

# The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Summer 1993

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Two Neighborhood Residents Elected to the School Board

### Renni Shuter Elected to School Board

by Connie Deschamps

Court-ordered desegregation, aging buildings, a high drop-out rate, underpaid teachers, under-achieving students: this is a partial laundry list of problems of the St. Louis Public Schools system. Most city residents agree that these and a host of other problems facing the schools need solutions. One Skinker-DeBaliviere resident decided to spend the next six years devoting herself to finding those solutions.

Renni Shuter, 62xx McPherson, was elected to the School Board in April as part of the "Kids First" slate. Interviewed recently in her comfortable home, Shuter was full of ideas and energized about the future of our schools.

She said she had been "thinking about running for School Board for ages," but that family responsibilities had prohibited it. Shuter's own four children are all grown and she is now a grandmother. She felt the time was finally right to devote herself to the education of other people's children.

Noticing a new emphasis and commitment to education in the Clinton administration, Shuter was encouraged that Gov. Carnahan was also committed to education in Missouri. "It seemed like a time when action could be taken" was finally at hand, she said. She feels Mayor Bestley is also likely to support education. Underlying all is Shuter's firm belief that "kids are the future of this city and country."

Shuter has many ideas about ways to revamp and revitalize the city school system. She is committed to a concept called "site-based management" in which teachers and parents at each school have more input on books, curriculum, and methods of teaching.

Another idea on the table is the Community School Program. A \$1.5 million pilot program is planned for 15 schools. Shuter explained that each school's program could look a little different, but the goal of the Community School Program is to make the school a true community center. School buildings would be utilized 6 days a week, year-round, evenings as well as days. Schools might offer day care, preschool, and adult education, and would be a place for kids to go during the summer and on weekends for learning, structure, and enrichment.



Shuter points out that year-round school has met with success in other school districts in the St. Louis area. While no one is suggesting keeping students and teachers in class 6 days a week, 12 hours a day, the school would be open for a variety of programs and would be a comprehensive community center perhaps offering medical and social services as well.

Key to the success of the Community School Program is involving older adults and other adults without children. Shuter noted that in areas where Community School

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### Interview with Rick Bender

"If it's good for kids, I'm for it!"

by Mary H. Schmit

*(Rick Bender recently ran for a position on the St. Louis City School Board and was elected. The Times talked with him recently about his view of his new position.)*

**Q:** Rick, why did you run for the St. Louis Board of Education?

**A:** I ran because people are ready for change in education. Nationwide, it's a national phenomena. I feel that I have the knowledge and the experience to fill the needs of this position.

**Q:** What do you hope to accomplish during your six years?

**A:** First, it will take less time than that (I hope). The following are my goals:

- 1) Have a personnel analysis done of 911 Locust. This will show us which jobs are necessary and which ones aren't, as well as who are meeting their responsibilities and who are not.
- 2) Establish democratic site-based management. This means putting the authority where the responsibility is. Since the principals, teachers and parents have responsibility, they need the authority. This also means that there will be a greater emphasis on services to the schools and a lesser emphasis on directions to the schools from downtown.
- 3) Improve relations between the Board and its teachers. This will mean more city wide coalitions with business and community groups.
- 4) Create two new alternative schools for "at-risk" students, one middle school and one high school.

**Q:** Since you've been to several Board meetings by now, what's your opinion of what's going on?

**A:** I've been attending these Board meetings since 1991. So, I see that the dissension that was present is now gone. There seems to be a real coming together of the Board.



**Q:** How do you hope to influence the Board?

**A:** This goes back to the reason I ran. I have both the knowledge and the experience. There is now a whole new committee system that was staged by the old Board members. And it will go into effect, hopefully, at the June Board meeting. This new committee system will be organized according to Board needs and will not be shadows of the administrative structures. (Meetings are open to the public and are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month during the school year. During summer months, meetings are irregular—usually once a month.)

**Q:** The Board is planning on developing large middle schools. Many recent studies on education say middle schools should be small and personal. What is your opinion on this?

**A:** I think middle schools should be small and personal. I taught in junior high for 7 or 8 years. It was small and personal. I attended a huge junior high and did not know more than two dozen students in the whole school.

