

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 31 No. 4

February - March 2001

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

COMPREHENSIVE CODE ENFORCEMENT DRAWS NEAR

Starting some time in April 2001, special teams of inspectors from the City's Building Division will begin work in Skinker DeBaliviere to conduct a door-to-door inspection in our neighborhood. The SDCC had requested this code enforcement. However, the city's Department of Public Safety decided to institute exterior code enforcement in every city neighborhood every three years. Skinker DeBaliviere was selected for the first year. The inspectors look at the exterior of your home and property. If any violations are noted, you will receive a citation. You have two months to correct the violation. If you notify the inspector that this is not enough time to complete the repairs, you can receive a two-month extension. Extensions are possible up to a period of 16 months.

All neighborhood residents are invited to a meeting on Thursday, April 5 at 7:00pm, most likely at the social hall of St. Roch Church. Please call the SDCC at 862-5122 to verify the location. Building Division personnel, the Neighborhood Stabilization Officer and others will answer your questions about the process to be followed if your

home is cited for one or more violations. An information packet has been prepared by the Residential Committee to help you identify resources in the community to help you make the necessary repairs to your home's exterior. Many of these programs have varying requirements. Generally they are targeted to low income applicants. Unfortunately, not everyone who needs assistance will qualify for these programs, which frequently are underfunded. We have also included information about the Missouri Historic Tax credits, through which money spent on repairs may be converted into state income tax credits. These tax credits are also drawn from a limited funding pool. The time and location for this meeting had not been confirmed as we went to press. Be on the lookout for brochures and signs announcing the meeting time and location, or call SDCC at 862-5122.

Following is a list of some of the most commonly occurring violations cited during door-to-door inspections. This list is not inclusive of all the pos-

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CHANGES IN METRO LINK ALIGNMENT IMPACT NEIGHBORHOOD

by Tim Schoemehl

The extension of MetroLink along Forest Park Parkway continues to be a source of controversy in Skinker-DeBaliviere and surrounding neighborhoods. On December 15th, Bi-State's Board of Directors approved a plan to build the light rail tracks along the south side of Forest Park Parkway east of Skinker Blvd. Under the new plan, the tracks will go underground on a diagonal at Skinker and come above ground on the north side of Millbrook west of Hoyt Drive in University City. Previous plans called for the tracks to run down the middle of the Parkway. To make the "south-running alignment" possible between DeBaliviere and Skinker, Bi-State will need to acquire approximately 24 feet of the 40 foot wide easement between Forest Park Parkway and the properties facing towards Lindell. This land is owned by the Catlin Tract trustees.

With the change to a south-running alignment in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood, Des Peres will be closed to automobile traffic south of the intersection with Forest Park Parkway. Cars going south on Des Peres will be able to turn east or west on to the Parkway, but will be unable to continue south towards Lindell, creating a three-way "T intersection" rather than a traditional four-way intersection. Because cars will no longer cross the light rail tracks at Des Peres, MetroLink drivers will not need to sound a horn at this intersection. The south running align-

ment will preserve the planted median in the parkway, and also means that cars coming east on the parkway will still be able to turn left into the neighborhood at Des Peres. Both the left turns and the median would likely have been eliminated with the center-running alignment. While many neighbors continue to believe that placing the tracks underground at Des Peres would be the best for the neighborhood, most see the side-running alignment as an improvement over the previous plan.

When the change to a south-running alignment was approved, Bi-State also agreed to allow for pedestrian access across the light rail tracks at Des Peres. On February 8th, Bi-State held a meeting at Crossroads School to solicit neighborhood input on how best to preserve pedestrian access to Lindell and Forest Park at Des Peres. Bi-State presented preliminary designs for four possible configurations of the intersection. The first was a "do nothing" approach for comparison purposes which eliminates pedestrian access. The second option was an overpass. The overpass would include a series of hand-capped accessible ramps and would begin just south of the intersection of Pershing and Des Peres. The overpass would cross over the alley behind Pershing, the Parkway, and the light rail tracks. The third option presented was an underpass, which would also

Continued on page 12

FINANCING YOUR REHAB WITH HISTORIC TAX CREDITS

The Delmar Commercial Committee and St. Louis Design Alliance invite property owners who are interested in learning about the Missouri Historic Tax Credits to an informal seminar and luncheon, to be held:

Thursday, March 15, 2001
6000 Delmar
St. Louis Design Alliance
Parking available in lot - enter from Des Peres
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
\$ 5.00 for lunch
RSVP: Laurie Porterfield, SDCC, 862-5122

The program will include presentations from St. Louis Design Alliance architects. Director of Cultural Resources of the City of St. Louis, Kate Shea, and Commercial Committee Chairman, Jo Ann Vatcha. Information will include: how to determine whether your building (or house) is eligible for the state tax credit, how to turn that credit into cash to help with rehab costs, and how to begin the application process.

Jeff Mugg and Chris Manzo, who have used the credits on their own buildings (including the old A&P building), will give an insider's look at the process and the benefits. Neighborhood residents will be able to see how this new state tax credit can help them finance repairs to their homes.

To RSVP, call Laure Porterfield at SDCC at 862-5122, and, for more information, call Jo Ann Vatcha, at 622-3400, Ext. 369, or 726-6974. Additional sessions may be held in the evening if there is sufficient interest. Both businesses on Delmar—and homeowners and owners of rental property—will want to learn about this important new tool to improve our neighborhood's historic buildings.

OPERATION BRIGHTSIDE BLITZ DAY MARCH 31, 2001

Every year, thousands of volunteers throughout the city of St. Louis rally to the Blitz Day call for service and do a superb job of cleaning alleys and vacant lots, storm sewer openings and other potential hazards in our community. Skinker DeBaliviere has an unblemished record for rising to the occasion with motivated and caring volunteers who work hard and leave the community sparkling after a hard morning's work.

Plans for this year's Blitz are underway. Committee chairman Andy Cross hopes to supplement our loyal cadre of block captains with many new volunteers and with a large contingent of youthful helpers. If you are new to the City or to the neighborhood (or both) Blitz Day provides the opportunity to see citizen action and volunteerism at its finest. And it is a good way to get outside after a long winter and meet your neighbors.

