

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 25 No. 5

October 1994

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

New Direction for Hamilton School



Glenda Bryant

Hamilton School, located in the 5700 block of Westminster in our neighborhood, is now called the Hamilton Elementary Community Education Center. It is one of 15 community schools in the city receiving new direction and resources in order to become a neighborhood center, providing something for everyone in its service area. This program has the strong support of the Board of Education, Mayor Bosley, and a citizens' group called C.H.A.N.G.E.

As part of the new direction at Hamilton, a new council is being organized to give input to K-5 education and to provide direction for the after-school activities. Everyone is encouraged to attend the council's meetings and to participate on committees. Parents of children attending city schools are particularly encouraged to join.

It is hoped that Hamilton and the other community education centers will offer a comprehensive approach to education including making available health, social, educational, and other services. There will be evening enrichment classes for adults.

The American Youth Foundation will play a leading role in linking the schools, surrounding communities, and service providers. They also will take part in evaluating the community education centers.

Hamilton will receive two volunteers from AmeriCorps, the new national service program recently adopted by Congress. These volunteers will re-

ceive a stipend for their work in the community and also tuition benefits so that they may continue their education.

Hamilton also has a new principal, Dr. Glenda Bryant. She is very excited to be at Hamilton and to be part of this new initiative. She is particularly pleased that the K-5 activities at Hamilton and its evening programs are now under one roof. She hopes that everyone will take personal ownership of Hamilton and that its programs can improve the quality of life in the area. She looks to the new council to provide power, focus, and direction. She feels that its committees will determine what is most needed. These community education centers are drawing attention from across the U.S. and private funding will become available. The Danforth Foundation has pledged \$300,000 to the initiative and Fleischman-Hillard will donate \$1 million in advertising.

Bryant has committed herself to this new direction. She feels she brings enthusiasm to her role. She wants to make this dream work. Bryant has worked for the St. Louis Public Schools for 25 years. She has taught everything from 1st to 7th grade. Prior to coming to Hamilton, Bryant was the instructional coordinator at Cupples School for 10 years. She is also an adjunct professor at Webster University. Bryant received her Ph.D. from Brandeis University and earned 5 master's degrees as well. She is certified in 8 different areas, including reading. Governor Carnahan appointed Bryant to be a Human Rights Commissioner. This Commission deals with housing, public accommodations, and employment. She will serve in this capacity until 1999.

As part of its new direction, Hamilton held a Teen Town Dance in late August. More are planned so that young people in the neighborhood have a place to go.

If you are interested in learning more about the Hamilton Elementary Community Education Center, please call Dr. Bryant's office at 367-0552 or Avis May, community school coordinator at 367-6996.

Mayor Bosley Speaks at Grace Methodist

On September 21, Mayor Freeman R. Bosley, Jr., spoke at Grace United Methodist Church as part of their special September series of Wednesday potluck suppers and speakers.

Dee Joyce-Hayes, St. Louis's Circuit Attorney, and a neighborhood resident, introduced Bosley. She told the audience that they had been law students together at St. Louis University in the 1970s.

The mayor said that one of his most difficult tasks is to put things in perspective for citizens of the city. He mentioned that the city was spending \$17 million for a new jail that would accommodate 220 people. He said, "The way things are going, people will be standing in line to get in. You can't deal with the problem on the back end only. You have to move to the front end." For Bosley, that meant not just more police and more jails but talking about education, jobs, economic opportunity, neighborhood stabilization and housing. He has to deal with all these things.

Mayor Bosley noted that McDonald's gave \$40,000 to begin midnight basketball. From 9:00 p.m. to 1 or 2:00 a.m., about 160 guys participate. It gets people off the street and into a structured environment. They can develop pride and dignity and a feeling of upward mobility. The Urban League is there to help with jobs. The Health Dept. is there. The police department is trying to create relationships with the youth in a nonconfrontational setting. Bosley said there are 300-400 people on Saturday nights at

Wohl and the Cherokee center. People are there who might normally be riding around or drinking a 40 oz. or maybe be unfortunate enough to get sucked up into something.

Bosley said that his administration had also taken \$500,000 to expand the hours of the recreation centers and they are now used by an additional 30,000 people. He noted that some of our problems are social problems and "that's how they have to be dealt with."

