

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 26 No. 3

June 1995

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Neighborhood Architects Open Office on Delmar



photo by King Schoenfeld

Left to right, George Johannes, Eric Clough, Tracy Short, Tom Cohen.

by Lana Stein

The Johannes/Cohen Collaborative, an architectural firm established in 1992, set up an office in early May at 6225 Delmar, on the stretch of the loop inside St. Louis City limits. The partners, George Johannes and Tom Cohen, are natives to our area and have been friends since graduate school. They both reside in our neighborhood as well.

George Johannes grew up in Normandy and attended Normandy High School. He received his B.A. in architecture from Washington University and then complete a master's there in 1973. Cohen grew up in Clayton and Ladue. He received his bachelor's degree in business from St. Louis University and his M.A. in architecture from Washington Univer-

sity in 1975. Both bought homes here at roughly the same time. Johannes lives on 60xx Westminster and Cohen's home is on 63xx Westminster in Parkview.

Individually and together they have worked on interesting projects both close by and in more distant locales. Johannes worked for the Christner Partnership for a number of years. He was managing partner there from 1980 to 1990. He oversaw the design of a \$40 million research facility for McDonnell Douglas. He also remodeled 8 schools in his

continued on page 6

Summer Recreation Plans

Seventeen youngsters have turned out for softball. The team is practicing at Lucier Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Recreation Chair Arthelda Busch encourages neighbors to come to the practices and if anyone would like to bring cold drinks or treats, the players would be very grateful. If a child is interested in playing or for more information, call Coach McNeal at 367-1227. Our team will play in the Operation Teamwork City League. Most games take place on Saturdays in Forest Park from 10am to 3pm. Fans are encouraged to attend these games as well. Call Coach McNeal for time and exact location.

In addition, the Forest Park Community College Youth Program will have a free sports program that neighborhood children can join. A bus will take the kids from Hamilton School to the College. Each youngster may specialize in 2 sports from among golf, track, tennis, swimming, dance, football and baseball. There will be more details in a newsletter that the Recreation Committee will circulate later in the month. If you are interested in joining the Committee, its next meeting is on June 13 at 7pm at the SDCC office. For more information, call Arthelda Busch at 863-7445.

News Briefs

Rags to Riches Update

Julie Schoemehl reports considerable enthusiasm for a Rags to Riches community-wide yard sale to be held in September. People also expressed a desire for a reduced registration fee. Schoemehl will continue coordinating this event and we'll bring you all the details in our September issue.

Search for SDCC Director Continues

The Search Committee looking for a new executive director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council is continuing its efforts. The Committee hopes to hire someone by the middle of June but will continue the search process until a candidate deemed capable by them accepts. The Council has given the Committee hiring authority.

Summer Reading Program at Charing Cross

The St. Louis Public Library is again sponsoring a Summer Reading Club from June 3 to August 11. There will be one club for teens and one for younger kids. Prizes will be awarded to participants after they read a certain number of books. Interested children should visit our neighborhood library branch on Skinker between McPherson and Waterman to find out the details and to get signed up!

With this issue we begin our summer hiatus. Our next issue will be published in September.

FRIENDS OF SKINKER DEBALIVIERE INVITE RESIDENTS TO KICKOFF PARTY ON JUNE 16

The Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere, an organization to raise funds to help support the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, will hold a kickoff party to begin its second year of fundraising. Everyone is welcome to attend: Those who are already Friends, Those who want to be Friends, Those who want to know more about it, And anyone who lives in Skinker DeBaliviere.

The Party will be held on the evening of June 16, beginning at 7:00pm at the home of Council President, Beth Bender, 6037 Westminster Pl. Since this is a backyard gathering, the rain date is the following evening.

There will be lots of food and a cash bar. If you would like more information, call Beth at 863-3854 or the SDCC office at 862-5122.

Celebrating 25 Years of Service to Skinker DeBaliviere

CALENDAR



Neighborhood Events and Meetings

- 6/19 Apartment Owners Association, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7 p.m.
- 6/21 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon
- 7/5 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon
- 7/17 Apartment Owners Association, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7 p.m.
- 7/19 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon
- 7/31 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:30 p.m.
- 8/1 National Night Out, Four Corners, Kingsbury and DesPeres
- 8/6 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon
- 8/21 Apartment Owners Association, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7 p.m.