**Q:** Rick, is there anything else you would like to add?

**A:** I hope we can get out from under the desegregation order by 1995. I am willing to work hard to accomplish this.

## Planned Walgreen's Stymied

Since January, the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, its Executive Committee, and its Executive Director have been working with the owner of the land at DeGiverville and DeBaliviere next to the shopping center and his developer to see if a Walgreen's might be brought to that site. Throughout the process, the Council insisted that any store have limited hours, provide security, and not sell alcoholic beverages. The negotiations were long and difficult. When agreement seemed at hand, the developers asked for changes.

Two areas of contention dominated. The developer, Pat Kelley, said that Walgreen's would not come unless it could either sell liquor or have a drive-in prescription window which they are putting into new stores. The

Council initially split 8 to 8 on this request. The Council wished to guarantee the provisions regarding no liquor and limited hours regardless of who the owner or tenant would be. They asked that these restrictions be recorded on the land. The owner said that his lender absolutely refused to agree to this. On May 19, council members went to the Board of Adjustment to object to a granting of a variance which would allow the construction of a Walgreen's on the land now zoned both residential and commercial.

At this juncture, the office of the mayor of St. Louis asked that the proceedings be postponed to give the parties further time to reach agreement. The mayor's office and an attorney from the St. Louis Development

Corporation would attempt to facilitate.

After much discussion, a compromise was reached. There would be a drive-up prescription window but on the south (or Forest Park Parkway) side and the entire store would be moved southward. The Council would enter into agreement on conditions of usage with the owner banning sales of alcohol and specifying limited hours. Walgreen's would produce a letter of intent specifying its desire to operate a store at this site under these conditions. With only one negative vote, Council members agreed. Director Kim Koenig and Alderman McGuire were present at this meeting of June 5.

On June 9, at the hearing at the Board of Adjustment, the developer, owner, and their attorney presented their plan. Alderman McGuire led the

*continued on page 3*

### SDCC Neighborhood Cruise on the Tom Sawyer Riverboat to be on July 9.

SDCC is hosting a neighborhood cruise on Friday, July 9, from 8 - 10:30 p.m. For \$20 per person, or \$35 per couple, which will go toward minimizing the operating budget deficit of SDCC. The night will include snacks, music/dancing, and a cash bar.

To purchase tickets, call 862-5122.

## Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

The heat and humidity have returned to St. Louis, dulling my usual sense of indignation. Nonetheless, even in my new lethargy I feel compelled to ask who could ever want to run for president today? After the coverage the Clinton administration (and to be fair, the last year or so of Bush) has had, who would want to place herself in a position of so constant and picayune scrutiny. Frankly, was John Kennedy so severely chastised after the Bay of Pigs as Clinton was for the haircut or his travel department problems? There seems to be a loss of perspective here somewhere. Bad press also builds on itself. Once started in a negative direction, it just keeps on going in that vein. I don't think anyone would like to have to face a daily evaluatory chart. But, the President does. Perhaps CNN will start taking daily popularity polls. It makes me want to return to my studies of European history that I abandoned in 1968. It was so simple in earlier eras—simpler technology and no rush to judgment.

On a totally different note, our Times board and I welcome your comments on how we're doing. We would also like to invite anyone who is interested to become a volunteer for the paper. We can always use a writer, a distributor, or an ad salesperson. Please call me or drop a line. We do want to represent all of the neighborhood. Help us in this task.

Have a wonderful and safe summer. See you in September with the Times.

### Attention Kids: St. Louis Public Library Summer Reading Club

Any youngster aged 2-18 is eligible to join the public library's Summer Reading Club. You can register between May 29 and Aug. 21 at any St. Louis location. Children who are not yet able to read may have a parent, guardian, or other "reading buddy" read books to them. Books are to be checked out and returned at any St. Louis public library facility. There are prizes after you read 5 books. When you complete 15 books, you qualify for a certificate of honor. And, you will enter a drawing for Cardinal baseball tickets! Visit our Charing Cross branch on Skinker between Waterman and McPherson. The library is open Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6:00pm and Saturday from 10am to 6pm.

### Take me Out to the Ballgame!

We have three new neighborhood softball teams that need a crowd to cheer them on to victory! Kids from ages 7-13 are practicing at Lucier Park from 6-7pm Tuesday and Thursday nights, under the watchful eyes of coaches Willie Haymore and Mark Dorsey (61xx Pershing). Games will be played at Forest Park on Saturdays on diamonds 11 and 14. Game times will vary between 10am, 11am, and 12:15pm. A schedule will be posted at the SDCC office, 6010 Kingsbury, for anyone interested in attending.