Bosley mentioned the 50% dropout rate in the public schools. He said that it is because "we're continuing to teach kids the same things we were taught, our parents were taught." But, young people now because of the "glitter and glamour" of television want it all right now. They want a job but what do they know how to do? Bosley felt that young people had to learn about all the various alternatives available to them and not just be told about college.

Bosley also spoke of the need for a neighborhood to have basic goods and services. He said that the average black person living north of Delmar has to travel 12 miles for shopping and spends thousands outside his neighborhood. The planned shopping center on Natural Bridge is the first to be built in that area in over 35 years. Bosley was excited about his administration's new housing initiatives and about the new Community Education Centers, that enhance the old community schools. He wants

continued on page 6

Skinker DeBaliviere's Own Halloween Party for Children

In keeping with a tradition of over two decades, Art Santen is again organizing a Halloween Party for Skinker DeBaliviere's children. Assisted by Joe Miller, president of Rosedale Neighbors, Santen is planning a fun-filled hour with a few surprises for the neighborhood's youngsters. As usual, there will be a costume judging to see who has the best. Jugglers will entertain and there will be refreshments. The Party will be held in the gymnasium of St. Roch's School on Halloween, Sunday, October 31 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Remember! All neighborhood children (and their parents) are welcome at this event! Join Art, Joe, and all our resident ghosts and goblins for a safe and happy Halloween.

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

What's right with the world and what's wrong with the world? I get very worried about initiatives that promise to greatly reduce our taxes. They also reduce services of particular concern to city residents such as spending for all levels of education, health services, maintenance of prisons, libraries, etc. Look carefully before you vote.

Several people have agreed to join The Times as board members, writers, and layout workers. We are very grateful for this support but would like to remind all our readers that you can submit stories or photos or items for Vicissitudes at any time. This paper is meant to reflect the neighborhood in all its diversity so if your part of the neighborhood is not covered, let us know. And, thanks to all of you who have contributed to our paper. We'll be calling on you again in the near future; we receive no funds outside of our advertising except from you—our readers.

CALENDAR



October

Neighborhood Meetings

- 3 Executive Committee, 7 p.m., SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury
- 4 6000 Block of Kingsbury, 7 p.m., SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury,
- 11 MLK Commemoration Committee, 7 p.m., SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury
- 17 Apartment Owners Association, 7 p.m., SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury
- 17 SDCC Board of Directors, 7:30 p.m., Hamilton Community School
- 18 Delmar Business Association, 12 Noon, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury

Other Nearby Events of Interest

- now-Oct. 16 "A Gallery of Modern Art," at the Steinberg Hall Gallery at Washington University. Includes 85 works by masters of the 19th and 20th centuries.
- now-Nov. 6 Weight and Measure drawings by Richard Serra in Gallery 336 of the St. Louis Art Museum.
- now-11/27 Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series and Songs of My People, Special Exhibition Galleries, St. Louis Art Museum. Lawrence's work depicts the African-American migration of the 1920s and 1930s. In Songs of My People, 53 prominent African-American photojournalists capture the Black experience in this country today. The Lawrence exhibit was organized by the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. Songs of My People was organized by the Corcoran Gallery of Art.
- 7-10/31 "Seventy Scenes of Halloween," a theatrical collage, at The New Theatre (TNT), at ArtLoft Annex, 1527 Washington, in the downtown loft district. Call 781-9314 for information.
- 21 Kenneth Branagh's version of "Much Ado About Nothing," film at the St. Louis Art Museum, 1:30 and 7:30pm, \$3 general public, \$2 students, \$1 friends of the Museum.
- 11/11 Archway Communities' Second Annual Trivia Contest With David Strauss of KMOX, Shrewsbury City Center, 7pm; \$15 per person, tables of 8, space limited. Call 361-1623 for information.

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas

"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" at Grace United Methodist Church's annual holiday bazaar on Saturday, November 19, and Sunday November 20. There will be gifts of all kinds for sale - holiday decorations, homemade pies, cakes, cookies and candy, toys, plants and collectibles. The bazaar takes place in Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the church at Skinker and

Waterman and will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday and 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm on Sunday. Lunch of homemade soup, breads, desserts, coffee and sodas will be available both days. There is parking on both sides of Skinker and in the parking lot at McPherson and Skinker.

