

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 27 No. 7

February 1997

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Grace Methodist Church Welcomes Rev. Roger Wreath

The Rev. Roger Wreath has been appointed as the new pastor at Grace United Methodist Church. Rev. Wreath and his family moved into the parsonage in the 6300 block of Waterman in Parkview in January.

Roger V. Wreath was born on the family farm near Amiret, Minnesota. At the age of 15 he moved with her parents to Bolivar, Missouri, where he attended high school and, later, Southwest Baptist College. He was licensed to preach in August of 1957 and accepted his first appointment in the Methodist Church in 1958. He completed his college at National College in Kansas City, MO, and completed his seminary at St. Paul School of Theology.

Rev. Wreath comes to Grace after serving First United Methodist Church at Marshall for the past six years. Previous appointments have included: Cameron, Springfield-Grace, Kimberling City, Trenton-Wesley, Tarkio & Westboro, and Albany.

Rev. Wreath is married to the former Janet House of Isabel, Kansas. They met while attending National College where Janet was preparing for Deaconess work in the Methodist Church. She has just finished eight years as a volunteer Director of the General Board of Global Ministries and the Women's Division.

The Wreaths have three children: a daughter, Leah, who is living with them in St. Louis; a son



Scott and wife, Melissa, who have a two year old daughter. Scott and Melissa both work in the hospitals in Springfield. Their son Bryan and his wife, Terri, teach in Southwest Missouri.

The Wreaths enjoy auctions and the repair and refinishing of antiques. Rev. Wreath also has an antique clock collection as well as a large library. Janet enjoys working with stained glass and other craft activities. Leah has many interests including various crafts. She worked with patients at the Marshall Rehabilitation Center in ceramics and would like to find a job in the St. Louis area to use this experience. Leah also loves children and was a live-in nanny for a six-month old. She invites anyone needing a babysitter to give her a call.

ACTION PLAN FOR DELMAR UNDERWAY

by Jo Ann Vatcha

Working together formally for the first time, the City of St. Louis, University City, and Bi-State Development Agency have selected a consulting team to develop a working plan for the MetroLink Station Area on Delmar. This follows a workshop held at Washington University in early fall, 1996, where community leaders and professionals met to brainstorm a vision for the revitalization of Delmar. Funding is being provided by the State of Missouri Department of Transportation Economic Development Administration, University City, the City of St. Louis, and the Bi-State Development Agency. The plan will then be used to apply for additional state, local and federal funding for making the vision a reality. A public meeting is scheduled for February 13, 1997, at Grace Methodist Church, at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to share your ideas and learn about some other innovative plans from around the country.

Specific goals include: increasing pedestrian, vehicular, and bicycle access to the station; enhancing the streetscape design to better link MetroLink to the "Loop"; and determining station area enhancement and development opportunities.

The consulting team was selected after careful consideration of their qualifications, including knowledge of Delmar and the surrounding residential neighborhoods, experience with streetscape design and commercial districts, experience with transit-related commercial areas, and professional design credibility. The team consists of:

Johannes Cohen Collaborative—George Johannes and Tom Cohen will provide analysis, land use planning and overall management of the consulting team. Johannes and Cohen are architects whose office is on the 6200 block

of Delmar. George Johannes has served in many capacities in the neighborhood, including the Delmar Commercial Committee and as president of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Housing Corporation. Tom Cohen is a recognized architect with historic rehab projects in virtually every City Historic District. Both George and partner Tom Cohen have lived in the neighborhood for many years.

Development Program Associates—John Roach and Taulby Roach, Economic Development Study

John Roach was previously Alderman of the 28th Ward and was the first Director of the City of St. Louis Community Development Agency. With Leon Strauss, he worked as part of Pantheon Corporation to redevelop the DeBaliviere Place Neighborhood, one of the largest historic tax credit rehab project of the 80's in the country. Taulby Roach has been actively working in commercial real estate. Both live in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. Currently, Roach is working with the St. Clair County Transit District on

ACTION PLAN continued on p. 7

Community Leaders Honored

A number of Skinker DeBaliviere residents active in the community were nominated for and received Mayors' Neighborhood Achievement Awards on Jan. 30 at the Cedars. Roy Roncal, co-chair of the West End Arts Council and former Rosedale president, received an award for his pivotal role in the TileLink project. Roncal accepted wearing a boutonniere presented by staff from the Regional Arts Commission. He also chairs the Arts Commandos. Andy Cross, also co-chair of the Arts Council, received an award for his recycling efforts. Shirley Polk was honored for the annual Central West End picnic and Art Santen for his yearly Halloween Party for neighborhood kids. Karleen Hoerr and Susie Feinberg were recognized for their work with the Housing Corporation and Lana Stein for her work with *The Times*.

Pawn Shop Plans Move Ahead

On Jan. 30, members of the 59XX DeGiverville block unit and the Commercial Development Committee met with Cash America representatives regarding new plans for a redesigned and expanded pawn shop on Delmar by DeGiverville. The plans will go ahead pending resolution of final design issues.

Christmas Lighting Winners Selected

Two sets of awards for outstanding Christmas lighting displays were handed out in late December. In a contest of many years standing, the Taylors, Johnsons, Wilsons, and Sheltons were awarded prizes for their displays on 58xx DeGiverville. Judges were Greg Freeman, SDCC Board member, and SDCC Director Laure Porterfield.

Rosedale instituted a lighting contest for the first time this year. Its officers served as judges. First place winner was Bruce Shipman of 61xx Washington. Second place went to Josh and Rubina Patton of 61xx McPherson and third place winner was Bill Carlisle of 61xx Waterman.

