

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

VOL. 21, NO. 9

MARCH 1991

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Candidate Forum: 28th Ward Alderman



Janice "Jan" Trigg

I welcome the opportunity extended to me by *The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere* to share some of my views regarding the aldermanic race in the 28th Ward.

During the campaign, one question has often been asked that I would like to address directly. That question is, "Why are you running?" Quite frankly and simply, I am confident that I can do a better job for the entire Ward than the present alderman.

The 28th Ward, of which the Skinker-DeBaliviere community is an integral part, represents the residential spinal cord around which the entire city is built. We have the best examples of what the city can do and should be, but we also have too many examples of what it should not be. I believe that the problems need to be addressed, to stabilize the assets that we have that are good and to demonstrate by leadership and example to the rest of the city. These problems include:

1. Creative financing to support residential home ownership rather than apartment development.
2. Street and alley way intra-structure improvements.
3. Increased police protection and more local control over allocation of police resources.

As a resident, mother, grandmother, employee and community volunteer, I have lived and worked within this community the majority of my adult life. My familiarity with these problems are not merely academic, I have hands-on experience. I now believe that the experiences have prepared me to offer solutions and set policy.

As importantly as addressing problems through legislation and policy, is accessibility. I believe that an alderman has a duty to be accessible and accountable to the residents who elect her. My service as the alderman of the 28th Ward will be marked by both accessibility and sensitivity to the needs of the entire ward. My candidacy is an opportunity to bring ideas, inspired by those voices who have not been heard in recent years. We have much to be proud of, but we also have much to which we can aspire.



Daniel J. "Dan" McGuire

Dear Neighbors:

I have been honored and privileged to serve as your alderman since 1981. During these nine years, I have worked full-time to ensure that all the neighborhoods in the 28th Ward receive their fair share of city dollars, services and programs. I have kept the community informed and met with all groups in the area to listen and act on residential and business concerns.

But I must admit that Skinker-DeBaliviere is special to me—it has been my home for 20 years. My wife, Jill, and I have deep roots here. We purchased the "little white house" at 5788 Waterman in 1971 and began raising our family. But with the birth of our second son, we needed some more room, so we moved to our present home at 6185 Westminster Place. Our sons, Danny and John, attended St. Roch School and Jill and I have been active members of the neighborhood throughout our time here.

Together with you—our friends and neighbors—we have worked to make the 28th Ward and our neighborhood a better place to live and raise our families. While much has been accomplished, much remains to be done. That's why I am seeking re-election on March 5—to continue strong, accessible and responsive representation for the citizens of the 28th Ward.

As your alderman, my record of accomplishment stands as proof that actions, not political rhetoric, are what counts!

I sincerely hope that I have earned your respect, your trust, and your vote—to preserve and improve all that we have worked so hard to accomplish. Since there is no Republican candidate, your alderman will be elected in the Democratic Primary. For this reason, it is critically important to your interests to VOTE ON MARCH 5!

Sincerely,
Daniel J. McGuire

Celebrate SDCC's 25th On March 21

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council incorporated on March 21, 1966. 1991 marks SDCC's 25th year of operation with an office and full-time staff working to make Skinker DeBaliviere a better place to live and work.

To celebrate this silver anniversary the SDCC will host a reception for Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors at the SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury, from 6:00-9:00

p.m., Thursday, March 21, 1991. All neighborhood residents are cordially invited to attend. Special invitations will be extended to past SDCC board members and neighborhood leaders who no longer live in the area.

Please plan to stop by, visit with old friends and meet new ones. Special presentations will be made between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.



Shown here celebrating the opening of the second phase of Nina Place last fall are three of the of the people who have served as Executive Director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. From left are Richmond "Skip" Coburn, who served from 1979 to 1982, Calvin B. Stuart, 1970 to 1979, and Nancy Farmer, 1985 to present.

Thank You...

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

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| Suzanne Kropp | Brad and Marjorie Weir |

Voter Registration

Deadline Is

March 12th

Tuesday, March 12, 1991, is the deadline for people to register to vote for the April 2nd city election. Four St. Louis School Board members will be elected from eight who are running. New voters and voters who have moved can register at the St. Louis Election Board, 208 S. Tucker, and public libraries. Special registration drives may also be held at other meeting places. Contact the Election Board at 622-4201 for more information. Register and vote!

From The Mayor's Desk

Smaller industrial and commercial gas users who buy from Laclede Gas currently pay a 10 per cent gross receipts tax and a 1 per cent sales tax. Residential users pay a 4 per cent gross receipts tax. These taxes would not change if the fee is adopted by voters, large consumers of gas would have to pay the same rate of taxes as other commercial users.

The transportation fee was placed before the voters in November of 1990 and was defeated. However, many individuals contend that the fee was rejected because voters were not provided adequate information on the fee. As a result, the Board of Aldermen recently approved an ordinance authorizing that the transportation fee be resubmitted to the voters on April 2, 1991. A simple majority is required for passage.

If voters approve the transportation fee, the measure would be effective May 1, 1991. The license fee is payable in quarterly installments. The fee is based on purchase price paid for the natural gas or methane transported to the consumer for use within the City during the preceding three month periods. All information obtained by the City in the collection of the fee shall be confidential.

The gas transportation license fee does not apply to the residential user of natural gas or methane. Rather, the fee applies to large commercial and industrial users that purchase natural gas from suppliers outside of the

City. At the present time, the large consumers are escaping local taxes paid by smaller industrial and commercial gas users. The natural gas transportation fee that appears on the April 2, 1991 ballot would require the large consumers of gas to pay the same rate of taxes as other commercial users.