Come and cheer on the Skinker DeBaliviere White Sox, Tigers, and Tigerettes!

# CALENDAR



## Neighborhood Meetings

- June 30 Rosedale Neighborhood Association, 6010 Kingsbury, 5:15pm.
- July 1 Apartment Owners Association, 6010 Kingsbury, 7pm.
- July 9 SKINKER DE BALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEIGHBORHOOD CRUISE on the Tom Sawyer Riverboat, 8-10:30pm. Tickets \$20 per person/\$35 per couple.
- July 13 Crime Prevention Tips presentation at SDCC, 7pm
- July 17 SDCC Neighborhood Food Drive
- August 14 5900 DeGiverville Block Unit Party, 11am - 4pm, at site of London & Sons Wing House Barbecue. Everyone is invited. Raffle tickets available at SDCC, 862-5122, for information.

## Other Events of Interest

- now-July 21 Susan Rothenberg's paintings and drawings at the Art Museum.
- now-Aug. 15 "Tales and Traditions: Storytelling in Twentieth Century American Craft," an exhibition organized by Craft Alliance at the Washington University Gallery of Art.
- July 8-25 "St. Louis Stories: Scenes From Where We Live," a play produced by The New Theatre at the History Museum. Call 361-9265 for information.
- July 13-16 Workshop in history for young people in grades 4-6, "Happy Birthday, TJ" at the History Museum. Call 361-9265; \$25 fee.
- July 18 The Concert and Lecture Series at Grace and Peace Fellowship presents Zambra who will perform music associated with the Kabbalah and Jewish Mysticism in theirsanctuary at 5574 Delmar at Clara. Free. 3pm.
- July 20-23 "Native American Traditions," workshop in history for grades 3-5. \$25 fee. Call 361-9265.
- July 25 "Smoke on the Mountain," at The New Theatre, First Congregational Church, 6501 Wydown in Clayton. Gospel/bluegrass musical. Call 781-9314 for information.
- Aug. 15 Requiem in Jazz III--Jazz, blues, and soul at the History Museum for two concerts in memory of David Hines. \$15; at 2:30pm and 6:00pm.

## The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Lana Stein  
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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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The Times, 6010 Kingsbury, 63112 or call 863-7558.

### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

All material—articles, letters, notices, classified ads—must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Signature on correspondence to the editor may be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phoned or mailed to 6010 Kingsbury. Deadline for all copy is the 15th 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 the data, including times, dates, location and particularly the spelling of names.

Any pictures of illustrations submitted should be black and white.

The Editor retains the right to omit or alter any material.

Send all correspondence to 6010 Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 15th of the month or call 721-7532.



One of the yard waste dumpsters painted by Yahoo kids and decorated by local artist Andy Cross. This one is in the Pershing/Forest Park Expressway alley.

# Special Sales Tax Election August 3, 1993

## AUGUST 3, 1993 - SPECIAL SALES TAX ELECTION

by Daniel J. McGuire,  
Alderman 28th Ward

The citizens of St. Louis have an excellent opportunity to insure the long term financial stability of our city and to provide for long delayed capital improvements by voting to approve both sales tax proposals at the upcoming Special Election on August 3, 1993.

Two separate questions will be before you:

1) whether to impose a 3/8 cent sales tax for general revenue purposes, and

2) whether to impose a 1/2 cent sales tax to be used only for capitol improvements.

If approved, the 3/8 cent sales tax will produce \$11.5 million annually. It will replace the revenues lost when this tax was discontinued in mid-1990 after the voters twice approved its collection. This dramatic loss of revenue has created serious problems in delivering city services, and with the morale of city workers, particularly our police officers. Because of the budget shortfall created by the loss of this tax, we have been unable to hire more police officers, forced to reduce personnel in the Parks Department and Streets Department creating unacceptable delays in grass cutting, weed and debris control, tree trimming, and pothole, street light and traffic light repairs; forced to offer less than adequate medical insurance for our employees; and we have been unable to give city workers and especially our police officers meaningful and justifiable raises to support their families.