DELMAR METROLINK STATION AREA COMMUNITY MEETING

Come share your ideas on how to improve the area around the Delmar MetroLink station. Meet the collaborative consultant team that is working to:

Increase pedestrian, vehicular, bicycle access to the station

Enhance the streetscape design and better link MetroLink to the "Loop" Determine station area enhancement and development opportunities

**Thursday, February 13th
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Grace Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
(Waterman & Skinker)
Waterman Circle Side Entrance**

Sponsored by
Bi-State Development Agency, Arts in Transit
City of St. Louis
City of University City
in conjunction with
Commercial District Council
of Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council

For further information, call
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Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

On behalf of the Times Board, I would like to thank readers for their excellent response to our envelope campaign for donations. We intend to plan a fete sometime in the spring so that we can all get together and celebrate some of the new good things happening in our corner of the city. Again, I would like to thank the Board for its hard work and support and also welcome several new writers this month — Phyllis Wheeler, Henry Campbell Jr., and Helen Floros. We want to add even more, so let us hear from you!

March 4 is primary election day and I want to urge everyone eligible to cast a ballot for their candidate. If you don't participate, you can't complain later.

It's good to hear about more youth activities at Hamilton. Thanks go to people like Jesse Brown, Arthelda Busch, Ruth Johnson, Mary Schmit and Elly Chapman who have worked very hard as volunteers with the school's council.

March 4 Is Municipal Primary Election Day

On Tuesday, March 4, eligible voters in the city of St. Louis can help to select a mayor and comptroller. On the Democratic ballot for mayor is the incumbent, Freeman Bosley Jr., and two challengers, former police chief Clarence Harmon, and a telemarketer, Bill Haas.

Two candidates are vying for the Republican nomination, Tom Bradford, and Jay Dearing, who grew up in Parkview.

For comptroller, the Democratic candidates are incumbent and Skinker DeBaliviere resident Darlene Green and Dennis Hill, former Assessor. Z. Dwight Billingsley is a candidate for the Republican nomination.

The winners of the March primaries will then do battle in the April general election. Marit Clark plans to run as independent in April.

If you are not going to be in town on the day of the election or are elderly, you may vote by absentee ballot. There are two ways this may be done: First is to vote in person at the Election Board on Tucker at Clark during business hours. The second way is to apply for an absentee ballot that is mailed to you. Contact the Election Board for the application. Alderman Dan McGuire (862-7470) and Committeewoman Rose Storey (727-1727) also have applications as do other officials.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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

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Printing: Arcade Printing

Advertising Rates:

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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. The 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, 63112.

The deadline for all copy is the 18th of the month.

The writer is responsible for the accuracy of the data, including times, dates, locations, and particularly the spelling of names. Pictures or illustrations should be in black and white. Color photographs often do not reproduce well.

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

Calendar



Neighborhood Events and Meetings

- 2/5 Housing Corporation, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon
- 2/10 SDCC Board Meeting, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
- 2/13 Delmar Metrolink Station Area Community Meeting, Grace Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman & Skinker, 7:00 p.m., (use Waterman circle drive side entrance)
- 2/19 Housing Corporation, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon

Other Events of Interest

- 2/7 Lunchtime Lecture at the St. Louis Art Museum on "The 'New Negro' in St. Louis: Urban League-Sponsored Annual Exhibitions, 1919-1944." Noon to 1pm, free, in the Friends Room.
- Now-May 18 Italian Maiolica and Italian Bronzes at Galleries 125 and 203 of the St. Louis Art Museum. Exhibit of tableware and bronzes.
- Now-June 8 Contemporary Italian Design from the Permanent Collection, Gallery 131 at the St. Louis Art Museum. Industrial and home furnishing products from Milanese designers.
- now-2/16 TNT/The New Theater presents "Sylvia," a New York stray, at its new home at the Grandel Square Theater at Grand Center. Call 781-7976 for times and prices.
- 2/18 Missouri Historical Society presents an evening of television clips and discussion of how area television covered post-WWII events such as desegregation, urban renewal, transportation, and suburbanization. Harper Barnes of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch will moderate. From 7-9pm at the History Museum. Free.
- 2/21-4/20 "In the Light of Italy: Corot and Early Open-Air Painting," Special Exhibition Galleries, St. Louis Art Museum. The exhibit features 130 paintings and oil sketches by 48 artists, most notably Corot. From museums and private collections.

Thank you from The Times family to our generous contributors who responded to our annual holiday appeal. Your support provides encouragement to our all-volunteer staff as well as financial security for our paper.

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Unity and Diversity: The 1997 King Commemoration

by Henry Campbell, Jr.

Sunday, January 12, was a day of unity and neighborhood diversity at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration ceremony at Grace and Peace Fellowship Church, 5574 Delmar at Clara. The theme for this year's event was: Our Neighborhood Rooted in Diversity Moving into the 21st Century.

Brilliant choir, it was time for Robert Tabscott, our keynote speaker, to be introduced.

Neighborhood resident and community council member Greg Freeman made the introduction of Tabscott, local historian and president of the Elijah P. Lovejoy society of St. Louis. Tabscott began

his presentation by making references to Medgar Evers' murder and other racial injustices.

"What will be going on when we leave here today?" asked Tabscott about living the dream daily. Using major historical and literary references, Tabscott gave an emotional and powerful speech. He held an audience captive as he expressed his feelings about culture and how to maintain it, not for just African Americans, but for all people. The most powerful weapon Tabscott has that he urged all to use is language. According to him, language is the most powerful tool. "Word work is sublime when it is done well."

Tabscott believes that even though this country is caught up in bureaucracies, mergers, and money, adults can still give their children the future to make things right again: a future that can be given without the bloodshed of the earlier forefathers.

After musical interludes from both the St. Roch School fifth graders and the New Cote Brilliance choir, Reverend Miki Merritt of New Cote Brilliance Church of God made the closing remarks. Then, the New Cote Brilliance chor took everyone home with "We Shall Overcome" while everyone in the audience joined hands.

