

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 30 No. 5

February-March 2000

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

## King Commemoration Touches Many

by Lana Stein

Neighbors and friends filled the Grace United Methodist Church on Sunday, January 16, to honor the memory and dream of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The New Cote Brillante Church of God choir led the gathering in song echoing the days of the civil rights movement. Greg Freeman, chair of the annual King Commemoration, emceed the event. Rev. Mary Harvey of Grace Methodist welcomed everyone. The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council paid tribute to the late Kathleen Hamilton, a tireless advocate of the neighbor-



Reverend Miki Merritt of New Cote Brillante Church of God, flanked by (from left) Reverend Mary Harvey, Gregory Freeman, and Rabbi Susan Talve. Additional photos on pages 4-6.

hood. The Council also recognized the contributions of its past president, Gary L. Hayes, who had served in that role for four years.

A principal part in the Commemoration was played by children from a number of schools: Bethel, St. Roch, Crossroads, Hamilton as well as members of the Grace Youth Group and the Grace and Peace Fellowship Junior High Youth Group. These youthful

participants read Dr. King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail, segments from his "I Have A Dream" speech, as well as offering poems and song.

The afternoon's keynote speaker, Rabbi Susan Talve of the Central Reform Congregation, gave an interesting talk laced with Biblical references and some colloquial Yiddish. She spoke of "galut," or separateness. It is both physical and spiritual. People have to learn compassion for others to overcome "galut." Separateness and otherness are emblematic of oppression, according to Rabbi Talve. Talve told the gathering that there is a promised land but that we must go through the wilderness to get there. To do that, we need to join together. There is a way to believe there will be a time of peace, a repair of the world without denying the suffering or pain: to believe in the good amidst a broken world. Dr. King's work and his dream represented a bridge over the separateness.

The full program concluded with a benediction by Rev. Miki Merritt of the New Cote Brillante Church of God. Many participants then enjoyed a reception hosted by Grace Methodist.



Participants from Crossroads School

## Rev. Mary Harvey Comes to Grace Methodist Church



Grace United Methodist Church welcomed a new pastor in July of last year. The Rev. Mary Harvey is now pastor of this church located on Skinker at Waterman. Rev. Harvey comes to Grace after spending eight years at Stephan Memorial United Methodist Church in Overland. She also served in a community near Moberly and at a church in St. Charles. Rev. Harvey entered the ministry in 1984. She received her master's degree in divinity from the Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

Harvey was happy to come to a central city location. She grew up in Baltimore and feels like she thrives in cities. Besides her hometown and her experience studying in New York, she had also worked for awhile in Chicago. Harvey's husband is a social worker and works downtown. Her daughter is now a freshman at University City High School. Grace maintains a house for its pastor in the U City section of Parkview.

Harvey expressed pleasure at the diversity of Grace's membership. She is aware that Grace was influential in the formation of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and she is pleased that the church made a conscious decision to remain at its city location in the 1960s. She would like the church to play an active role in our community. Some parishioners are

engaged in a tutoring program and the church was pleased to host this year's King Commemoration. Grace is taking up the question of joining KACI—Churches Allied for Community Improvement. KACI works on issues facing the city.

Harvey is also proud of Grace's youth group which is led by John Thomas. "It's a great mixture of city and suburban kids." The church also raised over \$1,000 for the Skinker DeBaliviere playground from its Christmas offering.

When Harvey was young, she noticed many people with clerical collars marching with Martin Luther King. That had a strong impact on her and on her philosophy today. She noted that, "Jesus calls us to be out working with the poor and those that are hurting."

Rev. Harvey invited neighbors to join the Grace congregation at Sunday morning worship.

### SDCC Elects Officers

At its meeting of January 10, the Board of Directors of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council elected officers for one-year terms. The officers are: president - Dan Schesch, vice president - Greg Freeman, secretary - Lara Doyle, treasurer - Peggy Droege.

### Archway Decision Held Over

On January 12, the Board of Adjustment heard further testimony on Archway's appeal of denial of a conditional use permit to expand into the first story of their building. Archway, a substance abuse treatment center, located on the southeast corner of DeBaliviere and Pershing, has been at this location for 30 years. For the most part, its patients have been residential and its operation has caused little problem. However, it intends to increase the number of out patients it sees, creating questions regarding traffic, parking, and safety. Archway's clients often have felony convictions. The

SDCC, Alderman Krewson, Crossroads School, the DeBaliviere Association and several citizens wanted the permit denied. Support for Archway came from their own workers and many who have supported the institution financially. None were residents of Skinker DeBaliviere.

After hearing over two hours of additional testimony on the 12th, the Board of Adjustment adjourned and indicated that they would review all testimony. They intended to render a decision a month from the hearing date.

## Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

It can often be harmful to proclaim victory precipitously. Cognizant of that fact, I still have to say that Skinker DeBaliviere is now a model. The neighborhood remains racially diverse as it has been for over 30 years. There are also richer and poorer, younger and older, students and workers, professionals and artists. Stability has been achieved through the efforts of many dedicated neighbors and the support of anchor institutions. Crime is down. People feel more comfortable stepping out at night. The community garden and the soon to happen playground serve to bring neighbors together for common ends and break down various barriers. Property values are also up and some homes stay on the market for only a few days. Some of my fellow social scientists would say this is impossible. If a neighborhood becomes more than 30% black, whites will flee. And, indeed they did flee from many other neighborhoods. Here, historically interesting housing, church loyalties, and a remarkable group of leaders created an anomaly: real and enduring diversity.

Of course, as one neighbor recently noted, we have to always be vigilant to protect what we have. Complacency would not work here.