Volunteers will rally at 8:30 a.m. in Four Corners Park and be assigned to Blitz Teams to sweep (literally and figuratively) up and down the alleys and to clean up the debris that has accumulated over the winter. After a hard morning's work, they will return to Four Corners Park, where hotdogs and more will be served along with hearty helpings of bonhomie and good will. A planning meeting for this year's Blitz is set for Saturday, February 24th. A detailed flyer will follow soon thereafter. Be on the lookout for more information or call 862-5122 to learn how you can get involved.

The Blitz Day flyer will also include information about trash pickup, bulk trash pickup and guidelines, hazardous materials and more. Meanwhile, if you have any questions you can call 622-4800 or the Council office at 862-5122.



JoAnn Vatcha's update of the neighborhood history, Part IV, "THE 80's" continues in this issue on page 5.

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

It would not be much of a stretch to say that the long-playing presidential election may have left us all very tired of campaigns and voting. Yet, we tire now only at our peril.

On Tuesday, March 6, St. Louisans will elect a mayor. There are 4 candidates in the Democratic primary and 2 in the Republican. There are choices. And, we still have a city at risk. Population and jobs disappear in our town despite years of unprecedented prosperity.

Skinker DeBaliviere has blossomed in the past few years. There has been new housing construction and everyone's property values have risen. Delmar is finally showing signs of awakening from a long torpor. Crowds flock to the Pageant. Street improvements should begin soon. Two new professional office buildings have refurbished their environs and opened their doors.

Yet, we still worry about safety and other threats to our neighborhood potentially posed by powerful institutions. The economy is decidedly slowing down, to be expected perhaps but not welcomed. The economy will affect the sale of homes and the development of new businesses.

Therefore, whomever we choose to head our city is important to our well-being individually and collectively. Some of us are certain of our choice. If you are not, try to attend one of the many mayoral forums taking place across the city almost every day. And, all of us should take the time to cast our ballots at this important juncture for St. Louis. Our participation does matter. Of course, watch the chad please!

Grace Church Celebrates Organ Rededication

Grace United Methodist Church, at Waterman and Skinker, rededicated its rebuilt and enlarged organ on Sunday, February 11. Bishop Ann Brookshire Sherer of the Missouri Area of the United Methodist Church presided. The organ now comprises 3,547 pipes ranging in length from 3/8 inch to over 35 feet. Recitalist John Walker played the organ at the rededication.

Bill Kohn, Neighborhood Artist, Portrays India

This fall, Bill Kohn of 61xx Kingsbury, exhibited paintings from India, "Undulations: Jaisalmer and Khajuraho, at the Eliot Smith Gallery in the Central West End. Kohn's portraits from various parts of the world continue to engage us. His vivid colors present his subjects in a new way and enrich our understanding.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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

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Printing: Arcade Printing

Advertising Rates:

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.

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The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of The Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents. All material - articles, letters, notices, classified ads - must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Copy may be submitted on computer diskette if the diskette is in DOS format or on high density Macintosh diskettes. Submissions on diskette should be accompanied by a printout of the article, the name of the word processing software in which it is written, and the full name and address of the party to whom the diskette should be returned. The signature on correspondence to the editor may be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phoned in to the editor at 721-7532, or mailed to 5855 Nina Place, 63112.

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

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

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

Calendar

Neighborhood Events and Meetings

- 2/ 21 SDCHC Board, noon, SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury
- 2/ 22 Historic District Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury
- 2/ 24 BRIGHTSIDE BLITZ DAY ORGANIZING MEETING, 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M., SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury; McPHERSON GARDEN ORGANIZING MEETING, 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
- 3/ 3 Security Committee- 10:00 a.m. A re-organizing meeting for this committee. Open to all residents.
- 3/ 7 SDCHC Board Meeting, noon, SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/10 SDCC WEBFAIR, Washington University, Eads Hall, Room 14 - 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m.
- 3/12 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/15 Delmar Business Association, noon, St. Louis Design Alliance, 6014 Delmar Boulevard. Featured presentation on historic tax credits. Box lunch provided for \$5.00. To order lunch and RSVP call 862-5122.
- 3/21 SDCHC Board Meeting, noon, SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury
- 3/28 MetroLink Design Charette #2 (30% design) - community-wide meeting. Time and location to be announced. Call 862-5122 to confirm.
- 3/31 OPERATION BRIGHTSIDE BLITZ DAY, all through the neighborhood. Teams meet at 8:00 a.m. in Four Corners Park. Neighborhood-wide break at noon for hotdogs and stuff back at Four Corners.
- 4/ 5 Neighborhood-wide meeting to discuss Code Enforcement. Representatives of the City Building Division and the Neighborhood Stabilization Office will be available to answer your questions about the upcoming inspections. 7:00 p.m. Location to be announced.
- 4/ 9 SDCC Board meeting, 7:00 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury. Open to the public. All are welcome.
- 5/ 5 Brightside Planting Day and Neighborhood Plant Exchange at the McPherson Garden.
- 5/12 Great Perennial Divide, citywide event. Flowers available through the community gardens citywide.
- June tba - Third Annual Breakfast Garden Tour



Other Events of Interest

- now- 5/13 At the Saint Louis Art Museum: Vincent van Gogh and the Painters of the Petit Boulevard. Includes works by Paul Signac, Paul Gauguin, Toulouse-Lautrec, Seurat. Paintings feature the urban landscape of Paris, entertainment and nightlife, portraiture, and landscape. Free on Tuesdays. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Museum or by calling 1-866-VINCENT.
- 3/25- 1/2002 The Missouri History Museum presents "Many Voices: Reflecting on American Indian Objects." Over 300 American Indian objects will be displayed, ranging in age from 12,000 years to the present day. They represent a diversity of Indian cultures.
- 3/22 Saint Louis Urban Forum presents Art as Empowerment. Featuring Lawrence Goldman, President and CEO of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and Jill McGuire, Executive Director of the Regional Arts Commission. At the Missouri History Museum, 7pm, free.
- 4/ 5 Saint Louis Urban Forum presents "Reclaiming our Riverfront," with Davitt Woodwell, Executive Director of the Riverlife Taskforce, and Laura Cohen, project manager for the Confluence Greenway in St. Louis. At the Missouri History Museum, 7pm, free.

