

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol 24 No. 9

March 1994

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis



Photo by Roy Roncal

A diverse crowd celebrated together the life and dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the February 6 commemoration. See Pages 3 and 5.

Rosemarie Storey: Indefatigable Worker For City and Community

by Lana Stein

I first got to know Rosemarie Storey several springs ago on a walk to raise money for services for those suffering from AIDS in St. Louis. I was initially struck by her incredible energy and her optimism. These characteristics never seem to change. Rose is invariably able to look for the best possible interpretation of events and for the good in everyone. This may be in part due to her deep faith or to the fact that she successfully reared 8 children and now has 14 grandchildren.

Rose married George Storey in 1954. A year later, they moved to Skinker DeBaliviere. In 1962, they acquired their present home at 57xx Waterman. They both liked the convenience of the area for a large family. There was transportation, schools, the park, and Rose loved the diversity of the people here. Forest Park was important to them for its recreational and cultural attractions. George is an avid golfer. The park also provided many entertainment opportunities. The family attended every MUNY performance, bringing the kids to sit in the free section. Their treats were candy bars one week or popcorn the next. A neighbor with three children of her own joined in the excursions. To this day, the Storeys and several of their children have series subscriptions each year. The children also visited the History Museum frequently each summer, enjoying the various educational programs. There were also



Photo by King Schoenfeld

outing with kids in wagon and stroller to the Art Museum and sometimes the Zoo.

St. Roch's Church and Msgr. Robert Peet, formerly of St. Roch's, have been the cornerstone for the family. George coached baseball, softball, and soccer teams for the

church and Rose took over if George couldn't make it.

As soon as the youngest child was school age, Rose returned to work. She began with political marketing but shortly obtained a position in the credit department at St. Mary's

continued on p. 5

Skinker DeBaliviere Bicycle Works Begins

by Beth Bender

The Social Services Committee of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council is working to bring an innovative and exciting program to our neighborhood. It is part of an effort to enrich the lives of our community youth. It is the hope of all involved that by creating positive outlets and opportunities for our children, they will be more productive in their lives. The new program is **Skinker DeBaliviere Bicycle Works**.

Our program is based on St. Louis BicycleWORKS, located on Shenandoah in south St. Louis. It will branch out to our community. The program is an alternative education youth program which works to build self-esteem, a strong work ethic, leadership skills, employment skills, and knowledge about bicycle safety, use, and maintenance.

While there are many functions of the program, from the youth keeping work logs to learning employment skills, the primary program that BicycleWORKS offers is the Earn-A-Bike Program for youth ages 9-16. This program requires that participants volunteer 25 hours of service to their community which will be documented with time cards and written logs prepared by the participants.

The community service work is only limited by our imaginations. The youth will help on the food drive on March 19, they will help on Blitz Day, they can clean up Lucier Park and alleys in the neighborhood, they can plant flowers or water flowers—whatever serves the community best.

Community service is just one part of the Earn-A-Bike Program. The youth will also spend time learning about bicycle safety, use, and maintenance in seminars and training sessions. Learning how to change inner tubes and how to ride safely as well as preparing to pass written and performance tests is part of this program. When youngsters complete the program, they will have donated time to their community, learned about bicycle safety and maintenance, and earned their own bikes, helmets, and locks.

continued on p. 7



Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

As we are consumed by news about crime and consider suggestions to expand policing, build more cells, or address human service needs, we should also turn our attention to a significant anomaly in our midst. In St. Louis, we have a police department which is not controlled by local government. It has been this way since 1861. No where except in Missouri can you find a local government without control over its most vital service, police protection. Local elected officials feel the heat if crime rises. Neighbors report difficult areas. In a Chicago or a Denver or an Atlanta, the mayor or council members can give input to the police about strategies and problem spots. The police, always professionalized and autonomous, will pay certain heed because the chief is appointed by the mayor. In St. Louis, the mayor must answer to the voters on crime but the police can ignore him and the aldermen without worry.

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department is governed by a board with four members appointed by the governor. The mayor is the fifth member ex officio. Budget, staffing, and pensions have their origins outside city hall. The police department has a separate personnel office and state legislators vote on salaries, etc. When I first arrived here, I could not comprehend that legislators from Potosi or Independence could legislate on matters costing St. Louis tax dollars. Proponents of this current system say that this board appointed by the governor takes politics out of policing. I would respond that only local politics is not present. Important backers, known as "aces" are very significant when it comes time for promotions and transfers. These important backers are most frequently state legislators. So, state politics is ever present in police affairs.

Representative Nancy Farmer has introduced legislation in Jefferson City to return control of its police to the City of St. Louis, to its elected officials and ultimately to the residents. This will be a very difficult battle. Those who profit from the present system oppose any change. Advocates who believe the city should handle its own safety directly need to express their position on this issue. Both Mayor Bosley and former Mayor Schoemehl strongly support local control of the St. Louis police. As Bosley once said, "The Civil War ended over one hundred years ago." Citizens want to hold their elected officials and public administrators accountable. That is not possible now with the police.

Joe Lange

Cabinetmaker, Carpenter, General Contractor

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The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Guidelines for Submitting Copy

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

All material - articles, letters, notices, classified ads - must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Signature on correspondence to the editor may be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phone or mailed to 6008 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 or illustrations submitted should be black and white.

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

Send all correspondence to 6008 Kingsbury, 63112. Deadline: 15th of the month or call 721-7532.