Perhaps the most encouraging development that bodes well for continued stability is the regeneration of commerce on Delmar. A neighborhood will always reflect its edges. Joe Edwards' Pageant will be (and already is) the catalyst to more and more improvement. So, I have given in to pride and gratitude today and celebrate our neighborhood. Some residents may wonder what the fuss was about. Our continuing history series will explain why this achievement is so sweet and so special.

**The next installment of the Neighborhood Chronicles will appear in our next issue.**

## New Cote Brillante Church Hosts Tutoring Program

A tutoring program is available three nights a week at the New Cote Brillante Church of God on Washington at Skinker. The program will help youngsters in reading and math and is geared to those in the elementary grades. Tutors are available at no cost on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6 to 8pm.

## 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

Printing: Arcade Printing

### Advertising Rates:

Display Advertising:  
Column width, 2.25". Minimum ad size 2" x 1 col: \$24/insertion;  
(10% discount 5 to 8 issue contract; 15% discount 9 issue contract)  
For a complete list of sizes and rates, write  
The Times, 6168 Westminster, 63112, or call 727-6630.

### 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

- 2/14 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury
- 2/19 McPherson Community Garden Organizing Meeting, 10:00 a.m., 6008 Kingsbury
- 2/23 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, 12:00 noon, 6008 Kingsbury
- 2/26 BrightSide Blitz Day Planning Meeting, 10:00 a.m., 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/8 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, 12:00 noon, 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/13 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/22 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, 12:00 noon, 6008 Kingsbury
- 4/1 Operation Brightside Blitz Day - Focus on alley clean up, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. All though the neighborhood
- 4/5 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, 12:00 noon, 6008 Kingsbury
- 4/10 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury

### Other Events of Interest

- Feb. Free Concerts at Washington University Holmes Lounge at Ridgely Hall, except as noted:
  - 2/10 John Norment Quartet, 8:30pm
  - 2/16 Washington University Jazz Band, 8pm (at Graham Chapel)
  - 2/17 Performers to be announced, 8:30pm
  - 2/24 Tom Rickard Trio, 8:30pm
  - 2/25 InsideOUT, 8pm (at Tietjens Hall, Music Classroom Bldg)
- Feb. The University City Public Library, 6701 Delmar, exhibits the drawings and oils of Mark Sheppard, "A Parallel World."
- 2/1-
- 4/16 The Saint Louis Art Museum features the photographic work of Abelardo Morell.
- 2/11-13 Urban Bush Women and David Murray Ensemble present 'Soul Deep' at Edison Theatre—a combination of cappella vocals, spoken-word narration and theatrical performance. Tickets are \$25. For information call 935-6543.
- 2/12-13 GRAND OPENING - EMERSON ELECTRIC CENTER at the MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM, 10am- 6pm. Free. Family gallery programs. Guided Tour. Dixieland jazz entertainment by "The Jim Dandys." New permanent exhibition "Seeking St. Louis" which deals with the common challenges faced by the St. Louis region throughout its history. The exhibition moves from the early settlers, the "mound builders," through St. Louis in the 18th and 19th centuries, to the building of the Gateway Arch. St. Louis' role in American culture and the arts, especially its rich jazz heritage, is also portrayed featuring Quincy Troupe, Miles Davis, Charles EAmes, Chuck Berry, Willie Mae Ford, T.S. Eliot, Katherine Dunham, and Kate Chopin. A new restaurant, Meriwether's, also looks out on Forest Park and there is a newly expanded museum shop.
- 2/14 Valentine's Day in the Loop. Participating restaurants and shops will contribute 10% of your purchase to the Center of Contemporary Arts, Saint Louis Symphony Music School, Craft Alliance and Washington U's Lewis Center. You must mention the Loop Arts District when you dine or purchase from "Bean's" Java & Juice Cafe, Blueberry Hill, Cafe Natasha, Cicero's, Gyro House, The Melting Pot, Meshuggah Cafe, and Red Sea and shops such as Arrangements in the Loop, Componere, Coyote's Paw, Craft Alliance Gallery, and Vintage Vinyl.
- 2/17 St. Louis Urban Forum presents "Building Better Schools" with St. Louis Public Schools Superintendent Cleveland Hammonds Jr., Mark Minelli of KWMU, and Lana Stein, UMSL political science professor. Free. 7pm at History Museum Library and Research Centers, 225 S. Skinker.
- 2/17-20 Washington Univ. Performing Arts Dept. presents "Hannah's Shawi, a Holocaust drama, at the A.E. Hotchner Studio Theatre. Call 935-6543 for information.
- 2/19-
- 5/14 The Saint Louis Art Museum exhibits the work of Charles and Ray Eames, "A Legacy of Invention."
- 2/24 Derrick Bell, law professor and legal scholar, will speak at the Missouri History Museum Lee Auditorium in Forest Park at 7pm. Free.
- 2/27 Washington University Wind Ensemble presents free concert, 3pm, at Graham Chapel. Washington University Symphony Orchestra also presents free concert at Graham Chapel, 7:30pm.
- 2/27 Jazz concert featuring "insideOUT: A Washington University Jazz Quartet" and the DeSmet High School Jazz Combo at the Backstage Bistro, 3536 Washington in Grand Center, 2-4pm, free and open to the public.

## Long-Time Resident Locates Law Office in the Neighborhood

Attorney Marvin Nodiff made his commute far simpler when he acquired the building at the northeast corner of Westminster and Skinker as a new home for his law office. Nodiff, of 61xx Westminster, has lived in Skinker DeBaliviere for over 20 years. After having an office in Clayton for much of that time, he was pleased to bring his work site closer to home and to bring colleagues into the city as well.

Two firms now utilize the building: Nodiff and Ellis and Lander and Berkowitz. Nodiff and Elia M. Ellis practice community association law. Ed Lander and Ira M. Berkowitz have a general civil practice and also do corporate litigation. Ira's wife Julie does elder law.