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King Commemoration 2001

by Lana Stein

On January 14, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council again helped to sponsor a commemoration honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This year the event took place at Grace United Methodist Church.

The pastor welcomed those who had assembled. The music of the New Cote Brillante Church of God choir filled the sanctuary. Chairperson Greg Freeman welcomed everyone. Skits and music illustrating King's thought were performed by children from St. Roch School and the Bethel School. The youth group at Grace under the direction of John Thomas also performed.

The afternoon's keynote speaker, Darlene Green, St. Louis's Comptroller, and a resident of the neighborhood, spoke about the inspiration she received from Dr. King's teachings and others who struggled for equality.

In keeping with its tradition, all those present linked hands and sang "We Shall Overcome." Then, everyone moved to the social hall. Grace Methodist provided refreshments to a gathering as diverse as the neighborhood itself.



Darlene Green

by Greg Freeman

St. Louis Comptroller Darlene Green told attendees at this year's annual Martin Luther King program that a tragic civil rights event during the 1960s spurred her to go into public service.

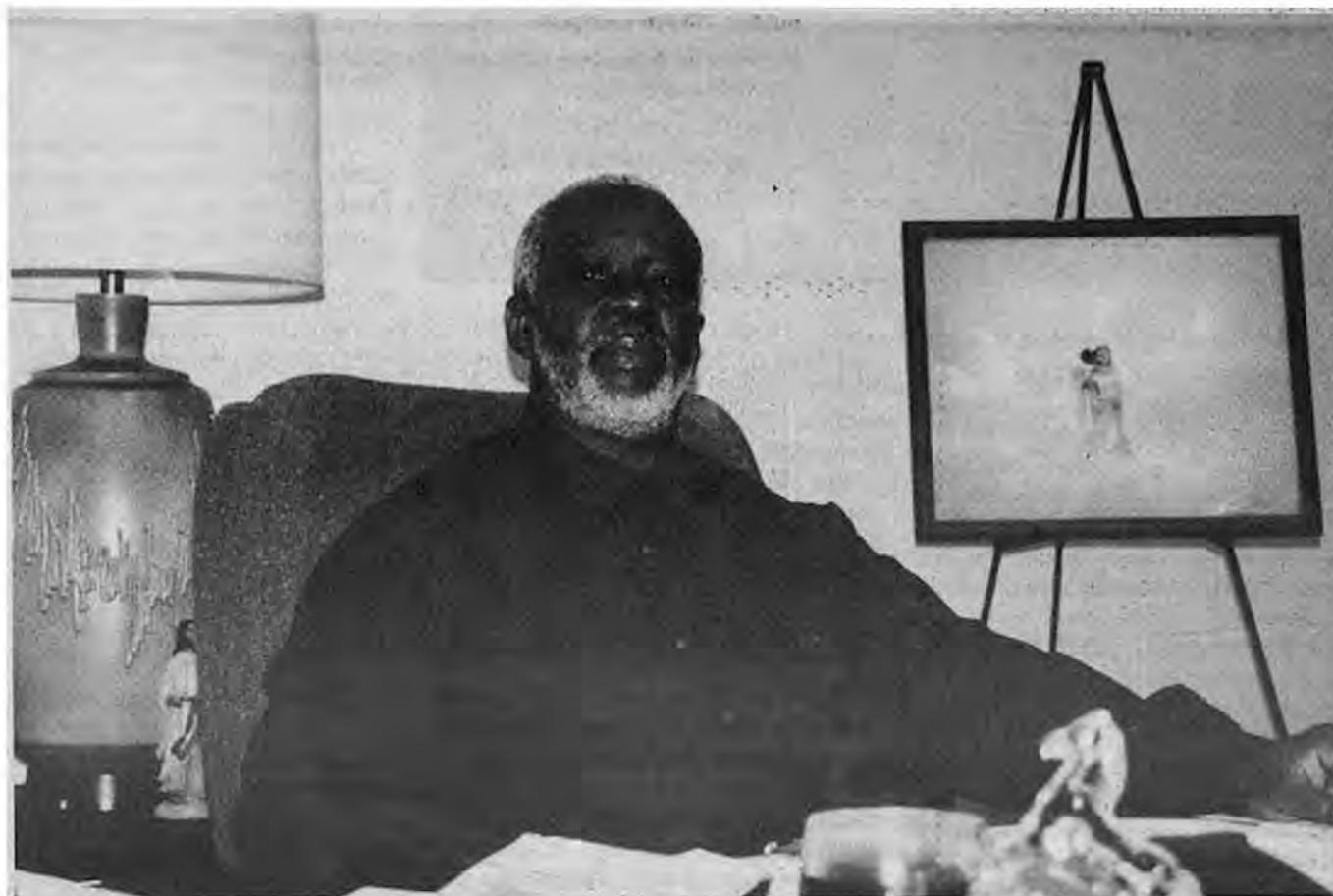
Green, a longtime resident of the neighborhood, made her comments during the program, sponsored by the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council. The event was held Jan. 15 at Grace Methodist Church.

Green spoke of the 1963 bombing of a church in Birmingham, Ala., that killed four black girls. The crime shocked the nation and galvanized the civil rights movement. The girls were Denise McNair, 11; Carole Robertson, 14; Addie Mae Collins, 14; and Cynthia Wesley, 14. Although it took years, two former Ku Klux Klansmen were arrested last year and charged with murder in the case.

Green said that as a young girl, she was inspired by the four girls who were killed, and told herself that she would not let others hold her back. She encouraged the audience to follow King's dream and not to allow themselves to be pushed back when they knew they were right. Green's remarks received a standing ovation.

At the end of the program, Green held hands with other neighbors in the traditional singing of "We Shall Overcome."

Des Peres Middle School Opens



George Edwards

Skinker DeBaliviere welcomes a new school to the neighborhood. After a busy rehabbing summer, the new Des Peres Middle school is about to open. (Long time residents will remember it as the former Hamilton Branch 3). George Edwards, its friendly principal who is also a minister, invites all community residents to visit.