CALENDAR



Neighborhood Meetings

- Mar. 1 West End Arts Council, 6:30pm, 6008 Kingsbury
- Mar. 5 St. Louis Ki Society hosts a neighborhood get together for Skinker DeBaliviere area residents at 6006 Pershing, 4pm. Refreshments will be provided and there will be demonstrations of Aikido and Ki Development.
- Mar. 7 Community Fund Committee, 6:30pm., 6008 Kingsbury
- Mar. 8 5900 Block McPherson/Kingsbury, 7pm, 6008 Kingsbury
- Mar. 14 SDCC Board of Directors, 7pm, 6008 Kingsbury
- Mar. 15 Delmar Business Association, 12 Noon, Thai Cafe, 6170 Delmar
- Mar. 15 6000/6100 Blocks Waterman & Pershing, 7pm, 6008 Kingsbury
- Mar. 19 Neighborhood-Wide Food Drive
- Mar. 21 Apartment Owners Association, 7pm, 6008 Kingsbury

Other Nearby Events of Interest:

- now-
- July 10 "A Golden Legacy: Ancient Jewelry from the Burton Y. Berry Collection, Gallery 120, St. Louis Art Museum Free.
 - Mar. 5 Quartet Seraphin present "Haydn Seek" at the Sheldon, 3648 Washington, 2pm.
 - Mar. 5-6 Artists Boutique annual Spring Fine Arts and Crafts Show at the Kirkwood Community Center, 111 S. Geyer Rd., 10am-4pm.
 - Mar. 4 Writer Frances Sherwood will present a reading and slide presentation on the life of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley at Left Bank Books, 399 N. Euclid, at 7pm.
 - Mar. 8 &
 - Mar. 15 Gourmet in the Galleries, Tuesday night dinners at the St. Louis Art Museum. March 8 is a special singles event. Cost is \$30.65. For more information, call 721-0072, ext. 204.
 - Mar. 18-
 - Apr. 30 "Ice Fishing Play" presented by the Orthwein Theatre at Mary Institute. For information, call 995-7300.

To the Editor:

The number of unsolicited "newspapers" arriving on my lawn has reached annoying proportions. When it rains or snows I must search out and dispose of wet, soggy newspapers. Some unwelcoming recipients leave their throwaway newspapers to accumulate on the street.

Many neighborhoods have distribution points for such free newspapers. They are in malls, markets, libraries, community centers, etc. Surely we can do the same so that my neighbors who wish to receive some of these newspapers have easy access to them without

being forced to receive all of them, all of the time, even when they are out of town. Availability without forced delivery is also ecologically sound and good neighborhood etiquette.

David Garin
61xx Westminster

Editor's Note: I would like to suggest that any resident who wishes to stop delivery of papers should call the circulation office of each individual publication and have their address deleted from the distribution list.



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Annual King Commemoration

by Lana Stein

The ice and sleet storm on Jan. 16 forced postponement of the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration. However, the delay to Feb. 6 did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of participants and attendees alike. The event is sponsored by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, Grace and Peace Fellowship, New Cote Brillante Church of God, and New City School.

The tone for the program was set by the spirited singing of "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," performed by the New Cote Brillante Choir under the direction of Mrs. Mikki Merritt. Children from New City School again this year sang the freedom songs associated with the civil rights movement. It was so good to hear "This Little Light of Mine" and the refrain "If you miss me from the back of the bus, come up front, I'll be sitting right there" and then "If you're all for freedom, clap your hands." These were the songs sung on the marches and at the rallies and it quickly took me back in time at least 3 decades. Students from St. Roch School presented poems that fit the mood of the day. The virulent flu prevented the appearance of students from Hamilton and Crossroads.

The program also benefitted from a reading by Karen Benoit and solos by McKinley Johnson. Johnson gave



Photo by Roy Roncal

Leading participants in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration were, from left, Chairman Jack Wright, speaker Gregory Freeman of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Rev. Mikki Merritt of the New Cote Brillante Church of God.

a beautiful rendition of Dr. King's favorite hymn, "Precious Lord." Benoit read King's own words.

Gregory Freeman, our neighbor on 57xx DeGiverville and columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, spoke movingly of the violence in today's society and how to address it.

His remarks are published in this issue. The emcee for the program was Commemoration Chairperson Jack Wright. Rev. Egon Middelmann of Grace and Peace gave the welcome and the event concluded with closing remarks by Rev. Mikki Merritt, the pastor at New Cote

Brillante Church of God. Participants and guests then attended a reception put on by Grace and Peace. The sunny skies and warmer temperatures on Feb. 6 provided a lovely backdrop to the warmth and fellowship of the commemoration.

"The Need for Nonviolence, Now More Than Ever"

by Gregory Freeman

Editor's note: Following is the text of the speech Freeman delivered at the annual King Commemoration, February 6, 1994.

Dr. King died when I was almost 12 years old, and I didn't really understand his contributions immediately. But, as I grew older and became more and more aware of them, his life served as an inspiration to me. In fact, in many ways, I have tried to follow his beliefs in my own life.

Dr. King believed in justice, in equality, in peace. And there is no question in my mind that King would have been deeply disturbed if he were alive today. The violence that we saw when King was assassinated, back in 1968, was nowhere near what it is today.

What has happened, in 1994, is that issues of crime and violence have overshadowed issues of justice and equality. Instead of living in peace, as King had dreamed, many

of us are living during a war. Not the war of Vietnam, nor the war of the Persian Gulf, but a war on our own city streets. We are seeing thugs, drug dealers, and criminals not only affect but, in many ways, control our lives.

More and more of us are finding ourselves forced to live with bars on our doors and windows, burglar alarm systems, and clubs protecting our cars. The idea of sleeping in our parks on hot nights—as St. Louisans did 50 years ago—seems as ancient today as the Roman conquerors. Increasingly, the notion of sitting on a front porch, especially at night, seems to be vanishing as well when punks shoot wildly into the night, spraying anyone and anything that gets in the way of their misplaced anger.