In reality, the 3/8 cent sales tax is not a new tax. It simply restores our former, inflation-sensitive tax base so that we can provide the level of services that our citizens demand and deserve.

The 1/2 cent sales tax for capital improvements would be a new tax, however, if approved, it would generate \$15.3 million annually and allow us to begin to repair the city's aging infrastructure in a planned and meaningful way. The Board of Aldermen has mandated by law that these new revenues will be allocated by subsequent annual appropriation ordinances in the following manner:

- 50% (or \$7,650,000) for neighborhood projects
- 20% (or \$3,060,000) for city-wide projects
- 17% (or \$2,601,000) for major park projects
- 10% (or \$1,530,000) for existing debt on police department projects
- 3% (or \$459,000) for recreation center projects

The revenues generated for neighborhood projects will be placed in 28 sub-accounts, one for each ward in the city, to ensure that all areas of the city will benefit from this new tax. With your help in the 28th ward, we will develop a plan to expend our \$275,000 annual allocation to help repair and improve our neighborhoods, streets, sidewalks, alleys, small parks and other public places.

The "lion's share" of the tax moneys collected for our major parks will go to the much needed restoration of "our" Forest Park because the annual appropriations will be based on park acreage, as follows:

Park	No. of Acres	% of Total Acreage	Annual Allocation
Carondelet	179.71	8.51%	\$221,358
Fairgrounds	131.46	6.23%	\$161,926
Forest Park	1,293.22	61.24%	\$1,592,924
O'Fallon	126.63	6.00%	\$155,976
Willmore	105.61	5.00%	\$130,085
Tower Grove	275.00	13.02%	\$338,731
Totals	2,111.63	100.00%	\$2,601,000

The city-wide capital improvements will also be earmarked by subsequent appropriation ordinances recommended by the city "Capital Improvements Committee" and approved by the Board of Aldermen. Most of these moneys will be used as "matching funds" for the city's portion of already approved, and federally funded, repairs to our aging bridges and arterial streets. Federal and state revenues are currently available to pay for 80% of these much needed repairs. Unfortunately, if this tax does not pass, we will forfeit these resources. If we do approve the sales tax, we will receive \$4 for every \$1 of city revenue we invest in these programs.

Our ten city recreation centers are greatly underutilized because of their deplorable physical condition. "Our" West End Center at Union and Enright is an elegant historic building, but needs a new roof, new gym floors and many other repairs to be fully operational. I know we all agree that our young people need safe, supervised "places to go" to provide constructive activities and positive role models. We must show our children that we care about them by repairing these centers to a level that we can all be proud of.

As the heat of the summer descends upon us, we sadly will be once again reminded that we need more police officers to protect our homes and neighborhoods. By ordinance, the portion of the new tax ear-marked for the police can only be used to pay the existing debts of the police department.

The Board of Aldermen will not release this money, however, until the Police Board adopts an acceptable plan for its use. Police Chief Clarence Harmon has publicly stated that, "It would be our hope to use the additional \$1.5 million in revenue to pay down our bonded indebtedness for the three area command stations. Since this would free up \$1.5 million in general revenue which is now being used to pay for the command station bonds, we would plan to use those funds to hire an additional 30 officers." I am confident that the Board of Aldermen will hold the police department to this commitment!

I am very proud that the citizens of

the 28th Ward have consistently supported such sales tax proposals in the past. For the first time in decades, the mayor, comptroller, and president of the board of aldermen, as well as, an overwhelming majority of my colleagues strongly support these propositions. In the words of Mayor Freeman Bosley: "We currently have no additional revenue options. I ask that the members of the Board of Aldermen and the residents of this city join me in supporting this effort [understanding] that I would not ask you to get behind this effort if its passage were not crucial to the future of this city. When this measure passes in August, the financial fruit that it bears will be available to the city early next year. The additional money will afford us the opportunity to make desperately needed physical improvements and enhancements in city services. It is truly an investment in the future of our city."

I have pledged my support to our new mayor in his efforts and ask each and every one of you for your support and vote on August 3, 1993.

## Walgreen's

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opposition accompanied by representatives of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Housing Corporation, the DeBaliviere Association, the Waterman-Pershing condominiums, and several other individuals. President of the SDCC Catherine Forslund indicated that the Council had decided not to oppose, providing the restrictions mentioned above were included in the variance. The Commercial Committee joined in this stance.