Des Peres Middle is one of Saint Louis Public School's newest schools. It will feature a non-traditional and innovative curriculum as well as individual, group and family counseling.

Middle school students from throughout the city will be assigned and

will spend up to one semester before returning to other schools. Approximately 45 students will arrive on SLPS busses on February 20. These students have been unsuccessful in traditional educational settings. George Edwards sees them as "children with untapped potential." He believes that he and his hand-picked staff, including a full time social worker and counselor, are there to develop this hidden potential. He expects to accept each child where he or she is and help him to achieve his maximum proficiency. Small class size will help Des Peres Middle's vision statement that emphasizes reducing the

dropout rate and increasing student attendance. In a nurturing and compassionate setting the principal and staff plan on stressing the positive.

Des Peres Middle wants "to become an asset to the Skinker DeBaliviere community." George Edwards says he invites community residents to visit and judge not by the outside of the building but by the inside. "Our door is open to the community."

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Living in a Historic District

by Katie Kurtz

Where? If you live in or own a building located between DeBaliviere on the east, the City Limits in Parkview on the west, Lindell on the south, and Delmar on the north, you are part of The Skinker-DeBaliviere/Catlin Tract/Parkview Historic District. (Kingsbury Square and Bi-State are not included.) A map with the exact boundaries is available at the Skinker/DeBaliviere Community Council office at 6008 Kingsbury, telephone 862-5122. The area was made a historic district in 1978.

Why? This area of western St. Louis City is considered to be architecturally significant because it is a well-preserved, early twentieth century neighborhood possessing a high degree of visual continuity – a quality referred to as a “sense of time and place.” A look down any one of our streets illustrates this: the rhythm of roof and porch lines, window patterns, and building materials (almost always brick with some stone accents or facades). The various streetscapes of the neighborhood represent these concepts in different scales: Lindell (Catlin Tract) the grandest followed by the streets in Parkview and the 6100 block of Kingsbury; however, the three blocks of DeGiverville possibly exemplify the sense of time and place which makes this neighborhood such a great example of early twentieth century, residential architecture.

What does this mean? For their own as well as for neighbors safety, all building owners have a responsibility to maintain their structures. When it is within a historic district, there is the added duty to respect the architectural nature of the building. There is a certain pride knowing that one is in charge of a piece of history. In our case, it is a piece almost a century old. Owners along the way have taken this responsibility to heart which is why we still have such an intact neighborhood.

In an accompanying article, readers learn that the Skinker-DeBaliviere area will be inspected for Code Enforcement possibly as early as this spring. With those inspections may come code violations which owners will need to be corrected. The purpose of this article is to outline what work requires permits, what the historic district standards are which apply to permit work, and what the process is to get a permit.

Permits

A permit is an agreement between the City and an applicant where the applicant agrees to follow the City Codes and the City agrees to inspect the work to ensure that Codes are followed. It is the responsibility of the owner get the necessary Permits. Contractors may apply and receive the permit (and in the cases of plumbing, electrical, and mechanical work almost always do). However, if a contractor tells a property owner that permits are not necessary and proceeds with work only to have the City issue a stop work order, the owner will be the one responsible.

Owners may question why a permit is necessary. The simple answer is “for your own protection.” As an owner, you are assured that your plans meet City code and Historic District Standards. A Permit requires the City to inspect the work. The inspector is there to protect the property owner from shoddy work, faulty materials, deviations from approved plans, and violations of the Code which may result in unsafe or hazardous conditions. Quality work improves property values.

In the Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District there are two types of Permits: a Building Permit and a “CRO-only” (Cultural Resources Office) permit. A Building Permit is required when any demolition, structural change or major alteration is made to a building or when any new construction is done. A “CRO-only” permit is for exterior work which normally does not require a Building Permit. A partial list follows of what these permits cover: exterior masonry painting, new gutters and downspouts, replacement windows and doors, repair and replacement of decorative trim, and awning and canopies. In many cases, Building Permits will usually include review by the Cultural Resources Office as well as the Building Division because the scope of work includes architectural details and materials.

Permit review by the Cultural Resources Office is necessary to make certain that maintenance, repairs, construction, and demolitions comply with District design standards. These standards were written to protect the integrity of the early-twentieth century buildings which make Skinker-DeBaliviere architecturally noteworthy. In the fourteen City Districts, the enforcement of standards has proven to stabilize, and in some neighborhoods – including ours, enhance property values.

To get a Permit, apply in Room 425, City Hall. Bring two photographs (front and back) of the building or site, showing clearly the location of the project. The application must also include a description of the work to be performed or architectural drawings for the proposed work. If the work includes work that would affect the site—fence, garage, porch, a site plan (drawn to scale or clearly dimensioned) also must be submitted. The fees for applications are: “CRO-only” permits are \$9.00 for any work from \$1 to \$2,500 and \$24 for jobs exceeding \$2,500. Building Permits cost an additional \$6.50 per \$1,000 of construction expense.

If plans are clear and meet historic district standards, many permits can be approved over-the-counter at the “Hotspot” desk in the Building Division. There is a staff member from the Cultural Resources Office from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Other applications may require more time for review because additional information is needed or revisions to comply with standards are required. Applications for any demolition, or window and door replacements are routed to the Cultural Resources Office and will not receive over-the-counter approval. Most permits are approved within five working days.

What Happens If Work is Done Without the Necessary Permits?

When a complaint is made, a Stop Work Order is issued by either the Building Division or the Cultural Resource Office. Work cannot resume until a permit is obtained by following the above steps. Failure to obtain the necessary permits may result in prosecution in the Housing Court with a maximum possible fine of \$500 plus court costs. (The permit fees are much less.)

What are Skinker-DeBaliviere's Historic District Standards?

In our neighborhood, standards apply to work visible from the street. Generally, that means only the front of the building; however, if it is located on a corner or with elevations exposed because of vacant lots on any side, rear and side views will also need to meet standards.

At this time, the Historic District Review Committee is working on a clear, but detailed, hand-out which will describe the District's standards, suggested materials, and procedures. This should be available by early April. In addition, the Cultural Resources Office should have available a booklet describing window replacement, a subject which is causing controversy in most of the City's Districts.