Other Events of Interest:

- now-6/30 "Colors Unseen: Invisible Revelations," recent photographs by Wendy Katz at West End Wines.
- 6/13 "Where We Live: Urban Animals" at the History Museum in Forest Park. A menagerie of animals will be present. Free. 7pm.
- 6/23 Betsy Feldman and Jim Wierzbicki offer "mellow, exotic groove," including samples from their new CD. Cover is \$8, including a wine or beer and cheese. At the Listening Room, West End Wines, 9pm.
- 6/27 "Where We Live: Romancing the Arch:" St. Louis romance novelists explain how they weave St. Louis' landscape and culture into their work. At the History Museum, free, 7pm.
- 7/4 "Where We Live: Independence Day in the Park." A neighborhood festival with jazz. Free. History Museum. "Where We Live" features continue on Tuesdays at 7pm at the Museum through August 15.

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

It has been my dream for many years to revisit Paris. In my memory, it had become the city of cities, the most beautifully laid out metropolis. Each time I thought I might have the wherewithal to make the trip, something came up or the funds at hand were insufficient. But, thanks to a little consulting and an income tax refund, I saw my window of opportunity in February. Frequent flyer miles would help too. I called around and made reservations and ordered up a passport and the die was cast.

I was terribly excited about the adventure but at the same time was nervous as well. I'm not in my twenties anymore and don't have the same stamina or the same live-and-let-live attitude. Plus, I don't speak either French or Italian (Italy being my second destination). And, would what I liked 23 years ago still please me today? Had I exaggerated the perfection of my favorite urban location? Friends told me not to worry. Catherine told me a great deal about Florence, even where the best gelati were. JoAnn gave me a wonderful book about Paris and an invaluable map. Then, I borrowed tons more about Italy from Karleen.

And, suddenly May 3 was here and off I went. I arrived in Paris at 8:30 a.m. the next day. A woman I met on the plane gave me a ride into the city. I gaped and gaped. The surrounding area looked partially rural and partially highrise apartments. There were crowded freeways at rush hour. Then we were in Paris and it was better than I remembered. Very green. Lots of flowers--window boxes everywhere. Five stories of apartments atop a variety of shops. It was also sunny and warm and continued that way for the five days of my stay. I was very happy there. Everyone was nice, the food was good, the museums incredible, and then there was V-E Day. I stood on the Champs Elysées with the crowds and saw the incoming and outgoing French presidents and heard the Marseillaise. I walked back through the Tuileries and also enjoyed the Luxembourg Gardens. The French design beautifully sculptured parks that serve an urban people. There are chairs aplenty so that anyone can sit and read the paper or enjoy the view or take a nap. It's expensive there. I must admit that. But, you get a lot from the urban vitality, the beautiful vistas, the joie de vivre.

Italy was interesting too. Seeing the finest sculptures by Michelangelo and Donatello was a very moving thing. Florence was a bit bucolic but Rome was a large and vibrant city. Florence has very narrow streets that do not follow a grid pattern. In the dark, I began to feel afraid. It was easy to get lost and it took a while to get my bearings. Then, there were the drivers. The cars didn't follow set lanes but the motorbikes were the terrifying part. If I waited at a light and it changed to green, I never dared to start across immediately. You see, motorbikes would just go right on through. So, dark shadows and motorbikes were scary. But, there was no real crime to fear in any of the 3 cities I visited. They warned about pickpockets of course, particularly with signs at Notre Dame or St. Peter's. But, I didn't hear gunshots there. The people don't have guns. I'm sure there are drugs and theft. But, shootings are far from commonplace.

It was nice to see cities that are not places of fear (except for the motorbikes). It was nice to see cities which were the preferable place to live for people of means. It was nice to see people living comfortably who didn't have acres of land and didn't eschew sidewalks or commerce. It was nice to see parks designed for people and their various needs. It was also nice to return home to my friends, job, and neighborhood and to recognize again what essential parts of me they are. Maybe we could trade guns for motorbikes.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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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. Copy may be submitted on computer diskette if the diskette is in DOS format or on high density Macintosh diskettes. Submissions on diskette 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 phoned in to the editor at 721-7532, or mailed to 5855 Nina Place. Deadline for all copy is the 18th 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.

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

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My heartfelt thanks to all who participated in any way with the lovely reception and generous gift given me Sunday, April 23!

Greeting all of my Grace Church friends, Pre-School friends and St. Roch's Family . . . along with my family . . . and seeing you enjoy the afternoon with me is a memory I will hold forever. I owe it all to you for your generosity, your kindness and your thoughtfulness.

I will treasure the memory always!