The Board of Adjustment took the matter under advisement. Alderman McGuire had raised questions regarding the propriety of the application and the Board's standing in this matter. The Board of Adjustment sought legal counsel before ruling. McGuire later indicated that he decided to oppose because of the developer walked away from the table and the Mayor's office had intervened in ward development. Others spoke of their concern regarding a store of this type and their lack of trust in any agreements. Forslund said she did not oppose because she felt that the neighborhood needed an upscale-style Walgreen's, although she insisted on the restrictions.

### Update

**The Board of Adjustment denied the variance because they find they do not currently have the legal authority to act in this zoning matter.**

## SHUTER ELECTED

continued from page 1

Programs are successful, adults and children get to know one another and reports of neighborhood harassment and vandalism decline.

Shuter is glad she joined the School Board at a time when factions are gone and "the agenda is now education." She finds a new cohesiveness that will make solving problems a reality. "There is not unanimity, of course, but what is agreed upon is that each child can learn," said Shuter.

Only in office a few months, Shuter is already deeply involved, attending school functions and meetings, and fielding calls from the community. She welcomes invitations to visit the schools and to speak to community groups. Shortly after taking her place on the board, she resigned from several other boards and committees in order to have the time to devote herself more fully to the St. Louis Public Schools.

Shuter's term will take her into 1999. What does she see for the public school system as we end the 20th century? "I want to see a thriving Community School Program and revived interest in the schools by the citizenry. I think we will also see computer literacy in the students and, hopefully, a much lowered drop-out rate," projected Shuter. Quite an ambitious agenda, but Renni Shuter definitely seems up to the challenge.

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# Five New Ways to Dine Out in Skinker-DeBaliviere

Over the last few months, new restaurants have been popping up all over the Skinker DeBaliviere area. Following are descriptions of five new arrivals, accompanied by photos showing the new establishments and their owners.

The cats are back. So reads the cards and menus of Two Black Cats which has relocated to 5501 Pershing from its former home downtown. The cats--Thomas McIntosh and Earl Harris--say they chose DeBaliviere Place as their new home because it is a bigger location and a better neighborhood. They are open for dinner 7 nights a week, lunch Monday-Saturday, and they also serve a Sunday brunch. There is musical accompaniment at the brunch and for dinners. The dinner menu includes fresh fish, pasta, steak, and baby back ribs. Their famous Whiskey Bread Pudding is still readily available.

Just down the street is WildFlour Pizza, reviewed in our last issue by Kim Koenig. People are crowding to try the whole wheat or regular crust with either gourmet or traditional topping. Tim Hirsch is the owner here. He grew up in the St. Louis area and went to California where he auditioned at the original WildFlours there. Our WildFlour on Pershing is open 7 days a week.

The southern intersection of Delmar and Rosedale is now home to two residents. Into the first home of the Sunshine Academy has moved Ruff's. Ruff's has tables and carryout service and is owned by a famous St. Louis chef, Al Ruff. He and his daughter, Alice Stokes, are on hand to serve food Monday-Saturday to a growing clientele. Ruff said that his biggest seller so far is his cheeseburger. But, he also offers buffalo fish, catfish, perch, mostaccioli, barb b'que, and wingettes. Ruff and Stokes also will operate a catering business out of this locale.



photos by King Schoenfeld

Greg Perez at the new Painted Plates.

Just south of Ruff's on Rosedale is the Saigon Inn. Kim provides a variety of Chinese and Vietnamese dishes. She is closed on Sundays and holidays but open for carryout and table dining the remainder of the time. Traditional favorites like egg foo young grace the menu and are joined by Vietnamese noodle dishes and soups.

Just as we were about to embark on this photo-essay tour of restaurants, we learned of one about to open the next day! We were able to steal a few minutes of the owner's time as he hastened to prepare for the big moment. The restaurant is Painted Plates and is at the corner of Delmar and Eastgate. This is the first sole venture of Greg Perez who formerly was at the Bluewater

Grill, the Big Sky Cafe, and Tapas. Perez has completely redecorated the space. There will be a progressive mural being painted on the back wall. The walls are filled with Jerry Garcia's original artwork. The dinner menu contains a number of enticing entrees:

apple smoked baby back ribs, mustard and herb encrusted leg of lamb, and tagaletti with lamb meat balls. One can also dive into peach blueberry walnut pie or two very rich chocolate desserts.