This is a grave problem, one that should disturb all of us, even if some of us are fortunate enough to live in areas where they are not affected by these problems. St. Louis had a record homicide rate last year. Most of the victims of those homicides—88

percent—were young men, under the age of 21, and most of their murderers were of approximately the same age. Most of those charged with murder were poor, many of them uneducated or undereducated. I suspect that precious few of them knew of Martin Luther King and the message that he gave his life trying to convey. They couldn't. Not when you take a look at some of the reasons people are being cut down before they're even old enough to buy a legal drink in the state of Missouri.

I took a look through the Post-Dispatch's files for 1993. Most of the homicides were over matters that most of us would agree certainly weren't worth dying for: arguments about drugs, about young women, about who stepped on whose foot, a lot of nonsense. Most of the murders took place among people who knew one another, although a growing number of them took place during robberies and other street crimes.

The criminals are doing what, in a way, they are encouraged to do. Richard Rosenfeld, a professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, has written a book called *Crime and the American Dream*. Rosenfeld says that today's criminals are doing little more than pursuing what is commonly known as the American dream—pursuing what you want and letting no obstacle get in your way.

Unfortunately, many people are interpreting that dream literally, sug-

gesting that it means that they can rob, assault, murder or use any illegal means necessary to get what they want, simply because they want it. Much of that has to do with materialism. When I was in college, many of us made fun of what we called "conspicuous consumption," owning things, cars, wearing expensive clothes designed only to impress other people, not only keeping up with the Joneses, but trying to surpass them. It made no sense then, and it makes no sense now. Yet, it is that sort of materialism, that sort of conspicuous consumption, that has led to the activity of many of those involved in crime today.

Much of the crime also has to do with the drugs and guns that are on the streets today at levels never seen before. And while a majority of our young people are not involved in this activity, the thugs that insist on dealing drugs to our babies pointing guns at our children are giving all of our young people a bad name. As crime spreads its poisonous tentacles into more and more of our lives, we all suffer more and more.

Dr. King believed in non-violence—at all costs. And had he been alive today and been here speaking to us, I think he would have insisted that the time has come for us to fight back against this criminal element that is making our lives more and more unbearable. I think that he would speak out against the

continued on p. 5

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Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Monte and Diane Bordeaux of the 6100 block of Westminster brought Lauren into the world on February 15. Their first, she weighed over 7 lbs. Congratulations!

Crossroads senior Jason Pargo has been selected as a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students. He is one of only 1,200 in the nation to attain this distinction.

Sue Rothschild, former editor of *The Times*, continues to distinguish herself. She passed her CPA examination on the first try. No mean feat! She is also braving radial keratotomy, a laser surgical treatment for near-sightedness through the Washington University School of Medicine. Her husband, Sandy says she just wants to be able to get out of bed and see where she's going in the morning without having to find her glasses.!

Darrell Hartke, of 58xx Waterman, has been named to the certification board for state psychologists. He is the first industrial psychologist to be selected.

Dee Joyce-Hayes, St. Louis Circuit Attorney, and her staff of 48 attorneys and a support staff of 69 had a highly productive year last year. They tried 276 cases, matching the record set in 1983. They achieved a conviction rate of over 82%, the highest rate achieved in the last 20 years and 16% higher than the average for large urban areas according to the statistics kept by the U.S. Department of Justice. Their murder conviction rate exceeds the national average by more than 20%. Congratulations to Dee and to her team!

Grace Preschool Is 33 Years Old

Grace Preschool is in its 33rd year of serving the community and its surrounding neighborhoods. In that time, over 850 children have attended the school. Since its inception, the emphasis at Grace has been on the child's emotional and physical development, as well as cognitive skills. We concentrate on school "readiness." School is fun... learning is fun. There is structure in music, art, science, etc. The emphasis is on ideas, understanding, and insight. And then there is love! Mrs. Dolores Hoefel has been the director since 1985 and with her have come many wonderful and innovative additions to the school.

Several years ago, we successfully added an extended day program in addition to our regular morning hours. This year, the school is proud to say that two of our children were non-English speaking when they enrolled. Thanks to the help of our director, the child from Russia and the child from Yugoslavia are now able to communicate with their classmates and feel very comfortable in their surroundings. Gearing up for our 34th year, we invite guests to call and visit the school.

Hours: Mon. & Fri., 8:30am-11:45am; Tues., Wed., Thurs. 8:30am-2pm. Enrollments for the coming year are now being accepted.

Pet Talk

by Stephen A. Brammeier, D.V.M.

Hidden Hazards

Although everyone strives to provide a safe and secure living environment for their pets, occasionally, pets are injured by conditions or situations owners do not consider a hazard. Some of these potential problems may seem obvious: rodent poisons, lead paint, and antifreeze; others may not seem a danger: choke chain collars, garbage toxicity, fly strike, and over-the-counter human medications.

Rodent control has been a problem for metropolitan areas for hundreds of years. Remember the Pied Piper? Warfarin, a dicoumarin based compound, has long been the chemical used to control rodents. Rodents are very sensitive to the anticoagulant properties of warfarin; soon after ingestion of the poison, they expire from massive bleeding. Dogs, and sometimes cats, will readily eat the pellets of rodent poison. Being more resistant to the anticoagulant, dogs and cats must ingest a larger portion of the poison to suffer ill effects. Because the symptoms of poisoning with warfarin are not always obvious, owners are often unaware their pet has a problem until presented to the veterinarian, in critical condition, due to massive internal bleeding. If the hemorrhaging is caught early, treatment is usually curative, requiring 1 to 3 weeks of a Vitamin K supplement.