On April 2, 1991, voters of the City of St. Louis will be asked to approve a natural gas transportation licensing fee. This licensing fee would not affect individual consumers or the vast majority of businesses. However, the licensing fee would restore to the City approximately \$3 million in revenue.

If approved by voters, large commercial and industrial users of methane and natural gas would pay an 11 per cent transportation license fee on the price of gas purchased from suppliers outside of the City and transported to the City for commercial or industrial use. The proposal would affect approximately 35 area companies.

Last year the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission adopted a rule allowing large industrial gas users to purchase gas directly from producers. Prior to the change, large gas consumers in St. Louis purchased gas through Laclede Gas and were subject to local taxation. As a result of the change, large gas consumers now avoid paying taxes that smaller customers, who deal directly with Laclede Gas, must pay.

The Rosedale Neighborhood Association will have a general meeting and POT LUCK DINNER

Thursday, April 11, 1991
St. Roch's school cafeteria
6040 Waterman

The Pot luck dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m., the business meeting will begin at 7:15 p.m. The agenda includes safety and beautification programs for the neighborhood. Watch for flyers and the April issue of the Times for more information.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editorial Board: Sue Rothschild, 351-0880 or 725-0878
Katie Kurtz
King Schoenfeld

Calendar: Sue Rothschild Business Manager: Marjorie Weir, 863-7558

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

- | | | |
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For complete list of sizes and rates, write The Times, 5010 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 5010 Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 20th of the month.

Notes From Operation Safestreet

There is hope and help at hand.

Drugs have taken a heavy toll in many neighborhoods. If you live in one that's been damaged you know all too well that one bad building can destroy a block—physically and psychologically. If it hasn't happened in your neighborhood it's probably a sign that you're well organized and active. But, even where there is constant vigilance, a problem building can fester up. Know what you can do to make yours a SAFESTREET!

The police need and use well the information phoned in to the GET TOUGH HOTLINE—621-4333. Ask the public affairs officer in your district to give a Get Tough training on your block.

Know who is responsible for each piece of property on your block. This is public information and can be obtained in Room 114 of City Hall or by calling the ConServ officer (622-4628) or neighborhood liaison officer (622-4661) for your area. Develop a relationship with the property owners, especially if they don't live at the property they own. Whenever you can involve them, do so. Invite landlords to block meetings, to your Brightside Cleanup in the spring, and to your National Night Out party in August. Let them know when their tenants are damaging property, making a mess of the front or causing disturbances. Some blocks have even gotten the good landlords to call the more negligent landlords. Good landlords are a great resource.

There is now a state law that can hold property owners and managers civilly and criminally responsible for maintaining a building where drugs are kept or sold. Property owners and managers, as well as occupants of the building, can be imprisoned and/or fined if they know about and do not abate the "public nuisance."

Call Operation Safestreet (622-3444) if we can help you.

March Calendar

Continuing Exhibitions at the History Museum

Waterways West: Photographs From the Missouri River Portfolios.
Boulevard and City Street: Views of Lindell and DeBaliviere.
Seeking a Route West: The Isaac Stevens Pacific Railroad Survey of 1853-54.
The Power of Home: St. Louis Victorian Interiors.
Ragtime to Rock 'N' Roll: St. Louis African-American Music.

March

- 1 Edison Theatre "Ovations!" Series presents—The Bach Ensemble, 8 p.m. performance. \$18; \$14 senior citizens, Wash. U faculty and staff; \$9 for students. For ticket information call 889-6543.
- Componere Gallery of Art and Fashion, 6509 Delmar, presents works by artist Robert F. Jostes titled, "Water Lilies Series," pastels and oils. Reception, 7-9 p.m.
- Washington University Association Travel Lecture Series "Norway Northern Delights," Charles Hartman, filmmaker. Graham Chapel, 6:30 & 8 p.m. For ticket information call 889-5212.
- "Carl F. Wimar: Chronicler of the Missouri River Frontier" exhibit at the Gallery of Art, upper gallery, Steinberg Hall, Washington University. Through March 24.
- 3 University of Missouri-Columbia Wind Ensemble concert in St. Louis Art Museum Theatre, Forest Park. 2:30 p.m. Free.
- Edison Theatre "Ovations!" Series presents "Joshua Rifkin Plays Scott Joplin"; Wash. U. Edison Theatre, 8 p.m. \$18; \$14 seniors, faculty, staff; \$9 students. For ticket information 889-6543.
- 4 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- 5 **Primary Election Day—Municipal Officials.**
 "Allie's Story: A Person With Aids,"—Alison Gertz—Assembly Series Lecture at 4 p.m.; Washington University, Graham Chapel. Free.
- Assembly Series Presents The John and Penelope Biggs Residency in the classics lecture, "Euripides: The Playwright's Viewpoint" Wash. U. May Aud., Simon Hall. 4 p.m. Free. Call 889-4620.
- 6 Washington University Assembly Series Lecture with Jonathan Miller, opera and stage director, Graham Chapel; 11 a.m. Free.
 "Image Success," workshop, 6-8 p.m., presented at the YWCA Women's Resource Center, 140 N. Brentwood, Clayton. Call 726-6665 for more information. Fee \$35.
- 9 Theatreworks/USA—"Play To Win: The Story Of Jackie Robinson"; Edison Theatre, Wash. U.; Noon and 2 p.m. Tickets for "Ovations for Young People," \$7. For ticket information call 889-6543.
- History Day Regional Competition—St. Louis area students from grades 6 through 12 bring projects and papers to the History Museum and compete for awards. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- "Black Jack & White Jack"—Story performer Janet Kiefer and Percussionist Blake Travis tell this high-spirited adaptation of a Caribbean folk tale, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. at COCA, 520 Trinity.
- 10 Program Honors Women's History Month: Laclède String Quartet—Music for strings by women composers, features quartet by "Katch" Wells. History Museum, 2 p.m. Free.
- 12 **Deadline for voter registration** for the April 2nd election.
- 14 Tea Lecture: Irish Traditions—Helen Gannon brings Irish traditional music and dance to the History Museum. Tea served following the talk. History Museum, 1:30, reservations 454-3195.