The commemoration was sponsored by Grace and Peace Fellowship, New Cote Brilliance Church of God, and the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. The Commemoration Committee consisted of Jack Wright, Chairman; Marjorie Butler, Ruth Johnson, Ted and Gladys Smith, Gloria Openlander, Lana Stein, Cari Marinella, Shirley Polk, Sandy Kalin, Barbara Thompson, and Reverend Miki Merritt. Laure Porterfield, director of the SDCC, and Vivi Wolf, Neighborhood Stabilization Officer, lent their hands to this effort as well. Following the Commemoration, Grace and Peace hosted a reception for all attendees.



The ceremony featured strong music, selected readings and a powerful keynote speaker, local historian Robert Tabscott. It opened with the New Cote Brilliance Church of God choir singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" with the help of audience participation.

Jack Wright, Commemoration Committee Chairman and Elder Ted Smith from Grace and Peace welcomed everyone and urged them to take a piece of King's dream with them every day. Wright outlined the theme by saying, "It's our ongoing responsibility (as men and women) to keep his dream alive."

Bethel School students under the direction of Sandy Kalin sang "This Little Light of Mine," featuring soprano Kalyn McNeal, 6 years old. Bethel students followed with selected readings about the crucial and significant points in Dr. King's life. After another outstanding number from the New Cote



Robert Tabscott

State Representative Nancy Farmer Attains Prominent Position In House

Nancy Farmer, Democratic representative of the 64th District, has been named chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. This committee handles matters involving taxation. First elected to the House in 1992, Farmer has served on this committee for the past two years. This year again the state will face the problem of excess revenues under the terms of the

Hancock Amendment. Last year the committee came forward with the reduction of the sales tax on food. The governor is now supporting it and this will be a significant agenda item for Farmer's committee. By virtue of her chairmanship of Ways and Means, Farmer also sits on the House Budget Committee, which allocates the state's \$15 billion of spending.

Postcard Party Held to Support Matt Morrison

A gathering at Bill Kohn's studio Sunday evening, January 19th, produced nearly 300 jumbo sized post cards in support of the besieged Matt Morrison and his family.

The cards will be delivered to President Bill Clinton and ask him to intervene in Morrison's case. Matt Morrison, as you may know, is the University City resident, married, with children, who is threatened with deportation to his native Northern Ireland because of his youthful involvement with the I.R.A. Neighborhood artist Bill Christman has become good friends with the Morrises and conceived of the Postcard Party as a way to use his talents in support of their struggle.

For over ten years now, Matt has led a productive and responsible life here in St. Louis.

His wife and two children will become exiles along with Matt if the deportation order is executed. The messages on the post cards ranged from childishly direct "Save my friend's Daddy" to politically sophisticated. Accompanying graphics ran the same gamut.

The atmosphere at the party, low-keyed, pleasant, family-oriented, reflected the serious side of the event, yet all who attended seemed to take great pleasure in articulating their concerns visually as well as verbally.



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Grace and Peace Winter Shelter Offers A Home

by Phyllis H. Wheeler

Cold darkness creeps into the city. A group of seven women shiver at the Delmar entrance of Grace and Peace Fellowship Church, pushing the doorbell. At precisely 6:30 p.m., Linda Molinari opens the door and welcomes them in to a warm, cozy place to stay with lots of hot food. With relief,

from women who miss their kids. This shelter is for women only. Other parts of the citywide shelter network provide shelter to families. Many of the Grace and Peace shelter guests are mothers but for some reason aren't in charge of their children. Others have children that are grown. B. has children who are not with her. Her eyes light up

I find Hannah in the seating area. B. is lying languidly on the sofa, a plate empty of chocolate cake on the floor next to her. She is gently teasing Hannah. "You going to stay all night, right?" she asks. T. fusses over a skirt she just bought, which split at the seams. The shelter's sewing kit is laid out on the table as she searches for the right color of thread. We do the dishes, and at 9:30 it's time to go, our evening shift over. Gail is finishing up the shelter laundry. As an overnight volunteer, she will sleep in a bed near the guests, available in case of need. But it was a quiet night, she reported later, and she got a full night's sleep. Grace and Peace's shelter is in its 11th year of shoestring operation. It depends for volunteers and meals not only on members of the church, but on anyone who is interested in helping someone. Many volunteer shifts and meals are supplied by area residents, churches or colleges. Joan Cobb and her husband Roy moved to the area in the summer of 1988, and joined St. Roch's, the local Catholic church. At their previous home they had used their garage for storing furniture to be used by homeless folks moving into apartments. She was interested in "fitting in here to do

something." Her eye fell on a notice about the Grace and Peace shelter in the St. Roch bulletin. Her involvement with the shelter started with providing meals that winter. "Then I stayed a night, and it progressed," she said. "I've been staying the night once a week for the past three years." She also serves on the shelter's board of directors. The shelter gets high marks from the city. The city's homeless services division was pleased with the shelter after a Nov. 20 visit. "We found the staff was very warm, very friendly," said Anath T. Boone, program specialist in the Homeless Services Division. In her letter to the director about her visit, she wrote, "We found the facility to be warm, secure, and most accommodating: staff members were very cordial and the shelter's clients were well-behaved. Thank you for your invitation to visit Grace and Peace. It was a very pleasant experience." Anyone who wants information about helping out should call Melody Burke at the Grace and Peace number, 367-8959.