In addition, Redel's is open again and the ParcFront still beckons. Bon appetit, Skinker DeBaliviere.



Tim Hirsch amidst customers at WildFlour Pizza.



Al Ruff, proprietor of Ruff's, and his partner, daughter Alice Stokes.



6504 Delmar

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Earl Harris and Thomas McIntosh of Two Black Cats.



The Saigon Inn and its owner, Kim.

# First Annual Rosedale Food Drive

by Beth Bender

While many of us light our grills this summer and partake in the joys of summer food there are, as we all know, many others in need. This time of year food pantries are barely keeping up with demand, and this includes our local pantries run by St. Roch's, Grace Methodist, and The New Cote Brilliant Baptist churches. That is why the R.N.A. has decided to be a positive force in the community by conducting a one day food collection.

On Saturday, July 17, beginning at 9 a.m., volunteers will collect non-perishable foods and personal hygiene items from the porches of

Rosedale neighbors (This includes the 6000 and 6100 blocks of Pershing, Waterman, McPherson, Kingsbury, Westminster, and Washington.) We will send out reminders the week of the collection but ask you to mark your calendars and add to your shopping lists.

If you would like to volunteer in the collection of goods, use of large vehicles, or to hand out the reminder flyers, please call Beth Bender at 863-3854. Please choose to make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you in advance.

# Weekend Begins on Friday Nights at West End Wines

by Katie Kurtz

West End Wines, a neighborhood establishment for almost ten years, has joined the jazz explosion which has been taking St. Louis by storm. While the metropolitan area is home for many different types of jazz clubs, West End Wines may be unique in offering a smoke-free, informal environment where patrons enjoy mainstream, acoustic piano jazz with accompaniment.

After completing reorganization of the space in their establishment at Pershing and Belt, partners John Sappington and Melanie Harvey began the Friday jazz nights because "we liked the idea of doing it," as John so succinctly put it recently. The space can seat forty-five patrons at tables and the bar, and those patrons are treated to some of the best St. Louis talent available. Since January, pianist Kim Portnory has played with bass player Ric Vice, with guitarist Steve Schenkel, and currently, with vocalist Asa Harris. During the month of May, award-winning bass player Steve Kirby was joined by pianist Petah Williams. In addition other talented musicians have been known to sit in. When asked about future plans, Sappington said that the format will continue to be mainstream, acoustic piano jazz. The groups have mainly produced

improvisations based on popular American composers such as George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Duke Ellington, and Count Basie.

The first set is at 8:30; the second at 9:30. There is a \$3.00 cover charge and a single minimum drink or beverage order per set. Wine may also be purchased and served from the retail shop for a small corkage fee. Currently, there is a light cold menu available including pates, cheeses and fruits, and pasta salad. There may be the possibility of adding coffee and dessert at a later date. The evening has been planned so that patrons may either make a night of jazz and light refreshments or easily work in other engagements or dining plans. The retail portion of the shop is also open until 11 p.m. Friday wine tastings are still available but end promptly at 8 before the jazz begins.

The philosophy behind the retail business of West End Wines has been to provide a variety of excellent wines, beers, and spirits for the most discerning and knowledgeable clients to the neophyte who is just embarking on the connoisseur's journey. It would seem that the same philosophy has spilled over into the Friday jazz nights—the dedicated jazz aficionado can be enriched right along side the person who would like a relaxed introduction to the art.

The Cats Are Back

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# Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council

## SKINKER DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MAY 10, 1993

Attending the meeting were: Directors L. Stein, C. Forslund, C. Marinella, B. Bender, J. Miller, K. Keaveny, S. Polk, G. Fox, J. Wright, G. Hayes, S. Johnson, N. Vatcha, A. Webb, M. Merritt, A. Smith Carr, A. Johnson, Conserv. Officer J. Waits, and Executive Director K. Koenig.

Also attending was: Ald. Dan McGuire

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

### New Business

**Discussion on Walgreen's** - C. Forslund updated Board on status of Walgreen's since they received our resolution charging them with creating a recorded, enforceable agreement prior to their variance hearing. We received an agreement from Walgreen's that was unsatisfactory and did not address the provisions of our resolution. The Executive Committee then met with Walgreen's and their attorneys in the interest of working out a mutually acceptable agreement. Ann Carr, in turn, drafted an agreement on our behalf, and presented it to Walgreen's for review. At this meeting, the Executive Committee learned that Walgreen's new store policy includes a liquor department and/or a drive-up prescription window at each store.