There are 5 attorneys and 5 support staff.

The building itself was gut-rehabbed in the late 1980s and has many new

systems. There are lots of big windows and the building was tastefully restored. Nodiff finds that clients drop by the new offices 3-4 times more often than previously because access is easier. This new location is friendlier than a high rise and parking is far less problematic. The only convenience in Clayton was that it was close to the courthouse.

Nodiff really wanted to own offices rather than continue leasing in Clayton where prices kept going up. If he had stayed, his rent would have been 40% higher than previously and also he would have to continue to pay for parking. The aesthetics of the Skinker DeBaliviere building and the convenient parking also made it attractive. The Loop was also a selling point. There are a number of good restaurants close by. And, of course, Nodiff is very close to home!

## Delmar Notes

Joe Edwards has received the necessary permits to construct the Pageant on Delmar. Ground preparation has begun. A groundbreaking ceremony is anticipated in mid- to late-February. Edwards still hopes that the formal opening of the nightclub will be in September. In the meantime, a tenant has been secured for the office space on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Pageant building.

Kiku Obata & Company have signed a lease with Edwards. Obata said that, "We chose this location because it offers our firm access to the thriving neighborhood of The Loop, reinforces our commitment to building vibrant retail areas in St. Louis, and offers us more space to grow our expanding business. Kevin Flynn, architect with the firm, added We also want to support Joe in his efforts to revitalize University City and St. Louis. The Pageant will be a dynamic music venue, unique to the region."

Kiku Obata & Company will design the identity, print communications, interiors of the club, office space, and signage for the Pageant. The company specializes in architectural, interior, graphic, environmental graphic and lighting design.

In addition, you might watch for a new restaurant with a prominent owner to be developed on the north side of Delmar east of the Wabash Station.

## Update - Construction in Forest Park

As any park visitor can quickly ascertain, ample construction is taking place within Forest Park. Work continues to connect the lakes within the park. Work at the Deer Lake Site and the Round Lake site should be completed this spring. Crews are also reconstructing the bridge on Theatre Drive. It will be ready by the time the MUNY opens.

Regarding roads, Jefferson Dr. going from Grand Dr. to the Steinberg Rink has reopened. The intersection of Jefferson and Wells is still under construction and closed to traffic. Grand Dr. and Lagoon Dr. to the east of the History Museum will reopen soon but resurfacing will occur later. The section of Grand Dr. between the Museum and DesPeres has been removed. Eventually, pursuant to the Master Plan approved by the Community Development Commission, the section of Grand west of DesPeres will also be taken out in order to permit the realigning of the golf course. There is no definite date when this will occur. It will happen no sooner than the fall. Timing depends on the conclusion of negotiations with the golf course owners. When the golf course expands northward and Grand Dr. disappears, there will still be a buffer zone (albeit smaller) for passive enjoyment of the park. For further information, contact the Forest Park Manager at 289-5323.

## Kudos

Many congratulations to Katrina Stierholz and the Playground Committee. It looks like all difficulties with the Board of Public Service are resolved, the contractor is ready, and construction of the young children's playground in what is now the SDCC parking lot should begin in March. Katrina and the Committee spent many, many hours making this dream come true.

Erica Webb had a very special 21st birthday celebration. She received her AA from St. Louis Community College on her natal day.

Skinker DeBaliviere resident (and former SDCC director) Nancy Farmer is a candidate for the Democratic nomi-

nation for state treasurer. Her in-house polling shows her garnering 52% of the vote!

On January 18, 2000, St. Roch Troop 98 Scout Master Steve Santen received the district Award of Merit for giving his time and effort as an adult volunteer. The program from the ceremony described his service in this way: "Steve Santen is a member of a family with a long and rich Scouting tradition in St. Louis. He has been continuously involved with Scouting at St. Roch Catholic Parish since joining Pack 98 there in 1968. As a member of Troop 98 Steve became and Eagle Scout in 1976 and was an officer in the West District Chapter Order of the Arrow."

Steve became an Assistant Scoutmaster at Troop 98 in 1978 and led a troop contingent to Philmont Scout Ranch in 1984. In 1996 Steve accepted Troop 98's invitation to serve as Scoutmaster. In addition to his duties in that position, Steve is active in many other areas of Scouting. Among his credits are: Advisor to the Keystone Chapter Order of the Arrow, 1995-97; attend NOAC in 1996; serve since 1996 as a JLTC Scoutmaster; serve on the Keystone District Training Staff since 1995; become Wood Badge trained in 1996; serve on the 1997 National Jamboree Central Region staff; and organize the annual Railroad Merit Badge Skill Center at Union Station beginning in 1997."

photo below courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society



If you look closely, you can see "Walgreen Co." above the doorway of the Sherman Apartment Building at McPherson and Skinker, built in 1924. See the "Curb Service" signs? Sisters Dorothy Hogan and Ann Hogan Stapenhorst, who live on the 6100 block of McPherson, remember sipping sodas at the fountain of the Sherman Drugstore, later called Feldberg's and then Sheehan's. Even later came Barry Drug and Fitzpatrick Pharmacy. The photograph also shows a corner of what was formerly the "Parkview Food Basket", which in the twenties must have been a "Piggly Wiggly".



Meet your friends for:  
Hamburgers • Jerk Chicken  
Vegetarian Specials  
Appetizers • Chili • Salads  
NEW Veggie Burger • Soups

☛ BREAKFAST from 11 am  
Bacon, Sausage & Eggs  
Golden Waffles • Biscuits & Gravy  
Fresh Fruit • Blueberry Muffins



"I LOVE THIS PLACE!"  
6504 Delmar • 727-0880

# Notes from the Garden

by Andy Cross

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood was well represented in the Urban Garden contest sponsored by Gateway Greening last fall. The McPherson Community Garden received third prize and the Block Unit 1035 Community Garden took second prize in the community garden cat-



egory. Other prizes were awarded to individual gardeners Jane Bunten of the McPherson Garden and Charity Devers of the 1035 Garden in the "best raised bed" category. The contest prizes were books, plants, gift certificates, and other useful garden supplies. In addition a group membership to the Missouri Botanical Garden was awarded to the Block Unit 1035 Garden.