For more information contact: Sue Rothschild, 725-0878, or Melanie Baker, 781-8448.

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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 of submissions from non-staff area residents.

All material - articles, letters, notices, classified ads - must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Copy may be submitted on computer diskette if the diskette is in DOS format. We cannot process Macintosh diskettes. Diskette stories should be accompanied by a printout of the article, the name of the word processing software in which it is written, and the full name and address of the party to whom the diskette should be returned. Signature on correspondence to the editor may be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be placed in to the editor at 721-7532, or mailed to 6008 Kingsbury. Deadline for all copy is the 15th of the month.

The writer is responsible for the accuracy of the data, including times, dates, location, and particularly the spelling of names.

Pictures or illustrations should be in black and white. Color photographs do not reproduce well.

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"An odd nostalgia seems to hang over it all, a sawdust chic."
- novelist Stanley Elkin

"Blueberry Hill is a treat - visual, aural and gustatory."
- Joe Pollack, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

6504 Delmar

Neighbors Create Jobs at New Company



In the above photograph, Neville Vatcha and George Genung, inspect wheelchair seat hooks off their assembly line in Wellston, MO.

by Lana Stein

Neville Vatcha and George Genung both are longtime residents of our neighborhood. Both served on the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and each was treasurer for a couple of years. They also had something else in common. They had worked together at Sinclair and Rush. George left that business about 6 years ago and Neville last year. Both men were tired of the downsizing and the politics of working for a large corporation. Joined by Joe Giambalvo, another veteran of their old firm, they formed DMX Industries and decided to start their own business in their middle age.

They enjoyed a great deal of support from family and friends and a group of investors who had faith in their idea and their talent. In fact, some of the original founders of their old firm—which had been bought up by a large corporation—invested with Neville, George, and Joe. They also were able to secure a Small Business Administration loan from Boatmen's Bank. Neville and George searched the area for an appropriate site with the requisite square footage on a single floor. They found what they needed in Wellston on Martin Luther King. They also were able to buy the industrial division of Gemini Industries and move its equipment to their site.

Open just 6 months, they have been buoyed by the positive response of customers and suppliers. "It's like they are rooting for you," Neville said. There are 12 workers at this plant. Half are people they

worked with before and half are new.

DMX fabricates plastic parts for industrial and commercial uses. Neville has also developed a squirrel repellent that is now being reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency. He told me that this repellent will protect tomatoes in the garden but also keep squirrels from biting in the plastic parts on power lines.

George is the marketer. He described his task as one of niche marketing. "You pick areas where material using Neville's expertise can outperform other items out there. We're looking at various products and deciding where we could make that improvement. It starts with the material."

It's not an easy task to start this type of business. Neville mentioned that he is putting in 12 to 15 hour days. He's "tired as hell" but feels like he is really creating something. The work done here comes from the heart.

Both Neville and George wanted to do their own thing and get away from corporate politics. Neville also mentioned his strong belief in the need for smokestack industries in the U.S. The country needs to make something. He decried the emphasis of the 1980s. People got carried away with their own thing. He said we weren't creating. There were too many office parks—not industrial parks—and too many shopping malls selling imported goods. He asked, "How many manufacturers receive subsidies compared to office space?"

SDCC and CWE Bank Pursue Recognition for Joint Efforts

by Kim Koenig

Since the Central West End Bank and Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council have a long history of working together, they recently applied for recognition through the Social Compact program. Social Compact is a relatively new initiative on the part of hundreds of financial service institutions to strengthen America's neighborhoods. It works to highlight and reward the most outstanding institution and neighborhood non-profit partnership-based efforts addressing the affordable housing, neighborhood, and economic development needs of America's lower-income neighborhoods.

The CWE Bank has been a vital element in implementing and supporting imaginative neighborhood-based programs in active partnership with SDCC.