Shelter volunteers Debbie Eisenbraun, left, and Joan Cobb work on the dishes. Cobb, an eight-year veteran volunteer for the Grace and Peace Winter Shelter, is a member of St. Roch's. She also serves on the shelter Board of Directors.

the women crowd through the door. For some, the meal will be the first they have eaten since they left the shelter at 6:30 that morning. During the next hour, more come, swelling their numbers to 19. The Winter Shelter at Grace and Peace, 5574 Delmar, offers its guests a haven for the night, or for a season of nights. It also offers its evening and overnight volunteers an opportunity to lend a helping hand to someone who really needs it. The church basement shelters up to 20 women on an overnight basis, from mid-November to mid-March. It operates on a financial shoestring, paying a stipend to the overnight staff person and depending on volunteers to supply meals and to act as evening and overnight helping hands. For example, during the 1995-96 season, the shelter spent only \$3.35 per bed per night, or a total of \$8,500, all from private donations. Guests are screened by a citywide central clearinghouse, which sends those with serious mental problems to other shelters. On this Friday night, I am the evening volunteer. I bring along my nine-year-old daughter, Hannah, as my assistant. We get there at 6:15. The overnight volunteer, Gail Havens, is already there, as is Linda Molinari, the staff person. "Do you want to do the kitchen or watch the laundry?" asks Linda. We choose the kitchen, and begin making coffee, setting out ice water, and looking for dinner. It's on the counter, delivered earlier. Hannah and I set to work warming it up. Gail starts in on the pile of dirty sheets and towels; Friday is the day to do shelter laundry. On other nights, the guests sign up to do their own laundry, and the volunteer watches over the situation. Soon the guests crowd into the warm basement with relief, shedding coats and hats. Hannah goes to talk to them in the "living room" area. She gets a lot of attention



when she sees Hannah. "I got four kids," she tells me. The youngest is four. She asks Hannah about her brothers. D. has four kids too, she says, aged 26 to 42. Hannah and Gail set the table, and at 7:20 we serve dinner. The women say they like the spaghetti sauce. They gobble up the garlic bread. Some of us sit around the dinner table for an hour talking. C., who came in late because she just got off work, works on her plate of food. (It's not uncommon to be homeless and still have a job; minimum-wage jobs often don't pay enough to support someone living alone.) I ask B. what she did today. "I went to Shalom House," she says, naming another shelter that has room for them during the day. It's a couple of miles away. How did she get there? I ask. "I took the bus. But sometimes I walk," she says. B. is young and fit. L. says she has grown kids. She gently talks of her son who killed himself two years ago. He was a police officer. She had had high hopes for him. "You just never can tell what's going on in someone's head," she says sadly. I clear the table. Ten minutes later,

Shelter guests relax after dinner.



Photos by Deborah Bauer

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MetroLink Park 'N Ride Lot Debuts January 10

by Catherine Forslund

Despite sub-zero wind chills, a crowd of about 30 interested citizens turned out for the ribbon-cutting to open the new Bi-State Development Park 'N Ride lot. It is located just north of the Delmar MetroLink Station on land made available to Bi-State by Angelica Corporation.

The assembled dignitaries and guests gathered inside a brightly painted Bi-State Art Bus for hot coffee, muffins, and speeches. Bi-State Director Jack Leary noted the lot's 350+ parking spaces and the staffed attendant's booth before introducing the speakers.

Congratulatory statements were made by Alderman Dan McGuire, State Representatives Paula Carter and Joan Bray, and representatives from Angelica Corporation and the mayor's office. Several speakers particularly noted the community's gratitude for Jack Leary's time and service with Bi-State. Leary was about to leave St. Louis for a similar position in Philadelphia. All comments were received with muffled applause from gloved hands.

Then, everyone clambered from the warmth of the bus into the frigid sunshine. Officials cut the ribbon, posed for pictures, and shook some hands before all retreated to the warmth of their cars and their daily business.



The old Delmar Station building above the MetroLink

TileLink Project Moves Closer to Completion

On Saturday, January 11, friends of the West End Arts Council's TileLink project gathered downtown to help push it closer to completion. Neighbor Bill Christman lent his "Museum of Mirth, Mystery and Mayhem" space in the International Arts Building for a day of tile glazing.

Again the bitter cold was overcome as participants layered on the winter warmies and gathered to apply glaze to over 275 of the tiles created by area school children and adults for the TileLink project. This is the second of three phases in the firing, glaze, firing process needed to apply color and weatherproof the nearly 1800 tiles produced. Each tile is being "painted" by hand with glaze colors for the project: mostly royal blue and bright yellow, with accents of white, orange, red, and black.

When the spring warmth returns, the tiles will create a border along the sidewalk between the Delmar parking lot and the platform. The "sill" on which the tiles will be installed is already in place and visible on the edges of the new sidewalk. Concrete benches will also be added that will have tile-decorated surfaces. Makes you that much more anxious for the end of winter, doesn't it????

MetroLink Meeting Held

On Jan. 29, a representative of Sverdrup Corporation presented various scenarios of MetroLink expansion at a meeting at Crossroads School. Of most interest to Skinker DeBaliviere is a northern route running from the Forest Park station to Clayton along the Forest Park Parkway/Millbrook. In our area, the trains would run below grade to Des Peres, be at grade at this intersection because of the River Des Peres tunnel, and then go below Skinker and below grade along the northern edge of the Washington University campus. The Des Peres/Parkway intersection might be closed to automobile traffic, though open to bikes and pedestrians, or it could remain open with signals and gates. The committee deciding among these options is supposed to make a recommendation to East-West Gateway which will choose a route or routes in March, but the process should take longer than this. Residents can send comments to East-West Gateway or the mayor's office.



DELMAR METROLINK STATION PARK-N-RIDE LOT NOW OPEN

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The new Delmar parking facility is located at Clemens and Rosedale, one block north of Delmar, one block east of Skinker.

This facility is part of the Bi-State Development Agency's continuing efforts to improve service to the people of our metropolitan region.



Hamilton Spotlight

by Betsy King

This month's spotlight is on the Hamilton Day at the Rams Game. On Saturday, December 21, 1996 administration teachers, parents and 230 Hamilton students had the opportunity to attend the St. Louis Rams' last home game against the New Orleans Saints. The Rams' owner, Georgia Frontiere, attended Hamilton Elementary School as a child, and donated the tickets for the event. Frontiere has shown dedication and support to Hamilton since her return to St. Louis in 1995. Students from the preschool through the fifth grade were chosen to attend the game based on academics, attitude, attendance and citizenship. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity for many Hamilton students. Executive Director for EMSO, David Flieg, joined the Hamilton congregation for the event, and during the game, Hamilton's name appeared on the welcome board. It was a unique, exciting opportunity for the Hamilton Community and we offer Frontiere our sincere thanks.