Earlier this summer, the McPherson Garden was awarded "Best Community Garden" in the St. Louis Post Dispatch - Gateway Greening Great Garden Contest. A story featuring the McPherson Garden and other winning gardens, as well as photos of these gardens, were on display at the Kemper Center of the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Over the course of the summer the SDCC, Gateway Greening, and the Skinker DeBaliviere Housing Corporation worked together to have water lines installed in both community gardens. Although the front of the McPherson Garden suffered some damage due to the installation process, we are taking this opportunity to redesign the common gardens are looking forward to an even better entrance display. Both gardens have great plans for the summer. The ease of watering will make healthier and even more beautiful gardens.

The success of these gardens comes from the hard work and generosity of Gateway Greening, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, and, of course many community gardeners and volunteers from our own neighborhood and other neighborhoods as well. When a community garden gets started, its members find themselves volunteering with Gateway Greening to help other gardeners with their projects. We are sharing ideas, resources, and experience to make all of our neighborhoods better places.

To learn more about Gateway Greening or how to volunteer call 577-9484. To learn more about the Block Unit 1035 Garden and the McPherson Garden contact neighbors Ronie Haliburton or Andy Cross, or contact the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council at 862-5122. See you in the gardens.



Presenters from Hamilton School.



Participants from St. Roch School. photos by King Schoenfeld

## Bi-State Seeks Artists to Work on MetroLink Expansion

Arts in Transit and Bi-State Development Agency are seeking artists to participate on the design team for the extension of the MetroLink system in St. Louis City and St. Louis County.

Artists will collaborate on the design of station layouts, park and ride lots, garages, structures and landscaping. They will also identify opportunities for public art.

If you are interested, you may receive a copy of the submission requirements by visiting the Bi-State web site, [www.bi-state.org](http://www.bi-state.org), or contacting Diane Terrell by e-mail at [dterrell@bsda.org](mailto:dterrell@bsda.org).

You can also call 314-982-1400. The deadline for submitting qualifications is February 15.



The sanctuary at Grace United Methodist Church during the King Commemoration.

**WE CATER TO COWARDS**  
**THE FORSYTHE DENTAL GROUP**  
**HARVEY W. SMALL, D.M.D.**  
**VALERIE PAIRS O'BANNON, D.M.D.**  
**The Dorchester**  
**665 S. Skinker**  
**St. Louis, MO 63105**  
**725-0988**



OFF. 721-5600  
 RES. 862-5071



BROKER & ASSOCIATE

**KARLEEN O. HOERR**  
 LIFE MEMBER MILLION DOLLAR CLUB  
 LIFE MEMBER MULTIMILLION DOLLAR CLUB

DANIEL B. FEINBERG REAL ESTATE CO.  
 360 N. SKINKER BLVD.  
 ST. LOUIS, MO 63130

**KINGSBURY ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
 420 N. Skinker ( at Kingsbury )  
**Stephen A. Brammeier DVM**  
**Kim Selting DVM**

Full Service Grooming Available  
 Hours by Appointment  
 9-6:30 Mon.-Thurs. / 9-4:30 Fri / 10-2 Sat.  
**721-6251**

**COLONIAL RUG COMPANY**  
 6191 Delmar

Complete Floor Service  
 Remnants Always in Stock

**Bill Schiller**  
**726-3281**

# VIEWS OF THE CITY

by Billy Handmaker

In 1919, the famous journalist Lincoln Steffens visited the new Soviet Union, and upon his return said, "I have been over into the future, and it works." Ignoring his ability to prognosticate, I felt a little the same way when I recently returned from a brief trip to San Francisco. Along with eleven students and two other administrators from Crossroads School, I had the opportunity to attend the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference. During my flight and while in San Francisco, I witnessed the continuing merger of technology and humanity,

and if nothing else, it works and works hard. However, as I walked the streets of San Francisco, (I did not see Karl Malden anywhere), I wondered how this new technology would affect those of us who choose to live in cities.

On the flight out, I had one of those experiences where you know you are in the middle of something symbolic. I sat next to the window blissfully reading my Howard Gardner tome unencumbered by conversation with the stranger next to me. Fortunately for me, there was no way that I would be disturbed since she was listening to her music on a Walkman, so we existed in amiable silence. As I read and she

hummed quietly and moved her head back and forth, we both found our attention wandering to the person on the aisle. He pulled out his hand held DVD player, placed the tiny earphones in his ears, inserted a disc, and watched some Arnold Schwarzenegger adventure movie while the two of us leaned over and gawked. A Connecticut Yankee had plopped down next to the two of us and just went about his business while we still lived in the technological dark ages. Sitting there, the three of us formed a picture of techno-evolution: I was the literary Cro-Magnon on one end, the woman in the middle was a hi-fidelity form of higher life, and the two of us could see what, if we were e-fit enough to survive, we would become.

Once in San Francisco, I continued to be struck how our technological apparatuses have influenced how we do something as basic as walk. On my first morning as I returned from Starbucks (there were five in less than two blocks from my hotel-this is truly the new global superpower as Dr. Evil should have realized), I saw a young man in a suit that appeared to be talking to himself, discussing what sounded like stock transactions. As we approached each other, I realized that he was on his phone but the only way that I could tell was by the tiny earphone and little piece hanging down in front of his face. (You know the kind that people on the home shopping channel or the people on television ads wear.) Everyday in San Francisco, I saw more and more people wearing them, and it seemed after a while, that nobody was talking to the person next to them but everyone was animatedly speaking with someone on the phone.

