

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 28 No. 5

December 1997

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Grace Methodist Celebrates with Candlelight Festival

by Cynthia Harris

"Here we come a'caroling, among the leaves so green . . ." Christmas carols! How we love to hear the familiar strains of these joyful melodies floating through every twinkling facet of our seasonal celebrations. On Sunday, December 14, at 4:15 in the afternoon, there will be a special Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols at Grace Methodist Church at Waterman and



Members of the Children's Choir: (left to right) Maria Durham, Katherine Dearing, Marian McMillon, Phillip Dearing, Libby Bryant, Britney Underwood, Elena Hayes.

Skinker. Many of the most traditional and beloved Christmas carols will be sung, accompanied by Paul Harris, guest organist, on the renowned Moller pipe organ in the Grace sanctuary. As the majestic sounds of the organ lead the audience in Christmas song, the warmth of soft candlelight will illumine the exquisite interior of the sanctuary's Gothic architecture and multitudes of lovely stained glass windows sparkle in a glory of colors and designs. A yearly tradition since 1920, the Carol Service is free and open to the public, and child care is provided.

Grace is pastored by Rev. Roger Wreath (the Christmas connection is pure coincidence, albeit a happy one). Neighborhood artist Gene Hoefel, who is retiring next year from Washington University, creates a different artwork each year as a print to be used for the flyer announcing the Carol Service. Copies of these prints will be available at the back of the sanctuary, or you may have already received one in the mail.

Featured in this year's Carol Service are selections performed by the Grace Chancel Choir, including pieces from Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, a 16th century motet by Heinrich Schutz, a triumphant 20th century work called "Antiphon" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, and other selections. The magical, silvery sound of handbells will be heard, as the Grace Chancel Singers perform a specialized version of "Away in a Manger." Children's voices will blend with the older youth in a wonderful piece entitled, "Let the People Praise," a version of Psalm 150, which lists a

great variety of musical instruments, most of which play throughout the piece. Soprano Dorothea Ryan and bass soloist Greg Roig will join their voices in a duet, accompanied by harpsichord and violin.

One of the cherished traditions in Grace's Carol Service is the "children's carol," in which all the children in the audience are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary and join in singing "Away in a Manger."

The service begins promptly at 4:30 pm when all of the choirs enter

Continued on page 7

28th Ward to Choose New Alderman

On December 9, voters in the 28th ward will choose a new alderman from among 5 candidates seeking the position. The person selected will serve out the unexpired term of Dan McGuire who resigned to become St. Louis Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry. Election for a full term will take place in March of 1999.

There are five candidates in the race:

Republican Candidate is Z. Dwight Billingsly. He is a St. Louis native and graduate of Northwest H.S. He holds a B.A. from Yale and an M.B.A. from Harvard. He lives on Kingsbury Pl. Former deputy comptroller under Virvus Jones, he now has his own investment firm.

Democratic candidate is Lyda Krewson. She lives on Lake and is vice president and chief financial officer of an architectural firm. She has a B.A. in Accounting from University of Missouri-St. Louis and is a certified public accountant. She has been active in the Central West End Association and Leadership St. Louis.

There are three independent candidates. Debra Buck Loveless lives in the 51xx block of Waterman. She holds a B.A. in journalism and a Mas-

ters degree in public policy analysis from Claremont College. She served as a CORO fellow and was a journalist. For the last few years she has been a homemaker. Joyce Littlefield lived in Skinker DeBaliviere in the 60s and then moved to her present home in the 51xx block of Westminster. She was very involved in the Cervantes administration and was director of Maryland Plaza redevelopment. Leata Price lives at 58xx Waterman. She is a cosmetologist and free-lance writer. She ran unsuccessfully for Democratic committeewoman in 1996.

These candidates have been appearing at a series of forums in the ward organized by the League of Women Voters. Candidates answered questions including some from the audience according to a strict format. The Nov. 20 forum was held at Grace United Methodist Church. The candidates had to respond to a question about MetroLink. Littlefield said that she was a strong proponent of mass transit but she did not like the way the MetroLink expansion route was handled. She said that residents deserve a voice in the way the route is implemented. Price said that the voters want MetroLink in the 28th ward.



Spectators at one of the 28th Ward Alderman candidate forums sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

She said that BiState did not do a good job of handling the tax. She wants to think about the impact of construction in the metro area. Krewson said that MetroLink is essential to St. Louis. We have a good system. Ridership is 3 times over projections. She added that your alderman can have an impact on how MetroLink is built and mitigate any adverse impact. She wants the extension built below grade. Billingsly said that he is a strong supporter of public transit. We need more participation in planning. We need a comprehensive strategic plan. Loveless said that she is in favor of MetroLink but she liked the green route better. She wants to make sure the concerns of the 28th ward are heard and participation in the design process.

The candidates were also asked what they would do to encourage homeownership. Littlefield said she wouldn't. The residential market is pretty well taken care of. Price said that she supports the \$2,000 grant

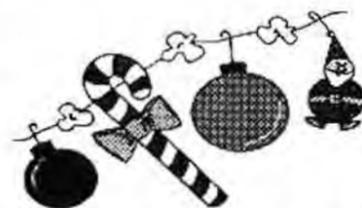
Continued on page 6

ROSEDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION TO SPONSOR SECOND ANNUAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING CONTEST

The Rosedale Neighborhood Association announces its Second Annual Holiday Outdoor Lighting Contest. Judging will take place on the evening of Sunday, December 22, 1997. No formal entry is necessary; to be eligible, lights and decorations (visible at night) must be in place by that date.

One winner each will be chosen in Areas I, II and III. The 6000 and 6100 blocks of Washington and Westminster are one area; the second is the 6000 and 6100 blocks of Kingsbury and McPherson; the third is the 6000 and 6100 blocks of Pershing and Waterman. The winner from each of these three areas will receive a commemorative gift.