Fourth and fifth graders at Hamilton are learning to ice skate this year. Each week they visit Steinberg Skating Rink in Forest park as an extension of the physical education curriculum. The eight week program includes instruction in basic ice skating skills by a Steinberg skating instructor as well as some free skating time for students to practice their new skills.

Joyce Hill, Hamilton's Administrative Assistant, has started an after school program for remediation, individualized instruction,

and enrichment in math and reading. Students work in groups of 5-10 and rotate through four stations: math, reading, computers, and homework. The small groups allow the students to get one-on-one instruction and to strengthen their specific areas of weakness. Hamilton teachers provide the instruction in each station and assess students' progress regularly. The program, which began December 9, 1996, will continue through May and will be a year-long program at Hamilton next school year.

Good luck to the first grade students at Hamilton who have embarked on the annual Running Start Challenge. This program, which is sponsored by R.I.F. (Reading is Fundamental) and challenges each first grader to read 21 books in 10 weeks, began on January 21, 1997. The students who meet the challenge are rewarded with books to take home and add to their personal library as well as other incentives such as bookmarks and buttons. If you would like to volunteer to read to a Hamilton first grade class as a part of the Running Start Challenge, please contact Betsy King at 367-0552.

Finally, many thanks from the Hamilton Staff for the Holiday Appreciation Breakfast given by the Executive Board of the Hamilton Community Council. The breakfast, which took place on December 17, 1996, was a nice way to acknowledge the teachers and everyone who works hard to make Hamilton a positive place for our children.

Vicissitudes

by Lana Stein

Two Crossroads students have received special recognition recently. Tavia Evans, a senior, was accepted to the United States Senate Youth Program and also was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to the university of her choice. Tavis is a member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Board and organizes programs for youth at Vashon, Beaumont, and the Darst-Webbe housing projects. She also is Crossroads' representative to the Metropolitan Model United Nations. Fellow Crossroads student Erika Williams has been selected to receive the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Leadership and Legacy Award.

John H. Thomas Jr., resident of 57xx Waterman with his wife and two children, has been hired as the new Youth and Community Coordinator for Grace Methodist

Church. Thomas has lived in Skinker DeBaliviere for over 20 years. Thomas will assume responsibility for implementing Breitmayer 96 at Grace. Thomas wants 'to add something to the fabric of the community, to the lives of our youth, to family stability, to personal development.' He may be reached at 863-1992.

Dee Joyce-Hayes, neighborhood resident and St. Louis's Circuit Attorney, has added another dimension to her career: She's teaching a course at the Washington University School of Law on courtroom practices. Also in the academic mode, Greg Freeman, our resident Post columnist, is teaching classes at Webster and Washington Universities. At the latter, his seminar addresses how the media influence public policy.



John Thomas, left, new Director of Youth and Community ministry at Grace United Methodist Church, with Ron and Nel Hertel.

Pet Talk

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

Sadie is a 5 year old female beagle. She lives in University City. On Dec. 11, 1996 a car struck Sadie; not just any car, mind you, but a University City Police car. Luckily Sadie's injuries were not fatal. However, the damages to her left rear foot were severe. (I'll try not to be too graphic here, but the type and extent of the injuries are important to the story.) The skin on the top of her foot from her "ankle" to her toes was torn off in one large flap leaving the muscle and tendon of the foot exposed. Some of the tissue beneath the skin was also scraped away. There were no bones broken. This type of injury is a grinding or scraping type injury; perhaps her foot wedged under the wheel of the vehicle as it skidded to stop.

Because there was enough skin remaining in the skin flap to cover the wound on Sadie's foot, and because the flap seemed to contain an adequate blood supply, we anesthetized Sadie, cleaned her wound, sutured the skin flap in place, started her on antibiotics and sent her home. Five days later when Sadie came to have her bandage changed she had a fever. The bandage on her foot was wet. When we removed the bandage the swollen, discolored foot still had a chance to heal. We left the bandage off and had the owner run warm water over the foot to clean it and to stimulate the circulation. When we checked Sadie in four days it was certain that she was

going to lose at least two of her four toes. We sent her home for the weekend with a special antibacterial ointment that would also help keep her foot moist.

At her next visit it was not clear that she would only lose two toes. A crushing, sheering injury like Sadie's greatly damages the tissues. The healing process takes a long time and can involve several surgeries to remove dead tissue and to reconstruct the damaged area. It concerned us that even if we took Sadie and her owner through a lengthy treatment process, Sadie still might not have a viable foot to use. As a result, with our advice the owner decided to have us amputate Sadie's leg.

Now I know many of you are aghast. I have talked with many owner's about the need to amputate their pet's limbs and shocked every one of them when I mentioned the "A" word. We've all read too many American Civil War history books. Most dogs and cats do extremely well as "tri-pods." In Sadie's case, she completed a healing process in about a week that could have taken several months. She would only have had limited use of her foot and leg when the healing process ended. It is highly likely that we would have amputated her leg after trying for several more weeks to save the foot. Two months after her injury, Sadie's surgery site has healed quite nicely; she is running about like nothing happened. Her pleased owner has gotten used to Sadie's streamlined appearance.

Amputation is certainly not our first choice in treating any patient with a limb injury. However, in certain situations removing the limb from a pet is the best choice for both the patient and the owner.

The story has an ironic end. Granted Sadie was off of her leash when she was struck by the police car. Was it really necessary for the University Police to return to the owner and issue her a ticket? Hadn't she and Sadie paid the price for her unlawful freedom?