They have helped to initiate a Revolving Home Improvement Loan Program, whereby property-owners are eligible for low-interest loans to make exterior improvements to their home. The Bank's president is an active member of the Housing Corporation as well as the Business Association. CWE Bank has funded customized pur-

chase rehab loans for borrowers who have purchased properties from the not-for-profit Housing Corporation, which has consistently added to the neighborhood revitalization. The Executive Vice President of CWE Bank has served on the Council's Board of Directors and continues to be an active member of the Neighborhood Arts Council.

Through Youth Cycles, an alternative youth education program, CWE Bank has provided financial and marketing assistance through the mailing of over 4000 flyers in its monthly checking account statements which promoted the program and encouraged the donation of bicycles and bicycle parts. Since the program's inception six months ago, 30 youth have earned bicycles. CWE also is a sponsor to the increasingly popular annual community picnic.

Through its sponsorship and activism in the neighborhood's art council, CWE Bank has assisted in the creation of YAHOO (Young Artists Hands On Opportunities!) and GEEZERS (senior citizen artists).

In the 15 years since Central West End Bank was founded by people living and working in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood, CWE Bank has continued to emphasize its role as a true community bank. With their financial and volunteer support, especially in the imaginative and effective programs these past four years, the CWE Bank and the SDCC are a true example of a continuingly successful public/private partnership within a community.

A plant such as DMX does not employ a great many people but it does employ those who work with their hands. I left Neville and George agreeing that more plants like this one would be good for St. Louis and other metropolitan areas. Their success brings special joy to those who know them and it causes me to applaud their skill, hard work, courage, and be grateful it is being rewarded today.

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 - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

DesPeres ArtWalk



Winners of DesPeres Art Walk Contest

The following children at area schools received prizes at the ArtWalk, held on September 17.

- PreSchool
 - 1st Brian
 - 2nd Meredith
 - 3rd Brendan and Simone
- Kindergarten
 - 1st Ellen Keaveny
 - 2nd Kelly Short
 - 3rd Laura Knarr
- 1st Grade
 - 1st Hannah Steele
 - 2nd Anthony Liczkowski
 - 3rd Leslie Ramey, Jessie Moench
- 2nd Grade
 - 1st Colin and Ian Fay
 - 2nd Matt Walsh
 - 3rd Emily Biondo
- 3rd Grade
 - 1st Allisa Manoogian
 - 2nd Peter Fans
 - 3rd Ashley Shipman and Kate Dierker
- 4th Grade
 - 1st Joe Wright
 - 2nd Mimi Ryan
 - 3rd Jennifer Short
- 5th Grade
 - 1st David Openlander
 - 2nd Thomas Holzauer
 - 3rd Chris Bergh
- 6th Grade
 - 1st Jennifer Pawlik
 - 2nd Kate Shaver and Dan Flynn
 - 3rd Crystal Winston and John Rice
- 7th Grade
 - 1st John Seline
 - 2nd Carolyn Dorris
 - 3rd Kathryn Pilch
- 8th Grade
 - 1st Beckie Lewis
 - 2nd Katie Lewis
 - 3rd Taya Seline Liz Hart-Mahon
- High School
 - 1st Mia Consiglio
 - 2nd Lila Winston
 - 3rd Mia Consiglio



Visitors to the Art Walk enjoy the displays.



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33 Years of Serving the Community

Cal and Gee Stuart: More than Great Neighbors

by Jo Ann Vatcha

Of the many vicissitudes reported through the years in *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere*, one which is truly bittersweet occurs when a long-time, well-respected, and much-loved neighbor moves. Part of this is our own feeling that no where else can possibly be as terrific as our own community. Sometimes it is much more personal. And so it was as we said goodbye recently to Cal and Gee Stuart of the 6100 block of Kingsbury. We will miss them as friends, as well as neighbors who have contributed immeasurably over many years to our community's success. Commemorating their tenure recently, State Representative Nancy Farmer and Alderman Dan McGuire officially honored them with resolutions from the state legislature and the Board of Alderman. Many friends joined in the celebration.

We remember Cal as Executive Director of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council for over a dozen years, prowling our alleys (was he the infamous and anonymous "Fox?"), prodding the police and persuading the real estate agents, making everyone who came into the little office on Kingsbury feel that the neighborhood's comeback was possible. And more, that you wanted to be involved in making it happen.