Rosedale Neighborhood Association officers and last year's winners will be asked to serve as judges. For any questions, call Jane Geiler at 727-3241.



In Our 28th Year of Publication

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

In this special season of the year, it is nice to stop and give thanks for all of the good things that we have. I am grateful for our neighborhood and the very special neighbors who have written for the Times or contributed to its sustenance. I am especially grateful to those who helped so much at our recent party and who assist me year-round: Marj Weir, Lois Schoemehl, JoAnn Vatcha, Venita Lake, Kathleen Williams, Tom Hoerr, King Schoenfeld, Katie Kurtz, Sue Rothschild, Julie Schoemehl. Maggie Hart-Mahon, Bob Mahon, Karleen Hoerr, Georgi Fox, and Ann Smith Carr also helped considerably as did a few spouses and off-spring.

Thanks to Roy Roncal and Andy Cross for spearheading TileLink and Andy for all his beautification endeavors. The McPherson Garden has been a very attractive addition that brought people together and had them eating healthier.

May the holidays be a very special time for all of you and the new year one of health and happiness.

Four Corners Park, Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Location for 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 at 6008 Kingsbury a Cookie Exchange (and, of course, tasting) will permit neighborhood bakers to show-case their talents - and all cookie monsters to demonstrate their capacity. Outside, in Four Corners Park, a tree for the birds will be trimmed with the treats that birds love to eat. 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 recipes for special holiday treats. It is easy to participate:

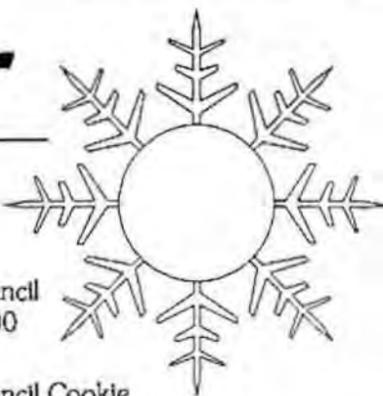
1. Bake seven dozen of one recipe of your favorite holiday cookies.
2. Package six dozen cookies in packets of 1/2 dozen (that makes 12 packets of 6 cookies each). The last dozen cookies come to the party for nibbling and tasting.
3. Attach a copy of your recipe to each packet of cookies.
4. At the end of the party, cookie bakers choose 12 cookies 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. Peanut butter pine cones, Cheerios garlands, and suet molded into small pieces to hang on the tree are a few simple ideas. This is a great family project.

Calendar



Neighborhood Events and Meetings

- 12/8 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
- 12/14 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Cookie Exchange and Bird Tree Trimming, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- 12/17 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, noon.
- 1/8 Delmar Business Association Luncheon meeting to welcome new businesses and plan meeting scheduled for 1998, St. Louis Rib Company, 5888 Delmar, Noon. Call 862-5122 to R.S.V.P.
- 1/12 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:00 p.m.
- 1/14 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation Board Meeting, 6008 Kingsbury, Noon.
- 1/18 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Program, Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar Boulevard, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- 1/19 Playground Committee Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:30 p.m.
- 2/5 Community Report: Delmar Boulevard Enhancement Plan, Crossroads School, 7:30 p.m.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Day Commemoration Day Committee

Will hold its second meeting
Wednesday, December 3, 1997
7:00 p.m.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Offices
6008 Kingsbury

Agenda items will include:

- a. response to proposed Art Exhibit
- b. tentative school participation
- c. confirmation of speaker
- d. review of print program

F.Y.I. Celebration is planned for
January 18, 1998 at 3:00 p.m.

(Good news! This not Superbowl Sunday!)

Please R.S.V.P. to 862-5122



Corrections:

In our September issue the picture of the ice cream fundraiser was incorrectly identified as the effort of the 5900 DeGiverville Block Unit. It was actually the work of the 5900 McPherson block organization.

In October our issue number was not updated properly. The issue number should have been No. 4. We noticed when it was too late, but didn't think anyone else would. Our sharp-eyed distribution manager, Art Santen, caught it, too!

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:

Tom Hoerr	Venita Lake	Sue Rothschild	Lana Stein
Marcia Kerz	Loretta Lloyd	Juliet Schoemehl	JoAnn Vatcha
Katie Kurtz	Essie McLean	Lois Schoemehl	Marjorie Weir
		King Schoenfeld	Kathleen Williams

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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.

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HOURS:
LUNCH—MON.-FRI. 11 AM-3PM
DINNER—MON.-SAT. 5 PM-10:30PM

SDCC Executive Director Writes East/West Gateway Coordinating Council

November 11, 1997

Les Sterman, Executive Director East/West Gateway Coordinating Council, 10 Stadium Plaza, St. Louis MO 63102

Dear Les:

In light of the information you shared at our neighborhood meeting on October 30, the information we gathered from neighbors who participated in breakout sessions at that same meeting, the outcome of the "Prop M" election, and further discussion and re-

view by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Executive Committee and the MetroLink Advisory Committee, the following points need to be made.

1. The Board of Directors of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council has taken the position that a cut and cover design is the only acceptable way for the MetroLink extension to pass through this community.

2. The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood respectfully requests an engineering study before design begins to evaluate the structural features necessary for MetroLink to cross the River DesPeres tunnel while remaining below DesPeres Avenue, which must stay open to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

3. The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood respectfully requests that the RFP for community involvement recognizes the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and its MetroLink Advisory Committee as the representatives of the neighborhood.

4. The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council's MetroLink Advisory Committee respectfully requests that the RFP for community involvement excludes any consultant group that has advocated for a particular constituency or route during the route selection process.

5. We still look for your promised written response to our letter of October 9, 1997.

6. Your review and consideration of the attached list of key concerns as identified at the October 30th meeting is requested and appreciated.