I have diagnosed several cases of lead poisoning during the sixteen years of practice in this area. Lead is found in plaster as well as paints. Most commonly, lead poisoning occurs when exterior paint removal leaves paint scrapings scattered in

the yard. Dogs will readily eat the scrapings, and develop lead poisoning. Digestive upset—vomiting and diarrhea—are the early symptoms of lead toxicity; dementia follows if the toxicity continues. Current treatment involves several days of injections to remove the lead from the body. The medication is costly. The University of Missouri at Columbia is researching a new treatment with an oral drug currently used to treat lead toxicity in people. Early results are promising; the most recent case treated at my practice participated in the program and responded well to the new treatment. It is essential to eliminate the source of lead in the environment to prevent continued exposure.

Ethylene glycol, the main ingredient of current engine coolants, is highly toxic to pets. The liquid is sweet and pets willingly drink it. Just a few teaspoons is enough to cause irreversible kidney damage. Initially the pet will be literally drunk from the ethylene glycol, within a few hours the kidneys are damaged; death results from kidney failure. Treated intensively within a few hours after ingestion, the kidney damage can be avoided. Anytime coolant leaks, or is changed in a home garage, one needs to exercise caution and be sure none—absolutely none—is accessible to your pets.

Next month, I will discuss some of the less obvious dangers to pets. If readers have questions or topics they would like discussed in the article, please send them to me at Kingsbury Animal Hospital, 420 N. Skinker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63130.

SDCC Election Results Pending Third Vote to be Taken in March

by Venita Lake

On March 14, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council will take a third vote in attempt to elect a new president. During its January meeting, two votes were taken, each ending in a tie between Beth Bender and Gary Hayes. The by-laws, which are being amended, had no provision for breaking a tie vote.

Officers for the Council are elected from those proposed by a nominating committee. In past elections, the committee typically has recommended a single candidate for each position, president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The vice president has often moved into the position of president. Hayes, the vice president, and Bender both were nominated and decided to run for election and both names were submitted.

The first vote on January 24 resulted in a 6 - 6 tie. Three council members, Gary Hayes, Ruth Johnson, and Aaron Johnson, were absent from the meeting. As a candidate, Beth Bender was prevented by the by-laws from voting.

In a second vote, two newly-appointed at-large members, Greg Freeman and Dexter Bordes, were also allowed to vote. The result was a 7 - 7 tie.

Since a by-laws committee had been appointed to address election procedures, a third tie-breaker was scheduled for the next regular meeting on March 14. (The January 24 meeting served as a combined January/February meeting in lieu of the regular meetings held on the second Monday of each month.)

The by laws committee has now recommended that the rules be amended to address the issue of tie votes: (1) The presiding officer will not vote on any issue except in the case of a tie vote. (2) Candidates for office will now be permitted to vote.

The March 14 meeting will be presided over by newly elected vice president Aaron Johnson. Other officers elected at the January meeting are Ruth Johnson, secretary, and Joe Miller, treasurer.

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Joe Pollack,
St. Louis
Post-Dispatch

Non-violence
continued from p. 3

conspiracy of silence that we are seeing in some of our neighborhood that has frightened good, upstanding neighbors to such an extent that are afraid to stand up.

I think it is high time for neighbors to band together and fight back against this seamy side of our society. It's time to stand up and work together and push the violence out of our neighborhoods.

So how do we do this? There is not one answer. The solutions to this dilemma are neither liberal or conservative, Democratic or Republican, black or white. The first solution comes from within ourselves. We must be willing to commit ourselves to rooting these ne'er-do-wells from our communities. We must begin to come forth, to report what we see, to let police know about drug dealing, shootings, and other trouble that we see in our neighborhoods. The police are not insensitive to the problems that are being faced, and have developed programs in which those who are frightened need not give their names to report what they've seen. They have programs in which the police can talk to you by cellular phone as they come to your neighborhood so that no police officer is seen coming to your door. The criminals won't be able to figure out you were the one with a tip.

We also must be willing to stand behind the police department as it takes a more aggressive stance in getting guns and drugs off the streets. The damage that has been done so far is far too harmful for us to squabble over this issue. Children are dying. The elderly are being terrorized. People are refusing to leave their homes for fear someone will break in and steal the few possessions they own. And too many guns are in the hands of kids--mere babies--who are busy shooting each other, and everyone else in the process.

We've got to get these guns off the street and we've got to be willing to commit ourselves to stricter gun control laws. I know that this statement is controversial to some who tell me that stricter gun laws won't

help. Well, I counter that stricter gun laws won't hurt. If we make it harder to get guns, we can begin to get them out of the hands of those who, frankly, shouldn't have them. Let us begin now.

It strikes me that our sentencing laws must be made stiffer. If a person is sentenced to 20 years in jail, he shouldn't get out in seven. People shouldn't be allowed to commit violent crimes one day and be out of jail the next. The juvenile code also must be changed so that youngsters who do things that at one point in our nation's history were done only by adults will find themselves treated as adults by our court system.

These changes are important if we ever hope to involve the citizen again in the process of pointing out individuals who are responsible for making some of our lives hell on earth. I can remember when I was a child, if you did something wrong, someone was going to tell your parents. It might have been the lady next door or your friend's mother down the street. If you did something you weren't supposed to do, your parents would find out about it. That doesn't go on much anymore, especially among those who live in areas that are notorious for crime because of a tremendous sense of fear. Those who witness murders are too frightened to give descriptions for fear the culprit will get out of jail somehow and harm them. That has got to change.