Sincerely,

Dolores Hoefel

Jon-Michael Vinson Earns Eagle Scout Court of Honor



Jon-Michael Vinson receives his Eagle Scout medal from Dr. Fil Ferrigni

On Sunday, June 4, 1995, Jon-Michael Vinson received his Eagle Scout Emblem and Badge. The ceremony was held at Grace United Methodist Church. Jon-Michael started his path to Eagle Scout as a Cub Scout in Den 31, which is chartered at Grace United Methodist Church. He continued his scouting experience as a Boy Scout in Troop 98, chartered at St. Roch's. Many neighbors and friends, in addition to his family, have been instrumental during Jon-Michael's Scouting experience. A few of those neighbors and friends are Betty Klinefelter, Rick Bender, Dennis Marrli, Fil and Mig Ferrigni, Mario Gioia, Jim Flynn, Matt Falk, Ralph Wafer, Scott Santen, Art Santen, Ed Gotway, and Sara Newton.

In addition to the 21 merit badges and leadership positions needed to be considered for the Eagle award, the path to Eagle requires the planning and completion of a Service Project. Jon Michael's Service Project was the collection of school supplies for needy and homeless children. The Skinker-DeBaliviere and Parkview communities responded to Jon-Michael's requests for school supplies in the summer of 1993. Over 1500 school supplies were donated by the community and were collected and distributed

to Kingdom House and the Homeless Resource Bank by the Boy Scouts of Troop 98. With these supplies the Homeless Resource Bank and Kingdom House were able to assist many families and their children. In addition to this material support, the school supply drive assisted Kingdom House with its after-school tutoring program.

It is estimated that only one boy out of 100 Boy Scouts will receive the Eagle Award. Troop 98 has graduated many boys to the rank of Eagle, and it is believed that Troop 98 exceeds the national average in the percentage of boys reaching the rank of Eagle. Troop 98 is considered a "boy-run" troop. This means that while there are active adult leaders in the troop, who serve as advisors, such as the Scout Master, Assistant Scout Master, and other adult leaders, it is the boys who are required to take on the leadership roles within the troop. The leadership responsibilities for Troop 98 are carried out by the boys in the Leadership Corps.

Recruitment is an important part of building the ranks within Scouting, but more important is the adult and community commitment needed to keep boys excelling through the ranks.

McGuire Explains Position on City Jail

Alderman Dan McGuire, whose ward includes most of Skinker DeBaliviere, is the new chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. As chairman of this committee, he helps to oversee the City's budget process. This committee has also had a great deal of influence on the City's plans for a new jail. "The budget and the jail are tied together" McGuire explained. Mayor Bosley's plan for crime prevention involved \$6 million for a new jail downtown and \$1 million for crime prevention programs. The Mayor's original plan called for \$3 million of the \$7 million to come from the 1/2 cent sales tax passed by voters 2 years ago. The board of Estimate and Apportionment, made up of the Mayor, Comptroller and President of the Board of Aldermen, approved this plan. "

But the money from the sales tax was supposed to be used for neighborhood improvements and park and street repairs." McGuire noted. The board of E & A reconsidered its approval of using the sales tax revenue. This left only \$3 million for the jail and \$1 million for prevention programs. The Ways and Means Committee "did not feel that the plans for the jail or for the recreation center were fully developed." McGuire said. The committee removed those funds from the budget. "That way the funds cannot be spent on something else. The money will be set aside, and if the plans become more fully developed, we could spend the money on a new jail." McGuire said. "Essentially, the committee did not say 'no' to the plan, we simply said 'not now'."



photo by Greg Weir

The U. City Loop landmark, TheTivoli theatre getting its new sign and marquee.

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 - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Crisis Response - Part 2

Ed. note: Last month we printed Ed Stout's account of his experiences in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing of the federal building. This month we continue with some background on the Crisis Response effort.

by Ed Stout

The study of the effects of victimization has focused primarily on the trauma to the individual and, secondarily, to the individual's loved ones. Until recently, little attention has been focused on the vicarious effects on whole communities or how to intervene effectively in community-wide trauma. We have learned, though, that, after people have gone through such a traumatic event, they may experience any number of reactions. Initially, they may be in shock, in denial; it is not unusual to suffer from a "zombie-like" effect. Some times they become exhausted, physically and emotionally; they experience sleeplessness, irritability, jumpiness, panic attacks, for a long time. Frequently, victims tell us their emotions are so intense that they think they are "going crazy." We counsel them that they are responding as normal human beings should to such abnormal events.