Once again we would like to stress that Skinker DeBaliviere is one of the most viable, diverse neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis. We are already well served by two MetroLink stations and excellent bus connections. We have consistently supported light rail expansion and currently house two

MetroLink stations within our bounds. **Our neighborhood does not need the MetroLink expansion. The City, and the county, however, need Skinker DeBaliviere if the northern alignment is to be completed.**

Thank you for willingness to listen to neighborhood concerns. I look forward to one day thanking you for your help in bringing MetroLink through Skinker DeBaliviere without destroying our community in the process.

Sincerely,
Laure Porterfield
Executive Director

cc:
Mayor Clarence Harmon
Buzz Westfall,
St. Louis County Executive
Mayor Joseph Adams,
University City
Mayor Ben Uchitelle,
Clayton
The Honorable Francis Slay,
Board of Alderman
Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board
Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council MetroLink Advisory Committee
Tom Shrout, Executive Director,
Citizens for Modern Transit

Third Holiday Open House Offers "Thank You" to Police, Firefighters

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. Neighborhood support for the Open House has guaranteed its success in the past. You are invited to bring a covered dish to be served to our many guests - chili was a big hit last year, but vegetables, fruit and salads, as well as other side items are also welcome. **Holidays 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 to help and 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.**

COMMITMENT

ENERGY

QUALIFICATIONS



"... I'm committed to making the 28th Ward an even better place to live and raise a family."

Lyda Krewson

The Democrat - 28th Ward Alderman

Proudly endorsed by
The Honorable Mayor Clarence Harmon
28th Ward Regular Democratic Club

Paid for by Lyda Krewson for Alderman - Celeste Vossmeier, Treasurer

To get involved call 367-9765

Beautification Committee Plans for Next Year

The Beautification Committee of the SDCC met recently to plan its agenda for the coming year. The Committee intends to apply for another grant for the McPherson Community Garden. There is a waiting list of neighbors anxious to have a bed to plant and Committee Chair Andy Cross will try to get sufficient funds to create 10 more beds. Avid gardeners planned to assemble at the site on Nov. 1 to clean out the beds for the winter. The Committee will start meeting again in late January to lay the groundwork for the next growing season.

Kiki Chavez has spearheaded the creation of a little garden at Westminster and DesPeres. Work started this spring and the garden will soon double in size. Mrs. Chavez would love to obtain bulbs of any kind to plant in this garden.

Block Unit 1035 from DeGiverville is also creating new gardens. Project chairperson Ronie Haliburton has received a grant from Operation Brightside that will enable flowers to be planted in a pocket park at the circle where Waterman, DeGiverville, and Laurel intersect. This block unit is also creating another community garden across from the Hamilton School at

Laurel and Westminster. Project members plan to plant flowers and vegetables at this site.

Mary Ann Rudloff and Catherine Forslund had worked on the pocket park at Pershing and DesPeres. Regrettably, an errant lawnmower removed the effects of their efforts but the Committee plans to do more work there this spring.

Metropolis, a group of young adults dedicated to boosting city living, have begun a project at both the Delmar and Forest Park MetroLink stations. On November 8 and 9 they will plant daffodil bulbs there and welcome additional volunteers to assist them.

Andy Cross mentioned that the Committee is always looking for people to water and pull weeds at Four Corners. He is grateful to those who helped this summer. Cross mentioned that it only takes about a half hour to water there. He has also been involved in a personal project of beautification. He has created the new mural at the Stella Maris Daycare Center at DeBaliviere and Delmar.

If you would like to join the Beautification Committee or would like additional information, call the SDCC at 862-5122.

NEW COURT IN TOWN - NEEDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In 1996, Dee Joyce-Hayes, Circuit Attorney and long-time Rosedalian, joined Judge James Dowd and others to plan a different approach to handling non-violent criminal defendants, who were committing felonies because of their drug addiction. On April 7, 1997, St. Louis' Drug Court was born, the second such court in Missouri, the 220th in the USA. Joyce-Hayes appointed Jane Geiler, also a Rosedalian, to handle the prosecution function in the St. Louis City Drug Court. Since its opening, over 150 persons have been admitted to the St. Louis City Drug Court, an initiative that combines medical treatment, intensive counseling, weekly urinalysis, self-help, job training and other educational and employment opportunities with constant and personal supervision by the Drug Court Judge, the Honorable Joan Burger, to whom defendants must weekly report, at least initially.

Drug Court uses a system of sanctions and rewards in its intervention. Sanctions include jail time and increased supervision. Other successful drug courts around the country have used rewards such as movie passes and gift certificates from grocery stores to

reward positive behavior. Because of funding, the St. Louis City Drug Court has been unable to balance sanctions and rewards. Personnel of the Court are therefore asking businesses and organizations and individuals in the community to participate in the **First Annual Drug Court Holiday Store** to reward Drug Court clients who have made great progress in addressing their addictions and related social and educational issues. The Holiday Store will be open to Drug Court participants who will be able to "shop" for donated items with points earned by positive behavior. This type of incentive project is especially important this time of year when defendants may be tempted to re-offend in order to provide Christmas for their families, or to use drugs again and drop out of the program.

If you wish to make a donation (nothing is too small), NEW toys and small gift items for women and men are needed. Food baskets that could be bought with points are welcome. Checks can be made out to "VIP" (Volunteers in Probation and Parole). To make a donation or answer any questions you may have, call Jane Geiler at 622-4941 (office) or 727-3241 (home) before December 12, or write to her at 1320 Market, Room 330, St. Louis, MO. 63103.



Ready for gardening, beautification volunteers gather in the brilliant sun for a group picture.



The pocket park at Waterman, DeGiverville and Laurel, which features the sculpture "Flight" (protectively shielded by a tree) demonstrates the benefit of volunteer gardeners.