Part of it, of course, is teaching children, starting at a young age, the importance of morals and ethics. These are areas that cannot--that should not--be easily dismissed. If a child is raised without moral and ethical training, he or she is likely to grow up making decisions solely on the question of what his or her chances are of being caught. That is no way to go through life. Among the morals and values which must be taught is the value of human life. To quote Dr. King, "Now let me say that the next thing we must be concerned about if we are to have peace on earth and good will toward men is the nonviolent affirmation of the sacredness of all human life. Every man is somebody because he is a child of God."

Children are like sponges. They absorb what we teach them and they absorb what they see. If we teach them right and wrong, they absorb that. If they see us resolving our conflicts in a nonviolent manner, they absorb that.

But, everyone doesn't know how to be a good parent. Some have never had values instilled in them and so are at a loss as to how to instill them in others. For that reason, we must support parenting programs which teach people how to be good parents and instill values in their children.

How else do we turn around the violence that we are seeing far too often? Mentor programs are important. They can go a long way to help people out of poverty and into jobs.

Education is important. Most of those involved in crime are under-educated. They are not prepared to enter the legitimate job world. We

1994 Food Drives Include Entire Neighborhood

by Beth Bender

The first SKINKER DEBALIVIERE FOOD DRIVE of 1994 will be Saturday, March 19, and it will encompass the entire community, from Limits Walk in Parkview to DeBaliviere and from Delmar to Pershing. The beneficiaries of the collection will be the pantries at St. Roch's, Grace Methodist, Grace and Peace, and New Cote Brillante.

On Saturday, March 19, beginning at 9:30 a.m., volunteers will collect non-perishable goods and personal hygiene items from the front porches of all Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors. We will send out reminders the week before the collection, but please mark your calendars and add to your shopping lists.

Due to the increase in the size of the collection area, we will need assistance. Residents with large vehicles are needed to drive a section of the neighborhood, while others are needed to pick up goods from porches and load the vehicles. The time involved should not be more than three hours. If you would like to volunteer in the collection of goods or the use of large vehicles, or the distribution of reminder flyers, please call Beth Bender at 863-3854 or call the SDCC Office at 862-5122. Please choose to make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you in advance.

Storey
continued from p. 1

Hospital where she soon became the assistant manager. In September 1978, the governor appointed her Clerk of the Court of Criminal Corrections. She was the first woman to hold this post. In 1979, this office was merged into the Circuit Court and she became financial manager there. In October of 1983, she was hired away by the Collector of Revenue to head the Earnings Tax Division. She continues there today and assiduously attempts to collect every penny lawfully owed to the city. She supervises a staff of over 70 employees. Her firm ways and her fair manner, plus her wonderful sense of humor, make her a very popular boss. Just don't forget to pay that earnings tax.

The Storeys have been active in politics for a long time. George served as 28th Ward Democratic Committeeman for 16 years. He's currently an Airport Commissioner. Rose and the children assisted in all of George's campaigns. Now she's the elected official. She became

Committeewoman several years ago by appointment and was successfully elected in her own right in the August 1992 Democratic primary. She is, of course, very active in the 28th Ward Regular Democratic Club.

I sometimes wonder how Rose does it between family, church, work, politics, and other neighborhood activities! (She's always a big help to *The Times*.) Six of her children and 11 of the grandchildren live in this area and something is always going on. But, as neighbor and co-worker Sam Green once said, "Rose is incredible. She can be involved in events all weekend and still find time to bring in homemade chili for her staff on Monday." She can keep track of all sorts of details and juggle that schedule better than most.

And she is effective. Many feel that she has played an important role in Skinker DeBaliviere. Jack Wright, who has known Rose for almost 30 years, called her an anchor. "She has always been a strong leader, whether she's in politics or not. She's a true leader; she goes about it quietly and professionally. She's never changed, always the same Rose." Jack particularly remembers the flower sales she had on her front porch every Mother's Day to raise money for neighborhood activities and her work at St. Roch's.

Rose thoroughly enjoys Skinker DeBaliviere today. She says "it's absolutely wonderful. I feel free to walk everywhere." She points out the council and the churches hold the community together. She further notes that "There is a unity among people who have stayed and there's still the convenience." It's good having Rose Storey as a neighbor and as a friend.

must make a commitment to educate them. Education is a way to lift hopelessness, a state in which many of those at risk live.

Now, it's easy for us to sit back and say "that's not my problem, and I don't want any of my tax monies or private monies to go to help people with those problems." But, it is our problem. As Dr. King said, "Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?"

It is incumbent upon all of us to do what we can to help others who are not as fortunate as ourselves. We must do what we can to improve the lives of as many as we can. We can do something about crime: We don't have to sit back like scared animals and let thugs and murderers take over our city. We can work together and stand together. We can defeat this scourge. We can reach Dr. King's dream of all of us living in peace, together, as fellow human beings, unfettered by the problems of crime and violence.

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Rep. Farmer Cosponsors Youth Opportunities and Juvenile Crime Prevention Bill

Rep. Nancy Farmer, D-64, is cosponsoring a bill to address the issue of increasing juvenile crime along with Rep. Pat Dougherty, also of St. Louis. The proposed act would provide funding for employment, education, recreation, role model/mentor, drug abuse prevention, and non-violent conflict resolution programs. "We can either pay now or pay a whole lot more later," said Rep. Farmer. "The earlier we reach

our children with programs that generate self-esteem, community pride, and personal responsibility, the better our chances of having them become productive members of society." The act would also allow for locally operated correctional alternatives for juvenile offenders with regimented discipline, educational, and community service components. For more information, contact Rep. Farmer at 721-3083 or 1-751-1400 in Jefferson City.