Recent history of Crisis Response by NOVA and development of the St. Louis CRT

August 20, 1986 Edmond, Oklahoma. Fourteen postal employees were killed in a suicidal massacre that left the citizens of this small town in shock. Michael Turpen, then Oklahoma Attorney General, called NOVA in our nation's capital to ask for help. Within a day, NOVA was able to fly a six-person team into Oklahoma to help the community's caregivers mobilize a response to their crisis. Based on the positive reports about that team's work, NOVA has mobilized dozens of such volunteer teams and has provided consulting services to hundreds of other communities after hurricanes, airplane crashes, train wrecks, and multiple homicides.

February, 1988. Detroit, Michigan. I attended NOVA's three day Crisis Response Team (CRT) training. Fresh in my mind was the murder of five employees of the National Supermarket on Natural Bridge. We did not have a CR Team here in St. Louis. We sure could have used one, I came back to St. Louis with one goal -- to organize a team, to be prepared in case the St. Louis metro area ever suffered a major disaster which instantaneously traumatized a large group of people -- a neighborhood, a school, a place of business, a whole community.

Labor Day Friday, 1991 My neighbor, Miggs Ferrigni called. Bob Gremelsbacher had been killed on the playground of St. Margaret of Scotland School where Miggs taught. She, like Mike Turpen, was calling for help. I was able to organize a team of trained counselors and crisis intervention workers. For two and a half days, we had counselors in the school. We helped deflect media so the school could return to some sense of normal. We held formal debriefing sessions with the teachers and with parents. According to Chief of Police Clarence Harmon, we helped his detectives solve the crime; by helping the community get back in control, he said, we freed them up to work more effectively to cooperate with the police to apprehend the perpetrators of this terrible deed.

February, 1993 St. Louis. With a grant from the United Way in 1993 we were able to bring NOVA to St. Louis to train representatives from 27 different agencies to form the St. Louis Metro Crisis Response Team, which now has responded to over 12 different communities in crisis in the metro area.

photo by King Schoenfeld



Sculpture at Four Corners

Did You Know?

Actor and announcer Brad Holiday, who resides on 57xx Waterman, provides the following points of celebrity trivia:

- The Skouras brothers, in all likelihood, were owners of the Pageant Theatre at Delmar and Laurel. Spiros Skouras went on to head Twentieth Century Fox.

- *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying* is enjoying a successful reprise on Broadway. Its author, Shepherd Meade, grew up in Parkview and graduated from Washington University.

- Edmund Hartmann lived at 57xx Waterman; his father was a judge. He became a very successful playwright and screenwriter. He wrote *The Pale Face* for Bob Hope and worked on a number of other Hope vehicles. He was nominated for the Academy Award and also produced *My Three Sons* on TV.

- Vice President Alben Barkley, Truman's Veep, was married at St. John's Methodist Church on Kingshighway. The reception was held on Pershing, just east of DeBaliviere.

- Georgia Frontiere of course grew up in Skinker DeBaliviere and skated at the Wintergarden. Sonia Henjje skated there too.

- Curt Flood, of outfielding and reserve clause fame, had a jazz club near DeBaliviere and Delmar.

- Jackson Scholz--the track star portrayed in *Chariots of Fire*--lived on Nina Place in his early years.

- Gabby Street, a broadcaster and ball player, once lived on De Giverville.

- Nearby, Vincent Price grew up on Forsyth across from Washington University.

- In 1931, an English actor later known as Cary Grant performed at the MUNY and lived at the Gatesworth (now Westmoreland on the Park). One night a woman found him sitting out in front of the building with his head in his hands. When asked what was the matter, he said that he couldn't get a date. All the chorus girls had turned him down! He always had great affection for St. Louis and put Jack Good from the MUNY in one of his pictures, *Father Goose*.

- Kennedy's and Garavelli's served many a MUNY star. The players hung out at the old Parkmoor too.

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Farmer Reports On Successes And Disappointments In State Legislature

by Tim Schoemehl

State Representative Nancy Farmer, whose district includes most of the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood, returned to St. Louis last month after a busy session in the State Legislature. Farmer reported that this session was marred by "political grandstanding, day to day uncertainty, and incredible tension." During previous sessions, one party had enough seats in the House to pass legislation. This session, Farmer explained, "the process broke down." Democrats and Republicans had nearly the same number of seats in the House. As a result, it was often difficult for either party to pass legislation. The House erupted into heated debates on sensitive issues, such as abortion, adding to the tension.