New Recreational Opportunities at Hamilton

The Hamilton School gym is now open on Saturdays. Area youth are welcome to drop by and enjoy the open gym and shoot hoops. Under the aegis of Recreation Chair Arthelda Busch, youth from 8 to 12 years of age may participate in Operation Teamwork team basketball play. For further information, call the Council at 862-5122.

Police Feted at Holiday Luncheon

For the second year, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council sponsored a luncheon for the police officers of the 7th district. Betty Newsham of 61xx Kingsbury coordinated this event along with SDCC Director Laure Porterfield. Many neighbors assisted in this project. Along with Newsham, Ruth Johnson, Lois Schoemehl, and Lana Stein helped array the food that many donated. Captain Harry B. Hegger, the Commander of the Seventh District, wrote Porterfield thanking Council members and neighbors who made this event possible.

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Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Meeting December 9, 1996

Sara Johnson, Vice President, presided at the meeting because of the illness of President Gary Hayes.

Housing Corporation

Dan McGuire indicated that there is a possibility for us to receive an additional \$31,000 in funding from CDA. Current contract has been submitted at \$19,000. This extra money is to fund a housing person.

Gary recommended we need a vote to go forward and we need a yes vote. Laure stated there are two pieces.

1. \$19,000 budget has been submitted for the 1997 contract but CDA doesn't have it ready now; won't meet again until January 8, 1997. Documents will need to be signed before that time.

2. To fund full-time position for Housing Corporation, Dan explained need to make a formal application to CDA to amend our \$19,000 contract. Laure Porterfield, Dan McGuire, Gary Hayes, Susie Feinberg, and Karleen Hoerr have been working together to develop job description and appropriate controls. The salary for this person would come from the increased CDA funding and from the Housing Corporation.

Nancy Farmer explained that SDCC and SDCHC initially were very closely allied. Need a resolution authorizing Laure to move forward. Ann Smith Carr will work along with Laure. Need to write down our requirements and expectations. Board members are asked to become involved.

Ann Smith Carr moved that Board authorize Laure to pursue finalizing and executing a 1997 contract at a \$19,000 level with CDA. The motion passed unanimously. Laure will continue discussing the new staff position with the Housing Corporation and will prepare an application for additional funding from CDA.

Kingsbury Square Deed of Trust

Martin Jaffe came to request a full release on deed of trust to property along Laurel. Federal Block Grant Money, under the old Housing Implementation Program was used to pay for site improvement. Federal funds did not go to the developer. They had to "pass through" a 501 C-3. Martin Jaffe asking that SDCC release the Deed of Trust that has been recorded for the development of property.

The pass through existed to inform the community of what's going on and to put a check in place that the improvement occurred. Ann Smith Carr requested a copy of the Deed of Trust to see what obligations it secures. Martin Jaffe wants approval of the board to release the Deed of Trust. Jack Wright moved that the Board authorize the Executive Director or appropriate officers to execute the release of this Deed of Trust provided a review of such is acceptable. Ann Smith Carr will follow through.

Security

Officer Terry Kowalczyk reported that property crime in area down about 25%; total crime down year to date 22% compared to last year.

Personnel

1. Executive Committee conducts evaluation of Laure Porterfield. It has been suggested that the evaluation form be revised. It will be sent prior to January meeting.

2. Job description of new employee for Housing Corporation. Will incorporate all CDA requirements.

Need to convene a personnel/Executive Committee Meeting.

Neighborhoods/Committees

Rosedale - Christmas Lights Competition. 5700 DeGiverville wants permit parking also.

Beautification:

Three grants - Garden Plot (5900 McPherson double vacant lot) anyone wanting a garden plot may have one. Missouri Botanical Garden will award a grant.

Commercial District - Pawn Shop on Delmar now has different set of plans than originally presented.

Recreation - Distributed picture of youth at awards ceremony held at New Cote Brillante Church. Basketball team now forming; have one coach; children between ages 8-14 girls and boys; anyone interested in coaching contact Avis May at Hamilton.

Apartment Owners - Mr. Hamilton, president, expressed willingness to attend one of our meeting to discuss Heinz Grant and monuments.

West End Arts Council - still glazing tiles; bad weather prevented installation in November; will be installed in the Spring. Will have Open House Glazing Day for volunteers to assist. Should be completed by May.

Executive Director's Report

Computer Substitution

Part of the Heinz Grant sought in 1994 and received in 1995 was spent on a new computer. The new computer in the office was an AST purchased by Kim Koenig when there was a delay in delivery of the Gateway Computer. The Gateway was sent to her husband's office and then taken home. The Gateway system was relocated to the SDCC office by Koenig, and the AST computer given back to her. The Gateway system is a superior computer with a modem and CD-ROM. In seeking legal advice we were told legal action wasn't necessary because we have to computer and software. This will be reported to the auditors.

Other Business

Arthelda Busch asked what can be done about racism in this neighborhood, particularly among the children. Dan McGuire will follow up with principal at the school. City's Recycling Project will be discontinued at the end of January.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 13, 1997

President Gary Hayes presided.

The police report from Terry Kowalczyk is basically the same as last month. Crime is down approximately 22%. Greg Freeman reported burglary at a neighbor's home.

Finance Report

Maggie Hart-Mahon looking for year-end monies pledged; she would like to get 100% of projected amount.

Change to report by Gary Hayes: Grace Church only allotted \$750.00 for 1996, but will contribute \$1,000.00 in 1997. New Cote Brillante will finish their 1996 pledge and are increasing pledge by \$500.00 for 1997.

Two budgets will be presented at February Board Meeting; one based on \$19,000; one based on receiving additional CDA money total of (\$51,000) to cover new housing position.

Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere collections increased this year.

Finance Report was approved.

The audit has been completed. Extra copies are available. Two binders are available for members to view.

Personnel

Evaluation forms passed out to the members. Would like to have all evaluations returned by Monday, January 20, 1997, to Gary Hayes.

Nominating Committee

Lana Stein, Gregory Freeman, Ann Smith Carr will serve.