Many will remember the Council meetings with Jack Wright's gavel punctuating the rhythm of Cal's reports. (We should have done videotapes to show upcoming generations of meeting-goers how a meeting should be run!) And remember the "after-the-meeting meetings", generally at Green's, where the business at hand was debated vigorously and often with quite creative results. Results that included green spaces and parks, libraries and more. Designation as a Historic District (not without confrontation). A plan for DeBaliviere. Several plans for Nina Place. Results that went beyond dogs and trash to eliminating red lining, even to starting a new bank—the first in Missouri in a quarter century.

Lots of practical accomplishments could be listed here. Gee's entrepreneurship, which resulted in a successful property management company, McPherson Management, which managed rental units in many areas of the City. Her evolution into City-wide housing development, as Director of Operation Impact. Both the Stuarts' active role in many political campaigns of note, many veery

interesting political and philosophical debates. Gee's writing, with Sue Tepas and Kathy Harleman, of *The History of Skinker-DeBaliviere*, a highly regarded document of where we'd been and where we were headed.

And along the way, they raised a family here: three now-grown children, two of whom still (happy to say) live in the neighborhood: C.T., a department manager at National Food Stores; Allison, a graphic artist at the Community Development Agency; and Sarah, an engineer living in Oregon. Gee and Cal shepherded them through schools in the neighborhood, public and private, involving themselves in the school activities, of St. Roch, of Hamilton Branch III, and much more.

Through the years, Gee and Cal have contributed to our success and also helped make this a wonderful and fun place to live. Cal, sometimes in his other role as Episcopalian priest, has performed various ceremonies and several memorable marriages. Both Stuarts have served as Chairmen of the old "Art Fair/House Tours", on Mother's Day in years past, a huge annual undertaking which brought many of us into active roles in the neighborhood. And who can forget Gee working the crowd to win as "Prom Queen" at the 70's fundraising event maybe of all time.

As Alderman Dan McGuire's Resolution at the Board of Alderman expressed, in part:

Whereas, these outstanding citizens and public servants are ensconced forever in the mythology and history of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community as two of the key individuals responsible for the stabilization and renaissance of this culturally diverse and premier neighborhood...and

Whereas, friends and family ...thank, honor and celebrate the closing of an extremely productive and long chapter in their lives and wish them well in their future home and endeavors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Honorable Board of Alderman, that ... honoring this distinguished and much loved couple ... we adopt this resolution of appreciation and best wishes

Thanks, Cal and Gee, for being great friends and neighbors for more than 25 years. Come back often to see us, and teach those people on the Hill how to bring back a neighborhood, will ya?



Gee Stuart as Queen of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Senior Prom, surrounded by the maids of her court, left to right kneeling: Kathleen Williams, Venita Lake, Susie Feinberg. Standing: Elaine Robnett-Moore, Marlene Mestres, Lu Green and Chris Lange.



Cal Stuart creating a Macho Menu.



Cal Stuart, right with Richard Hart, Esther Herron, Jack Wright, and Bob Blackburn at SDCC's 25th Anniversary.

**Skinker DeBaliviere
Community Council
Board of Directors
September 12, 1994 Minutes**

Members present: Directors A. Johnson, C. Forslund, S. Polk, M. Hart-Mahon, S. Johnson, T. Roland Hamilton, G. Hayes, J. Wright, A. Smith Carr, and L. Stein; Alderman D. McGuire; and SDCC Director K. Koenig.

A. Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

K. Koenig introduced Cynthia Gross, DeBaliviere Facility Director of Bi-State Development Agency. Ms. Gross invited the Council to use their facility for meeting space. Board members asked Ms. Gross to address problems of early morning horn blowing of MetroLink trains and overflow traffic from MetroLink lot on DeBaliviere being diverted to 5700 DeGiverville. She will check into both of these issues with Mr. Joe North, Director of MetroLink.

I. Review of Minutes

C. Forslund moved "That the minutes of the August Board meeting be accepted as read with two corrections; seconded by L. Stein and approved."

II. Treasurer's Report

In J. Miller's absence, K. Koenig reviewed the report with the Board. C. Forslund moved "That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as read"; seconded by S. Polk and approved.