This issue is before the Board again because of the drive-up window provision. C. Forslund reported that she, L. Stein, R. Johnson and K. Koenig visited the St. Charles Rock Road Walgreen's which has a drive-up prescription window. Ald. McGuire stated that he will not support a drive-thru window in any location of Walgreen's unless residents are in favor of it. C. Forslund asked that a vote be taken on whether to support/oppose a drive-thru window on the south side of Walgreen's. The vote on this was split, with eight directors supporting and eight directors opposing this. Because the vote was so closely split and such a large number of people oppose the drive-thru, SDCC will oppose the development of a Walgreen's with a drive-thru window at 271-87 DeBaliviere at the hearing on 5/19/93 at 1:30 p.m.

L. Stein moved "That the minutes of the March and April Board meetings be approved as read", seconded by S. Polk and approved.

L. Stein moved "That the treasurer's reports for March and April be accepted as read", seconded by J. Miller and approved. C. Forslund called attention to the projected budget shortfall.

**DeGiverville** A. Johnson reported that drug activity at residences on 5900 block has subsided for the time being.

K. Koenig welcomed A. Johnson back after a recent illness.

**S. Polk** reported that the 5700 block is receiving grass seed from the Urban League.

**Kingsbury Square** No report.

**Nina Place** No report.

**Parkview** K. Keaveny reported that there was a recent hold-up involving two women at Melville and Westgate.

**Recycling** K. Koenig reported that she prepared a resolution in recognition of Andy Cross' hard work with the Recycling Committee's "Deck the Dumpsters" project. L. Stein moved "That the resolution recognizing Andy Cross be approved as read and given to him", seconded by G. Fox and unanimously approved.

**Fundraising** C. Forslund reported that there was low attendance at the first meeting and encouraged anyone to attend the next meeting on 5/18/93 at 6:30 p.m. at SDCC.

**Rosedale** J. Miller introduced himself as the new president of Rosedale Neighborhood Association. He also reported that Betha Whitlow will replace Clare Kerz as treasurer.

**Housing Corporation** K. Koenig and J. Waits reported that work is scheduled to begin on 6025 Westminster and 6036 Washington shortly. Also, 6039-41 McPherson was recently purchased by the Housing Corp.

**Social Service** B. Bender reported that the next meeting is scheduled for 5/20/93, at 6:30 p.m. at SDCC. She requested that the members of all neighborhood religious institutions attend. The committee is beginning to prepare a guidebook of "trusted" area business/services for distribution. They are also compiling a list of volunteers to participate in a "Neighbor Service", to assist elderly in various tasks.

**Recreation** K. Koenig reported that Arthelda Busch has agreed to chair this committee. Their first meeting is at 7 p.m. on 5/19/93, at SDCC. K. Koenig also reported that two basketball hoops have been put up at Hamilton Branch School.

**Beautification** K. Koenig reported that Mary Lou Green of Operation Brightside needs volunteers to plant flowers in Forest Park Pkwy planters on Saturday, May 15, at 9 a.m. C. Forslund and J. Miller volunteered to assist.

### Director's Report

**Ahmadiyya Islamic Movement Temple** 6181 Lindell, is scheduled for a conditional use hearing on 5/27/93. Ald. McGuire reported that they need to

submit a site plan and parking proposals.

**CWE Association Membership** - K. Koenig reported that she and Ald. McGuire met with Jack Byrne and Mary Bartley to discuss membership possibilities. There are a lot of advantages to joining the CWEA including real estate information and crime data via their computer. S. Polk moved "That SDCC will join CWEA for a 1 year trial membership", seconded by J. Wright and approved with one abstention and one opposed.

**Possible Relocation of SDCC Office** - K. Koenig reported that there is an opportunity for SDCC to move into office space next door. State Rep. Nancy Farmer and possibly Ald. McGuire would have offices as well. Our present space would be 1/2 occupied by Bill Christman/YAHOO, leaving the remaining half open for any community meeting/gathering. An artist is also interested in renting the basement space. Also, SDCC would not be paying additional rent for space next door. The Board authorized K. Koenig to explore relocation possibilities with an advising committee comprised of S. Polk, S. Johnson, J. Miller, N. Vatcha, and G. Hayes. All Board members will be polled before a final decision is reached.