- 15 Washington University Assembly Series Presents Kellwood Lecture with P. Roy Vagelos, Chairman and CEO, Merck & Co. Inc.; The May Aud., Simon Hall; 4 p.m. Free.
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, CASA Children's Theatre production, Julie Kriechhaus, Director. 560 Trinity, 7:30 p.m. Also March 16 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and March 17 at 3 p.m. General admission \$3, children \$1.
- 16 Children's Program: Missouri Tall Tales and Other Stories—Irene Eveland, storyteller from the St. Louis Public Library, tells the legends of Mike Fink and Davy Crockett as well as an Ozark folk tale. History Museum, 10:30 a.m. Free.
- 17 The Saint Louis Classical Guitar Society presents Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver, guitar and harpsichord duo, CASA, 560 Trinity. 8:00 p.m., tickets from \$10 to \$25.
- St. Roch's Science Fair.**
 Lecture Series: The History of Forest Park and Its Institutions—Caroline Loughlin, co-author of Forest Park and past president of Forest Park Forever, opens new lecture series with slide-illustrated discussion of Forest Park. History Museum, 2:00 p.m. Free.
- 20 Assembly Series presents—Prof. Margaret Rossiter of Cornell University, author of "Women Scientists in America"; at Washington University, Simon Hall, Room 106; 4 p.m. Free.
- 21 **25th Anniversary Party for the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council.** 6010 Kingsbury, 6-9 p.m. See related story.
- St. Louis Urban History Seminar: Tim Mahoney, University of Nebraska, discusses "Metropolitan Development and the Reordering of Regional Society." History Museum, 7:00 p.m. Free.
- Guarneri String Quartet, CASA, 560 Trinity. 8 p.m.
- 22 Dempsey Travis, author of "An Autobiography of Black Jazz"; Washington University Assembly Series Lecture; Graham Chapel. 11 a.m. Free.
- Tommy Flanagan Trio, CASA, 560 Trinity. 8 p.m. \$12.50.
- The Acting Company presents "Two Gentlemen of Verona," a comedy of friendship, rivalry and love. Wash. U's Edison Theatre. Call 889-6543 for more information. 8 p.m. performance.
- 23 The Acting Company in William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet"; Washington U., Edison Theatre. 9 p.m. performance. Call 889-6543 for ticket information.
- 24 Program Honors Women's History Month: Taking Heart: Women's Voices from the Frontier—Holy Roman Repertory Company presents a program of traditional American folk music and readings from selections of letters and diaries written by women settling the western frontier. History Museum, 2:00 p.m. \$6.
- 26 Support group on self esteem. Learn how your self esteem influences your life. Limited group size, 8 week session, 6-8 p.m. YWCA Women's Resource Center. Call 726-6665. Fee \$8 per week.
- 27 Kenneth Manning, History of Science Professor at MIT; author of *Black Apollo of Science: The Life of Ernest E. Just*; lecture; Wash. U's Simon Hall Room 106. 4 p.m.
- Washington U's Assembly Series Lecture with William H. Whyte, Jr., author of "City: Rediscovering its Center." 11 a.m., Graham Chapel. Free.
- "Why Women Don't Feel Good and How They Can Correct It"; free lecture at 6 p.m., presented by Marianne Drainer at the YWCA Women's Resource Center, 140 N. Brentwood. Call 726-6665.
- 28 Doug Back Guitar Concert, CASA, 560 Trinity. 8 p.m. \$5.
- 30 Children's Program: A Family in Motion—Paul and Win Grace and family dance and perform traditional American and folk music. Children will learn to play spoons during the program. History Museum, 10:30 a.m. Free.
- 31 **Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Grace United Methodist Church.** Skinker & Millbrook, 12:30 p.m. See related article.

April

- 1 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council meeting. 7:30 p.m., 6010 Kingsbury.
- Exhibition by artist Suhaimi Fadzir, titled "Earth/Us"—mixed media paintings; Componere Gallery, 6509 Delmar, Reception April 5, 7-9 p.m. Call 721-1181 for more information.
- 2 **Election Day—Municipal and School Board officials.** Assembly Series presents Lewin Lecture, "French Feminists and the Rights of Man," Joan Scott, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton University; at Wash. U's May Aud., Simon Hall, 4 p.m.
- 3 Washington University Assembly Series presents Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium. 11 a.m., Graham Chapel. Free.
- 4 "The Rediscovery of Shakespeare's Globe,"—Lecture by Patrick Spottiswoode, director of education, The International Shakespeare Globe Center; Wash. U's Edison Theatre. 4 p.m. Free.
- 5 The Performing Arts Dept. of Wash. U. presents Shakespeare's "Othello"; Edison Theatre, 8 p.m. (also April 6, 12, 13 at 8 p.m. and April 7 & 14 at 2 p.m.) Ticket information 889-6543.
- Washington University Association Travel Lecture Series, "The Great Alaska Cruise," Doug Jones, film lecturer. Graham Chapel, 6 and 8:30 p.m. For ticket information call 889-5212.



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Macho Menus



Roy Roncal photographed his choice of a favorite menu - a plate of cookies, a glass of wine, and music.