In spite of these difficulties Farmer feels that this session was not unproductive. "In a normal session, the House passes about 200 bills," she said. "This session we passed around 170, so it was not substantially less." In addition, Farmer was very pleased with the progress made on issues "important to my district and to the City."

Farmer was particularly pleased with the progress made on local control of the St. Louis Police Department. Last year, she supported a bill giving total control of the department to the City. That bill failed. This session, however, a bill giving the City control of the department's budget passed. The police department accounts for 1/3 of the City's total budget. Under this bill Farmer said, "The police department's budget will be handled like that of any other city department, including the fire department and EMS. They must submit a specific budget and negotiate it line by line with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment." The board is made up of the Mayor, Comptroller, and President of the Board of Aldermen and deals with the City's budget issues. Farmer hopes that this new law "will make the Police Commissioners more accountable to the residents of St. Louis, through their elected officials."

While she was extremely pleased with the increased local control of the police department,

Farmer believes that "our district's greatest success was the defeat of the concealed weapons bill." Farmer considers this especially impressive since she estimates that "at least 120 of the 163 legislators support the concept" of legalizing concealed weapons. However, Farmer believes that the supporters were divided over whether or not the proposed law should face a public vote. The Senate originally passed the bill, calling for a referendum on the issue. The House took out this provision and returned the bill to the Senate. The bill died in the Senate during the last days of the session. Farmer expects the issue return next session, but said she "will continue to oppose it in any way shape or form."

Another of Farmer's priorities this session was the Youth Opportunities and Violence Prevention Act, which she cosponsored. Most of this bill was passed as part of the Juvenile Crime Bill. Farmer's provisions authorize \$6 million in tax credits to business who support programs for "at risk" youths. "The programs could provide employment, recreational or mentor opportunities," she said. She hopes that providing youngsters with such opportunities can help prevent juvenile crime. "This is done without creating any new bureaucracy, but by expanding and promoting existing programs at the neighborhood level," she noted.

Another success for Farmer was the passage of a bill she sponsored with Rep. Sheila Lumpe. Under state law, commercial property is taxed at a much higher rate than residential property. Previously, any multi-family building with four or more units was classified as commercial property and taxed at a higher rate. This bill adjusts the classifications so that any apartment building is classified as residential, while hotels and motels are still taxed as commercial property. "Why should a person who owns one six-family building be taxed at a different rate than a person who owns three two-family buildings?" Farmer asked. She hopes that this change in classifications will "increase the stability of multi-family units in the district."



photo by Greg Weir

The new decorative columns for the barricade posts and chains on Rosedale were a beautification project by Andy Cross.

One disappointment for Farmer was the lack of action on a bill to allow local regulation of billboards. Before the next session she hopes to "meet with representatives from the highway department and the billboard industry and try to reach a compromise." While Farmer's local control bill did not pass, she was pleased that a bill limiting billboards on rural "scenic byways" did pass.

While she was disappointed with the lack of action on billboards, Farmer was pleased that the Legislature delayed action on the Park and Soil Tax. The revenues from this tax are divided equally between state parks and soil conservation programs. Farmer considers the delay "a big victory" for her district. She says that the City contributes a great deal to this program but, because there are no state parks in the city, "we get virtually nothing in re-

turn." She notes that the City could use funds from such a program for repairs in Forest Park. "I don't want to take funding from state parks," she said. "I just hope that we can find a more equitable solution to this problem." Farmer hopes that an acceptable compromise can be reached next session.

The Soil and Park Tax debate is just one example of the divisions between rural and urban lawmakers. Last year, Farmer worked with Rep. Joan Bray to form a caucus of St. Louis area legislators. Farmer said she was "pleased with the building coalition this session." She notes that while area lawmakers "do not agree on everything, we have been able to work together on a number of issues that are unique to our region." Farmer hopes that, in future sessions, this coalition can continue to pass bills that benefit the St. Louis region.



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Above is a reduced version of the poster designed and drawn by Andy Cross and commissioned by the West End Arts Council to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of *The Times*. Copies can be obtained by contacting any member of the Board of *the Times*.

Architects

continued from page 1

old district, Normandy, eight years ago. He felt that his work at Christner came to involve too much administration and not enough design and he left to begin his own company in 1990. He especially enjoyed designing a home in Puerto Rico atop a 200 foot cliff over the beach.