Exercise Class Available

by Sylvia Stahl

There is an exercise class at the Oak Senior Citizens Center, 630 Trinity, on Fridays from 11:15am to 11:45am. There is some yoga breathing, some stretching exercises, and some with weights. Bring your rubber bands or weights but, most important, bring yourself. Call 721-2722 for further information.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council

Board of Directors Minutes

January 24, 1994

Attending the meeting were: Directors A. Webb, B. Bender, G. Fox, J. Wright, K. Keaveny, T. Roland, L. Stein, A. Smith Carr, S. Polk, S. Johnson, C. Forslund, M. Merritt, J. Miller, and Executive Director K. Koenig.

Guests were: D. Bordes, G. Freeman, J. Vatcha, G. Johannes, and M. Mahon.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

I. Review of Minutes

J. Miller moved "That the minutes of the December Board meeting be accepted as read"; seconded by G. Fox and approved.

II. Treasurer's Report

A. Webb moved "That the treasurer's report for December be accepted as amended"; seconded by J. Wright and approved.

III. Committee/Association Report

Community Planning - J. Vatcha, Chair of this committee, and G. Johannes, committee member, presented issues of concern surrounding J&W Liquor store. Problems of loitering and littering have been ongoing, and J. Vatcha asked the Board for their input on how to resolve these problems. After much discussion, the Board agreed to pursue this matter in the same way as Limits Grocery was

recently handled, with a restriction on the sale of 40 ounce beer and 1/2 pint liquor bottles. K. Koenig will pursue contacting other area groups for letters of support in this action.

J. Vatcha also reported that 14 Delmar businesses have participated in the Commercial Theme District program. She also stated that Gary Robertson of Robertson's Furniture is constructing a new store just east of his current location. Also, the draft redevelopment plan has been signed off by Aldermen McGuire and Clay, and will be formally introduced to the Board of Aldermen for adoption in April.

DeGiverville - No report.

Kingsbury Square - No report.

Nina Place - No report.

Parkview - No report.

Housing Corporation - K. Koenig reported that the Housing Corp. is trying to obtain NAP tax credits to assist in the cost of the demolition of 519 Des Peres. T. Roland stated that there was a possibility that the National Guard would incur the costs of the demolition. She will assist K. Koenig in researching this possibility.

Rosedale Square - J. Miller reported that bingo is running smoothly.

Recreation - B. Bender reported that four neighborhood basketball teams are practicing at Hamilton Community School. She also presented plans for the BicycleWorks program to begin in late March. G. Fox moved "That the Recreation Committee, with the full support of the Board, proceed with plans to implement this program"; seconded by A. Carr and approved.

Social Services - B. Bender reported that 22 home weatherizations were performed during December and January. Also, a neighborhood food drive will take place in late March.

MLK Commemoration - J. Wright reported that due to inclement weather, the program was rescheduled to February 6, 1994. The time and location of the program will remain the same.

Historic District - K. Koenig announced that G. Johannes has agreed to be the new chair of this committee.

Community Fund - J. Miller distributed copies of the newly created by-laws and guidelines for this committee and fund. A meeting will be held on February 10 at 7 p.m. at SDCC for any Board member to attend with questions/comments about these documents.

IV. Formation of By-Laws Review Committee

C. Forslund requested volunteers to serve on a By-Laws Review Committee. T. Roland will chair this committee, with C. Forslund, B. Bender, A. Carr, L. Stein, M. Mahon, and J. Miller as members.

V. Update on Sinclair Station, 400-404 North Skinker

K. Koenig stated that in early January, Sinclair applied for a conditional use permit for interior demolition. Before the hearing had taken place, Sinclair was closed for business and boarded up. No one

representing Sinclair was present at the hearing; therefore, the permit was denied. To date, K. Koenig and Alderman McGuire have heard nothing further from Sinclair on any plans they have.

VI. Rally's Restaurant, 800 North Skinker

K. Koenig reported that Rally's applied for a conditional use permit to construct a restaurant at the above address. On behalf of the Commercial Planning Committee, K. Koenig opposed the permit being issued because it was inconsistent with the Redevelopment Plan, which prohibits restaurants that are strictly drive-thru or carry-out. The matter was taken under advisement by the Board of Public Service.

Finance Committee - J. Miller distributed copies of new monthly cash statement forms for adoption by the Board. L. Stein moved "That the new monthly cash statement forms be adopted for use by the Board"; seconded by B. Bender and approved.

VII. Creation of Additional At-Large Positions

C. Forslund introduced D. Bordes and G. Freeman as the nominees for two at-large seats. J. Miller moved "That the two newly created at-large positions be filled by D. Bordes and G. Freeman"; seconded by A. Carr and approved.

G. Fox introduced M. Mahon as the new St. Roch's representative to the Board.

VIII. Election of Officers

C. Forslund presented the proposed slate of officers. Nominations from the floor were requested. Since the positions of Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer were uncontested, they were voted in by acclamation, and will hold office for one year:

A. Johnson, Vice President

J. Miller, Treasurer

R. Johnson, Secretary

B. Bender and G. Hayes were nominees for the office of President, and a vote was taken for this office. The vote was recorded as a tie, and since there were no provisions in the By-Laws to address the address the event of a tie, a re-vote will be held in March. In the meantime, the By-Laws Review Committee will examine the case of a tie, and recommend a procedure to the Board.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, 1994, at 7 p.m.



Volunteers man SDCC Sunday Night Bingo Fundraiser

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EXPANDING LIVING SPACE I

ATTIC CONVERSION

By Amrit Gill

There are many possible reasons for needing more living space: additions to the family; ever increasing home office needs; a changing life-style; or just the desire to organize the "junk". Very often, expanding the livable area of the house you live in can prove more cost effective than buying a larger home. However, the expansion needs to be well thought out, with a clear understanding of what the end result will be. Otherwise you may merely be transforming your attic or basement from a low cost into high-cost unlivable, wasted space. This, the first of a series of three articles on this subject, I will devote to attic conversions.