THE URBANE

URBAN-GUERRILLA COOKIES

by Roy Roncal

Several years ago Paul Kurtz asked me to contribute some baked goods to the annual Rags to Riches fund raiser sponsored by the Rosedale Neighborhood Association. Being a charter member of International Procrastinators Anonymous I delayed till the late evening before the event to determine what to bake. I traveled to a grocery store that advertised 24-hour service and searched for a package of chocolate chips with a recipe for cookies on it. With chips in hand I wandered about the store in search of the ingredients listed on the back of the bag, not always remembering the proper conversions of ounces to cups or cups to pounds. I acquired an assortment of nuts, raisins, eggs, butter, coconut, extracts, sugars and flour.

Upon returning home in preparation of diving into this baking adventure, I opened a bottle of Montelle Miralair White, a dry Missouri table wine. Now put in the proper state of mind, I embarked. After the butter had softened, I added to it the granulated sugar and the firmly packed brown sugar. Once this mixture became creamy, about one half glass of wine, I added the two eggs and beat this mixture till one Stan Getz bossanova song was played. I then guessed at the amount of vanilla and almond extracts I poured into the creamed butter mixture. In a separate, smaller bowl I combined the flour, baking soda and salt. Then I slowly, about one glass of wine's worth or two melodic Herbie Hancock song's

worth, folded the dry ingredients into the creamed ingredients. As I added the chocolate chips and nuts I thought I noticed the batter getting too thick and for every cup or so of nuts, rolled oats, raisins and coconut I added one egg and one half cup of butter or there abouts. Once all the ingredients were mixed I spooned them onto an ungreased cookie sheet and baked in a pre-heated oven at 375 degrees for around 10 minutes. At the end of all this I had roughly eight dozen cookies and half of a bottle of wine. From time to time I've made these cookies and have put in whatever nuts or additional ingredients were in stock in our pantry, which is what tends to make them so urbane.

URBAN-GUERRILLA COOKIES

2 cups all purpose flour
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp salt
1 cup butter
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup brown sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 tsp almond extract
2 eggs
12 oz chocolate chips
varied amounts of
rolled oats, chipped nuts, golden raisins and coconut.



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No Snakes In Ireland But Many Wonderful Writers

by Mary Ann Shickman

The Irish word *shanachie* means "story teller" and there were many of them in Ireland awhile back. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we offer some reading suggestions.

Messer Marco Polo, by Donn Byrne, is about a story teller and one of his particular stories. Here is an excerpt: "And suddenly at the end of the garden, in perfumed Asian dusk there was a beam of moonlight, and into the soft ray of it trod little Golden Bells, with her wee warm face and her wee warm hands, and her hair dark as a cloud."

James Joyce's *Ulysses* is a world masterpiece. It is a novel of psychological realism written in Dublin in 1922. The story takes place in 24 hours and is important because of the stream of consciousness technique by which Joyce tried to reproduce the sights, sounds, and smells of Dublin and the emotions of the people. Two main characters are Molly and Leopold Bloom. The story opens with everyone going out as day begins and at the end of the day, Molly and Leopold return home to lie side by side in their bed. As Leopold snores, Molly thinks about all her lovers, then about her courtship and love of Leopold and their life together.

The Informer is by Liam O'Flaherty. This is a story of Ireland in the 1920's and an Irishman who lives in desperate poverty. He wants to go off to America but hasn't the price of a glass of stout. He commits the unforgivable sin of informing on his friend, Frankie McPhillips, for 20 pounds. Victor McLagen won an Academy Award in 1935 for his performance of the informer. Both the book and the film are classics.

No Comebacks by Frederick Forsythe is not a classic but is a book of excellent short stories set mostly in Ireland. The best one, according to this writer, is "There Are No Snakes in Ireland," a story of racial intolerance with an ironic ending.

The Price of My Soul, by Bernadette Devlin, is the autobiography of a young Irish woman who became the youngest member of Parliament. Written in the 1960's, it can still be an exciting book to read.



The Black Diaries: An Account of Roger Casement, A Life And Times, with a collection of his diaries and public writing, is by Singleton Cates and Maurice Girodians. This is about a great Irish patriot who did much to help the Irish fight the British.

The Plough and the Stars is a tragedy in four acts by Sean O'Casey. This is about the 1916 Easter week uprising in Dublin. Two plays, *Juno and the Paycock* and *The Shadow of a Gunman*, are also by O'Casey. All of his plays deal with tragic subject matter but all have humor.

Playboy of the Western World is a comedy in three acts by J. M. Synge. The story is about a young man who shows up in town in County Mayo and tells everyone he killed his dad. He became a celebrity in the town—everyone wanting to marry him although he had been a coward and a lowlife in his own town.

Trinity, by Leon Uris, covers Ireland from the 1840's to the Easter week uprising of 1916. This is excellent historical fiction, so, if you want to read about Ireland, this may be your cup of tea.

William Butler Yeats is one of Ireland's finest poets. Appropriate to the holiday, we include the last verse of his "Prayer for my Daughter."

And may her bridegroom bring her to a house
where all's accustomed, ceremonious;
For arrogance and hatred are the wares
Peddled in the thoroughfares.
How but in custom and in ceremony
Are innocence and beauty born?
Ceremony's a name for the rich horn
And custom for the spreading laurel tree.

Here is a Yeats couplet to think on:

A girl that knew all Dante once
Live to bear children to a dunce.

Celebrate St. Pat's Day with one of Ireland's writers.

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Advice From Ms. Know It All

With this edition, the Times welcomes a new columnist, Ms. Know It All. Ms. Know It All prefers to remain anonymous, so we can only reveal that she is a long-time resident of Skinker DeBaliviere. Watch for more clues in future editions.