Many years ago when my wife and I were on our honeymoon, we enjoyed the company of another newly wed

couple where the husband was an economist, who spent all of his time on the computer communicating with other economists and creating econometric models, and the wife was an anthropologist who spent all of her time observing people. Many of our conversations centered on whether it actually takes face-to-face communication to define a community. The new husband insisted that with the advent of e-commerce, e-mail, chat rooms, and the research available on the Internet, we have created a post-interpersonal community that will be larger, more diverse and more global than any community in history. People will communicate with more, not less; people and the cyber community will be better than anything that we have had will. The wife was dumbstruck and horrified by this vision of everyone sitting in front of their computers and not speaking to other people, and felt that if this picture came to be a reality, we would lose any kind of human community we have.

When adults discuss the possibility of a "virtual school" with children working on the computer at home instead of attending a school, they immediately mention the service that schools perform of socializing children and teaching them how to interact with others. Similarly, several colleges have recently expressed concern that students are spending so much time emailing each other that they are missing class or failing to join in activities that bring people together. As more and more adults have the opportunity to work at home in front of computers, what will replace the water cooler where we meet and discuss those awesome Rams? I read recently that in the very near future in California, a majority of people will work in non-traditional settings like the home and not need to go into an office. Will the freedom to work at odd hours liberate us to spend time with our children or engage in tasks in our communities during the day? Or will it make all of us work even more hours since we will never leave our office?

Maybe the increasing technologization of our world may signal a return to cities as people hunger to be in close proximity to other people and to things to do. If we work at home at night, we can get our hands dirty in the community garden during the day or take our kids to the new Skinker-DeBaliviere playground. If we spend all day on the computer, we will need to go over to our neighbor's house, and walk there in the process, to get our conversation fix. If we can carry our laptops and plug in anywhere, why not work at Kaldis or the new Genesis coffee house at the corner of Delmar and Des Peres, and take a break by speaking to the stranger next to us. How long can we look at movies on tiny hand held recorders before we rush to the Tivoli to see the real McCoy? Maybe there is an inverse relationship going on here. The more we join in a landless, ethereal, virtual community, the more we will need to plant ourselves in an on the ground, person to person community, and where better for immediate and intimate interaction but in cities. The economist and the anthropologist might both be right. We need both communities, we benefit from both, and by having both, we continue to redefine what it means to be human.



Participants from Bethel Lutheran School at the King Commemoration.

photo below courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society



The Arthur Building, depicted here in its glory days, was home to Talayna's for many years. It is now owned by Washington University which wishes to demolish the building because of its deteriorated state and then construct something similar. Some residents are questioning the need for demolition and hope to inspect the building.



The first phase of townhomes constructed by Town and Country near completion. One unit is occupied already. The second phase is underway. These townhomes complete the Nina Pl. redevelopment project.



Gregory Freeman presents Gary Hayes, immediate past president of the skinker DeBaliviere Community Council with a certificate of appreciation for his years of service and leadership.

**In Your Ear**

*Continued from page 8*

an astronaut on Apollo IX. A copy of virtually every shoe imaginable was present. On four or five occasions the wife said, "This is simply too much for me," and sat down to take deep breaths and fan herself.

But it was on the top floor, known affectionately as "Straps" among shoe lovers, that the first wife stole the show. The floor contained a den of meeting rooms and offices, a place where shoe conferences and lectures are held. The schedule indicated that future speakers included a Mr. Jacobie, a cobbler, the heads of marketing from Tom McAnn and Stride Right, the granddaughter of Dr. Scholl, and a gala shoe collectors fair to be held on March 10, Imelda Marcos' birthday. And there, in big, bold letters on the door of the last room before the stairs, was written **Office of the Shoe Appraiser.**

"A shoe appraiser! My gracious! We must meet him," said the wife, and I complacently followed her, as I do through much of life. No sooner had we walked in the door and introduced ourselves when he looked at her, took a step backwards and said, "You aren't the Karleen Hoerr of St. Louis, by chance, are you?" She nodded eagerly, tiny tears coming to her eyes. Suffice it to say that when she told him that she was, in fact, the Karleen Hoerr, he leapt for joy and clapped, breaking into laughter. "Oh my goodness," he said, taking monocle out of his left eye, "we surely know about you in these parts. I can't wait to hear about your collection! Please, oh please, come in and talk with me." He snapped his fingers and coffee and sweet rolls appeared. The wife and he began to talk in technical terms, referring to shoes by both their serial numbers and first names. I pulled out Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, found a quiet place nearby in the hall, and began to read.

No surprise, we spent most of our time in Toronto at the museum. I read three books, started this article, and became friends with the baggage guy at the hotel. The Bata Shoe Museum's Head Appraiser and Executive Director became soul mates with the first wife. And the first wife? In addition to her many other accomplishments, she's now an adjunct faculty member of the Bata Shoe Museum. Her first series of lectures, "The Role of Shoes In An Age Of Paradigm Shifts," begins in April. She can hardly wait.

For those who would like to savor the culture the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto, more information can be obtained by calling 416-979-7799. If you go and enjoy yourself, remember, I toed you so.

*photos by King Schoenfeld*

**"City Living at Its Best"**

White T-Shirts with neon green legend and a silhouette skyline portraying neighborhood vistas are still available for purchase through the SDCC office. While quantities are limited in some sizes, we've heard your request and now offer adult sizes S -M- L - XL and XXL, all at one low price of \$12.00. These soft, 100% cotton shirts are also great sleep shirts!