Lana Stein asked members to call if interested in serving as an officer within the next two weeks.

A motion to suspend the by-laws for one time and elect officers at the February meeting provided the members have 10 days notification by mail or telephone was passed.

MetroLink

A flyer was distributed about the meeting at Crossroads School.

Neighborhoods Reports

Rosedale - judging for lighting contest on December 22, 1996.

Winners were Bruce Shipman, 61XX Washington; Josh & Rubina Patton, 61XX McPherson; Bill Carlisle, 61XX Waterman. Judges were Jane & Joe Geiler, David Schmidt, and Julie Schoemehl. Winners received \$10.00 gift certificates to Meli Melo.

Washington Heights Lights Contest 58XX DeGiverville. Judges were Greg Freeman and Laure Porterfield. Prizes were awarded by the block unit.

Parkview

Held caroling on December 20, 1996. Have been discussing much need street repairs - very costly. Street lights - some out; very unusual wiring systems, hard to fix.

Kingsbury Square

20 hours of dedicated security in December four hours a day; five days a week - believe it helped reduce crime. Beautiful lighting of gazebo for Christmas.

Neighborhood Services

Recreation - Arthelda Busch reported that Operation Team Work starts this month. Basketball at Hamilton School also is underway on Saturdays.

Beautification - Andy Cross reported that the Botanical Garden grants are in the selection process. We will know by end of February. There have been eight accidents on Westminster.

Lana Stein suggested small committee work on this. Julie Schoemehl suggested there be a petition for a traffic study.

Maggie Hart-Mahon suggested going through the Rosedale Association.

Sara Johnson suggested going to Alderman Dan McGuire.

Commercial District

Cash America shown several plans to the committee. This plan will be presented to the residents of 5900 DeGiverville for their approval.

West End Arts Council

Tiles for the MetroLink are beautiful. They were on display at "First Night" and will be installed in the spring. They are still glazing tiles. They are only have 450 more tiles to glaze. Bi-State is very pleased with the project.

A grant application for this year is being prepared to submit to the Regional Arts Commission.

Other Business

Kingsbury Square Deed of Trust

Ann Smith Carr called St. Louis Development Corporation to find out if the work had been done. She spoke with Jill Claybour who was to send a letter verifying the completion of such work by developer. As of this date, no letter has been received; thus, SDCC will not release the deed of trust.

Jack Wright reported on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration program, which was quite successful despite bad weather.

Action Plan continued from p. 1

MetroLink station area development. With Johannes-Cohen, they will research the market and prepare an economic development plan for Delmar.

Project for Public Spaces—Steve Davies, for Market Research

A nationally renowned not-for-profit group based in New York, this organization has extensive experience in working to create livable communities, particularly in terms of enhancing public transit facilities and the areas around them. They are also working this year on a plan for Souland Market.

Urban Research & Design Center,

Washington University—Dave Van Backergem's Washington University students will be an integral part of the research team and will assist with administering community surveys.

Austin Tao & Associates—Austin Tao, Streetscape Design.

Austin Tao is widely recognized for his innovative and distinctive landscape design. Among his many projects are the new Clayton lighting and landscaping plans on Forsyth, the landscaping near the lions at the west end of the Loop, and the St. Louis University entrances and plazas. Tao is also a neighbor, living near the Loop.

In addition, **Patrick Schuchard**, head of the painting department at Washington University, will serve on the team. An artist who has worked on collaborative design projects, Schuchard will offer a unique perspective to the entire process with an eye toward aesthetic quality and excellence.

According to consulting team leader George Johannes, "this is a wonderful opportunity to work in our own commu-

nity and help to make the redevelopment of Delmar a reality. As we are also neighbors, we have a stake in the success of this plan. We look forward to working with the other consultants, who can bring additional perspective, knowledge and experience to our plan, and we're all very excited about creating an exciting plan for Delmar, one that can become a reality."

Members of the Commercial Committee and SDCC, as well as representatives of the West End Community Conference, Bi-State, University City and others will participate in the planning. Representing **Bi-State Development Agency**—Sarah Smith, Arts in Transit; **City of St. Louis**—Joe Ebert, Board of Public Service, and Jill Owens, St. Louis Development Corporation; **University City**—Anne Kessen Lowell, Director of Economic Development; **Community Representatives**—Jo Ann Vatcha, Commercial District Committee, and Laure Porterfield, Executive Director, Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council.

The consulting team, together with the above, will hold additional public meetings over the next few months to report their findings and preliminary recommendations to the community. *THE TIMES* will continue to update you on the team's progress and invites your comments. With the formal cooperation of these agencies, additional funding will be achievable, and the long-awaited revitalization of Delmar, especially the area around the Wabash Station is within reach.

The consultants were chosen through a competitive process, with a formal Request for Proposals which was issued in No-

ember, 1996. The search committee consisted of the following: **Bi-State Development Agency**—Sarah Smith, Arts in Transit; **City of St. Louis**—Joe Ebert, Board of Public Service, and Jill Owens, St. Louis Development Corporation; **University City**—Anne Kessen Lowell, Director of Economic Development; **Community Representative**—Jo Ann Vatcha, Commercial District Committee. Funding is being provided by grants from the State of Missouri Department of Transportation and Bi-State Development Agency. Among the considerations for selection were: knowledge of Delmar and the surrounding residential neighborhoods, experience with streetscape design and commercial districts, experience with transit-related commercial areas, and professional design credibility. In the past, such consulting competitions have been won by a single firm, frequently unfamiliar with the dynamics of the community. This time, there was an opportunity to attract highly experienced professional consultants who can also contribute intimate knowledge of our community. One outside consultant was chosen for the team. Project for Public Spaces, based in New York, will work with the Urban Research and Design Center of Washington University to conduct market research and survey riders of Metro Link. Project for Public Spaces brings a wealth of experience for comparable projects across the country and will be kicking off the work of the team with a community meeting on February 13 at Grace Methodist Church.