Welcome to my advice column. I'm not a doctor, I'm not a psychologist, I don't give helpful hints, I don't have any experience giving advice, in fact, I'm not even very nice. But, I'm all you've got. If you have a problem and you need some advice, send me a letter, and I'll try to answer it. If you have a cute, heartwarming story that you'd like to pass on to our readers, save it.

Dear Ms. Know It All,

I'm 13 and the other night me and my friend Buffy went to the movies and we saw a bunch of other kids from school and we were all going to the same movie and so Stephani said "Hey, you guys, do you like want to all like sit together?" and everybody thought that would be really fun so went to the box-office and bought our tickets and they were \$5.50! Well I just want to know, if I'm only 13, why do I have to pay for an adult ticket when I can't even see an R rated movie?

Tiffany

Dear Tiffany,

Get cable. You can see all the R rated movies you want, not to mention Gilligan reruns 5 times a day.

Dear Ms. Know It All,

I'd like to ask you a question that has been troubling me for years, and I hope you have the answer. Does anybody really know where Montana is?

Curious

Dear Curious,

No.

Dear Ms. Know It All,

My wife and I just moved into the neighborhood, and we would like to meet people in the neighborhood. We love to bar-b-que, and we have a pool, so we're planning to have lots of pool parties this summer. The Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood seems like the perfect neighborhood for people like us, but we're not sure how to get to know our neighbors. Any ideas?

New Neighbor

Dear New Neighbor,

Welcome to the neighborhood. The best place to meet new people is the St. Roch progressive dinner. You just missed it. You also just missed the Times fundraiser and hors d'oeuvre contest and St. Roch's 50's Dance, the two social events of the season. I guess it's going to be a long, lonely summer.

Dear Ms. Know It All,

Why are stupid people allowed to drive?
Signed, BDW

Dear BDW,

It doesn't seem fair, does it? But, sad as it may seem, it is within their right, as long as they can pass that oh so simple written test, and then drive around the block with a comatose driving instructor. Keep in mind though, as much as it is within their right to drive, you have a constitutional right to bear arms.

Dear Ms. Know It All,

I'm 14 and dating a guy who is 24. No one likes him but me, but I don't care. I really think he's the greatest. Now he wants me to go all the way, what should I do?

Unsure in St. Louis

Dear Unsure,

Go to your room and don't come out until you're 21!

If you have any questions for Ms. Know It All, please send them to:

Ms. Know It All
c/o The Times
6010 Kingsbury
St. Louis, MO 63112



The Acting Company, the touring arm of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, will present "Romeo and Juliet" and "Two Gentlemen of Verona" March 22 and 23 at Edison theatre, Washington University.

Free Workshop For Adults Considering College

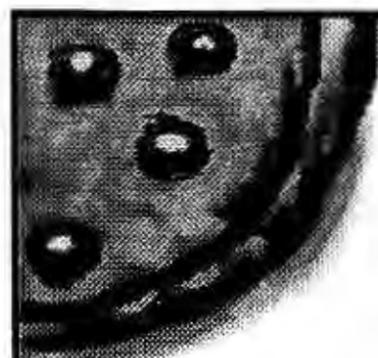
A series of free workshops for working adults considering entering or returning to college for part-time evening study will be held March 11, 12 and 13 at Washington University in St. Louis.

The workshops, open to the public, will help participants set academic goals, anticipate potential problems and ease their transition back to school. Information about undergraduate and graduate programs for part-time evening students at Washington University will be available.

The first workshop, titled "Returning to Learning," will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Room 30 of January Hall, which is located off Forsyth Boulevard at Houston Way. The second workshop, an information session on the university's undergraduate evening programs for part-time students, will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. March 12 in the Executive MBA Suite (Room 101) of Simon Hall, which is located on Forsyth near Big Bend Boulevard. The March 13 workshop, scheduled for 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Executive MBA Suite, will be an information session on the university's graduate programs for part-time evening students.

In addition, an informational workshop for community college students who are considering continuing their education beyond the associate degree via evening classes will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. March 14 in the Executive MBA Suite.

Reservations for the workshops are requested. To register or for more information, call 889-6777.



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Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

By the time you read this, most of the fighting in Kuwait/Iraq could be over. But, even if we "win" very quickly, it will be some time before all of our troops get pulled back. While they're there, we at the Times would like to recognize those neighborhood families who have someone over there.

I'm making the list. If you have someone over there, or you know of someone in the neighborhood with someone over there, please let me know before March 15. Simply call 727-0839 and leave a message on the tape. I need to know the person's name, what street he or she lives on, and what relationship there is to local residents. I could also use information on rank, branch of service, organization, and service specialty. Remember, your neighbor may not see this article, or may forget to call.

Good news from Kingsbury Animal Clinic: Dr. Mary Ann Balsler has joined the staff there. Her presence allows the clinic to significantly expand its service offerings.

On May 19, the St. Louis Walk of Fame in the loop will induct more famous St. Louisans.

On The Law Enforcement Front: Lotsa new names. Captain Wayne Brocato is the new 7th District Commander. Lt. John Podolak has just arrived on the scene as a Watch Commander. Lt. Audrey Lee, one of only two female lieutenants in the entire Police Department, is the new Relief Commander. All of this information is courtesy of Sgt. John Harper, the new supervisor of B Platoon, which covers the SDCC area.

Officer Jerald Barnes, who has been in this column before, has been recognized again. He has been chosen—by his peers—as Officer of the Year in the 7th District. He will receive this award at a banquet at the Hyatt Union Station on March 19.

Rita Majors (4XX Westgate) is in Japan, visiting her children.

Bob Hinkebein (62XX Washington) is a new grandfather, thanks to his daughter, Ann.