A short inspection tour of your attic can help you decide if the idea of converting your attic into living space is worth pursuing.

1. **STRUCTURE:** Does your attic look like a 'spider web of triangles'? Attic conversion is not likely to be economical with truss roofs.

2. **ROOM SIZE:** Does half your attic floor space have at least 7'6" of clearance? Headroom can be increased by using dormers or gables, but the cost starts to increase quickly. Are the floor joists sufficiently strong to hold up the load you will be adding? Anything less than 2x8's 16" on center will probably need to be reinforced. Also, sleeping rooms require at least 8 sq. ft of window or 8% of floor space, whichever is greater.

3. **SYSTEMS:** Can water supply, sewer and vent lines be easily tied to the existing plumbing system? Does your breaker box have empty slots for additional circuits? Can new electric lines be easily run to the attic? Can you possibly use your existing heating and cooling system for the new space?

4. **ROOF FRAMING AND INSULATION:** Are rafters sufficiently deep to accommodate the necessary insulation? Normally the attic provides a barrier between the living areas of the house and the harsh heat of the summer sun or the icy bitterness of winter winds. This barrier must be maintained in a renovated attic—only in a much smaller space. For comfort, an adequate amount of insulation is necessary. Equally important is the installation. A vapor barrier must be installed on the living area side. Ventilation between the insulation and the roof decking must be provided to move hot air up and out of the house and to prevent condensation.

5. **ACCESS:** Is there a staircase to the attic? If not, is there a convenient route to put one in? Normal requirements are 3'x10' for a straight staircase.

Going through this short inspection tour can give a reasonable idea of the level of difficulty, and thereby cost, of converting your attic into livable space.

St. Louis Ki Society: A Pershing Neighbor

by Mark Rubbert

On Saturday, March 5, at 4pm, the St. Louis Ki Society will host a neighborhood get together (free of charge) for Skinker DeBaliviere area residents at its main school at 6006 Pershing. We would like to introduce ourselves to our neighbors. Though we have been in the neighborhood for nearly fifteen years, many residents have little or no idea who or what we are. Along with snacks and beverages, we will present a demonstration of Aikido and Ki Development.

This type of training originated in the philosophies and traditions of Japanese martial arts. The following is a very brief explanation of what we do. Please come by at the above time or at any class time to see it for yourself.

Ki Development training uses specific techniques and exercises to teach "Mind and Body Unification," a centered, calm, and relaxed state that can be maintained in action and at rest. Ki (pronounced like key) is a Japanese word typically defined as mind, spirit, or heart. In oriental medicine and martial arts, the word Ki (Qi or Chi in Chinese) refers to a subtle form of vital energy. A working definition of Ki is awareness and connection, within mind and body, and with everything else. Students develop an increased sense of community with others and union with nature.

Aikido is a martial art in which the techniques are designed not to cause pain or injury, but to move the

whole body of a person. This usually results in an immobilization (pin) or projection (throw) of an attacker. Students learn pre-arranged attack/defense moves and perform them with many repetitions to develop technical skill and graceful movement. Students are taught to safely receive Aikido techniques by properly falling and rolling away, instead of resisting. There is no free fighting, sparring, or competition in practice.

Aikido training has the calming, relaxing, and centering benefits of Ki Development, with the challenge of maintaining this physical and mental attitude in the midst of vigorous and technically complex activity. Regular training helps produce a high level of physical fitness. The self-defense aspects of Aikido are based on avoiding or escaping conflict, not on a stand and fight attitude. With sufficient training, advanced practitioners may control and subdue a violent person. Aikido has been used successfully by law enforcement, corrections, and mental health professionals. Still, the major focus is on self-improvement through Mind and Body Unification.

Ki Society training began in St. Louis in 1979. The St. Louis Ki Society was incorporated in 1989 as a nonprofit educational institution to foster the continuation of this training in the metropolitan area. The St. Louis Ki Society provides training and instruction for all people regardless of race, color, national and ethnic origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or religious preference.

BicycleWorks

continued from p. 1

The first session of this program will be run by St. Louis BicycleWORKS. Their staff are presently training members of our community so we can start our own Skinker DeBaliviere BicycleWorks. After the first group of youngsters goes through the program, we will be running our own sessions throughout the summer. It is the hope of those involved that by the start of the school year, we can have least 100 Skinker DeBaliviere youth on two wheels.

There will be an informational meeting about Skinker DeBaliviere BicycleWorks on Thursday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. The place is yet to be announced; call 862-5122 for information.

This one time meeting will be held for members of the community

who would like to sign their children up to participate, and for other interested parties. No child will be able to participate unless a parent or legal guardian signs them up in person. The location of the meeting will be made known through fliers which will be delivered to all community homes.

We are presently trying to arrange a semi-permanent home within our community for the program with the hope that it will grow and offer youth a place to congregate to study or to work on bikes. Ideally, we want to be able to offer afterschool and Saturday hours throughout the school year for the youngsters. That way they can continue to work on their bikes, learn about other programs, and be motivated through perks within our program to achieve better in school.

It is also a goal to eventually be able to hire our own youth to assist in running the program. Our youth need work and this would assist in building more positive role models for the younger kids.

Where do all of the bicycles come from? Well, St. Louis BicycleWORKS has a supply to get us started, but we are accepting/begging for used bikes, parts, or any related items. Children's bikes are a real treat! We will be happy to pick up anything you might have for us. We are also examining other supply options for the future.