Cohen started his own firm in 1977. He designed the Empire Cafe in Lafayette Square, the restaurant in the Pierce Arrow building and the Puckett Group office there, Fitz's, and many historic home rehabs in LaSalle Park, Benton Park, and Soulard and the 9th St. Abbey there. Brandt's and Paul's Books are also his design products as are the new homes at Portland Court. He planned the rehab of the building now housing the Forum gallery and the Regional Arts Commission as well as the park in front of it (also across from the Fox). He is also planning the conversion of a 3 story Victorian there into an office building for Hales, Copper.

Originally after forming their collaborative in 1992, Johannes and Cohen pursued separate projects. Now they have a true partnership. Each had worked out of his own home but that was no

longer feasible. They had a lot more work and needed to hire staff. Johannes is quite pleased with the office location they found on Delmar. "It's perfect—the center of the world. We definitely wanted to be in the Loop—where the energy is." It is also convenient; they can walk to work. Johannes says that when he looks at this strip "and hopefully east on Delmar, it is the commercial spine of this whole area." Cohen added that the Loop is an exciting area, "like Euclid and McPherson ten years ago."

Our neighborhood architects become very excited when they speak of their work in progress. Close to their office, they are designing the rehab of ten abandoned multifamily buildings in Parkview Gardens. Funds from a variety of public and private sources is making possible the provision of low and moderate income housing. The Parkview Gardens Association employs the Johannes/Cohen Collaborative. A mock-up of the soon-to-be-expanded Magic House graces their window. Cohen had worked on the House previously. Now they contemplate a major expan

sion with a new building. Also in the works now is an arts and athletic complex for the city of Edwardsville at the N.O. Nelson complex. This was a turn of the century utopian development with beautiful brick buildings and arch windows. The SIU arts school was housed there but moved to a new home. Working with Development Program Associates, Johannes and Cohen are creating a multi-purpose recreation and arts complex for the city of Edwardsville.

Both Cohen and Johannes are designers, trained as architects, Johannes says it is a good life. "I want to do work worth doing and have clients that share our own values." Both also enjoy living in our neighborhood. Johannes calls it one of the best places in St. Louis to live. He is attracted to its diversity, centrality, and convenience. It's a "very urban place. It fills most of my needs socially, spatially, architecturally." Cohen adds that he enjoys the

energy from students and "the urban existence." Certainly, their offices and projects will continue to enrich our area for a long time to come.

Additional projects include a arts and crafts styled residential development in Wright City and 21 units of new HUD housing for Doorways (an AIDS support group) in Soulard.

They're also doing some condos for Richard Gaddes in England by converting a manor house. Closer to home, they designed the new Neighborhood Housing Partnership offices in DeBaliviere Place. Also close to home will be the Music School at Washington U. They designed the Millbrook Building, the maintenance building to the left of the new parking structure on that campus. Since 1990, they have remodeled 25 classrooms and lecture halls at Washington U., including McMillan Hall and seminar rooms at Olin Library.

Blueberry Hill

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

6504 Delmar

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



Karl Quinn Schmidt and Kerstin Moore at their engagement tea at Garfield Park in Chicago Conservatory on May 14, 1995. Karl and Kerstin plan to be married on August 12, 1995, at Bond Chapel at the University of Chicago, where they met as undergraduates. Karl is the son of David and Barbara Schmidt of the 6100 block of McPherson and a lifelong resident of Skinker-DeBaliviere. He attended Grace Pre-School, St. Roch's Kindergarten, Neighborhood Unschool, Crossroads Jr. High. He was a Pack 31 Cub Scout and S.P.L. and Eagle Scout at St. Roch's Troop 98. Karl currently works as a system analyst in Chicago and Kerstin is completing a M.A. in Kindergarten Readiness at a Quaker college in Pasadena, CA, before resuming her Early Childhood teaching career at the University of Chicago's Lab School in September.

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

The year has gone quickly since we reported on our local graduates and the time has come again. There was a gratifying number of people who called to report their news and **Tim Schoemehl** once again came through with key information. As a St. Louis University High grad this year himself, he was indeed well-informed. This year's SLUH grads also include **John McGuire** of 61XX Westminster and **John Gotway** of the 63XX block of McPherson. Tim is bound for Trinity University in San Antonio, John Gotway to Loyola University, and John McGuire to the University of Missouri.

Mary Shaughnessy of 55XX Lindell has graduated from St. Joseph's Academy and will attend St. Louis University.

Colleen Sullivan of 61XX Westminster also graduated from St. Joseph's.