Complete the following order form and send it with your check to Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, 6008 Kingsbury, St. Louis MO 63112, or stop by and pick up your shirt during regular business hours. Questions? Call 862-5122.

Yes, please send me a neighborhood T-Shirt in the following size:

\_\_\_S \_\_\_M \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_XXL

Total quantity ordered at \$12.00 each \_\_\_Shirts  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$\_\_\_\_\_

(make checks payable to Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council)

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (days) \_\_\_\_\_  
(evenings) \_\_\_\_\_



**Mayer Funeral Home Inc.**  
4356 Lindell Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63108  
533-0293  
Guideon Richeson

**DELMAR CLEANERS**

Your neighborhood cleaner with complete cleaning & laundry service.

**6142 Delmar Blvd.**  
**Call 727-6600**

## Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Meeting November 8, 1999

**In Attendance: Vice President,** Greg Freeman. **Directors:** Dan Bailey, Ann Smith Carr, Lara Doyle, Peggy Droege, Sharon Fitzgibbons, Amy Gill, Ronie Haliburton, Shashi Kara, Maggie Hart-Mahon, Gwen Lazard, Shirley Polk, Dan Schesch, Lana Stein.

**Guests:** Andy Cross (Beautification Committee Chair), Bill Colbert (Grace Methodist Church), John and Sole Van Emden, Gary Foster (SLPD), Paul Hohmann (Transportation Committee Chair), Lee Jones (Genesis House), Lyda Krewson, Alderman 28<sup>th</sup> Ward, Ron Norgard (Genesis House), Don Reynolds (SLPD), Dale Siebenberger (SLPD), Katrina Stierholz (Playground Committee), John Thomas (Grace Methodist Church).

**Staff:** Gary Boehnke (Housing Corporation Project Administrator), Laure Porterfield (SDCC Executive Director).

**Absent:** Jane Geller, Steve Givens, Gary L. Hayes, Susan Littlefield, Miki Merritt, Paula Sigman.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Greg Freeman, Vice President.

Welcome and Introductions:

Lee Jones and Ron Norgard of Genesis House presented plans to open a coffee house in retail space leased from Design Alliance (old A&P building). They will be open six days a week, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., possibly later. They have a five year lease. They would like a letter of support. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to provide a letter of support for the project.

Approval of Minutes

Typing corrections were made and the minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lana Stein reported New Cote Brilliant and Parkview Agents have not yet submitted final contributions for this year. Still anticipate income from CDA and the Housing Corporation. Next year the Housing Corporation contribution will increase. Central West End Bank no longer contributes. A delegation led by Dan Schesch will approach to solicit again. Amy Gill will review the phone bill and advise if cuts can be made. August and October Financial reports were approved.

**Security Report:** P.O. Don Reynolds, (SLPD), introduced Detectives Gary Foster and Dale Siebenberger, who have made several very important arrests. One arrest was responsible for 12 burglaries. Another arrest was responsible for nearly 100 cars break-ins and 5 stolen bikes. The burglars would watch people leave their homes, wait, try the front door, then go to back door or window. Sometimes they cut phone wire to deactivate alarms. Won't pick a house with a dog or an outside audible siren. Make sure your home is well lit; arrange to have newspaper, mail picked up when you are away. Attend security meeting Wednesday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. at St. Roch. Have all property etched with social security number.

**Executive Director's Report:** Laure Porterfield. Changes in office: new computer contributed by Amy and Amrit Gill. Furniture moved by Dan Schesch, Paul Hohmann and Andy Cross. Skinker DeBaliviere participated in the Home Builders Show at Convention Center as part of

CDA "City Fest". Official letter of thanks to be drafted and sent by the Executive Director to Joan Kelly Horn.

**Housing Corporation Report:** See written report. Rosedale Square rehabilitation continues to move along. Six apartments on the market. 5900 Delmar will most likely be torn down. No interest expressed by Washington University in developing it at this time. Housing Corporation not in position to do so now.

**Committees and Neighborhoods**  
**Playground Committee:** Katrina Stierholz. Grant from Whitaker Foundation for \$5,000 has been awarded. Will make total of \$8,000 from them. Board of Public Service has a list of 23 items to be addressed before work can begin. This will require redrawing the plans and resubmitting them to a variety of agencies.

**Residential Committee:** Lana Stein. First opportunity to make a full report regarding Lunch Meeting at Washington University in late August. Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council made a point of keeping this a residential meeting. Talked about the University master plan. Authur Building to be torn down and replaced with a similar structure. Dan Schesch drafted a letter for Gary L. Hayes' signature requesting access to the building by a neighborhood committee. Sheffield Realty not now buying for Washington University. They are speculators and have acquired a couple of properties, including 6005 McPherson. The President of Sheffield has been invited to the next Housing Corporation meeting.

**Rosedale Neighbors Committee:** Amy Gill. 6000 and 6100 Washington block meeting held. Very few participants. Parking, drivers going too fast continues to be a problem. Tax credit programs were discussed by Lacey Clay. Halloween Party at St. Roch was a success. Between 70-100 kids attended. Washington University students helped with costume judging, handing out candy.

**Ad Hoc Technology Committee Report:** Dan Schesch. See written report (attached to meeting packets). Board moved to fund projects, using CDA money if possible. Treasurer to review if there are questions regarding remaining funds.

**Social Service Committee Report:** Shirley Polk and Lara Doyle. Food Drive runs from November 27 to December 11. Collection points in neighborhood. Phone tree project to be discussed at Grace Tuesday, November 16 at 8:45 a.m. with senior Prime Time group.

**Beautification Committee Report:** Andy Cross. Waterline coming for McPherson Garden. In a best garden completion we came in 3<sup>rd</sup> with McPherson; 2<sup>nd</sup> with Block Unit 1035 garden. Police and Fire Appreciation Lunch will be held on December 16. Ruth Johnson to co-chair. Volunteers needed to contribute food and to serve as Hosts and Hostesses.

