

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 28 No. 34

November 1997

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

## Bill Kohn Celebrates Wonders of Machu Picchu in New Exhibit

by Lana Stein

Bill Kohn has resided in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood for 28 years. He was a professor of art at Washington University and always a practicing painter. Twenty-four years ago he purchased a building at Four Corners (Kingsbury and DesPeres) that he continues to use as a studio. In this span of time, his reputation has grown. A connoisseur of the arts suggested I visit his new exhibit at the Elliot Smith Gallery in the Central West End to see what she called a breathtaking progression of his work.

On October 22, I met Kohn at the gallery and was amazed at the beauty of his new work. He had visited Peru and journeyed to the ancient capital of the Incas, Machu Picchu. These ruins of a great civilization provided ample opportunity for Kohn to combine sun, shadow, and stone in a series of remarkable paintings. Kohn noted that he had painted acrylics while in Peru and then the large acrylic works here.

Kohn's work is shown in concert with photographs of Machu Picchu taken from the air by Randall Hyman. Opening night of the exhibit included a multidimensional performance featuring the paintings, photographs, and music of Rich O'Donnell. All three artists visited the ruins together and assembled a multimedia experience that will be repeated on December 8 in the Art Loft building on Washington Blvd., from 7-9pm. This performance will be sponsored by Art St. Louis.

Kohn has traveled to many locales to pursue his muse. He married his wife Pat 36 years ago. They saved money for a year and a half and then took off around the world for 18 months. It cost them about \$9 a day. Many people they met were very nice to them and gave them lodging. During his academic career, he was fortunate to be able to take periodic sabbaticals and he has visited and painted in Spain, Mexico, and India. His most recent exhibit prior to his one was entitled "Sous les Ponts de Paris"—a depiction of Paris's many bridges with sun reflected brightly on stone contrasted by the blues and greens of the Seine.

Kohn is planning a trip to Egypt soon where he may well paint that nation's many famous ruins from the era of the pharaohs. He also plans to go on to visit India again. He mentioned the fortress city of Rajistan, which rises up out of the desert and where the most colorful cloth is made.

Kohn grew up in University City. Since living in Skinker DeBaliviere he has been involved in the neighborhood arts activities. He also participated in St. Louis Editions, a marketing program developed in support of the visual arts community in St. Louis that featured the works of sixteen artists. In 1981, Kohn's work graced a limited edition print that received the Mayor's Award for the Arts. In 1982,



*Principal Temple and Intiwatana Hill, Acrylic on Canvas, 1997, 62" x 68"*

Kohn won a poster competition held by City Sights. Kohn's design featured slices of city views within bold letterforms spelling out St. Louis. The poster was distributed nationwide. Kohn has had a strong presence in the St. Louis art world and he has been a continuing supporter of the arts scene here. He has chosen to remain in St. Louis even as his fame has grown. He loves the city and our neighborhood. "It's where I've been by choice. It's a marvelous location. I use the park every day. It's close to the museum and the university." Interestingly, Kohn's wife Pat was a founder of The Paper, which later turned into the Times that you are reading.

Kohn's new exhibit is well worth seeing. The vivid color and the perspective capture one's attention immediately. The exhibit will be at the Elliot Smith Gallery until November 30. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am until 5:30pm and on Sundays from noon to 5pm. There is no charge to see the exhibit.

## New Traffic Signals Planned for Skinker

The city has received federal funds from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Act (CMAC) that will allow it to upgrade the signals at many municipal intersections. Skinker/McCausland is one of the first arteries scheduled for this upgrade. The traffic system will be rebuilt with fiber optic technology in order to allow signals to be reprogrammed as conditions warrant. There will be metallic loops in the street that will measure traffic flow. In our area, this will be particularly useful when crowds exit large

events at Forest Park or at Washington University.

Because of this CMAC upgrade, then Alderman Dan McGuire was able to include items of interest to many Skinker DeBaliviere residents. For the first time, the intersections of Skinker and Forest Park Parkway and Skinker and Delmar will receive pedestrian walk lights, making it far easier to traverse these intersections. In addition, the Skinker/Waterman intersection will receive new pedestrian lights.

Bids for this project will be opened on November 25 and work will proceed thereafter, weather of course permitting.

## Buffer Area Promised for Forest Park

Although the concept of a pedestrian path to the new passive space at Forest Park was not included in the final plan adopted by the Community Development Commission, the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood has been offered an alternative. At present, there is a buffer zone between Forest Park Parkway and Grand Drive where people can walk, sit on benches and enjoy being in a park. Under the adopted plan, Grand Drive will be eliminated, replaced by three holes of golf. Originally, it was intended that the golf course extend up to where the jogging/biking path now is. However, new Parks Director Dan McGuire assured the Commission and neighbors present that he would do all that he could to see that some sort of buffer that the neighbors could utilize remained. He also told neighborhood residents that he would see that a group selected by the SDCC could preview the plans prior to their being made public. For those interested in reviewing the plans, please call the SDCC at 862-5122.



## Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood

St. Louis Christmas Carols Association once again invites the Skinker DeBaliviere community to help celebrate its 86<sup>th</sup> year of bringing carol singing to our neighborhood, block by block.

Each block in our neighborhood is encouraged to call St. Louis Christmas Carols Association at 863-1225 to receive a territory and song sheets and collection cans. The contributions received help young people through 74 local agencies.

Caroling will take place between Thanksgiving and January 6. Long-time caroler David Schmidt of 61XX McPherson will share his experience organizing caroling if you call 863-4512. Laure Porterfield at the SDCC will also help if you call her at 862-5122.