Our ordinance, which includes standards, is available on the City's Web site, stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/planning/heritage.

However, in light of the upcoming Code Enforcement, owners may be looking at their properties and wishing to make repairs or improvements before the inspections take place. General maintenance such as painting wood trim, replacing broken or cracked window panes, or repairing porch railings or steps do not require permits. A brief list of what requires a CRO-only permits follows:

1. Window and door replacements – even if the replacement is identical to the original. Although it has become relatively common, front basement windows should not be replaced with glass blocks.
2. Roofing and Gutters — if new roofing material is not identical to the old roof covering, for example, if clay tiles or slates are replaced with asphalt shingles. Also if material being used is the same as the old roof, but it is the third re-roofing. Replacement of gutters is reviewed to insure proper placement and compatible materials.
3. Removal, replacement or covering of any architectural details, such as cornices, soffits, porch railings, columns, ornamental iron work, chimneys, window trim. This would mean covering gables, cornices, etc. with vinyl or aluminum siding requires a permit and generally does not meet standards.
4. Any demolition work, including frame garages, building additions, porches.
5. Replacement of fencing.

If this seems overwhelming, remember that there are several organizations which are able to help you through the process. At the neighborhood level, the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council (862-5122) has copies of our District's ordinance, the City-wide enabling ordinance which is used to clarify unclear standards in our regulations, and various documents which explain architectural terms and renovation procedures. In addition, the Historic District Review Committee has been reestablished. Among the committee's duties is the responsibility to help neighbors with projects and act as an advocate to the Cultural Resources Office, if necessary. The Committee Chair is Katie Kurtz, 727-6377. At the city level, in addition to the previously mentioned Web site, the Cultural Resource Office may be reached at 622-3400. Any specific question regarding how the standards will be interpreted should be directed toward this office. The Building Division can be reached at 622-3313. If you see something being done which you question where the appropriate permits have been issued, call 622-4800 to make an anonymous complaint. It will be important to tell them that you live in a Historic District.

There is a word which has recently made it into our early 21st century vocabulary: “communicality.” While it will have different meanings to different people and cultures, one way it can be understood is to think of oneself not as a member of a community which depends on individual actions occurring for the greater benefit of the group. It can be seen as an expression of why living in a neighborhood such as Skinker-DeBaliviere is more satisfying than living in a faceless suburb. Every ones actions count here: whether we litter or not, respect our neighbors in how we use a dumpster, and how we keep our property. To live in such a neighborhood as ours is about being part of a solution to save a piece of history for ourselves and generations after us.



NEIGHBORHOOD CHRONICLES

THE HISTORY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD, PART IV: THE 80's

by JoAnn Vatcha

The Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood activists of the 70's celebrated well into the 80's. Urban pioneers began to see the fruits of their labors, as new families moved into renovated old homes, and property values stabilized and finally began to rise. And there were lots of changes in the neighborhood. In fact, for many, the new decade really began in 1981, the year Vince Schoermehl was elected Mayor of St. Louis and Fr. Polizzi became pastor of St. Roch's.

There were many signs of change. On Kingsbury, the "Shoe Tree" fell. As the May, 1980, article written for THE PAPER by Gabrielle DiLorenzo, described, a snowstorm brought an end to a tradition started by one Paul Wilmering during a game of corkball. Matt Shea remembered Wilmering throwing his shoes into the large maple tree at 6132-6138 Kingsbury. It was quite a sight by 1980. The tree's demise is described in the article, reprinted below.

(May, 1980)

(In Memory of the Shoe Tree)

by Gabrielle DiLorenzo

"I don't know" . . . it doesn't bother me much anymore, but it was a real shock."

This was one reaction to the sudden fall of the Shoe Tree, a tall maple that once stood between 6132 and 6138 Kingsbury, dangling with old shoes. A snowstorm during the early morning of April 14 overloaded its branches and sent it toppling toward the gangway between the two houses. Eight-year-old Isaiah DiLorenzo saw the tree fall from the 2nd floor window of 6132 Kingsbury, probably at 3:30 a.m.: "It was up straight," he relates, "and it started crashing down. I got up and watched it fall . . . and a lotta shoes fell down."

The Shoe Tree's origin is debated. Matt Shea, 17, remembers a prank played on Paul Wilmering during a game of corkball. Wilmering, 16, now of 57 Pricewoods, agreed that his shoes were the first in the tree. Other sources remember fooling around with old discarded shoes on the end of a garden rake. A trend did begin, though, in the summer of 1970. With a strong arm and a good eye, a pair of old tennis shoes or school shoes could be hurled up and lodged firmly in the Shoe Tree's branches. It was a neighborhood landmark, immortalized by John Auble for Channel 5 News.

The passing of this institution was mourned by residents. Mary Gioia called the final chopping and sawing "irreverent . . . horrible." Her son Steven, 6, was disappointed also. "I think I feel pretty sad," he remarked, adding that he had been saving a pair of Battle Star Galactica shoes for the tree.



One of the most dynamic events in our neighborhood's history happened in the fall of 1980 when Roy Bell, then president of Rosedale Neighborhood Assn., organized a weekend of tremendously hard work: "THE RAIDERS OF THE LOST PARKWAY". The boldness of the concept may in fact have been mirrored in the boldness of the new Mayor, who actually thought that St. Louis could clean up its many littered lots and streets and alleys. Operation Brightside, which permanently enlightened the City, was born the same year. The pride and astonishment felt by "the Raiders" in their accomplishment is clearly seen in the articles written by Roy Bell and by Terry Zomphier, who lived on DeGiverville and participated in reclaiming the Forest Park Parkway.

Another event which stands out for its boldness and sense of fun was "THE PAPER ROUTE", a "run" organized by Tom Hoerr in 1980 to benefit our neighborhood newspaper.

(October, 1980)

Fall Comes to a Changing Neighborhood

by Dan Shea

It is always, in my recurrent dream about the neighborhood, late in the afternoon of a mild and golden autumn day. My side of the street has grown suddenly cool in its shadows, but across the street it remains bright and warm, immune from time.