While we have applied for numerous grants to help bring Skinker DeBaliviere BicycleWorks to life, we are still penniless and not too proud to beg. Any members of the community who would like to make a donation to the program can send

their checks to the SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury, St. Louis 63112. Make checks payable to the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (please put "for BicycleWORKS" in the memo area of your check). Even with donated bicycles, it still costs approximately \$100 to train and outfit each child. Your sponsorship of a child or any donation will help bring this amazing program to life.

Anyone interested in helping with the program as an afterschool tutor, a community service organizer, or as a bicycle repair guide is welcome.

DON'T FORGET THE MARCH 10 MEETING!

If you cannot make the March 10 meeting, please call Kim Koenig at the SDCC office, 862-5122, or Beth Bender at 863-3854.

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- St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In Your Ear

by Hawkeye Hoerr

The NFL Stallions, huh? There we were, poised to have another real NFL team (some would say our first!), and victory was snatched from our jaws, not for the first time. First we elected Ashcroft to be our Governor, then we had several Admiral fiascos, and now we've lost a football team that we didn't have. That's three disasters in a row, not counting the board of aldermen!

So while St. Louis used to be first in baseball, shoes, and beer, we're now first in... er, that is we're now number one in... our city is noted for... Gosh, that's an interesting question. What is our wonderful city's claim to fame in 1994? As one who's lived in St. Louis all of his relatively young, yet erratic, life here's one man's list of ten things that make us great.

1. *A city of neighborhoods.* Our architecture is magnificent. We know the fine quality of housing in Skinker-DeBaliviere and the Central West End, but check out some of the near north side streets, Beverly or Windemere Place, for example. Or give Bartmer Avenue a look, west of Union. And then there's the housing in South St. Louis, near Carondelet Park. We're lucky that St. Louis was built when it was, and that clay was so plentiful. And what was built as glorious houses has become wonderful neighborhoods, like ours.

2. *A twenty-minute City.* Whoever said you can get anywhere in 20 minutes was right, anywhere worth getting that is. And that doesn't even count Light Rail. Rumor has it that there is housing and there are some stores west of Hanley Avenue, but who cares? Saying we're "a twenty-minute City" is a kind of shorthand for saying that we're big enough to have all of the amenities of a large city, but small enough that we're not New York, Los Angeles, or Burlington.

3. *KWMU, 90.7FM.* "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered," "The Car Guys," and "The American Reader." Nothing more need be said.

4. *Ted Drewes.* There's a reason why this place gets so much publicity, it's that good. There may be something, somewhere that tastes better than a chocolate-chip concrete from Ted's, but I've not found it yet. And just how popular is it? I've been going to Ted Drewes, both locations, since high school, and I've never not seen someone that I've known.

5. *Basically Bagels.* How good can a bagel be? You'll be surprised. Give this place on Euclid a shot. Here's a thought: a bagel-flavored frozen custard? It's a great place for breakfast meetings. Their cream cheese veggie mix is hard to beat. It's a great place to meet, even if your partner is typically late!

6. *Library, Ltd.* A mega-book store that's not owned by a corporation. I mean, Barnes & Noble is nice, but you can find one of those in any major city. Here's our very own bibliophile's paradise. I wonder if they could get Ted Drewes to set up a stand by the register? Or maybe it'd be easier to get Ted to sell books!

7. *Forest Park.* Everyone thinks it's theirs, if only we could get everyone to contribute for its upkeep. It's wonderful for running, bike-riding, exercising, or walking your pooch. In the spring, it's hard to beat being at the top of Art Hill around 6 a.m. and seeing the sun rise over the skyline, through the mist coming from the Post-Dispatch Lake in front of the Art Museum. The only thing I can imagine that would be better is staying in bed, sleeping.

8. *The History Museum in Forest Park.* If you've not been there lately, you're missing a good way to mosey away a few hours. It is full of interesting user-friendly exhibits. You can't tell when you're learning and when you're having fun; what a great combination!

9. *The great ethnic restaurant section of south Grand Avenue.* From Arsenal, just south of Tower Grove Park, all the way to Utah Avenue, by the Carpenter Library, you'll find one interesting eatery after another. Good, and cheap too. What more could a person want?

10. *The Arch.* We take it for granted, just like all of the other things that we know we can count on. But visitors are rightly in awe of it. When's the last time you actually went down there, not counting a fireworks display on a holiday, and closely looked at it? Try standing at the bottom and looking up, up, up. Or check it out as you're driving west from Illinois, and you see it standing up in the distance. It's amazing what man can do. (Yet we can't get the traffic lights synchronized from Grand to Kingshighway.)

So there you have 'em, Hawkeye's St. Louis TOP TEN. Boston has no Forest Park, London lacks an arch; Paris doesn't have neighborhoods, and New York is definitely not a twenty-minute city. Who needs an NFL team?

Msgr. Polizzi Appointed to Board

The Board of Aldermen have appointed St. Roch's Monsignor Sal E. Polizzi to the Board of Directors of the St. Louis Philanthropic Organization, Inc. Polizzi will hold one of the ten positions the aldermen select. The Philanthropic Organization disburses funds to various social service and neighborhood assistance projects. The Philanthropic Organization is the repository of funds set aside by cable television companies because the city could only charge a 5% franchise fee. These monies would then go to groups and agencies for charitable use.

Special Scholarship Opportunity Available

The National Federation of the Blind in Missouri will award scholarships of up to \$1,000 to visually impaired prospective and current college students. The deadline is March 31, 1994. Contact Patricia Morrow, 2710 West Rollins Rd., Apt. 15, Columbia MO 65203-0770, telephone 314-445-6690. Similar scholarship assistance is available from the National Federation of the Blind; contact Peggy Pinder, Chairman of the National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Committee, 814 4th Ave., Ste. 200, Grinnell IA 50112, or call 515-236-3366. Their deadline is also March 31.

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