**In Our 28th Year of Publication**

# Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

The sprouting of various political signs at a number of neighborhood households demonstrates that an election is coming. A special election will be held on Tuesday, December 9, to fill the unexpired term of Dan McGuire (D-28). There are currently 5 candidates competing for the aldermanic seat. The Republicans have nominated Z. Dwight Billingsley. The official Democratic candidate is Lyda Krewson. Three people are running as independents: Joyce Littlefield, Debra Loveless, and Leata Price. My purpose in mentioning this election is to urge all neighbors to find out about the candidates and to cast a ballot. Our neighbor Greg Freeman recently wrote a column in the daily paper that urged people to get involved. I would definitely second that emotion. There are a number of issues that will confront our neighborhood in the months to come—MetroLink expansion, enhancement of the Delmar commercial area, new development at Nina Place. Representation is very important. Voting only takes a few minutes.

My second request is for assistance with the Times. We need some writers. We need people who might write one story or perhaps someone who might like to cover events on a more regular basis. Many of us who help to put together the Times are at a point in our lives when we are facing increased career responsibilities and have less time than used to be the case. We would love to work with new people who would enjoy covering the events and the people who make this neighborhood so special. Give us a call if you are interested!

Finally, I want to thank all those who helped put our Oct. 18 party together. The setting was a lovely one, appetizers and desserts were delicious, and it was a good time for all. We thanked Dan McGuire for his 16 years of service and his strong commitment to the enhancement of Skinker DeBaliviere. I do hope that some time he will write for this paper again. He certainly knew how to fill copy.

Happy Thanksgiving!



## The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Lana Stein  
Business Manager: Lois Schoemehl  
Production Manager: Marj Weir

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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### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of The Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents. All material - articles, letters, notices, classified ads - must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. 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.

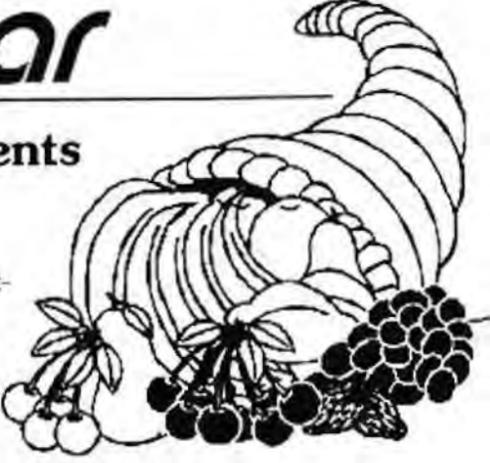
The deadline for all copy is the 18th of the month.

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

- 
- 11/ 5 MetroLink Advisory Committee, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council offices, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:30 p.m.
  - 11/ 6 West End Arts Council, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council offices, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
  - 11/ 8-9 Holiday Bazaar, Grace Methodist Church, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Saturday, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Sunday
  - 11/ 10 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
  - 11/ 12 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon.
  - 11/ 17 Apartment Owners Association, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:30 p.m.
  - 11/ 25 Hamilton ECEC, School Library, 5819 Westminster, 6:30 p.m.
  - 11/ 26 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon.
  - 12/ 3 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, Annual Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon.
  - 12/ 8 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
  - 12/ 14 Cookie Exchange and Holiday for the Birds, Four Corners Park and Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office, 6008 Kingsbury, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
  - 12/ 17 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 12:00 noon.
  - 12/ 18 Holiday Open House for Seventh District Police and DeBaliviere Station Firefighters, 6008 Kingsbury, 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Other Events of Interest

now-

1/11 "Defining Eye: Women Photographers of the Twentieth Century at the Cohen Gallery in the Saint Louis Art Museum.

now-

1/4 Navajo Weavings from the Andy Williams Collection at the Social Exhibition Galleries of the Saint Louis Art Museum.

11/8-9 Opera Theatre of Saint Louis stages an opera for young people, Brundibar by Hans Krása at COCA, 524 Trinity in U City. For times and ticket information, call 725-6555 or 961-0171.

11/20 Urban Forum at the History Museum Library and Research Center Auditorium—"Religion in the Life of the City." Rev. Bill Chapman, Chair of the Public Issues Committee, Interfaith Partnership of Metropolitan St. Louis, moderates a panel of religious leaders. 7-9pm. Free.

11/1-2 Navajo Festival for Families at the Saint Louis Art Museum including demonstration of weaving techniques and live performances.

12/18 Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett speaks on the enduring significance of public ceremony for city neighborhoods in New York City at the Urban Forum, Missouri History Museum Library and Research Center, 7-9pm. Free.

## New Class at Hamilton

The Hamilton Community Education Center is hosting a new class, "Modern Images of Jesus." Doug Corey uses popular movies to study 20<sup>th</sup> century ideas about Jesus. This free 12 week class began on Thursday, October 23, meeting from 7-9pm.

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DINNER—MON.-SAT. 5 PM-10:30PM



Over 100 children attended the **30th Annual Rosedale Neighborhood Association Halloween Party** at St. Roch's Gym. They were entertained by Mr. Wally the Clown. The costume prize winners were Quianna Pope, Jester; Tighe Costa, Knight; Emily Cross, fish; Dayo Banks, Mummy; Simon Mathews, Jockey; Elena Hayes, Pumpkin Bride; Alex Schiller, M & M; Wes Going, Hades; Alex Lindstrom, Centipede; Nicholas Birga, 3 headed monster; Committee: Art Santen; Betty Burke and David Schmidt - Judges; Scott Santen - Crossing Guard