III. Committee/Association Reports

Executive Committee - A. Johnson reported that the Executive Committee met with K. Koenig to discuss her maternity leave plans. She requested eight weeks paid with the understanding that she be in constant contact with the Board President. K. Koenig also elaborated on volunteer staffing plans in her absence. Due to a lack of quorum, a special meeting will be called in the next two weeks to further discuss this matter.

Commercial Planning - L. Stein reported that *The Times* plans to highlight abandoned properties along Delmar Boulevard in order to promote interest in development. Discussion was also held on a youth club proposed at 6016 Delmar. L. Stein, K. Koenig, and Alderman McGuire explained the proposal and the sentiments of the groups that the applicant has met with. After much discussion, L. Stein moved "That SDCC not oppose a conditional use permit being granted as long as the 6000 block of Washington supports the proposal and if the applicant has obtained the required number



Faith Sandler and daughter, Claire, at the ArtWalk.

of signatures necessary. We also will support Alderman McGuire's request to incorporate certain restrictions including recruitment for the club in our neighborhood"; seconded by C. Forslund and approved with two opposed.

5700 DeGiverville - S. Polk reported that the Community Picnic in Forest Park was a big success.

5900 DeGiverville - A. Johnson requested that potholes in 5800 and 5900 alleys be patched. He also reported that there is graffiti under the Hamilton bridge. K. Koenig will report this.

Kingsbury Square - No report.

Nina Place - L. Stein reported that two new residents will be moving in during September.

Parkview - No report.

Housing Corporation - K. Koenig reported that 519-521 Des Peres has been demolished. The lot will be seeded before winter and retained as green space.

Recreation - K. Koenig reported that B. Bender has started a third session of Youth Cycles. Eight children are enrolled in the program.

Social Services - No report.

Community Fund - J. Miller will present a full report on this for the October Board meeting. K. Koenig reported that the Kingsbury Pillar Restoration project is proceeding.

MLK Commemoration - J. Wright reported that the Committee will begin meeting in early October to plan for this event. J. Wright and K. Koenig will meet this week to discuss speaker possibilities.

Fundraising - K. Koenig reported that three of four members of the FOSD Committee have had to resign their duties. K. Koenig requested additional

volunteers to assist with obtaining confirmation on merchandise discounts and dinner certificates. C. Forslund, G. Hayes, S. Johnson, and A. Johnson volunteered to assist with this project.

IV. Des Peres Art Walk

K. Koenig reported that this event is scheduled for Saturday, September 17, from 11 to 4 p.m. A children's art exhibit, sculp-

ture walk, children's entertainment, live music, and concessions will all be part of the day's events.

Alderman Dan McGuire suggested we add Hamilton Community Education Center as a regular Committee/Association report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Arlo, a basset hound puppy.

Pet Talk

by Stephen A. Brammeier, DVM

Just before Labor Day, Caroline Early found a dog in her back yard. She lives on one of the nearby private streets. "Vincent" as we later called him, was in sorry shape. He was a small cream colored poodle mix, about 23 lb., freshly groomed, wearing a chain choke collar with a light chain lead attached, but, no identification tags. Unfortunately, he had likely just been in a fight; his ears were gashed, and dried blood and burrs held one of his ears over his head stuck to the other ear. He was frightened and in pain, ready to snap if approached too fast or if his ears bumped a nearby object or friendly hand reaching to pet him.

Caroline was very concerned; her family was going to be out of town for the holiday weekend. She was sure Vincent belonged to someone and because he was injured, did not want to take him to a shelter. We took him in and tended to his wounds which were not more than 48 hours old, and luckily not too severe. He had an infection which would respond to antibiotic therapy. After 24 hours of antibiotics and a stay at the hospital he was feeling much better, still leery, but starting to seek affection.

Rather than leave him alone at the hospital all weekend, I decided to take him home with me for the holiday. It would be easier to care for

him and he would enjoy not being kenneled. Besides, Hugh, my significant other, missed the family dog he left behind in England and I knew he would enjoy having Vincent for the weekend.