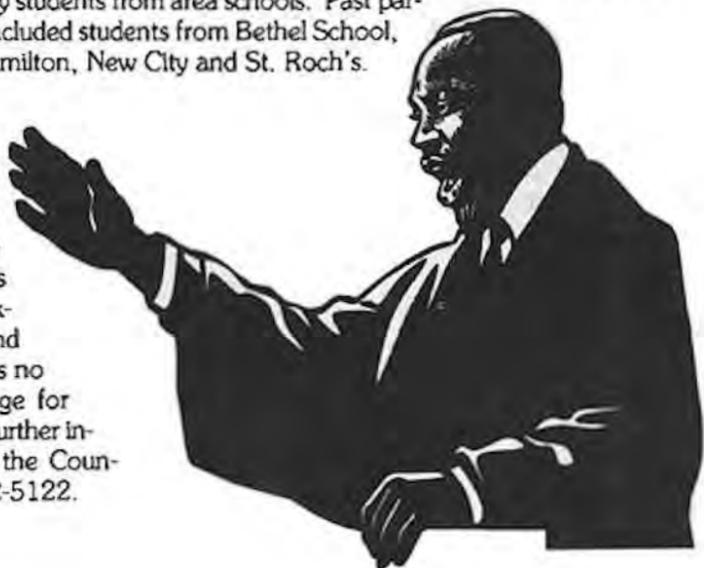
Plans Underway to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, sponsored annually by the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, will be held on Sunday, January 18, 1998, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. with a reception immediately following, at Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar Boulevard. All residents and friends are invited to attend. Admission is free.

This year's program will include a keynote speech by (Mrs. Gwen Packnett). Past speakers have included Gregory Freeman of the Post Dispatch, famed children's author Patricia McKissack, and the Reverend Robert Tabscott.

The program also features the New Cote Brillante Church of God choir and performances by students from area schools. Past participants have included students from Bethel School, Crossroads, Hamilton, New City and St. Roch's.

Art work selections interpreting the meaning of Dr. Martin Luther King's life to individual students will also be on exhibit at Grace and Peace. There is no admission charge for the event. For further information, call the Council office at 862-5122.



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UNGATED COMMUNITY AT 6100 WASHINGTON

by Jane Geiler

In a time when even the residents of my sprawling hometown of Oklahoma City are opting to cloister themselves in "gated communities," Rosedale is brimming with neighborliness. One example is a joint effort between the Frank Driscole and Joe Grunelsen families to turn their respective back yards into what I call "Driscole-Grunelsen Park." This is the story of the Driscole (east) side of the fence. Frank and Flossie Driscole comprise a kind of Voneguttian "duprass," a "world of two," a couple so close and tight-knit and compatible that it seems when one speaks, the other is speaking. Born "in the Twenties," they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 5, 1997. They left the flowers on the altar of Second Presbyterian Church in order to share the occasion, and headed off on a month long road trip in their vintage BMW, a sojourn typical of their youthful approach to life and general vim and vigor.

In 1960, the Driscoles moved to an apartment at 6187 Pershing. Two years later, they bought 6155 Washington where they have been ensconced ever since. The Driscoles moved to Rosedale from a house in Collinsville surrounded by "wide open" land. "We realized we were not outdoor people," said Frank in a recent interview. Flossie adds, "We couldn't tell the flowers from the weeds." They were looking for an urban setting where they could live their principles, a primary one being "the world oughta be integrated." As newspaper people from Arkansas, "We feel the pulse of where we are," they say. They liked what they saw in "Rosedale-Skinker." They recognized that the neighborhood had good leadership and "the strongest neighborhood association in the City at that time. We felt it was solid and could survive anything." So, in a time of white flight, the Driscoles deliberately chose an area in transition, moved in and planted themselves for the duration. Borrowing an attitude they attribute to Suzanne Hart, Joyce Littlefield, Jane Davenport, George Walker and others, they summed up their feeling this way: "We don't care who lives here. It's how they live here." While they were not really quite prepared for what they experienced next, they agree that they grew from it, almost immeasurably.

The Driscoles say, "While Rosedale slept, real estate speculators took advantage of a new HUD program designed to offer subsidized home ownership to low income families." The character of the neighborhood changed almost overnight as people with no concept of home ownership or maintenance, some of whom did not even realize they were actually buying a house, moved to the 6100 block of Washington. The Driscoles "used the laws available to prevent unsanitary conditions."

Then they spent time with little kids on their front porch. They planted a barberry hedge to protect the yard and worked with other families, black and white, "to stabilize this thing." (When this writer moved next door to the Driscoles in 1979, Flossie was still on her mission. She appeared at my home while I unpacked boxes and informed me that this was an integrated neighborhood with its problems basically solved, and she warned me to be mindful of my behaviors and attitudes.)

The Driscoles consider they have never been victimized in the Rosedale

neighborhood. Once a case of oil was taken from, and recently new guttering was pillaged off their garage, but nothing more.

"We have the greatest neighborhood going," says Flossie. "We wish everyone here would stay." She notes that Bruce Shipman mows their lawn, and Joe Grunelsen, who has a key to their garage, has had the snow shoveled from their back walk before they even wake up. Frank and Flossie have cat sat for this writer numerous times and everyone makes sure everyone else's paper is on the porch.

"F" and "F" have impacted all the communities in which they have become involved. This is especially true in work and worship. They are both elders at Second Presbyterian Church where they have belonged "since the



Joe Grunelsen and his father-in-law take down the fence.



Floss and Frank Driscole "supervise" the birth of "Grunelsen/Driscole Park"

early '50s". Frank is an ordained deacon and has served on the Board of Trustees.

They are proud of Second and its tradition of making tough decisions during times of change. Notably, during the Civil War, the members of Second took a position against slavery. One hundred years later, in the 1960's, there was a move afoot to flee from Second's urban location at the corner of Taylor and Westminster. Flossie and Frank were part of the prevailing vote to remain in the neighborhood. At issue was a move all the way to DeBaliviere and Lindell.