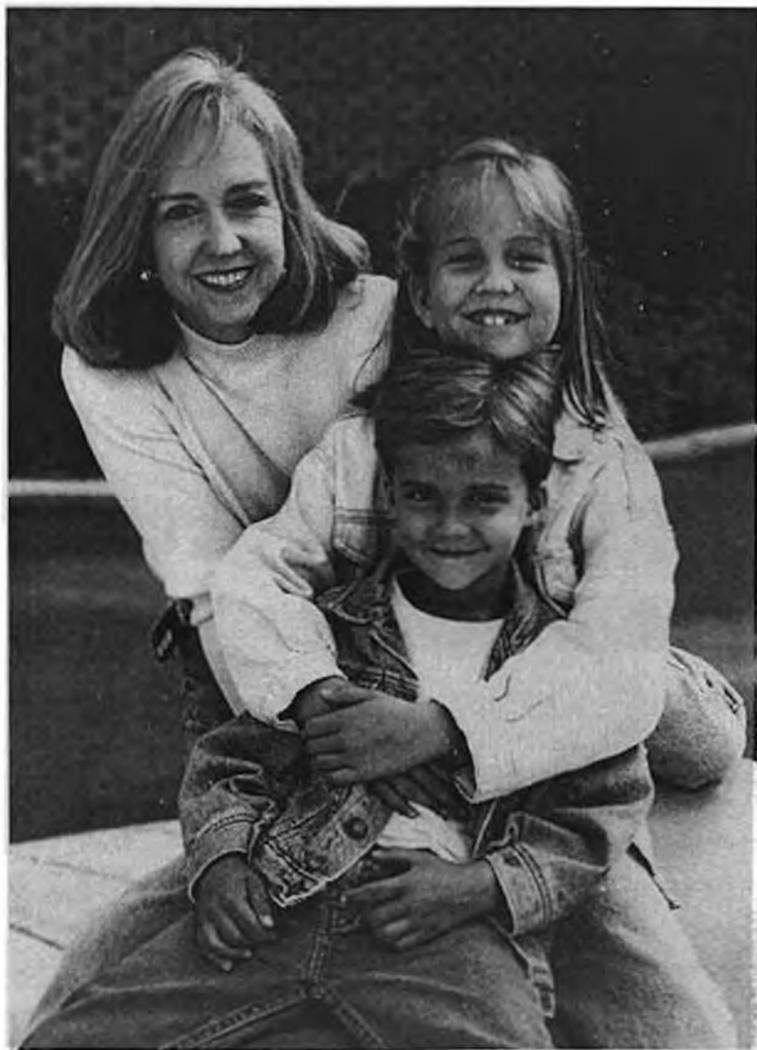


A large crowd at the Rosedale Halloween party included even the tiniest participants.

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# HAMILTON SPOTLIGHT

by Betsy King

This month's spotlight is on volunteers. Each year, students from area middle schools, high schools and other organizations come to Hamilton to work with our students. Most of the students that volunteer are working for credit hours for a service project requirement. This year we have more volunteers than ever before.

On Monday afternoons, students from DeSmet Jesuit High School work at Hamilton. On Wednesday afternoons, we have students from Westminster Christian Academy. In November, we will add a student from Visitation Academy. Students from St. Louis University High School will spend the whole school day at Hamilton during the month of January. And every day, we have middle school and high school students from Crossroads School at 500 DeBaliviere Ave. The volunteers give individualized instruction in reading, spelling, math and other academic areas. The special attention they give our students helps to motivate their academic achievement.

First grader Jacorey Shettleworth works with Katrina Denton from Westminster Christian Academy. "She helps me sound out the words and spell them and she helps me read," says Jacorey.

"I got to read to Kara [Muhilly from Crossroads School]," adds his classmate Keith Murphy. "I had fun because I like reading and she said I read better."

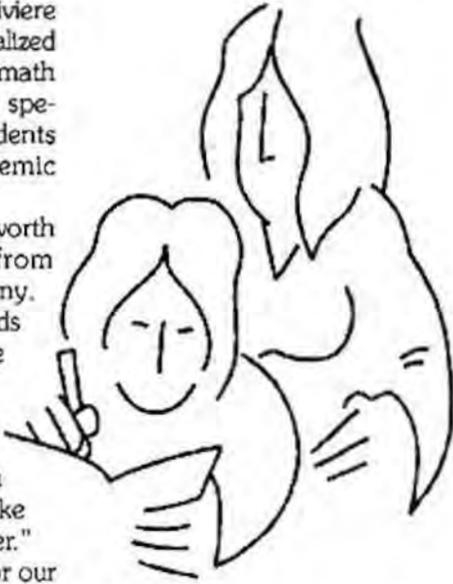
"This is a great experience for our kids. They learn so much about how they can work with other people. It challenges them to think of ways they can help another child learn something," states Crossroads Volunteer Coordinator Marjie Butler. Many of the Crossroads Students who volunteered last year have returned to Hamilton this year.

In addition to the students, our volunteers include Alice Kitchen and Rosemarie Scharff from the OASIS program. This is Dr. Kitchen's second year volunteering at Hamilton, and the

fourth year for Mrs. Scharff. Dr. Jack Gilister, a retired Pediatric Dentist, comes to us from the Interact Program.

The Better Family Life Organization, funded by personal membership, corporate funding, and grants, provides the Give Me Five Program to our second graders. Program instructor Kelly Wimbley teaches students about food groups, nutrition, and the importance of reading labels.

Another volunteer program at Hamilton this year is RIF—Reading is Fundamental. This reading motivation program helps children appreciate books as a source of pleasure and entertainment. The RIF program is a joint effort of the St. Louis Public Schools, Federal and State Government, and a



number of private sources.