It is a Catholic dream, though not a religious one. Just not. toward the end of a Saturday, the half-dozen or so girls who blamed each other for getting late to 4:30 Mass conspire to be late for dinner, dawdling, scuffling leaves, taunting, enjoying each other. In my dream they are never late. They never arrive. There is no hurry. There is no time.

In real time, in increasing numbers, those girls have been getting married in the old dower of a church, and I find myself giving them away with bad grace, as if they were my own daughters and had decided to marry jugglers or chimney sweeps.

What has happened to me, and perhaps to others, is that a tide of more than property values has risen in the neighborhood. History has been accumulating, soundlessly, like layers of leaves in a far part of the forest. The neighborhood has buried some of its old ones. It turns to early settlers, surprisingly still alive, for stories of the hard times. It makes legends and tells them over and over, embroidering, heightening color. There are achaeological layers now, geological strata. In a cross section of my lawn, I could find an age of panic selling and the night the neighbor boy's dog was killed by a car.

I had not felt that kind of history as an urgent thing until one Fourth of July. The woman and her daughter were there at the door, the mother saying this had been her house as a little girl. Let in, she clearly owned the house again, memory giving her brief proprietary rights. She approved the absence of change, the fireplaces still reigning, unpainted, as household gods, the fine stairway free of carpet leading up past stained-glass windows to bedrooms where, for all she knew, the same toys still stood in the same corners. She had been peremptory, scarcely apologetic in reclaiming her past, and I now realize that she would happily have stepped over my body to get at it.

Its sense of daring and the amazing level of participation gave everyone in the neighborhood a feeling that we had really turned a corner and success was ours. Centered on DeBaliviere, the run demonstrated the rehabilitation of DeBaliviere Place, the Central West End Bank, and the building of Kingsbury Square. And who could forget "Wonder Woman"?

So many changes were coming to Skinker-DeBaliviere as the 80's began, and many of our regulars wrote about the new decade in these pages. However, one of the most interesting reflections came from then-new neighbors Ray and Joan Breun. In this issue of our Neighborhood Chronicles, we are pleased to reprint their article, "First Impressions of a 'New' Neighborhood, or Daddy, is There Really a St. Methodist?" And, as past editor Katie Kurtz notes below, this also is a poignant reminder of the fleeting nature of our connections with one another in our special neighborhood.

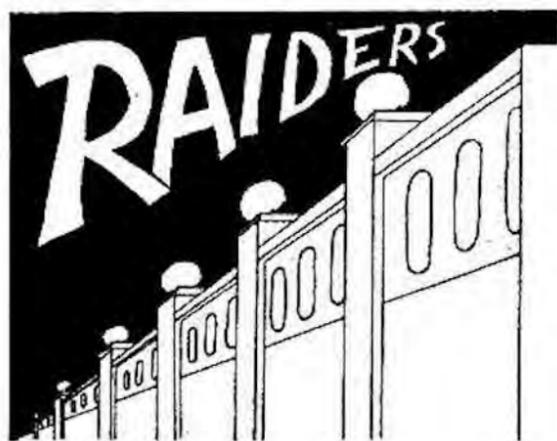
Ruthless myself, I knocked on doors this summer. An ancestor, four generations back, had bought 40 acres in Wisconsin when James K. Polk was President, then, hearing about blacker, flatter land, had moved to Iowa after the Civil War. His farms have long since passed into other hands, but it seemed possible that by going to Wisconsin and Iowa I could get him closer, within range, make out his shape if not his features.

The current tenants were sympathetic, touchingly so, pointing out deserted foundations, some words and a date carved on a sagging shed. I did not divulge what I knew, that according to the 1850 census my man could neither read nor write, that I had seen his mark (x) on property deeds, and that his wife, also given to X's, spoke only the Irish until the day she died.

Part of the Wisconsin property is for sale, a grave temptation to own some of my past. This is a temptation to be resisted, and not only because a developer has christened the land Glen Erin Estates in honor of its first settlers. It occurred to me that my ancestor, illiterate or not, would have found me a fool for buying what he had cheerfully sold in favor of a better future, my present. I shall have to let go of the Wisconsin property, leave it in the care of the family I found there — ten children, and at night they eat out on the deck — relinquish it without ever having owned it.

Back in Missouri, the ancestor's voice is less audible. I must learn these things from other instructors. Another former babysitter has become a bride, turned pro. My daughters have become babysitters. The nice young man who used to pack my groceries is running for mayor. The neighborhood, in all the endings and beginnings it has seen, is my home and my mentor. It tells me that I cannot dictate the terms on which it will change. It will stand still, just so, only in dream and memory. But the past is a closed fist, never really gives up its ghosts, pays poor dividends. The future is an open hand. There is more of time than there is of us, and our children, and our neighborhoods. Time tears fertile and never looks back. Let fall come.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRONICLES



(October, 1981)

The Making of a Raider

by Terry Zomphier

Looking through my closet, and wishing I hadn't donated my Army fatigues to the Goodwill, I wondered, "What would Indiana Jones wear on a mission like this?"

I settled for denim jeans, a striped shirt with three buttons missing, a pair of old riding boots, and after looking out the window, a waterproof jacket with hood. I left my passport, cyanide tablet, and secret message decoder in my dresser drawer, along with my "Walther PPK," trusting I would not need them. My contact had told me I would be supplied with all the necessary equipment.

After saying farewell to my wife and daughter, I gazed at my surroundings as if seeing them for the last time.

I arrived at the meeting place, Skinker and Forest Park Blvds., and waited inconspicuously for one of the raiders to identify me by the yellow carnation I wore in my waistband and give me the "secret password."

No one approached me. I dared to come closer, wondering if the raid had started without me. Then I saw the rest of them, too many to count at a glance, with women and children among them. I must say they were well-equipped, with shovels, rakes, and brooms.

Then, somewhere out of the bushes, a voice called. Not hearing the password, I did not respond. A stranger walked toward me, with a shovel in one hand and a large green bag (full of treasures, no doubt) and said, "Are you here to help?" Beads of perspiration began to form on my brow, then I saw it, his badge. It was round with green and white. Written boldly across its face, "Raiders of the Lost Parkway." I had found the raiders, or had they found me?