The Driscoles worked together most of their professional lives. They came to the St. Louis

area in 1948 to run "state of the art" printing equipment for Max Hill. When Frank joined the Star Times, (and then the Post Dispatch), Floss decided to stay home and become a housewife. After about three months, Floss gave up a fantasy that did not fit and went back to work. In the end, "F and F" retired from their own company, Academia Typographers, where they did typesetting for textbooks and journals. They employed twelve people who were given a great deal of autonomy. Each worker had their own key and could name their own hours so long as they did not impinge upon the next person's getting their job done without delay.

It was, then, the Driscoles' attitudes of community involvement, commit-

ment, and responsibility, their dedication to principle, and their creative approach to everything that lead them to respond favorably when Nancy Grunelsen "just floated a balloon over the fence" and posed the idea that if the fence came down, the Grunelsen children could play in the yard, Nancy could garden, and Joe would mow the lawn. Frank immediately suggested that the Driscole concrete parking pad could be used for the children's wading pool, and the move was on.

On Memorial Day, Nancy's father and mother came for a visit and helped Joe take down the fence and put up an attractive wooden gate. Driscole-Grunelsen Park was born. Immediately three children under the age of five were frolicking in their plastic vehicles down the Driscole sidewalk, playing basketball by the Driscole backdoor and adding the tinkling sounds of laughter and young life to the world and experience of Flossie and Frank, who had given themselves the opportunity of being grandparents without ever having been parents.

In late summer, Nancy orchestrated a neighborhood picnic in the joint yard, and many residents of Washington were treated to an evening of the sharing taking place on our street. In mid-fall, Joe trimmed his oak tree, moved his garden to the Driscole side, put away the children's toys, raked the leaves and put the scene to bed for the winter.

While Joe Grunelsen and his father-in-law meticulously rolled the fencing last May, and stored it lest there be a need to return the boundaries per Robert Frost's theory of "good fences good neighbors make," for now there is a new and open situation on Washington that is open, lively, heart-warming, and worth our all taking note.

TIVOLI

U. City Loop

WALK
to the *Greatest*
movie experience
in St. Louis!

★ ★ ★ ★

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and the
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Blueberry Hill

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727-0880

SKINKER DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 1997

In Attendance: President Gary Hayes, Directors Ann Smith Carr, Lara Doyle, Peggy Droege, Greg Freeman, Daniel Freedberg, Steve Givens, Ruth Johnson, Sara Johnson, Gwendolyn Lazard, Maggie Hart-Mahon, Shirley Polk; guests: Debra Loveless, Sgt. David Habermaas, 7th District, Paul Hohmann, MetroLink Advisory Committee, Richard Roloff, Washington University, Dan Schesch, Vivi Wolf, NSO; Gary Boehnke, Project Administrator and Executive Director Laure Porterfield.

Absent: Directors Athelda Busch, Jane Geiler, Ronie Hallburton, Susan Littlefield, Rev. Miki Merritt, Julie Shoemehl, Lana Stein, Jack Wright.

In the absence of the president the meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Vice President Sara Johnson. The president arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions:

Vice President Sara Johnson noted she is resigning from the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council at the end of the year as she has taken a new job at Washington University. She introduced her successor, Steve Givens, who will assume her duties as the Washington University representative on the council board. Steve is the new Assistant to the Chancellor at Washington University.

The new student representative from Washington University, Daniel Freedberg, was also introduced. Dan was elected by his undergraduate peers for this role. He is a senior at Washington University, and is a Biology major. Richard Roloff, the Executive Vice Chancellor, Washington University at this campus and the Medical Campus, was introduced. He came to the meeting in response to the council's request to have someone speak about the property acquisitions by Washington University in the Skinker DeBaliviere area. President Gary Hayes recognized Sgt. David Habermaas from the St. Louis Police Department's 7th District. President Hayes asked other guests to come forward. Debra Loveless, a candidate for 28th Ward Alderman, introduced herself.

Review and Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Greg Freeman and seconded by Maggie Hart-Mahon that the October minutes be approved.

Financial Report

Action on the September as well as October reports will be taken at the next meeting pending review by the treasurer.

Washington University Report Property Acquisitions in Skinker DeBaliviere

Vice Chancellor Richard Roloff gave a brief history of student enrollment and housing at Washington University. Graduate student enrollment has increased, as has foreign student enrollment. Washington University needs to acquire more housing for one thousand students (mainly graduate students).

Washington University acquired rental properties from Parkview Properties and retained Parkview as property managers. Chancellor Roloff indicated Washington University will not buy one family homes or two family homes which are owner occupied. They have acquired the old Sinclair gas station lot, and will make it a landscaped parking lot, working in conjunction with Grace Methodist Church. They want to be good neighbors and

want the neighbors to be comfortable with them. The Washington University representative to the council will be kept informed of everything that is going on with housing. Questions were entertained.

Security Update

Sgt. Habermaas gave a general overview of what's going on in the neighborhood. He spoke about the problem with car break-ins in the areas surrounding DesPeres, Skinker, Pershing and DeBaliviere this summer. There were nine (9) cars taken by the same group and they were apprehended. There were a number of burglaries in the 5800 and 5900 blocks of Pershing. It was recommended that we get the message out to students about auto break-ins and theft at every opportunity. They should also be urged to report anything of this nature to the police, even if nothing is stolen.

Executive Director's Report

The Delmar Planning Committee will hold an open meeting to report to the community in

late January or early February. Administrative issues: Working with CDA and will be wrapping up for this year. A generic budget was sent to CDA in October. Will have information regarding the budget for 1998 at the December meeting. Correspondence attached to the Executive Director's Report was discussed.

Housing Corporation Update

The Housing Corporation would like to find an owner occupant/developer for 6048 Washington. If a developer is not found by the end of January, the Housing Corporation will probably rehab the building into two for-sale townhouses. There was a discussion about the status of the council office building. The status of the properties at 5938 and 5946 Kingsbury was discussed. The Project Administrator's report will not change extensively from month to month; however, there may be some additions or deletions.