We are having a great year so far. The students are getting a lot of enriching one-to-one instruction thanks to all of our volunteers. Our next project is the Celebrity Readers Club, which will begin in January. If you know any St. Louis Celebrities that might want to volunteer to read to classes at Hamilton, please contact Shelly Schuermeyer or Trisha Martin at 367-0552. Thanks for all your support.

# Cookie Exchange, Bird Tree Highlight Holiday Festivities

On Sunday, December 14th, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., residents of Skinker DeBaliviere are invited to share in a neighborhood Cookie Exchange and tree-trimming party for the birds.

Inside the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council offices, a Cookie Exchange (and, of course, tasting) will permit neighborhood bakers to showcase their talents - and all cookie monsters to demonstrate their capacity. Outside, a tree for the birds will be trimmed with the treats that birds love to eat - seed bells, pine cones stuffed with peanut butter and seed, garlands of cheerios and other treats. Your imagination is the limit.

Take this opportunity to meet your neighbors, share your talents, and kick-off the holiday season in a festive and friendly fashion.

### How to Participate

A Cookie Exchange enables participants to share their talents and reci-

pes for special holiday treats. The rules for our exchange are simple:

1. Bake seven dozen of one recipe of your favorite holiday cookies.
2. Package six dozen cookies in packets of 1/2 dozen (that makes 12 packets of 6 cookies each). The last dozen cookies come to the party for nibbling and tasting.
3. Attach a copy of your recipe to each packet of cookies.
4. At the end of the party, cookie bakers choose 12 cookie packets to take home.
5. Of course, cookies must be home made.

The most important rule: Enjoy!

### Bird Tree

Make or purchase a small treat for the birds to hang on the holiday tree. This is a great family project.

# Neighbors to Host Third Annual Holiday Open House

The third annual Holiday Open House for Seventh District police officers and firefighters from the DeBaliviere station house will be held Thursday, December 18th, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council offices, 6008 Kingsbury.

For the second year in a row, Mrs. Betty Newsham, longtime resident of Skinker DeBaliviere, has agreed to chair the event. She will be joined this year by co-chairperson Ruth Johnson, a member of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors and resident of Kingsbury Square.

Neighborhood support for the Open House has guaranteed its success. You are invited to bring a covered dish to be served to our many guests - chili was a big success last year, but vegetables, fruit and salads, as well

as other side items are also welcome. **Holiday bakers:** your contributions of baked goods are especially welcome! Cookies, cakes, brownies, and pies graced last year's table and were eagerly consumed.

All neighbors are welcome to stop by and share a few moments of camaraderie with the men and women who keep our neighborhood - and our families - safe throughout the year. Volunteers are needed to help throughout the day and to help clean up at the party's end. Food drop-off will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the party. Neighbors are urged to stop by during the day for lunch, a snack or just to say hello. For more details or to volunteer, contact your block captain or the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office at 862-5122.

# Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation is pleased to announce that they have sold 6045 Washington to Lila and Chris Manzo. The Manzo's are not new to the neighborhood, but have been renting in the 5900 block of Waterman for the past 2 years. Previously they lived on the 6000 block of Pershing. They have been active neighbors in establishing the McPherson Community Gardens. Their daughter Marie recently began pre-school at St. Roch.

This is a nice two-story fourplex apartment Building that the Manzo's will be rehabbing into a two-story townhouse with two apartments. The first stage of rehab "Cleaning Out" began on the weekend of October 24th. Watch for Chris and Lila and welcome them as new owners to the neighborhood.

From time to time SDCHC has other property for sale to an owner-occupier with a rehab plan that will decrease density of the building. This is in keeping with the Housing Corporation's goals in the neighborhood.



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# Residents Voice Concerns at MetroLink Hearing

On Thursday, Oct. 30, 97 people came to Grace United Methodist Church to discuss the proposed MetroLink expansion that will take place along the Forest Park Parkway from the Forest Park station on into Clayton. It will be an additional southern boundary to our neighborhood and many residents have been concerned about noise, vibrations, and lack of access to the park. Les Sterman, the director of East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, Tom ShROUT of Citizens for Modern Transit, and Nancy Farmer of Mayor Harmon's staff made brief remarks. They all touched on the importance of citizen involvement and of creating consensus during the design phase. It has not yet been determined if the route is to be at grade level, below grade and uncovered, or in a tunnel. A diagram distributed by Sterman placed community engagement at the core of the design process. Sterman

indicated that he and/or his staff would be willing to meet with residents at any time. The process is to begin in January of 1998.

Tom ShROUT said that Citizens for Modern Transit is a special interest group dedicated to the expansion of MetroLink. They will sponsor a trip to northern California so that people can see how rail is utilized in San Francisco, San Jose, and Sacramento.

This trip, set for next spring, is open to anyone who would want to participate.

Nancy Farmer explained that Mayor Harmon wants an open public process to plan this extension of MetroLink.

Sterman said that if Proposition M passed, there would be more resources that would permit more flexibility in creating options.

Various residents expressed a strong dislike of this northern route. Neighbor Dan Schesch indicated that the overriding concern appears to be "maximize the miles." To do that, a strategy of using the cheapest means—not cut and cover—would be employed. Sterman said that involved a value judgment. He indicated there is a variety of goals and that he hoped we could all work together to design the best alternative.

Dee Hayes, also a resident, summarized the fears of many present. She said that the decisions are dollar-driven and that the cheapest alternative is likely to be chosen. She urged the panel to remember that the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood had made tremendous progress and that the people present loved and worried about the neighborhood. She said that neighbors "won't live with any concession to save money at the expense of this neighborhood."

Residents then broke up into several groups with facilitators to voice their conceptions of the most significant concerns they associate with the MetroLink expansion. Further public meetings on this topic will be scheduled.