Hitch Powell (61XX Westminster) is graduating in March with an MIS degree.

Jan Hollenbaugh is the new intern at SDCC headquarters, while she works on her Political Science degree from UMSL.

Stout Hearts And Sweethearts Dept:

Bea Stout (61XX McPherson) was the Homecoming Queen at SLU this year. Consie Hitchcock of 61XX McPherson was a member of the Court. Must be something in the water around here... Mixing beauty with brains, Bea was also elected Academic VP of the SLU student government.

Father Ed Stout has been selected for the third year in a row as National Chairman for Victims Rights Week, April 21-27. In the meantime, mother Bea is in the City Players production of *Woman Without a Name*, which opens April 19, at the Coronado Hotel.

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News From Breitmayer Community Ministry:

Easter Egg Hunt Planned

What is Easter Sunday without a children's Easter Egg hunt?

The Board of Directors of Breitmayer Community Ministry is again planning an Easter Egg Hunt for all children in the community on Easter Sunday, March 31, at 12:30 p.m. at the Washington Univer-

sity lawn at Skinker and Millbrook. The Youth Group at Grace United Methodist Church, with which Breitmayer is affiliated, will be decorating and hiding the eggs. They look forward to seeing many neighborhood children.

Donations Sought For Easter Food Baskets

The Breitmayer Community Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church is asking for donations for its Easter Food Basket program. The baskets will contain meat and trimmings for Easter dinner and enough extra for meals for two or three more days.

Last year the Ministry gave away 40 Easter food baskets. They increased the number to 61 last Thanksgiving.

Donations may be brought to Grace Church at 6199 Waterman. The baskets will be packed on Thursday, March 28 and distributed on Friday, March 29.

Families who are interested in receiving a basket may contact Laura Wright at Breitmayer Ministry at 863-8900.



The story of Jackie Robinson is the focus of Theatreworks/USA "Play To Win," part of Edison Theatre's "Ovations! for Young People" series. It will be presented at noon and 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 9 at Washington University.

CASA Children's Theatre

CASA's Children's Theatre presents four performances of its annual spring production on March 15, 16 and 17. This year the play is a young people's adaptation of William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Although adapted for children, the script retains much of the flavor of the original work and indeed, many of the passages are taken word-for-word from Shakespeare's original script.

"Midsummer" is a classic tale full of magic, intrigue, romance and laughter. It involves three plots that intertwine and sometimes interrupt each other, but the play does end "happily ever after."

Julie Kriekhaus, director, will be assisted by Jennifer Birk as stage man-

ager and Angelina Gualdoni as assistant. Included in this year's cast are Marsha Adler of St. Louis and Rob Traupmann of University City, students in CASA's adult acting class. Other cast members range in age from 7 to 17.

Performance times are at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 3:00 and 7:30 on Saturday, March 16, and 3:00 on Sunday, March 17. Admission is \$3.00 for adults. There is no charge for age 16 and under.

CASA receives partial support from the 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.

William Gass Selects Books For Washington University Exhibit

St. Louis, Jan. 31, 1991—Award-winning writer William H. Gass, director of the International Writers Center at Washington University, has chosen 50 books that have influenced his work for an exhibit titled "A Temple of Texts: Fifty Literary Pillars."

Sponsored by the Washington University Libraries, the exhibit, which features Gass' comments about each of the books, is on display from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays through April 10 in the special collections department of the university's Olin Library, which is located near Graham Chapel.

For the exhibit, Gass has selected works from a diverse group of American and international writers, including William Shakespeare, Virginia Woolf, José Lezama Lima, Ezra Pound, William

Faulkner, Franz Kafka, Gertrude Stein and Gustave Flaubert.

Gass, who is the David May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities at Washington University, won the National Book Critics Circle award for the most distinguished work of criticism in 1985. He received the honor for "Habitations of the Word," a collection of essays on literature, philosophy and language.

The exhibit inaugurates the university's International Writers Center, which serves as a focal point for writers interested in international issues such as censorship and exile. The center is housed in rooms 101 and 103 of Busch Hall.

For more information on the exhibit, call (314) 889-5495.

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SDCC Combines Winter Meetings

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council board meeting for January/February was held on Monday, January 28, 1991.

Present: Directors F. Driscoll, M. Fleener, C. Forslund, G. Fox, G. Genung, R. Johnson, P. Kurtz, S. Polk, B.R. Roncal, L. Stein, A.J. Tanner, and N. Vatcha; Executive Director N. Farmer; ConServ Officer J. Waits; and Guests J. Borgmeyer, Fl. Driscoll, J. Hollenbaugh and C. Homan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by president Forslund.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as mailed. The year-end treasurer's report was received as distributed. Questions relating to reporting periods, fiscal years of sponsoring organizations, and cash flow were answered by Farmer. The outside auditor's year end financial report was received for study and review.

President's Comments

Forslund briefly spelled out her personal goals and ideologies for SDCC, emphasizing a strong personal commitment to the Council and the Council's commitment to improving the neighborhood. She stated her hope that the Council will take a more pro-active role with programs in the coming year instead of reacting to needs and issues as they arise. One goal for the year is the initiation of a committee structure to involve more neighborhood residents' participation. Board members should be visible in neighborhood activities and support interest in special events. In the future, the board meeting agendas will list upcoming neighborhood events and board members will be encouraged to attend as representatives.

Committee/Association Reports Historic District Review Committee

The committee reviewed applications and made the following recommendations to the Heritage & Urban Design Commission:

6178 Delmar—the committee recommended HUDC deny an application for window replacements and the "Wild Thang" wall sign, both of which were completed without a permit.