Committee and Neighborhood Update/Reports

Nominating Committee

Maggie Hart-Mahon, Ruth Johnson and Greg Freeman will be the nominating committee for 1998. Persons interested in holding an office or those interested in remaining in office should contact a committee member.

MetroLink Advisory Committee

At the direction of the board, a letter was sent on October 9, 1997 to Les Sterman, Executive Director, East/West Gateway Coordinating Council, requesting that the council's voice be heard throughout the design process. (97) people attended the Community Forum October 30, 1997. The MetroLink Advisory Committee will meet to organize the information gathered at the breakout sessions at the forum. The committee is currently composing a letter to the EWGCC will include the issues identified. Those concerns include: Pedestrian access; the train must be below grade and covered; vehicular access; parking, noise, and vibration and eminent domain. The committee is also requesting that an extensive engineering study be done on the DesPeres Intersection regarding the feasibility of a below grade crossing prior to and further engineering. They will also recommend that the consultants be some-

one who has not been previously biased. The committee asked for the Board's concurrence that there will be no additional public meetings held at this time. They felt that the major concerns were brought out at the October 30, 1997 meeting. It was suggested that the council notify those who attended the public forum that the MetroLink Advisory Committee, not the presenters, decided against having another public meeting until there is more information to share. The next Advisory Committee meeting will be November 24, 1997, 7:30 p.m. at the council office.

Neighborhood Services

Beautification

The Executive Director reported that at the last meeting the committee's focus was on the next steps for the McPherson garden clean up on November 1, 1997.

Activities have begun at the site for the new garden at Westminster and Laurel.

Ground preparation some and flowers planting have been completed at the triangle of Waterman and DeGiverville.

Social Services

The Executive Director reported that the committee does not have a chair; however, they would like to get together between now and Christmas.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Committee

The Executive Director reported that Jack Wright is working hard as committee chair. A Committee meeting was held October 29, 1997. Some new variations have been added for this year. The schools will be asked to submit art work from students on what MLK means to them.

Recreation

Forest Park Committee Acting Chairman Dan Schesch reported that nine persons volunteered for the committee. A meeting will be scheduled before the holiday.

The speaker for this year will be Mrs. Gwendolyn Packnett. The date will be Sunday, January 18, 1998. The next committee meeting will be December 3, 1997 at the Council office at 7:00 p.m.

Commercial District

A report to the community will be made at the end of January/beginning of February on final recommendations from the Delmar Enhancement Grant.

Rosedale Neighbors

There was a large turn-out at the Halloween party. The Executive Director observed a significant number of families there for the first time who were new to the neighborhood. It seems that there has been a definite increase of families with little kids. This may effect the playground issue and require another reassessment of our recreation needs. Athelda Busch is still with us. She currently has a class on Monday night.

Washington Heights

Shirley Polk reported on Washington Height's participation in Old News Boy Day.

Greg Freeman served on committee with Bi-State to choose proposals for developing the MetroLink parking lot at DeBaliviere and DeGiverville. Next steps will be announced soon.

Parkview

There have been a few thefts on the University City side of Parkview. There have been some home burglaries on the western-most streets. This

problem seems to have gone away, and things are relatively quiet. Sidewalk and streets are being resurfaced.

Parkview residents would like to be kept informed of developments regarding the old Sinclair lot.

Nina Place

RFP closed on the first of November. No further information yet as to which of three plans has been chosen.

Kingsbury Square

New construction continues. A security meeting was held for new residents.

Playground Steering Committee

The committee will meet November 20, 1997 at the council office at 7:00 p.m.

Other Business

It was requested that the Council consider printing and distributing a flyer about four public forums scheduled for the 28th Ward Aldermanic candidates, and have block captains distribute them. The council directed the Executive Director to do so.

Greg Freeman recommended that the council hold an annual meeting to inform the neighbors of the state of the neighborhood. The council members were in agreement with this recommendation. It was decided that April might be a good month.

Ann Smith Carr thanked Sara Johnson for the work she has done, and for her contributions to the council for the last five years. These remarks were followed with applause. The Executive Director also expressed her gratitude to Sara.

28th Ward to Choose Alderman Continued from page 1

for 1st time homebuyers. She would like to see larger grants for pockets of poverty. Krewson said that she would improve the quality of life in the ward and work on safety. She said that in the last 10 years there hasn't been the same growth in housing prices. Billingsly said that the question of the schools had to be addressed. Loveless said that she would use the city's incentive programs.

All of the candidates expressed support for the rehab of Delmar.

Editor's Note: None of the questions at this forum held in Skinker DeBaliviere directly addressed this neighborhood.

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Pumpkin Carvers Light Up Halloween

by Mary Anne Rudloff

Rosedale Neighborhood Association held its first annual Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest on October 30. Nine families entered the competition, each displaying their lit jack-o-lanterns for the enjoyment of neighbors and scrutiny of the Rosedale Executive Committee.

First prize was awarded to Joan Bender of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, who created a grinning, gap-toothed witch decked out with peaked hat, cape and broom. Upon acceptance of her certificate, Bender announced that she will devote the entire \$100.00 prize to neighborhood beautification projects.

Second place honors went to Gary and Patrick Kattner, also of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, who designed two pumpkin figures. The Kattners hoped to evoke the historical perspective of spirits walking abroad on All Hallows Eve, and based one of their carvings on a 1937 painting by Picasso. Dick

and Belynda Hereford of the 6100 block of McPherson were awarded third prize for their intricately carved lantern that combined several traditional Halloween motifs.

The judges wish to express their admiration and appreciation to all the other talented participants: John and Jane Cross, Dee and Gary Hayes, Paul and Nancy Hohman, Claire and Pete Holohan, Alexander Listrom, and Britney Underwood. Their pumpkin creations depicted a range of imaginative subjects including mustachioed gentlemen, an earring-adorned totem visage, vampires, skeletons, and stately architectural forms.