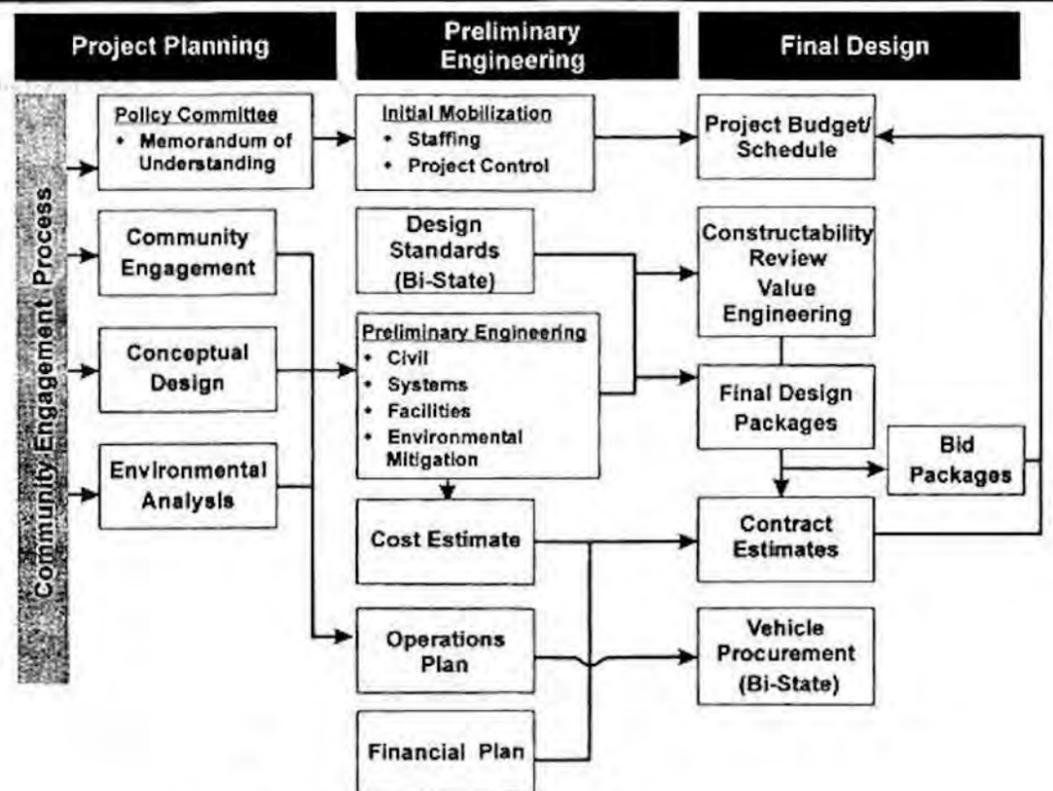


Susan Littlefield, Les Sterman, Tom ShROUT, and Nancy Farmer lead the presentation.



Dee Joyce-Hayes summed up the neighbors' sentiments in a strong final statement to the panel indicating that we are not going to let the design of MetroLink tear up our neighborhood - its fabric, its beauty, its functioning.

## Preconstruction Phase Tasks



The Community Engagement Process.

# Parkview Residents Receive Award

Bill and Mary Abkemeier who have lived in Parkview for 21 years received a Founders Day Award from Fontbonne College on October 16 at a dinner and awards ceremony for their distinguished community service.

Mary Abkemeier is a professor of mathematics and computer science at Fontbonne and also directs the masters program in computer education. She has taught there for 20 years. She is a proponent of using technology in the classroom and serves on a num-

ber of technology committees in the area. She has been the recipient of two Trustees Excellence in Teaching Awards since 1990. Her husband is employed by IBM as a disaster recovery expert. Both share their computer skills throughout the community and serve their church. They volunteer at St. Patrick's Center and at the Grace and Peace Shelter for homeless women. They also work with archdiocesan engaged couples in marriage preparation.

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## SKINKER DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 1997

Welcome and Introductions: In Gary Hayes' absence, Vice President Sara Smith called the meeting to order. Sara introduced Dr. Paula Sigman of Archway Communities, Joe Fank and Jill Claybour of CDA, Gary Robertson of U-N-I Properties and Robertson's Furniture and Appliance, and Marian Moore of Marian's Cafe. Gary Robertson announced that he has acquired the building on the corner of Delmar and Hamilton that was formerly Fred's Liquor Store. Marion Moore of Marian's Cafe will be his lead tenant. He has plans to put in an asphalt parking lot behind his building.

Marian Moore plans to operate a restaurant called St. Louis Rib Company, comparable to Kansas City's Gates Barbecue. It will offer sit down and carry-out services with beer and wine served by the glass. There will be no carry-out liquor. The proposed closing time for the restaurant is 11:30 p.m. and 12:00 midnight for the banquet hall at the latest. There will be outdoor seating. The restaurant may be open by Halloween.

Gary's building has four storefronts; the restaurant will occupy the middle two (2). The corner slot will initially be used as his company's office. There was a brief question and answer period. It was requested that the Council be kept informed on the liquor license application.

CDA Update on Nina Place: Joe Fank of CDA explained what will happen with the Nina Place/Kingsbury properties in the next several months. The building at 5938 Kingsbury was condemned by the city a year ago. He stated that Alderman Dan McGuire has requested that the Building Division determine the feasibility of rehabs or possibly condemning the building at 5946 Kingsbury. If federal funds are used, it will have to go through the 106 review. The Heritage and Urban Design Commission is preparing a Memorandum Agreement with the State. A structural engineer will review the status of the buildings as part of the memorandum. The Memorandum Agreement will most probably go out in a week or two. Presently Alderman Dan

McGuire has on his desk a draft request for proposals (RFP) with respect to the properties at 5899 Nina Place and 5921 Kingsbury. They are looking for a developer or developers to submit proposals for those sites. 5899 is to be condominiums and 5921 can be either condominium or rental. Part of the RFP with respect to the vacant properties to the east of 5899 Nina Place requires the developer to acquire those and landscape them for off-street parking, probably with a security fence to the west of that property, and the same will hold true for 5921 Kingsbury. The developer will have to acquire the vacant property to the east and tie that in with off street parking.