6211 Delmar—the committee recommended HUDC approve the plans for the Shell Station to remodel and convert to a convenience store, landscape and move the car wash from the west side of the building to the north side if Shell would agree to remove the 50' pole sign at the west side of the property.

400 N. Skinker—The committee recommended HUDC deny the application to replace the pole sign at the Sinclair Station with another pole sign; the nearby Fina Station was permitted only a monument sign a year ago.

Kingsbury Square

R. Johnson reported that they are planning to install a wrought iron fence with pedestrian gates on the east side of Laurel between Kingsbury and Westminster. This will be more attractive than the existing unlandscaped berm and they hope will increase security.

Nina Place

Stein reported two new residents had moved in and that all sales remain strong.

Parkview

George Genung is the new association president. The lawsuit has finally been resolved as the Supreme Court upheld the Court of Appeals ruling in favor of the Agents. All lot owners must pay the annual assessment which has been authorized by the Parkview residents.

Rosedale

R. Roncal reported that a board meeting will be held within three to four weeks and elections planned.

St. Roch

Fox presented a letter from the Parish Council asking about SDCC's policy and activities with respect to requests for aid from individuals and groups. Forslund again emphasized the need for SDCC to establish active committees including a social service committee. Farmer will send a letter to St. Roch outlining current procedures and future plans.

Housing Corporation

SDCHC continues to negotiate an agreement with the Technical Assistance Corporation (TAC) with regard to the transfer of several neighborhood properties from Mead McClellan to TAC. SDCC is also directly involved in this process because SDCC is the non-profit "pass-through" agency for a loan to this project under the city's Housing Implementation Program (HIP). HIP loans are payable generally in 10 years or when the project is sold. McClellan intended to convert the units in this scattered site project to condominiums after operating them as rental for five years. McClellan negotiated a contract with the city that would allow him to convert the HIP loan to For Sale Incentives when he converted to condos; instead of repaying the city, he would make the money available to buyers to use for closing costs, interest write-downs, etc.

SDCC will need to take some action with regard to this agreement as the "pass-through" agent. SDCHC is concerned about how this HIP loan and "roll-over" agreement will affect the future of this project, the agreement between SDCHC and TAC, and, the possible transfer of 520 Rosedale, one of the buildings included in the plan, to SDCHC.

SDCHC is represented by attorney Charles Valier who is reviewing all of these documents and contracts and negotiating the TAC/SDCHC agreement. SDCHC asks SDCC not to take any action until their attorney makes a recommendation.

On motion by Kurtz, Polk second, the following resolution was adopted: "The SDCC Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Committee to take action on behalf of the SDCC on the West Side Partnership HIP/FSIP Agreement, pending a recommendation from the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board of Directors and their legal counsel."



The History Museum presents a new free lecture series, "The History of Forest Park and Its Institutions," on Sunday, March 17, at 2 p.m. Caroline Loughlin, co-author of Forest Park, will give an overview of the park's history at the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park. Pictured above are boaters in Forest Park in 1897. —photo by Emil Boehl, from the collections of the Missouri Historical Society.

Don't Be Misled—Social Security Information Is Free

A private company, new to the St. Louis area, is charging for information about Social Security and Medicare which is available free from the government.

Social Security Medicare Information and News Service, Inc. (SSMIANSI), is listed as "Social Security Information" in the white pages of new St. Louis phone books. Although they are not affiliated with any government agency, their 800 number appears directly under listings for local offices of the Social Security Administration.

Callers are referred by SSMIANSI's 800 number to their 900 number which costs \$4.99 for the first minute and 99 cents for each subsequent minute. The 900 number service consists of a series of recorded messages about Social Security and Medicare.

The company's messages state that they are not affiliated with the government. But that disclaimer hasn't kept at least one caller from visiting his local Social Security office to complain. That visitor to Social Security's Lemay Ferry office was upset because he thought that the Social Security Administration was trying to charge him money for information about his benefits.

The company's name and its position in the phone book may be the cause of the confusion. In addition, their 900 number contains a string of digits which are also found in Social Security's nationwide toll-free number.

SSMIANSI claims that they provide information about Social Security and Medicare that the government won't tell; a statement that is disputed by Social Security officials. The administration has repeatedly asserted that there are no hidden provisions or insider secrets in Social Security's regulations.

The message played by the 900 number starts off with a two minute introduction which describes the tapes available to the caller and what buttons to push on your phone to access them. In other words, it costs about six dollars to figure out how to use the service.

One message offered begins with some general introduction about Social Security. In that two minutes (\$1.98) you can learn, for example, that the Social Security system is a large, complex bureaucracy which makes mistakes. You will also be informed that there is a lot of paperwork involved when you deal with the government.

The Social Security Administration continues to provide personal toll-free telephone service to people who call 1-800-234-5772. Free publications and answers to individual questions are also available at thirteen Social Security offices in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Director's Report

Preservation week is scheduled May 11-19; directors were asked to consider if SDCC would like to participate with any special events.

The SDCC incorporated on March 21, 1966. A 25th Anniversary reception is planned Thursday, March 21, 6-9 p.m. at the SDCC offices.

Charrette Reception/Presentation is tentatively scheduled at the SDCC office on Thursday, Feb. 28. John Reeve has agreed to prepare and present a 30 minute overview of some of the ideas presented in the design schemes that were submitted. All of the entries will be on display at the office all month.

Neighborhood Plan

Farmer has had two meetings with ConServ and CDA Planning representatives. She is working with them in drafting the neighborhood plan.