Above, Dick and Belynda Hereford's 3rd prize pumpkin.



Above, one of the 2nd prize winners by Gary and Patrick Kattner.



At left, Joan Bender's first prize-winning pumpkin witch.

ROSEDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OFFICERS MEET

Rosedale Board members Gary Hayes, Glenda Underwood, Mary Ann Rudloff, Julie Schoemehl and Jane Geiler met at the home of Jane Geiler on Tuesday, November 18, to draft by-laws for Rosedale Neighborhood Association and plan for an annual meeting. As RNA's former by-laws can no longer be found, the Association has been operating without formal structure for at least the past two years. Other attempts to re-create by-laws have failed, but with the help of Vivi Wolf, Neighborhood Stabilization Officer, who provided sample by-laws, and Dave Schmidt, who attended the meeting and provided written bits of Rosedale history dating back to the 1970's that hinted at the basic format of the Association, the group was able to complete the project. These Proposed By-Laws will be submitted for ratification to members of the Rosedale Neighborhood Association at its annual meeting (date to be announced) during the first quarter of 1997. Anyone wishing a copy may contact Jane Geiler at 727-3241.

Grace Methodist Celebrates with Candlelight Festival

Continued from page 1

the back of the candlelit sanctuary. They are led by two torchbearers in the processional carol, "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Each member of the various choirs carries a small candle as the procession weaves through the sanctuary. It is a stirring experience.

The service of Nine Lessons and Carols was first drawn up by Archbishop Benson while he was Bishop of Truro for use in the Truro Cathedral. The service became so popular that it was simplified and modified for use in King's College Chapel, Cambridge in 1918. Two years later, Churches in the United States had begun to incorporate it into their own Christmas traditions. One of those churches was Grace United Methodist.

Grace was established in 1892 and already enjoyed a strong musical heritage. The service of Lessons and Carols easily became part of that heritage under the direction of George A. Bluthardt, organist and choir master from 1913 to 1930. In 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery Lynch became choir master and organist respectively and built a larger choir.

Members of the Grace Chancel Choir take this Carol Service so seriously that they attend a yearly weekend retreat in order to focus entirely on preparing music for this service. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols used at Grace is exactly the same as the original service of 1918. It is a time of getting away from the Christ-

mas crush, a place for peaceful reflection among beauty and harmony; a special Christmas event for children, a reminder of the magic that lies not in glitz and frenzy but in the warm glow and majestic harmonies of this grand musical tradition. It's a place to bring a friend or to come alone. Grace

Methodist welcomes you to celebrate with us this lovely tradition, now in its 78th year, which will bring you the deepest joy and warmth of the Christmas season.

"O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!"



Michael Lucas and Gary Waters prepare to work with the Jubilate youth choir.

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In Your Ear

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr

My postman asks for relief. So do I! The response to my November IYE column, the one in which I asked you what I knew that I didn't know that I knew, was, in a word, quite overwhelming.

Sometimes writing this column can be a bit like yelling into the forest. "Helloooooooooo, is anyone there?" Pulitzer Prizes aside, I don't get much reaction to my columns. Oh sure, when I wrote the one about wife beating even my close friends wouldn't look me in the eye. (And it was **fictitious!**) True, the one about me dying and seeing my body floating in space resulted in three baskets of flowers delivered to our house. And the first wife is now known affectionately by her neighbors, clients, and co-workers as "shoes." But really, that's about it.

Despite the fame you no doubt think has accrued to me, reality is that I've been to no autograph parties. The publishers aren't beating down my door to compile my columns into a pithy book. (Love that word, *pithy!*) Once I was out of town and missed submitting my column. Upon my return I asked my trusty editor, Marjorie, what they'd run in its place and she responded, "Oh, didn't we get a column from you?" Turns out that instead of my column the back page of *THE TIMES* offered the schedule for bulk trash pick-up days. (In fact, two people thought that the bulk trash pick-up schedule had been written, tongue in cheek, by me and told me turn I asked my trusty editor, Marjorie, what they'd run in its place and she responded, "Oh, didn't we get a column from you?" Turns out that instead of my column the back page of *THE TIMES* offered the schedule for bulk trash pick-up days. (In fact, two people thought that the bulk trash pick-up schedule had been written, tongue in cheek, by me and told me that it was one of my best columns.)

So you get my point, bub. Some times I'm a singer in a vacuum, a painter in the home for the blind, a chef in south St. Louis. Is anyone out there?

And then a month ago I asked a simple question. The responses were thuddening. (If that's not a word, it should be.) My postman's back sagged from bringing in the volume of mail. To be fair, he was also bringing in catalogues from everyone who has a typewriter with a dollar sign, fund-raising appeals from Aardvarks Alive! to the Zoonasium, and bills from every chick shoe store west of Pittsburgh. But still, amidst the flotsam and jetsam, there were some responses. To my loyal

trusty readers, those who don't have anything better to do than to respond to me, I offer my gratitude. Thanks to Elaine and John and Tim and Sarah and Carla and Pat and Billy and Elle and Karen and Mike and Marj and Jong Shu and Metre and Dan and Jim and Jean and Lucy and Frank and Bob and Denise and Mrs. Edmonds and Raphael and Phil and Katie and Katrina and Dr. Shorts and Ellen! I appreciate all of your kind thoughts (especially those of you who responded to my column).