The company conducting the asbestos inspection of the two (2) buildings on Kingsbury found the properties to be hazardous, and would not allow their people to physically go into the buildings.

The RFP will be issued within a week. The respondents will have at least 30 days to submit proposals. CDA needs another thirty(30) days to review the proposal. It was requested that the council be kept abreast of what's going on, that the neighborhood be involved in the selection of a developer and plan.

Guests: Dr. Paula Sigman, Executive Director, Archway Communities, spoke briefly about the facility, which is a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center located on Pershing at DeBaliviere. She expressed the desire to become an active member of the SDCC.

Mark Payne Graves, Executive Director of the West End Athletic Association, spoke about his program and his plans to start fall softball and basketball for the neighborhood children. He asked the council to intercede for him in getting use of the Hamilton CEC facility about four (4) nights a week. A council member will assist him in his efforts.

Security: Officer Terry Kowalczyk reported that in comparison to 1996, the crime rate has increased this year. Auto theft, street robberies, and burglary are

up. Most street robberies are not done by strangers. They are mostly drug related. The burglaries are usually from garages in the 6100 blocks. We are still experiencing automobile break ins. You can play an important role in deterring this crime. Do not leave any items in view in your car. The Captain has assigned extra officers in areas where crime is high.

If you see activities that appear to be drug related, get a description of the automobile and passengers and call the HOT LINE number (241-COPS). A Personal Safety and Security meeting is scheduled September 17, 1997 7:00 p.m. at the New Cote Brillante Church.

Washington University has hired unarmed watchman who are riding bicycles through the neighborhood. They have no enforcement powers. If they notice suspicious activity they call their dispatcher who will call the police department.

Minutes: It was moved by Ann Smith Carr and seconded by Gregory Freeman that the July minutes be approved with following corrections: Gregory should be listed as an excused absence. Jane Geiler should be listed as present.

Finance: Ann Smith Carr, the treasurer reviewed the financial reports for July and August. It would be helpful to collect funds committed by our institutional members because we are near the year's end. An explanation was given by the Executive Director about the office expense for the month of August, and also the CDA figures. It was moved by Gregory Freeman and seconded by Ruth Johnson to accept the financial report.

Executive Directors Report: A lot of work is in progress now. Since our last meeting the Forest Park Advisory Committee has had to address the question of access to Forest Park. We had the opportunity to request that they defer their decision about the golf course, and related access to the park, the path passive space etc. to CDC and that CDC hold a public hearing on that topic.

Dan Schesch spoke on why the Forest Park Master Plan is of interest to the neighborhood. He explained details of the Forest Park Master Plan Design. Drawings were passed around for viewing. There was a discussion on the pros and cons of the path, buffer zone, golf course etc.

Lana Stein moved and Gregory Freeman seconded the following: The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council urges the Community Development Commission to include a path from DesPeres and Lindell to the Grand Basin and buffer space along the northern edge of Forest Park between Skinker and DeBaliviere. We want to ensure that Skinker DeBaliviere residents enjoy pedestrians access to the park in keeping with the Master Plan goal of increasing access for neighborhoods.

Ann Smith Carr suggested that along with passing the motion, we have the Executive Director forward it to the CDC in advance, so that they will know that they have to deal with us.

MetroLink: Paul Hohmann, MetroLink Advisory Committee Chairperson will attend the hearing. A discussion took place regarding the council taking a position on the MetroLink route vs not taking a position. After much debate the following motion was made by Lana Stein and seconded by Lara Doyle: Council recommends to our elected representatives, whatever decision is made, take into account the special and unique integrity of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. There was a discussion on the motion.

After discussion, Gregory Freeman called the question which was passed. The motion passed. The resolution made by Lana Stein was then approved. A show of hands was required. The motion was approved with one(1) abstention. The executive director is to communicate this to the mayor's office.

Gary Boehnke, Project Administrator with the Housing Corporation was introduced. Gary talked about his background, and gave a brief report status and on the recent acquisition of properties in the area.



Some neighbors shared the parking lot at Skinker and Westminster for their Rags to Riches offerings.



An appreciative crowd was present for the unveiling of the banner honoring Dan McGuire at the Times' New Neighbors party, October 18, at Cabanne House in Forest Park.



Sarah Smith, Director of Arts in Transit, King Schoenfeld, Times dean of photographers, and Lana Stein, Times editor, joined in the celebration.

## Minutes cont'd

**Neighborhood Services/Beautification:** The neighborhood garden won an award for best new garden from Gateway Greening. It was mentioned and pictured in the Missouri Botanical Gardens magazine. A picture was in the Post Dispatch Life Style Section. The award prize was 150 plants. Volunteers planted the flowers. Planning is being done for a new community vegetable garden near Hamilton School.

It was noted by a neighbor that trees in the area are not being maintained by the city. The NSO will check into this matter.

**Social Services:** A meeting was held to determine the needs of the community.

One item addressed was the need to help older people in the neighborhood get their snow shoveled in the winter. A notice will be put in the Times announcing that a group has been formed to try to get together when there is a snowfall to shovel walks.