Katie Mahon graduated from Incarnate Word and plans to attend the University of Missouri where she will study journalism.

Two of the 39 1995 National Merit Scholarship winners from this area are from Parkview! **Jared Rapfogel** (63XX Washington) and **Hope Edwards** (63XX McPherson) each attained this distinction this year. Both have just graduated from John Burroughs and both will attend New York University. Jared plans to study film-making.

Saundra Nicole Busch of 60XX Washington graduated this year from Soldan International Studies High School. She has earned a full scholarship to Alabama A & M. She is interested in computer science.

Monica Vanicelli graduated from Rosati-Kain on May 22.

Janelle Thompson of 59XX Pershing graduated from Cardinal Ritter Prep.

Teresa Vinson graduated from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia on May 22 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. She will be entering graduate school this summer at the University of Florida in Gainesville to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology. Her sister **Rachel Vinson** of 61XX Westminster graduated from Metro High School on May 26 and will attend Hampton University in Virginia. Her current interest is in elementary education with a special interest in education for deaf children.

Graduating from Georgetown University this year with a B.S. in Nursing is **Christina Fleener** of Parkview. Her specialty is pediatric nursing and she is seeking a position in Washington, D.C., or St. Louis.

John Rice of 61XX Westminster started off the summer with an appendectomy. He's home and recovering well.

Rick Bender of 61XX Kingsbury had a heart attack

Pet Talk

by Stephen A. Brammeier, DVM

Thousands of lost pets are euthanized yearly because they lack identification which would reunite them with their owners. The standard "name tag" attached to a collar has limitations, and drawbacks. Mostly, people don't keep a proper fitting collar on their pet at all times. Suddenly, the door is open, the pet is gone, and there on the hall table sits the collar with the tags. If a pet is wearing a proper collar and tags, but is stolen, or found, by someone unwilling to search for the original owner, the collar and tags are easily discarded.

Cats are devils to keep collared; as many as you put on, they return home without-- in short order. Also, outdoor cats can get hung up on obstacles with a collar. Breakaway collars are safe for the cat, but owners get frustrated replacing the tags left behind when the collar "breaks away" during a cat's evening excursions.

Tattooing permanently identifies a pet, but there is no centralized registry of tattoos. So, a pet is found and it has a tattoo and there is no one, or place, to call to find out what the tattoo means. Even if a tattoo registry did exist, many tattoos are not legible.

Modern technology has provided a simple, inexpensive and permanent means to identify pets: a microchip. The microchip is sealed in a glass pellet the size of a small grain of rice. Using a syringe with a large bore needle, the microchip is injected into the connective tissue just beneath the skin. Located in the back, in between the shoulder blades, the area is easily scanned with a hand held device about the size of a steam iron.

The number on the chip is registered with the company and traceable to the vendor that inserted the chip. Or an owner can register with the company directly after the chip has been placed; the process of reuniting pet with owner will then be quicker.

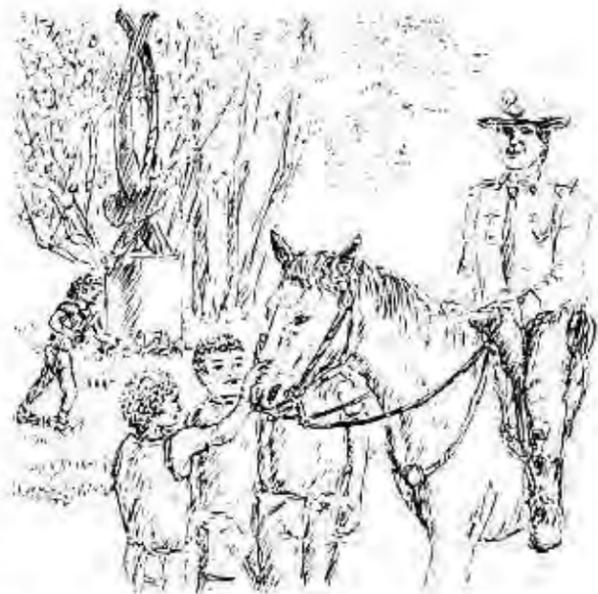
All of our local shelters and humane organizations are scanning each pet that comes into their care. According to Dr. Dan Knox of St. Louis County Rabies Control, his organization has been able to reunite several lost pets with their owners because the pets were identified with a microchip. Although, a few companies are competing for the microchip pet identification market, there is an effort to cooperate; each company's scanner being able to read all types of chips.