And in response to your responses, yes, I **do** know how road kill gets to the side of the road. Before his untimely death presidential aid Vince Foster ordered that this be done. And yes, I **do** know when it's time to throw out my favorite necktie. When the spots and stains on it are so bad that they detract from the mirthful pattern of madras geese flying into a paisley pot of Rolling Stones upchuck, then I'll clean it. But not a moment before. I figure it has many years to go. And yes, I **do** know about the *White Castle Turkey Dressing*; I've yet to see a nude turkey in White Castle. Finally, yes, I

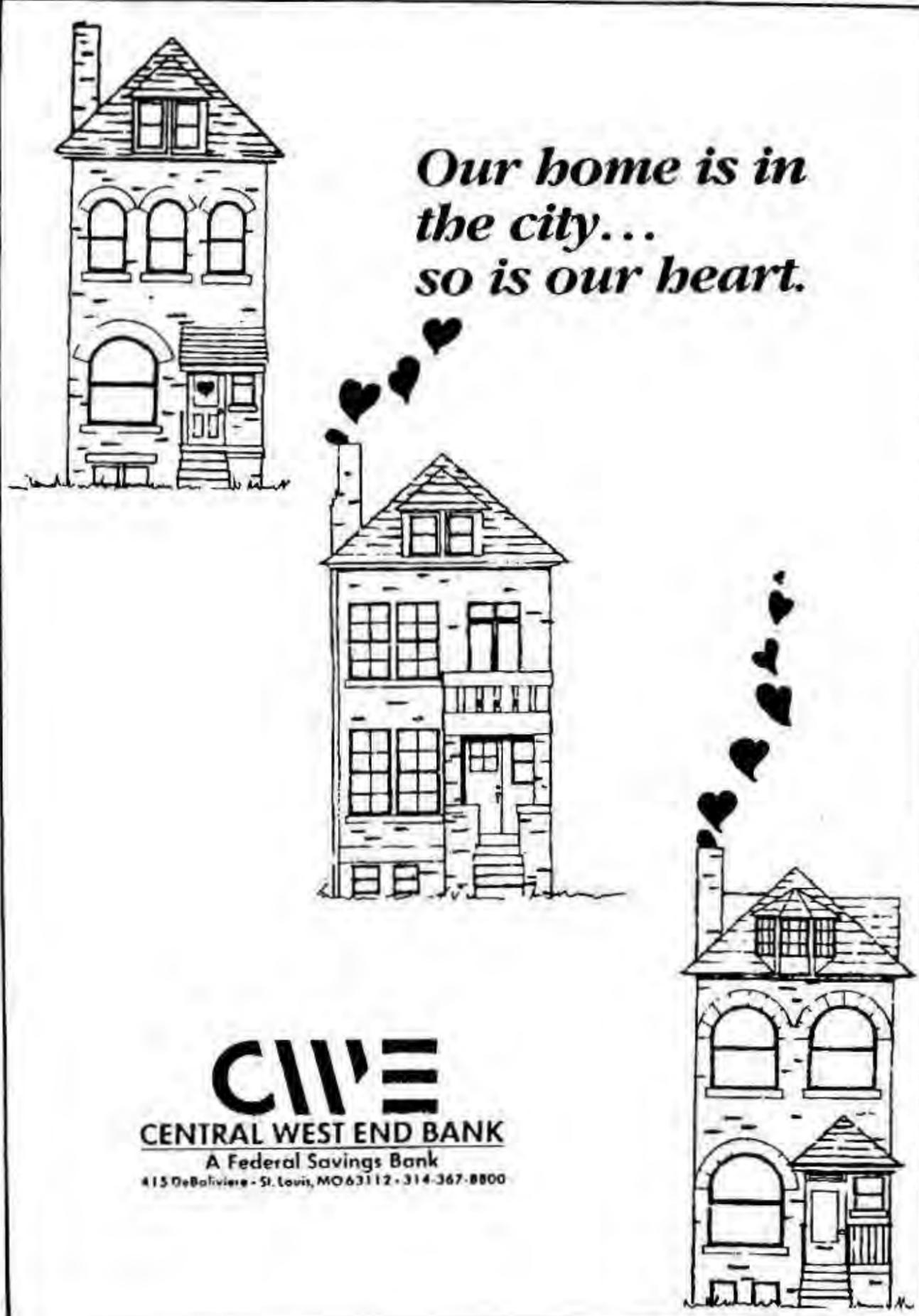
do know what time it is! No, I don't know whether anyone cares.

To be fair, even though I saw Jimmy Buffett at Riverport last year (I thought we were going to an all-you-can-eat place and was surprised to find a singer), I did **not** know John Prine's song, "Humidity Built the Snowman," in which he sang, *I don't think that you know that I think you don't know*. Humming it, though, I **do** know why it was not a best-seller. I bet he and I have the same agent. And I did **not** know that 1729 is the smallest number that is the sum of two cubes two different ways; actually, I'm glad I didn't know it and sort of wish that I'd known I didn't know it so I could have enjoyed my ignorance. Instead, as with much else in life, I didn't know what I didn't know.

Finally, dear readers, in responding the questions posed by the throngs of my followers, people clamoring to know what they don't know, here are the answers, in order: 212 pairs not counting her sandals, inhaling while drinking beer; the left side of the road; no, Paula Jones only *dated* Rush Limbaugh; yes; the naturalist; March 9, 1962; two walk-in closets and a

bevy of shoe-trees in our basement; "timing is everything"; because you can fall off the earth if you go west of Skinker; seven times; OK, so Paula and Rush were more than good friends; vitamin C and bananas; Ted Drewes chocolate-baloney concrete; TRHoerr@AOL.com; Ben Cartwright; relatives; yes, all three of them together: Lawrence Phillips, Nancy Reagan and Rush Limbaugh, pretty good shape for the shape I'm in; OK, not so good shape for the shape I'm in; and Nantucket.

Thank you dear readers (it is hunting season, isn't it?) for your interest. As long as you don't have anything better to do than read this column, I'm appreciative. But we need to, like, take a break with this correspondence. In fact, my semi-trusty mailman has asked me not to do this again. In fairness, I've agreed to wait a while and let him get past the holiday greeting card rush. Be thinking ahead though, until the spring, when the questions of the month will be, *Is there life on other planets?* and, more importantly, *Is there life on this planet?* And if not, *why not?* Toodles!



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