**Washington Heights:** A detailed written report of the West End Community Picnic was submitted by Shirley Polk. National Night Out was successful. Ronie Haliburton commented on 5800 DeGiverville's party which has received an award. Gregory Freeman is on a committee for Bi-State that is working on choosing consultants to plan the MetroLink Forest Park Station park-n-ride improvements.

**Kingsbury Square:** The Council was thanked for sending a letter to Bi-State. Alderman McGuire was thanked for his assistance.

**Grace Methodist Church:** Grace officers have met with Alan Hamilton and Washington University regarding parking lot. There is a possibility that it will be sold to Washington University, and combined with the Sinclair lot to make one lot.

**Other Business:** Food Drive will take place October 4, 1997. Information will go out soon.

**Holiday Open House** will take place December 18, 1997 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Gregory Freeman expressed his gratitude to Alderman McGuire for his work with the Council and wished him the best of luck.

Ann Smith Carr then made the motion and Gregory Freeman seconded that the Council congratulate Alderman McGuire on his new position as Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry and express gratitude to him for his many years of dedicated support. The motion was approved.

## SKINKER DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 6

In the absence of the president the meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Vice President Sara Johnson.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Vice President Sara Johnson acknowledged the presence of several guests and introduced Billy Handmaker, our first speaker on the agenda.

**Special Guest:** Billy Handmaker, Headmaster, Crossroads School, gave a brief history of the school and statistical information on the enrollment. Crossroads, a middle and high school, is the only independent secondary school in the City of St. Louis, and the most diverse in the mid-western United States. The enrollment of one hundred seventy (170) for this school year is representative of forty three (43) zip codes and some foreign countries. Major capital improvements are anticipated for the next few years. The most recent improvement is the conversion of half the parking lot into a green space. Residents interested in visiting the school are welcome.

**Financial Report:** The Treasurer, Ann Smith Carr, discussed office expense for the month of August, which included monies expended for National Night Out.

Income in the amount of \$348.00 from the sale of food and beverages at National Night Out substantially reduces the amount of office expense. At the last Board meeting there had been a question about Contribution/Membership in the amount of \$200.00. This was the contribution the Board authorized for the West End Community Picnic. The non-recurring capital expense of (\$6038.14) on the September statement is for the new office computer and part of the expense for upgrading the telephone system. This will be reimbursed by CDA. It was moved by Ruth Johnson and seconded by Susan Littlefield to accept the financial report. The motion carried.

**Executive Director's Report:** There are a lot of things going on in the neighborhood as usual. The committee reports will focus specifically on some of these issues. There will be a meeting October 7, 1997 of the Community Development Commission regarding the "Path Issue" and access to Forest Park. It was requested by Dan Schesch that the Executive Director to be there as an observer and report back to the council. The first committee meeting to consider a proposal by the National Conference-St. Louis has occurred. Three (3) of the five (5) churches contacted responded. The goals of the program were given by the Executive Director and Rev. Miki Merritt.

**Security:** The security report was given by the Executive Director. There are no new crime statistics. A report was given on the Personal Safety Seminar held on September 17, 1997 at the New Cote Brillante Church. The program, while very effective, was not heavily attended.

**Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation**

A project report was presented by Gary Boehnke, the new staff person for SDCHC.

Vice President Sara Johnson requested that information from SDCHC be sent out with the meeting notices for the SDCC board members.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ann Smith Carr moved to approve the minutes subject to minor proof reading. The motion was seconded by Peggy Droege. The motion carried.

**New Institutional Member Request:** It was recommended by the Executive Committee that Archway Communities be brought into the SDCC as an Institutional Member. It was moved by Ann Smith Carr and seconded by Ronie Haliburton to accept this recommendation. The motion carried.

**Committees/Neighborhood Updates**

**A. Metrolink Advisory Committee**  
The report was given by the Executive Director in the absence of the committee chairman. The council would like the committee to continue fulfilling their charge of advising the neighborhood about this issue. The next meeting will be November 5, 1997.

It was suggested the Council needs to assert its position as a concerned community now to both the East West Gateway Coordinating Committee and Bi-State Development Agency. Question: Who will actually make decisions about design? The East West Gateway Coordinating Council, based on information from consultants and in conjunction with the public participation process, and of course, dependent upon the amount of money available, will decide.

It was moved and seconded that the Council send a letter to the East West Gateway Coordinating Council and Bi-State Development Agency. After much debate, the following motion was made by Susan Littlefield, and seconded by Ruth Johnson:

(1) SDCC will immediately send strong letter to EWGCC and Bi-State stating that the Council expects and demands "To Be At The Table" in establishing criteria for the public input process and build requirements for same into the northern route design process.

(2) The SDCC MetroLink Advisory Committee is directed to research information, meet within next two(2) weeks and make recommendation to SDCC for inclusion in subsequent letter to EWGCC and Bi-State, building on concerns expressed in previous correspondence. The motion carried.

After a discussion about design detail, the following motion was made by Jane Geiler and seconded by Susan Littlefield: The SDCC Board resolves for the record that any MetroLink tracks along the Forest Park Expressway and Millbrook be underground and covered. Such policy to be included in our letters to EWGCC and Bi-State.

The question was called and the motion passed, with six (6) in favor of the motion and five(5) against the motion.

**B. Neighborhood Services**  
1. Beautification Chairman Andy Cross will attend a meeting at the Missouri Botanical Gardens to learn how to write a grant for neighborhood vegetable gardens. A Beautification Committee meeting is scheduled for October 18, 1997. Final clean up of the McPherson Community Garden will be November 1, 1997.

2. Social Services  
The Neighborhood Food Drive was a moderate success.

3. Commercial District  
The next meeting will be October 10, 1997. Sarah Smith from Bi-State has been asked to attend the next council meeting

to discuss the current status of Delmar Enhancement Project.