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In Your Ear

by Hawkeye Q. Hoerr

Seasons Greetings!

Oh, I know, it's a little late for our annual holiday letter but it has been busy around here. Besides, I started writing this on December 17; doesn't that count for something?

As years go, 1996 was a pretty uneventful one. Given some of our earlier years, that's probably good. Each time I write an end-of-year holiday letter to all of our friends I am reminded of that infamous holiday letter in the late 80's in which I talked about cousin Danny going in for a sex-change operation. Oh it was true, but little did I realize that Danny hadn't gotten around to telling his, I mean her, parents yet. His, her, mom and dad, Ruth and Glenn, were in a state of shock. Ruth could do nothing but sob for days and all Glenn could say was that he was "at least happy that Danny would have to shave off that damn beard!"

Then in '91 or '92 the holiday letter causes some ripples when I announced that cousin John had been indicted for being part of a pyramid scheme in which he had bilked hundreds of Arizona retirees out of their life savings. I was particularly eloquent, if I say so myself, in describing how the scheme worked: after joining by paying \$100, each member was then responsible for getting eight others to join. After that, each member received \$1,000 per month for a year. Obviously I wasn't nearly as eloquent in explaining that all earnings were funded by future new member fees which must eventually dry up. I know this because cousin John sent me a letter from the prison in Tucson, thanking me for the 17 new members who had joined after reading my holiday letter.

This year saw Moxie and Boomer, our two standard poodles, age semi-gracefully. Moxie, like the rest of us, has become a bit more temperate in his old age. He's 84 in dog years and I hope that I can run and jump as well as he does when I'm that age. In fact, I wish I could do that now! He spends most of his days on street patrol, lying inside the door and looking through the glass, barking at any stray dogs, cats, or leaves that dare come upon our lawn. Oh yeah, he eats a lot and listens to the radio during the day. Nice work if you can get it. He particular likes "Talk Of The Nation" although he's never gotten up the nerve to call in. He almost did on a Science Friday show, I know, when the topic was computers, but only growled when they talked about RAM and ROM. It seems his bark is bigger than his byte.

The youthful Boomer, on the other hand, continues to revel in her immaturity. She thinks everyone who walks in the door is her best friend, is always "on" when company is around, and despite her promises not to take food from the table, she will always get away with what she can when you turn your back to her. She definitely has a future in politics.

The first wife gets more charming and graceful as she ages. She continues to put up with me and since I'm getting less charming and graceful maybe it all evens out. The History Museum has contacted her about displaying her shoe collection, but she is resistant thus far. She's hoping for a larger venue, maybe the Smithsonian in D.C. or the Fox Theater. The wife, of course, says I overstate this fetish of hers. All I can say to that is that no

one has ever seen her wearing the same pair of shoes twice. I rest my sole.

Work is going fine for me if you can call it work. What I do, whatever it is, is fun, so it's really not work. On the other hand, I have to work hard at it so maybe it is work even though it's fun. This is a nice problem.

Uncle Zeke is due for parole sometime in '97 and we are all excited about that. He wrote me that the first thing he wants to do is visit a tattoo parlor and cover up everything that refers to Donna, including his full-back drawing of the giant snake eating the helicopter over the Statue of Liberty. This must be a painful process because he told me that he's been surfing on the internet from his cell, hoping to meet and strike up a relationship with someone named Ladonna. He wrote me, "If I can find this Ladonna babe it could be OK 'cause it would be easier to change them tattoos by adding a few letters then by covering 'em up." The last I heard he had not been successful yet in finding a Ladonna. (If you know of one, you can have her contact him at Zeke@Tuc.State.Pris.)

Short of finding a Ladonna, he told me, he would like to develop a semi-meaningful relationship with someone named Ann. "That way," he continued, "if it didn't work out I could look for someone named Ruth Ann or MaryAnn or Beth Ann or Ann Marie or Anna or CatamarAnn." You've got to give the Zekester credit, he's always thinking ahead.

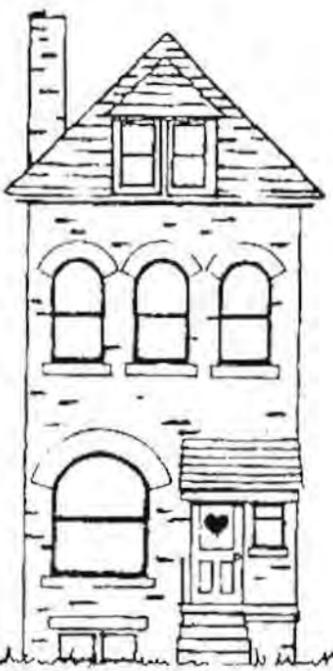
Everyone is healthy and happy and that's what is most important. Now if we could just get a Dunkin' Donuts at the corner of McPherson and Skinker,

where the old Sinclair station was, all would be right in the world. Hey, if not a D.D., maybe a Flaco's Tacos!

Next year should be an especially fun one for our community. The new sewer system in Forest Park will be finished, we'll know where the next new MetroLink expansion will be going, we'll have a new mayor, and the first wife will continue to buy new shoes. Oh well, three out of four improvements ain't bad.

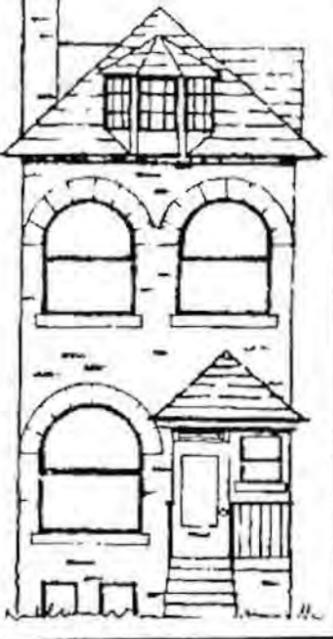

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