Well, to get to the point of this article and to wrap it up in reasonable space, we enjoyed having Vincent for the weekend. I'm not sure Pussmins, our cat, would agree. Because Caroline had not located an owner by the following Tuesday, Vincent went to the Animal Protection Agency. I am pleased to report, he was adopted: happy ending. However, the ending could have been much happier and simpler if Vincent had just had proper identification; a sturdy collar with a name tag and phone number or address. Even a current rabies tag is traceable. Even if your pet rarely sets foot outside, they should wear identification. Accidents happen, and they get out or away from you.

If you lose your pet, call the Humane Society (647-8800), the Animal Protective Association (645-4610), City Rabies Control (353-5838), County Rabies Control (726-6655) and give them a description of your pet. Also talk to your postal delivery person, they are acutely aware of the dog population in the neighborhood and often are helpful. Above all, have your pet wear identification.

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Mrs. George Walker of 61xx Washington reports that her husband had been convalescing recently. On September 6, she left him sitting comfortably on the front porch to go and do errands. He suddenly became very ill. Luckily, the regular letter carrier, Fred, was just coming up the walk. Fred assisted Mr. Walker and summoned medical help. The Walkers are very grateful to him.

Meredith Lynne Littlejohn was born on September 2. She is the daughter of Stefanie London and Steve Littlejohn and new sister of Charles and Madeline, all of the 6100 block of Kingsbury. Meredith has a full head of beautiful dark hair which she showed off on her 1 week birthday at a back yard farewell party for Gee and Cal Stuart.

At that gathering Gee toiled around in her wheelchair, a temporary conveyance necessitated by leg surgery she had in August. She cleverly scheduled this emergency to get out of the heavy work of moving, it is reported. The Stuarts, virtually an institution in this neighborhood, have moved to a new and more compact home on the Hill. By City ordinance this is as far as the Stuarts are allowed to move from Skinker-DeBaliviere. (See feature on Cal and Gee on page 5.)

Lucille Schoemehl of 61xx McPherson underwent surgery in early September. Her family report that she is doing fine.

Marty Storey, son of George and Rosemarie Storey, earned his MBA last May. Sorry we missed this in our June report.

For the second year in a row, Andy Cross and his friends received a richly-deserved award from Operation Bright-Side for their dumpster beautification program.

Catherine Forslund recently returned from Washington, DC, where she conducted research for her dissertation. She interviewed a variety of officials and bureaucrats, including Strom Thurmond.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Housing Corporation has hired Jeffrey Lodermeier to be the resident manager at Rosedale Square. Lodermeier plans to begin graduate studies in January.

Archway Communities, located at 56xx Pershing, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Rodney Jackson of 53xx Pershing is developing a business designed to assist those of us who do not have the time to do the necessary tasks of everyday life. He is a personal executive concierge and will take cars to be serviced, chauffeur children to activities, and take people to and from the airport. He still has a full-time job but hopes eventually to make this venture his principal occupation. He has references and is at 361-5692.



Alderman Dan McGuire taking notes at a hearing concerning Forest Park. Mayor Bosley appointed a Citizen's Committee to develop a master plan for Forest Park after the summit held in 1993. A number of hearings are being held to insure adequate public input. More hearings are planned. Call John Hoal at 622-3400 for more information.

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In Your Ear

by Hawkeye V. Hoerr

Is there any area more ludicrous than professional sports today? As I write this, major league baseball players are on strike. Major league hockey players are on strike. Professional basketball players, although they haven't even reported to training camp yet, are threatening to go on strike. What a bunch of buffoons; these major leaguers -- both the management and the athletes -- almost make even Congress look reasonable by comparison, and you can't get much worse than that. (Note that I said *almost*!)

Withholding services, in the case of major league baseballers, despite the fact that the AVERAGE player's salary is over \$1,000,000 per season is beyond belief. Think about it. This average major league salary could give twenty teachers very hefty raises so that they could make \$50,000 per year! Or that same million smackeros could pay fifty unemployed folks \$20,000 per year to go through some sort of job training program. But then society wouldn't have a shortstop hitting .225 to kick around.