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John Goodfellow: St. Louis' Paul Bunyan

by Ray Breun

Like so many other street names, Goodfellow is a wonderful occasion for a storyteller. Not a whole lot is known about John Goodfellow. He was not of special ancestry or historic French extraction. He didn't even make it into Neal Primm's *Lion of the Valley!* In many ways that makes it easier to tell the story he is connected with since it isn't about to be cluttered up with a whole lot of biographical detail. Even though not a lot is known about him, John Goodfellow occupies a significant place in the history of the St. Louis Riverfront—largely by accident.

Colonel Stephen Long first noted officially for the federal government that the Mississippi at St. Louis was moving east. While yet in St. Louis in the spring of 1819 before heading up the Missouri on his special steamboat designed to scare the Indians because the steam came out of the prow to appear like a dragon (it being presumed the Indians knew what dragons were). Colonel Long noted that it was a shame the St. Louis harbor was about to be left behind. St. Louis was going to end up high and dry as the Mississippi moved around in the flood plane and the two islands, Bloody Island and Duncan's Island, grew together and became the western bank of the river—nearly a mile east of where the river bank was at that time.

Frankly speaking, Colonel Long was not the first to note the problem of the silting in of the St. Louis Riverfront. The St. Louis Board of Trustees had discussed it almost from their beginning in 1809. When the City of St. Louis was created and the first election of the Board of Aldermen completed in 1823, the discussions continued in a more august forum. It was the Board of Aldermen who came up with what they thought was at least a partial solution.

Most everyone has heard of anthropomorphic thinking—sometimes called mythic thinking. Its central characteristic is the projection of human qualities into other inanimate or at least non-human objects. A common manifestation of mythic thinking is the Classic pantheon of gods and goddesses who seem to be mere projections of human attributes, weaknesses, or habits. Examples of anthropomorphic projections should not be limited to the Classic era, however. Further, they should not be limited to the faith or religious situation either. The social and political arena can be found to have anthropomorphic projections, and John Goodfellow fell into one of these examples of misapplied social situations and reaped the benefit. It all had to do with the silting of the St. Louis harbor.

The idea originated with Thomas F. Riddick—memorialized in another St. Louis myth as the so-called "famous horsemen" who supposedly rode to Washington to get public land for public education in St. Louis. Riddick eventually had a school named after him even though historic evidence suggests his land activity had quite the opposite intent. However, our story today is about Goodfellow.

Colonel Riddick suggested that the river needed help in moving the sand islands out of the way of the harbor. He took his idea to the Board of Aldermen as well as several wealthy business leaders. According to Mayor John Darby, it was largely money from Bernard Pratte and a couple other wealthy men who made Goodfellow's deed possible. John Goodfellow was hired by the City of St. Louis beginning in 1833 to plow up Duncan's Island to make it less compact when the annual spring flood of the Mississippi moved the detritus and runoff toward the Gulf of Mexico. The reason John Good-

fellow was hired was the sturdiness of his ox teams. He apparently was renowned for his bovine plow pullers. The making and training of ox teams is something of a skill. The bull must be castrated at just the right stage in its development after maturity so it has maximum strength but no experience with cows. John Goodfellow's oxen were of great strength and yet quite tractable. In other words, a Goodfellow ox could do a substantial day's work! The City fathers, including Colonel Riddick and Bernard Pratte, considered the problem of the sand islands in the harbor, especially Duncan's Island, of sufficient magnitude to require the work of Goodfellow's ox teams. There is no specific record of how John thought about it, but there is enough to indicate he probably thought it somewhat curious that he would be hired to loosen river sand islands because of the supposed weakness of the Mississippi. Whether or not he understood mythic and anthropomorphic thinking is not known. But clearly the attribution of "weakness" or some other human quality to the Mississippi is anthropomorphic. Acting on such verbal anthropomorphisms is akin to superstition.

The John Goodfellow story of the plowing of the sand islands in the St. Louis harbor is suggestive of how St. Louisans have thought about the Mississippi since time began. It may be that even yet we tend to think of the river in anthropomorphic terms. There is little doubt that "Ol' Man River" is thought of as danger-

ous, whimsical, unpredictable, and just plain mean and dirty. Like reptilian models of old, the river "snakes" its way through the collective consciousness with attributed qualities best epitomized in such rascals as Mike Fink. In Minnesota it was Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox who tamed the river and made it straight and calm for adjacent settlement. The early settlers in Minnesota had a hard time dealing with the changing and meandering shape of the Mississippi. According to the yarn, these settlers prevailed upon Paul Bunyan to bring his big blue ox, attach it to the river, and get it to flow straight in a fixed location. Much the same thing seems to have happened in St. Louis. Unlike Bunyan, however, John Goodfellow was able to smile all the way to the bank when he was paid for his oxen and their work—strangely reminiscent of the Paul Bunyan tale every Minnesota school child reads in a third grade setting. Such anthropomorphic thinking gets in the way of finding real solutions to real situations. It was Mayor Darby who eventually found a real solution when he went to Brigadier General Charles Gratiot, Jr., the commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Gratiot, son of Charles Gratiot and Victoire Chouteau, the half-sister of Auguste Chouteau, sent one of the bright engineers in his office, Lt. Robert E. Lee, to St. Louis. The rest is history. From that same history, John Goodfellow went back to his farms and animal husbandry.

Exhibits At University City Library

The March show in The Gallery of the University City Public Library (6701 Delmar Blvd.) will feature work by Debra Drexler and Ann Julien. The exhibit will be on display from March 3 through 31 with an opening reception for the artist

on Sunday, March 3, from 3-5 PM, in The Gallery. The work may be viewed during normal library hours, Monday—Friday, 9 AM to 9 PM; Saturday, 9 AM to 5 PM; and Sunday, 2 to 5 PM.

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