**Other Business**

A. Nominating Committee appointed by Greg Freeman. Maggie Hart-Mahon, Ronie Haliburton, Sharon Fitzgibbons will bring proposed slate to December meeting; election at January meeting.

B. Martin Luther King Commemoration Committee. First committee meeting next Monday, November 15, 6:00 p.m. at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office. This is an open meeting. Date is tentatively January 16, 2000.

Adjourn 9:10 p.m.  
**Lyda Krewson's Report:** Pageant has liquor license and is moving ahead.

Bi-State lot at DeBaliviere is paved - limited landscaping.

Talayna's working to meet terms of their liquor license or have license suspended.

Kathleen Hamilton memorial to be placed in Forest Park near the Muni.

Board Bill to authorize commitment of \$1.5 million to help purchase homes is in process.

## Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Minutes Board of Directors Meeting December 13, 1999 (Revised January 10, 2000)

**In Attendance: President** Gary L. Hayes. **Directors:** Ann Smith Carr, Lara Doyle, Peggy Droege, Sharon Fitzgibbons, Greg Freeman, Amy Gill, Ronie Haliburton, Maggie Hart-Mahon, Gwen Lazard, Susan Littlefield, Shirley Polk, Dan Schesch, Paula Sigman, Lana Stein. **Guests:** John and Sole Van Emden, Suzanne Goodman (Washington University), Larry Isom (Neighborhood Stabilization Officer), Don Reynolds (SLPD), Lyda Krewson, (Alderman, 28<sup>th</sup> Ward), Katrina Stierholz (Playground Committee). **Staff:** Gary Boehnke (Housing Corporation Project Administrator), Laure Porterfield (SDCC Executive Director).

**Absent:** Jane Geller, Steve Givens, Shashi Kara, Miki Merritt.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Gary L. Hayes.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were corrected and approved.

**President's Report:** Gary L. Hayes reported that he and Ann Smith Carr met with Karleen Hoerr and Susie Feinberg to talk about rehab of this building. There was a general discussion of events in the neighborhood. Some questions remain about the extent of interior renovation and who will pay for it. Ann and Gary will work on the Housing Corporation project team for the 6008 Kingsbury renovation. Gary also reported on a meeting with Suzanne Goodman (Washington University); mostly social but did help get litter cleaned up at McPherson parking lot. Washington University will increase its donation by \$5,000. The University will host a tour of the Arthur Building. They ask that we restrict our group to four people. Gary L. Hayes, Dan Schesch, Lana Stein and a technical person will participate. Grace has new minister who is taking an active role in the neighborhood. John Thomas was nominated to represent Washington Heights (at large). Moved by Lana Stein, seconded by Greg. Approved. Archway issues continue. Next court date January 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. room 208.

**Nominating Committee:** Maggie Hart-Mahon reported that the committee has met and has questions regarding its role. The by-laws are not clear on this point.

1.) Are they to present a slate or list all candidates who are interested?

2.) The board agreed that the nominating committee should present all candidates with no specific recommendation. Candidates for president are Gary L. Hayes and Dan Schesch; Vice President, Greg Freeman; Secretary, Lara Doyle; Treasurer, Peggy Droege. Moved by Amy Gill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Littlefield, that the By-laws need to be reviewed; a committee to be formed in January.

Committees:

**Security Report:** P.O. Don Reynolds reported for the Seventh District. One burglary in last 30 days. Arrest made following a shooting at DeBaliviere MetroLink stop may be related to the incident at Rosedale and Delmar. McPherson house continues to be trouble.

All were urged to continue to practice safety tips. Talayna's lack of security guard - need to decide if neighborhood wants to enforce conditions of liquor license. If this is enforced the restaurant may close. Board to consider and address the issue in January. Ask Mike to attend: 10 minute limit. Laure to contact Talayna's as well as DeBaliviere Place.

**Financial Report:** Lana Stein presented the November report. New Cote Brillante completed their annual contribution. There will be a meeting with Central West End Bank about their contribution. Parkview made their 2<sup>nd</sup> payment. Housing Corporation contribution exceeded original amount included in 1999 budget and helped keep us in black. Reformatting the financial report: Susan Littlefield moved and Amy Gill seconded, that:

Future financial monthly operating reports to the Board should include a list of accounts payable and receivable and the Board should receive Quarterly Reports on all Special Purpose (restricted) funds, including Receipts, Expenditures, Payable, Receivable and Revenue Sources (idea is Board has a sense of money from whom and spent for what) and under "Revenue" - separate line items for "Donations" Special Events" and "Other Sources".

Trivia party to raise fund in Spring 2000. Budget 2000 reflects increase in fundraising. Does not include Central West End Bank. Motion made and seconded to approve November report and budget. Passed.

**Technology Committee Report:** Dan Schesch expressed concerns regarding Y2K readiness. Software available to make a patch. CDA has not replied to request to move money for computer purchase/upgrade.

**Playground Committee Report:** Katrina Stierholz reported that the Playground Committee will receive a donation from Grace Methodist. Design Alliance helping with plans - Board to send letter of thanks. New bank account set up at Heartland. Permits being applied for. Issue of Fund raising at TWA Dome raised.

**Rosedale Committee Report:** Amy Gill pointed out that the Rosedale shooting involved a semi automatic weapon. Block meeting for 6000 and 6100 of Westminster and Washington to be organized. 6000 and 6100 Washington to elect block captains.