I would encourage all pet owners to consider having their pets permanently identified with a microchip; it could save a pet's life!

playing racquetball recently, but is doing just fine and is trying to take it easy. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Art Santen, collector extraordinaire and longtime resident of 61XX McPherson, was featured in late May on F/X, a cable channel, on a show devoted to collectors. In connection with that appearance, the Riverfront Times ran a story and a picture about his extensive bottle opener and corkscrew collections. Art has committed his basement, or we should probably say rathskeller, to the display of his "keys to refreshment," which range from the comical to the priceless.

Thanks to **Sandy Rothschild** for keeping this column in mind so often when he spies a good bit of information.



A detail from the poster on page 6.

IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye S. Hoerr

Normally the package arrives some time during the third week of each month. I can tell what is in it because of the bold red letters on the side: HANDLE WITH CARE -- SHOE OF THE MONTH CLUB. As if it were needed, there are silhouettes of various kinds of shoes printed on the box as well.

Generally the first wife knows when the package is due. Often she slips home from work in the middle of the day so that she can be here to greet the postman. Every once in a while, however, she'll be tied up with a client and run late, coming home after me. She'll barge into the house, throwing aside her purse, folders, datebook, and other papers. "Where is it?" she yells breathlessly, "I know it's here! Where?" Her eyes dart around the entryway searching for the box while the papers and post-it-notes that she has tossed into the air begin to flutter all around her to the floor. It's a scene that reminds me of what happens when you shake those little glass, water-filled, containers that have plastic snow in them.

Opening the Shoe Of The Month Club box has evolved into a ritual of its own. The wife carefully cuts the tape across the top, then gently pulls the lids apart with anticipation. These Shoe Of The Month Club executives are no fools, because the packaging always has a shoe catalogue on top. Yep, you've got it, before she finds the actual shoes, she has to wade through photos of other new shoes. Now the wife's no fool, so she's not deterred by mere photos when *the real thing* is underneath; still, like a dog remembering where the bone was buried, the wife never, ever, ever forgets where she placed the catalogue. Hours and family crises can come and go, but she'll remember where she placed the catalogue. It's just as well because perusing shoe catalogues is her favorite form of bedtime reading.

Like most of us, the wife carries painful childhood memories. No, she wasn't sent to her room without dinner or flogged for misbehaviors. But her hot buttons were touched just the same. You see, as a child, she wasn't allowed to wear home the shoes that were purchased at the shoe store. Yes, hard as it is to believe, her mom actually made her put the newly-purchased shoes back in the box, where they stayed, never worn, until a special occasion. It affects her even today. For example, I can remember our first Christmas

together. We had gone through all of the rituals -- decorated the tree, had the morning orange juice and coffee, and opened the presents -- but it wasn't right. Something was clearly nagging her. We talked about it and she wasn't sure what, exactly, was bothering her. Finally she said, "it's the shoes." "Shoes?" I responded in my best Rogerian style. She then proceeded to tell me how while growing up, one of her real pleasures on Christmas morning was getting to put on the new shoes that she'd purchased months before. Falling into the trap of being somewhat logical, I foolishly said, "But you've already worn the six pairs of shoes that you bought this month."

"You don't get it, do you?" she asked, her voice raising and her eyes widening. (She was right; I didn't get it.) "These aren't just shoes that you wear, they're special friends. And now it's Christmas morning and I don't have any new friends to share the celebration with me!"

I was stunned. Married at an early age, I thought I was just forming a bond between the first wife and me. I didn't realize that I was also forming a relationship with all of the personalities on the shoe trees! Gulp. Nonetheless, I've always been considered a problem solver. As President Clinton would say, "I felt her pain." So without a hitch, we popped into the car and sped to the only store open on Christmas morning: Walgreen's. Granted, the shoe selection at Walgreen's isn't what one can call rich or varied. But it's Christmas morning, and making new friends is always appropriate. After grabbing some extras that we had to get while hurrying through the aisles, Slim-Fast and cigars, we found three sets of new friends to bring home, a pump and sandal and a leather-style brogue with red shoe laces. And the wife found a way to wear all of them before the end of the day. Is this a great country, or what?

YOUTHCYCLES
needs children's bikes for those 6-12 years old.

Thanks for all the adult bikes. We have plenty of those. Contact SDCC at 862-5122 or Beth at 863-3854 if you have a child's bike to donate.

Classified:

Wanted: Neighborhood model railroaders. If you have a model layout or an interest in one, we'd like to hear from you. Rick and Venita Lake, 727-7378

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