It dawned on me that the real mission was to restore the parkway to a resemblance of its former beauty without the eyesore of the aluminum cans, broken bottles, and debris tossed from automobiles by thoughtless passengers. There were also mounds of weeds, leaves, and broken tree limbs to be removed.

We marshaled our forces and began the enormous task before us. There we were, all of us with a stake in this community, and wanting the rest of the world to recognize our pride and our concern for this relic from the 1904 World's Fair.

Although our plans were to start at Skinker and end at Kingshighway, we stopped short at DeBaliviere, only because the barricades were to be removed and traffic would resume. We were not short of enthusiasm.

Afterwards, we enjoyed hot dogs, soft drinks, and beer. A good round of conversation was had by all, each with his own heroic experience and the quarters that turned out to be bottle caps. On one thing we all agreed — we had done a good deed.

So when the call goes out to "Join the Raiders," feel safe to join in. The worst that could happen is you might get your hands dirty. The best thing is that you could help build pride in your community and earn your own "Raiders of the Lost Parkway" badge.

RAIDERS OF THE LOST PARKWAY

(October, 1981)

To the Editor:

What a bunch of crazies this neighborhood houses. They take a perfectly good Sunday afternoon, which we all know should be spent watching football and drinking beer, and they spend it cleaning Forest Park Parkway, which they've already paid the City taxes to do. But that's the kind of craziness that makes this neighborhood the joy it is to live in and it's the kind of community pride that made "The Raiders of the Lost Parkway" a success. I would like to thank those organizations, who, under the gentle suasion of our chief fund-raiser, Cal Stuart, underwrote the costs of the afternoon. Those included were: the Central West End Assn., DeBaliviere Place, McPherson Management, Pantheon Corporation, Parkview Properties, and Pitzman Surveyors. I would also like to thank Central West End Savings and Loan for contributing the buttons and Fred Weber, Inc., who, after an appeal by Father Polizzi of St. Roch's, contributed their water truck. I would like to thank the Urban League and George Kinsey, the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry for the use of their tools (all of which were returned, thank you). Jim Shea, the Director of Streets, deserves a special note of thanks for the help and cooperation of his

department. The steering committee put in a lot of time and I would like to thank Liz Hasler for the publicity, George and Karen Brown, Eddie Sanders and Jack Wright for overseeing the food preparation, Dan McGuire, the beer, but most especially Skip Coburn who did a whole lot of everything.

Lastly, but most importantly, I want to thank each and every individual who came. Whether you were representing one of our local churches, schools, Scout troops, neighborhood or condominium associations; whether you were from an area-wide group like the Democrats of Tomorrow; or simply a disaffiliated neighbor who liked the idea, you are the ones who made it a success and made it fun.

Now next year I figure we'll have four groups. One each at Lindell, Kingshighway, Skinker and Highway 40. We sweep through the park raking broken glass and shoveling elephant manure, replacing divots and displacing muggers. We finish up at the Muni Opera for a gala beer and song fest. We'll invite Walter Cronkite and Charles Kuralt. Maybe Frank Reynolds and People Magazine . . .

Sincerely,
Roy Bell



A Moment to Remember Ray Breun

by Katie Kurtz

It was a year ago yesterday, February 5, 2000, that Ray Breun passed away after a long illness. The sense of loss we felt then has been made poignant today as we begin to review the decade of the 1980's in *The Times'* history. His first article written with his wife, Joan, is reprinted here. Beginning in February of 1981, Ray wrote a monthly column until September of 1988.

When I became Editor in the Summer of 1983, I was blessed to inherit several dedicated writers who could be counted on to submit well-written and interesting articles on a monthly basis. In addition to Ray, there were Tom Hoerr with "In Your Ear" and Lisa Horner with "Vicissitudes." Over the years, Ray, despite recovering from a several accident which had badly broken his leg, never missed a deadline. Not only did I not have to remind him that the 15th of the month was nearing, usually an article would show up in my mailbox in advance. Through Ray, the neighborhood learned the history behind street names, the who's who of St. Louis - made especially tasty because of his insider tidbits, whether from years past when we were sure it had never been as bad, and other anecdotes about our area's historical development. Never dull and always with a wit, Ray's articles made my years of editing *The Times* a pleasure. This article, while not one of the histories, shows these qualities as well. It is a charming portrait of our neighborhood, and while we wish we could thank Ray in person, we thank Joan for their years of dedication to our community.

(March, 1980)

First Impressions of A "New" Neighborhood OR Daddy, Is There Really a St. Methodist?

by Ray and Joan Breun

We moved in almost eight months ago. Six years before that Cal Stuart had taken us around the area, but then we stayed in Florissant - not a very bright decision. However Iowa is a nice place. Actually Florissant isn't in Iowa, but it might as well be. Except for corner standing, shopping center hopping and driving around on narrow roads (some call them streets), there's not much to do, especially with kids. Anyhow, here we are looking at an established neighborhood, trying to appreciate its strengths and weaknesses, its benefits and style.

We have two kids: Benjamin is 5, John is 3. Obviously they don't have large vocabularies with which to discuss hip-roofs, Corinthian capitals or other architectural niceties. They notice the brick and the differences between 2-floor and 3-floor houses. But during the fall we saw them catching changes and developments. It was an evening in mid-October when Benjamin asked why the clock was orange! Now, the bells from St. Roch's tower are a very pleasant sort of quaint Medieval touch. The kids picked up on them and the clock quickly, and it was they who saw its face turn orange. It was our first clue that Halloween is a major event in this neighborhood. When we mentioned to some other people in the area that the clock turned orange, two of them had never noticed. But everyone notices Halloween here.

Surely everyone walks to Forest Park and its various museums. Another great walk is to the castle, especially in fall when the acorns and pine cones populate the steps and commons. Normally called Brookings Hall, the castle is replete with sculptures, cornices and clocks of interest to kids. The great day came when John spotted the troll eating a human head! Gothic architecture is known for its gargoyles, fabulous beasts and attenuated sculptural friezes. Well, Benjamin had decided not to go that day when John saw the troll. John was really excited when he got home, and he and Benjamin discussed the troll for a week. The following weekend when all of us went to the castle, the object of research was that troll with the horn on its nose nibbling at a human skull.