**Social Service Committee Report:** Food Drive was very successful. Thanks to all who contributed as well as those who worked to collect food and make it a success. Special thanks to Lara Doyle and Shirley Polk.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Committee Report:** Greg Freeman reported that the program will be held Sunday, January 16, 3:00 p.m. at Grace Methodist Church. Key-note speaker is Rabbi Susan Talve. We are working with schools. Theme is "Justice through Non-violence". Grace has been very helpful. The resolution honoring Kathleen Hamilton to be given to representatives of her family as part of the program. January 6<sup>th</sup> is the last meeting of the Committee.

**Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Report:** Larry Isom answered questions regarding yard waste pick up which is only once a month till March.

**Housing Corporation Report:** Gary Boehnke - Well over half way through on Rosedale Square renovations. Six units rented.

**Executive Director's Report:** Laure Porterfield. Phase I of the Nina Place Townhomes is sold out: first resident to move in before Christmas. Three of four units in Phase II sold. Fine tuning budget and setting up computer files. May be selected by Channel 9 to be featured neighborhood project. Police Appreciation Lunch will be held December 16<sup>th</sup>. Chair Ruth Johnson asked for board participation and assistance on the day of the luncheon. Fundraising netted over \$300.00 for the luncheon expenses. On the proposed 2000 meeting schedule, move the October 2000 meeting to the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Lyda Krewson reported lots on Skinker between Lindell to the Parkway are now owned by Washington University. Trees trimmed and brush cleared. She requested Street Department to replace signs at Skinker and Washington. Question raised about MetroLink station and the Mayor's Office appointments to this panel. Letter to the Mayor suggesting a representative for Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council moved and approved.

Adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

OFF. 721-5600  
RES. 863-0220



BROKER &  
ASSOCIATE

**RENNI SHUTER, GRI**  
LIFE MEMBER MILLION DOLLAR CLUB  
RELOCATION SPECIALIST

DANIEL B. FEINBERG REAL ESTATE CO.  
360 N. SKINKER BLVD.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63130

# IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye Q. Hoerr

Honest to goodness, you'd have thought she'd died and gone to heaven. There we were, standing outside the BATA SHOE MUSEUM in Toronto, Ontario. With the giant grin on her face, the first wife looked like a Cheshire Cat without the fur.

"No, I never knew that there was a shoe museum either. It does make sense, though, after all, we have museums that are dedicated to wars that shouldn't have been fought, to politicians who shouldn't have been elected, and to history that is only speculation. So why not shoes? Anyway, there truly is a shoe museum in Toronto. To quote

from the museum's brochure, *Shoes are part of our everyday life. Around the world, footwear has*

*been adapted to suit the particular needs of different people, based on their environment, activities, and traditions. The Bata Shoe Museum Collection explores the extent to which shoes, more than any other personal item, reflect the living habits, the*

*culture, and the customs of the people who wore them.*

Standing out front of the museum, ignoring the winter weather, indeed, heating the entire block with her enthusiasm and excitement, the first wife was beside herself. Well, no, actually, she was beside me, but you get my point. She had seen an article about the shoe museum in the weekly newsletter that she gets, *Shoe Afficionado*. She was a pilgrim returning to the Holy Land, a Crusader looking for the Holy Grail. A few days later, we were TWA-ing it to Canada's largest city. Of course, this is far less easy than it sounds. A good deal of energy was spent before the trip, trying to determine which of her hundreds of pairs of shoes would get to go on the trip. Why? Well, imagine having 300 or 400 children, all of whom you love dearly, and only getting to take 15 or 20 to DisneyWorld. Get the picture?

To be fair to all the shoes, she did a random drawing, entering the names of each pair of shoes. The lucky winners were packed in two suitcases. We were accompanied to Toronto by high-heels Fred, Edna, Sally, and Mark. By boots Bill and Oscar, by sandals Louise, Ramona, and Esmerakda, and by causal wear Jose, Eliot, Lauren, Betsy, and Linda.

We arrived in Toronto in the afternoon and after a quick evening dinner in the local Chinatown, we were at the Bata Shoe Museum the next morning at 10:00 a.m. when it opened. Actually, we were there at 8:45 a.m., just in case. The guide unlocked the door and welcomed us: "I'm sorry that I didn't hear you knocking," she said. "Oh, that's ok, I was just trying to get a jump start on the exhibits" the first wife said as she rushed inside, brushing against the guide so quickly that I had to help her regain her balance and straighten her uniform (which had a badge in the shape of a shoe). I apologized hurriedly to catch up with the wife.

The museum covers four floors. The ground floor – they called it the Sole Floor, honest! – begins by focusing on what cavemen and cavewomen wore for shoes. "Hrmmmp, no style at all," said the wife when she saw the grass moccasins that we think the cave people wore. There's actually a replica of the Lucy footprint found in Africa, the oldest known trace of humanity. Turns out Lucy was a 6B.

The second floor, called "The Tongue," focused on shoes from the birth of Christ up to the twentieth century. Shoes featured range from armor worn by fighting knights to leather sandals depicted in drawings on Egyptian tombs to boots worn by American frontiersmen and women to an actual wedding day shoe worn by a bride who was married in Indiana in 1888. As we moved from metal to silk, the wife began to slow her pace, pausing for long periods of time at each shoe. Several times other people asked her to move on or step back so that they could see the exhibit.

The third floor, "Strings and Fasteners," was her nirvana: shoes of the twentieth century. This, dear reader, is why we went to Toronto. A copy of Dorothy's red slippers from the *Wizard Of Oz* was there as were actual shoes worn by Marilyn Monroe, Elton John, Frenchy Fuqua, Twiggy, Madonna, Mae West, and Ronald Reagan. There were hundreds of shoes, depicting each decade of the century, from shoes worn by prohibition runners to a size 22 basketball shoe to a boot by



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

**CWE**  
**CENTRAL WEST END BANK**  
 A Federal Savings Bank  
 415 DeBaliviere • St. Louis, MO 63112 • 314-367-8800

Continued on page 6