The hockey players seem a bit more sane, but only in comparison to the baseballers. What all of these adolescents in men's bodies share is that they're being paid megabucks to do something that most of the male population likes to do for fun. And I've heard the argument that if an accountant makes a mistake, 30,000 fans don't boo him. Well, I don't know about accounting, but when I make a mistake, as I do more often than I'd like, I sure hear about it. And it's not softened by the anonymous boos of multitudes far away. Often it's a one-to-one confrontation with someone that I know well and care about. Give me 30,000 nameless faces any day!

But, you're probably wondering, Hawkeye, why are you writing about this now? It's old news, so what's the point? Ah, banana-breath, replies Hawkeye, there is a point! You see, while the athletes have neither coffee nor grounds for their pitiable behavior, there are some groups and individuals who should be walking the picket line. Yep, these are the folks who give more than they get and take more abuse than they should. Let's pause for a minute and give them their due.

Here goes, it's the TOP TEN LIST OF GENERALLY UNLOVED, GENERALLY UNAPPRECIATED, AND GENERALLY UNDERPAID. (OK, OK, so they're not all underpaid. Two out of three ain't bad!)

10. Michael Jackson's press agent. Is there a more thankless job? Maybe being the attorney for the Menendez brothers. Maybe.

9. The guy who makes Ross Perot's charts and graphs. Ross-baby gets the limelight and applause; this poor fellow toils in obscurity, taking out his frustrations with colored markers. Maybe that's just as well, actually. He's probably happy that we don't know his name since most the Perot's data are wrong anyway.

8. The traffic cop who stands at the intersection of the Forest Park Expressway and Skinker Avenue. What, you've never seen the traffic cop??? No wonder he's unappreciated (and no wonder there are so many accidents there!).

7. The poor ladies who work behind the counter at any of the local St. Louis Bread Companies. Could there be anyone who has more to do and less time to do it? Without fail, there is always a line, and without fail, it takes ten minutes just to get a cup of coffee and muffy. Somebody ought to be looking at the staffing patterns and give those poor people some help!

6. Missouri Secretary of State Judy Moriarty. Give the poor lady a break. Here she is, just trying to do her son a favor by taking advantage of her office to register him in an illegal fashion, and all of a sudden everybody gets uptight. After all, it's not like he's a stranger. What's a mother to do?

5. The news media who has to figure out ways to keep OJ in the news. It's not easy, constantly regurgitating old news, hunting for new angles, and spreading rumors. But hey, the public must be served! At least it's more realistic than SeaQuest.

4. The poor US Postal Workers. Sure, 5,000 postal employees' checks got lost in the mail. Sure, it looks pretty bad when the post office can't deliver their own mail; we're used to them not delivering ours, but not delivering theirs is even more embarrassing. And sure, private carriers are successful because people believe that they're faster and more responsible. But hey, FedEx and UPS don't have an Elvis stamp!!!

3. All Missouri taxpayers. Two words: EMPTY STADIUM.

2. Any weather forecaster on a local t.v. channel. Imagine how painful it must be each day, knowing that you have 30 seconds of information that everyone wants to hear, but that you have to use five minutes to do it! All people really want to know is what's the weather outside now and what's it going to be tomorrow? (In a pinch, forget the outside weather; we all have windows.) But the weatherperson has to talk about fronts and barometric pressure and show us funny figures taken from outer space. They've even taken to giving the ragweed count just to take up time. This is a job that cannot be fun!

And number one in the TOP TEN LIST OF GENERALLY UNLOVED,

GENERALLY UNAPPRECIATED, and GENERALLY UNDERPAID is

1. Your US Congressman. Whether it's Dick or William or Ike or Jim, think of what these poor blokes must go through. Living away from home for months at a time, no home-cooked meals and only eating at fancy restaurants, trying to pass legislation to make this a better place for all of us. And what to they get? Criticism! Give these folks a break and help them out: vote against all incumbents! That way you'd be doing a favor for everyone!

Next month: What to buy at holiday time for those relatives that you can't stand!

Bosley

continued from page 1

them to be open until 11:00 p.m. and would like to have the Dept. of Health provide prenatal care there.

Bosley concluded by answering questions. In that format, he said that the city and county are "inextricably tied together." He also said there would be increased opportunities to recycle at a number of fire stations in the city. Other speakers in this series have included Gregory Freeman and Dee Joyce-Hayes.

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