**Home Improvement Loan Fund** - K. Koenig reported that there is \$8,000 in an account established with seed money from Washington University for external home improvements. She spoke with Jim McLeod to get his input on purpose/guidelines of this program, and he is supportive of the funds being distributed as loans. J. Vatcha has agreed to serve as chair of the Loan Review Committee, with G. Fox, J. Wright, and J. Miller as additional committee members. The program and its' eligibility guidelines will be advertised in the summer Times issue.

### Additional Agenda Items

**Term Limits** - G. Fox suggested that an amendment be added to the SDCC By-Laws limiting the terms of officers. A copy of the By-Laws and the proposed amendment will be mailed to Board members in advance of the next Board meeting.

**Relationship with Institutional Members** - B. Bender offered a reminder to the Board on the importance of maintaining and strengthening the relationships with our institutional members, especially St. Roch's.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 1993 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

## Hannegans Head for Summer Reading Program



by Mary Ann Shickman

Once a week Lucy Hannegan packs her six children into her station wagon and heads for the Charing Cross St. Louis Public Library on Skinker. They are excited about the summer Reading Program that began in June, featuring lots of prizes for kids. If you want more current details, please call on Charles Lamkin at the library.

The Hannegan children wanted to let you know what they liked about summer reading last year. Cecelia Hannegan, who is nine, likes to read—especially books by Rumer Godden. Her favorite summer reading prize was a free meal from Subway.

Teresa Hannegan says her favorite books are the *Boxcar* series. Last year her

prizes were a ball and a coupon for chicken, mashed potatoes and a bun. William Hannegan, who won a pencil last year, likes a cowboy book called *Cowboy Jam-boree Western Songs and Lore*. David Hannegan not only loves the Frog and Toad books, he is fascinated by the Waldo series.

Wondering which of the many books available are suitable for your children? Looking through those available at Charing Cross, Lucy and Bill Hannegan developed a list of books they and their children have come to love. It is available at the library.

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# YAHOO Exhibits at The Forum

by Lana Stein

YAHOO, funded by the Regional Arts Commission, Anheuser-Busch, and the Central West End Bank, allows talented youngsters in Skinker DeBaliviere to gain hands-on apprenticeship experience from sculptor Bill Christman, whose studio is at Four Corners. Now, thanks to the Forum gallery, in Grand Center, many will be able to admire the work of Christman and his brood.

On June 6, an exhibition opened at the Forum dedicated to the visual arts. YAHOO's work takes up the lion's share of the third floor of the gallery. On opening night, an interchanging live theatrical display highlighted the festivities. Viewers also were invited to partake of authentic moon pies, washed down by Yoohoo or RCs or Cokes. The opening was well-attended by Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors and many patrons of the arts.

YAHOO presented a variety of works. There were three free-standing sculptures prepared by the participants and Christman. They were entitled respectively: Vegetarianism, Porcine Products, What Does Politically Correct Mean?

Lucy Griesbach presented "Good and Plenty" and William Freeman had "Cracker Jack." These and other works were representations of various commercial products. Sam DiLorenzo, a senior at St. Louis University, majoring in English and art, exhibited a work called "Capless Stretch Wigs." He spoke very highly of YAHOO. He said that a lot of the participants have more interest in art and take it seriously. They have learned to mix paint and work with tools.

Bill Christman roamed the exhibition dressed almost like a lounge lizard of the 70s. Roy Roncal and Andy

Cross, co-chairs of the West End Arts Council, seemed very pleased. Andy said he had "a firm grasp on his YAHOO."

On the way out, I spotted participant John McGuire. He said this is fine but "YAHOO can do and will do

much better." His older brother Dan thought it was great.

The exhibit will remain at the Forum until July 31. Some pieces are for sale and Betsy Mallard of the Forum or Bill Christman can provide details.



Yahoo participant, Sam DiLorenzo (right) talks with the father of two students who have participated in Yahoo, Mr. Juan Chavez. Behind them are several of the Yahoo students' time pieces.



Serving junk food at the TV Eats exhibit are Robert Scales and Briana Taylor.



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