaded with him to stay in bed for just a few more minutes. This was one of those mornings where he could listen to his muscles. Sure, you could do that on weekends, but it felt better on a Thursday.

Six years ago he and Larry had decided not to go to work on a Wednesday. That was a day that he'd never forget because of what he found when he came home. That morning, he and Larry each called in sick. He remembered Cindy next to him, in bed, begging him not to make the call because if he was caught, he'd be fired and then how could they live?

He remembered talking to the foreman and stumbling when the foreman asked him what, exactly, was wrong. He knew that if he just said, "I donno, I've been throwin' up all night," that would have been O.K., but he was too pleased with himself for pulling a fast one, so without thinking he said, "I've got these red spots on my chest."

"Red spots on your chest?" the foreman answered.

"Yeah, little red spots, dozens of them." He smiled and looked at her. Cindy was half under the sheets, holding a pillow over her mouth so that her laughter wouldn't be heard over the phone.

"Red spots. Are you sure?" the foreman asked.

"Oh yeah, they itch too. Got to go!" and then he hung up. They both laughed after that for what seemed like hours. Of course, it really wasn't hours because Larry came by soon, driving his truck and smiling to beat the band.

The two of them went driving. Just driving, actually Larry did the driving and he sat shotgun. They rode up and down the highways, laughing at all of the suckers who were going to work or coming from work or working in their cars. They stopped for lunch at some bar on 40, past Weldon Spring, and ate potato chips and drank beer. Lots of beer. They bought a six-pack, three really, for drinking in the afternoon while they drove around and laughed at the suckers.

The beer was probably why he didn't realize that the house was so dark when he got home. It shouldn't have been like that. He remembered stumbling to the door and having trouble getting the key in because the porch light wasn't on. The lamp inside, the one in the living room by the window, wasn't on either, so he

couldn't use any light from it to help him find the keyhole.

He opened the door, but that didn't help. It was dark inside too. He turned on the light by the sofa and then he saw Cindy. He'd never forget how she looked. She was always beautiful, but not then.

She was on the floor, face up, with her eyes frozen, looking at the ceiling. A bottle of sleeping pills was in her right hand and their prom picture, back from high school, was in her left. Right away he knew that Cindy was dead. You could just tell.

No note, no nothing. He spent hours crying, sobbing, letting the pain run down his cheeks. Sure, they had problems, but so did everybody. Sure, she'd threatened to leave, but she never meant it. He held her and rocked, crying and singing. She always liked it when he sang.

The next thing he knew it was the middle of the night. The house was quiet and she was still in his arms. Her eyes were still open, staring at nothing, but her body was already getting stiff and cold. He knew that he should close her eyes, pull her lids down like he'd seen in the movies, but he couldn't do that. As long as Cindy's eyes were open, she really wasn't gone and he wouldn't be alone.

Morning came and went. He only sat her down to call work and tell the foreman that the spots were still there and he

wouldn't be in today either. He must've sounded different, though, because the foreman only told him to take care of himself.

It was noon and he still wasn't hungry. They were still sitting together, on the floor. He couldn't think of going on without her. And what would people say? He thought about taking some pills himself, but the bottle was empty.

He remembered that day like it was yesterday, even though it was six years ago. He shook his head and smiled a bit. Now it was time to check on her. He went to the meat freezer and looked inside. There was a big tinfoil package with masking tape marked "Hmbrgr" and two or three frozen pizzas, wrapped in cellophane. He moved the Hmbrgr package and found a bunch of tinfoil packages, all different sizes. He picked them up, one after another, and began to smile while he read the labels aloud, "Cindy-left hand," "Cindy-shoulder," "Cindy-right hand," "Cindy-neck," "Cindy-right leg," "Cindy-left ear." The freezer was strong because the packages were hard as rocks. Everything was O.K. and she was fine. He continued moving the packages from one side of the freezer to the other, reading the names aloud, "Cindy-forearm," "Cindy-eye." He always enjoyed the holiday season.



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