**Rosedale Neighbors:** Rags To Riches had a rough start, but turned out well. A lot of SDCC T-shirts and sweat shirts were sold. An update was given on the lawsuits brought by property owners in the 61XX block of Washington against owners in the 6100 block of Delmar. Rosedale Neighbors will sponsor a pumpkin carving contest and Halloween Party for the neighborhood.

**Washington Heights:** Ronie Haliburton gave an update on the community garden plans for 1998.

**Parkview:** The lights are out again. The picnic October 4, 1997 was a big success. Streets are being resurfaced. Lighting on Limits Walks has been approved.

**Nina Place:** RFP was issued by CDA for two buildings.

**St. Roch:** St. Roch has made their 1997 contribution of \$3,000.00. Many thanks to Maggie Hart-Mahon and to Monsignor Polizzi.

**Kingsbury Square:** A security meeting and welcome for new neighbors will be held Sunday, October 12, 1997.

**Other Business:** Katerina Stierholz raised the issue of putting Tot Playground in the area. The initial proposal has been to put the playground on the parking lot adjacent to the Council Office. The proposal died because of the expense. The following motion was made by Ann Smith Carr: The Recreation Committee should set up Playground Subcommittee to investigate and pursue opportunities for establishment a toddler playground (to age 5) within the neighborhood. The motion carried.

Katerina Stierholz volunteered to chair the subcommittee, and Ann Smith Carr, Miki Merritt, Shirley Polk, Andy Cross and NSO Vivi Wolf offering to assist.

**Forest Park Master Plan:** An update on the Forest Park Master Plan was given by Daniel Schesch. It was suggested that the council stay in contact with Dan McGuire and Anabeth Calkins and meet informally with them. It was further suggested that Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood have a representative on the Forest Park Master Plan Committee.

The following motion was made by Ann Smith Carr and seconded by Susan Littlefield:

Council establish a subcommittee of the Recreation Committee to work with Parks Department in implementing the Forest Park Master Plan, so as to protect the "Buffer Zone" along Lindell and other matters of significance to the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood.

The motion carried.  
Dan Schesch agrees to serve as acting chairman, and solicit other committee members.

It was suggested that the council invite a representative from Parkview Properties to discuss Washington University's properties in the Skinker DeBaliviere area.



Jill McGuire, Nancy and Rich Rice enjoy a moment together at the Times party.

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# In Your Ear

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr

I remember the old days, back when I was young and foolish. The good old days. Now I'm middle-aged and foolish. Some things just don't change. Back then I could drink caffeine coffee at night and still get to sleep. Back then most things didn't hurt when I got up in the morning after playing basketball. Back then I didn't like Sinatra. Back then I didn't know what I didn't know.

That's right, I didn't know what I didn't know. That's a fancy-smancy way of saying that I thought I knew things that I didn't. Fools rush in, you know, where wise men fear to tread. A lot of my life has been spent drinking beer and smoking cigars with the fools, then rushing in somewhere. Anywhere.

Back in high school, I remember all too vividly throwing those lit firecrackers in to the mail slot of Susie's house. It was great fun when they began to pop and more fun when they continued to pop. Although I was running away, I could smell the gunpowder and hear her father's cursing for several blocks. Clearly, I didn't know what I didn't know back then.

College wasn't much better. I focused on the things that were important to me. Yes, I was president of my fraternity and yes, our intramural teams were always competitive. Looking back, I'm chagrined at the classes I missed to warm up or cool down after a rigorous competition on the field or court. Never one to let priorities get mixed, it was no problem to skip Dr. Weir's history class in order to practice free throws. I never got good at free throws but then Dr. Weir wasn't too hot of a teacher either. I didn't know what I didn't know. After all, if I'd known what I didn't know, I would have learned it.

Although I'm now a semi-adult in a semi-respectable role, I still know that I don't always know what I don't know. Sometimes I know it but sometimes I don't. The problem is that I can't always tell when I know it and when I don't.

Take the time when I went bungee jumping four or five years ago. I remember standing on the platform on the riverfront, it was a July 4 celebration, and looking down. "What could possibly go wrong?" I asked myself. Before I could answer, the attendant had pushed me off the crane and I fell, head-first, stopping a few feet above the padding below and then bouncing up and down... Sure I got a free t-shirt but realistically, who but a fool would jump, risking life and limb, attached only by a tired elastic bungee cord? Talk about not knowing what you don't know! Midway down, as I was hurtling through the air screaming, I remember knowing, for that nanosecond, what I didn't know.

Today I'm sort of in the knowledge business so I spent time focusing on what we know and how we learn. People are different, but I know that I learn best when the Rolling Stones are clacking away in the background. If I have a huge green ceegar in my mouth, that's helpful as well. And my prime periods are between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. or between 10:00 p.m. and midnight. That's easy.

What's not easy is what I don't know. I know what I know but that's

about it. I need help. So, dear reader, in the spirit of public journalism at its best, please take a moment to com-

plete this sheet and return it to me. That way, at least, I'll have a sense of what I don't know; I'll begin to know it! Your help is appreciated.

## Classified

For Sale: Clarinet (B-Flat Olds), excellent condition; great for beginner; with case; \$100. Call 863-0152 after 4.

return to Hawkeye Z. Hoerr  
at 6106 Kingsbury  
St. Louis, MO 63112  
or by e-mail at TRHoerr@AOL.com

NAME (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Hawkeye,  
Something that I don't think you know that you don't know you don't know is...

Something that I don't think you know about me, and you don't know you don't know it is...

Something I don't know is...

*Our home is in the city... so is our heart.*

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