Thanksgiving is amazing. That's the day John asked about St. Methodist. After all, there is a St. Roch Church. Indeed, it is quite obvious the other must be St. Methodist Church. And the parade that day, more or less led by the mounted park policeman down Alfred Waterman Boulevard, was an instant memorable event. Grace Methodist was designed by the same architect who did Union Station downtown, Theodore Link. That it was a peripatetic church, just like the ever-moving Baptist Church (now called Delmar Baptist), is a story in its own right. We are so grateful to Jo Ann Vatcha who found for us copies of the neighborhood his-

tory done a couple of years ago. It talks about these various neighborhood institutions and their remarkable meanderings.

The hum of saws and the staccato of hammers is as much a part of the ambience of this neighborhood as the bells of St. Roch's and the carillon of Grace Methodist. From a distance there must be a rising cloud of plaster dust as the owners of these houses redo and undo the work of intervening generations. Then there is the aroma of oil and latex paints!

When we first talked with Cal Stuart several years ago he discussed the various neighborhood organizations and how they augured well for the future of the area because they meant people working together. The current discussion over the ethnic restaurant featuring Mexican food seems to represent a breakdown in this organizational structure. We don't understand it all, but it looks like a lot of fuss and feathers which some reasonability might have prevented some time in the past. Sooner or later the entire thing will evaporate into a cloud of cooperation and forethought.

Christmas brought another change in the clock face: orange was replaced with red and green. The cloud of plaster dust was replaced by a cloud of smoke from working fire places. Vendors selling fire wood came by every other weekend. Leaves, nearly covered houses and streets, had to be moved by the end of the year as the mild weather stretched into the holiday season. It was almost February when the first snow finally came. The clock was back to "normal" by that time. And by that time we had decided the "normal" in this neighborhood was anything but similar to Florissant.

Then there is the Great Phone Club. For those who never heard of it, a prurient business maintains a phone number which lets "lonely hearts" talk with less than reputable women-like Candy, Lolita and Tammy! During four of six weeks in the early fall, the phone number of this business was quite similar to ours - meaning we had numerous weird wrong-number calls. The number changed every Tuesday, but it is in the 863 exchange. We called the phone company and they said they would solve the problem for us - meaning we only had two more weeks of calls from salivating males! Some of these were long-distance from New Jersey, Montreal and other places of quality. We began to answer our phone with unique responses unlike "hello," like "Bronze Age," "World War I," etc. My wife even chatted with one he-man who wanted to come to our "World War II Memorabilia and Sandwich Shop" for more than lunch. Well, these finally ceased. But about a month ago a secretary from an exclusive boys' bible school in California called my wife and asked her about several long-distance calls her charges had made to St. Louis. This matron

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRONICLES



Ray Breun

was a bit abashed by the supposed purpose of these religious young men dialing a scurrilous enterprise in the heart of the midwest. She thought things like that only happened in California! Apparently St. Louis is not as "conservative" as some believe. We came to name that phone club the "Dial Bawdy House 3000." It probably still is going strong, and if any who run that affair are readers of this column, we wish you success in finding customers who are a bit more experienced at using the phone!

Streckfus Steamers operates the S.S. Admiral, the *Huck Finn* and the other working boats on the riverfront. Captain Bill Carroll of our neighborhood commands this old and substantial business. If you ride on any of the ships and ask the deck hands where they live, they invariably reply: St. Roch's! The Carrolls still sit every Sunday in pew #6 which the original Captain Streckfus "owned" in the days of pew rents: Mrs. Carroll, originally Betty Streckfus, is a marvelous lady. The Carrolls are just one of many families still in the area. When Judge Tammany retired and moved to South St. Louis County (down by Memphis) to be near his children, he left behind a 62 year stay in the neighborhood. This area has a substantive tradition. Witness Georgia Rosenbloom, owner of LA Rams and graduate of Hamilton grade school. !

Does anyone know how many "Bettys" there are in this neighborhood? Joan remarks during our first week here how friendly everyone is and how many of the women are named Betty. It has gotten to the point we don't call out "Betty" for fear of having half a gathering turn to look at us.

Certainly there are numerous other characteristics of this neighborhood. The super Des Peres Library is an excellent agency. The various theatres and restaurants on Delmar Boulevard are within easy walking distance. The work along DeBaliviere by Pantheon Corporation and the new bank look very promising. Then there are the alleys - more popularly called thoroughfares! And in the alleys are those very useful trash tanks. Due to the alleys there are no driveways from which cars can back over kids too short to be seen while going in reverse. But the primary fact of this neighborhood is the people and the houses. We are very appreciative of the friendliness of this area and the acceptance we have received. We hope our years here allow us to both participate and add to the heritage breathing from the interstices of this place. We would only suggest the neighborhood needs an old fashioned saloon where nickel beer and three penny cigars could lubricate pinochle, billiards and the inevitable political "discussion!"

Run, Run – The Paper Route

(May, 1980)

by Tom Hoerr

Unsubstantiated reports indicate that the Alcoholism Hotline was flooded with calls from the Skinker-DeBaliviere area on Sunday, April 20, between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Residents awakened, still feeling the effects of the previous evening, only to look out their windows and see a horde of brightly attired figures trotting down the street. Many folks, used to a rather trying "morning after," rubbed their foreheads and looked again. It was this second look that sent them on their way to the wagon and the telephone.

There was Wonder Woman! This real-life Wonder Woman stood well over six feet tall and had golden locks which gently cascaded to a point slightly below beardline. Near her was something out of a Beetle Bailey cartoon: an ambulatory tree! Other noteworthy costumed runners included a genuine Conehead (who apologized for not knowing it was a costumed run), a belly dancer, a dancing bear, an O.J. Simpson airport traveler, Harpo Marx, a clown, Dolly Parton, a child wearing a wagon, and some residents impersonating a kind, gentle, and—exceedingly handsome neighbor. (Wonder Woman, a.k.a. Mike McEvoy, a counselor with the Parkway School District, won the \$50.00 first prize for best costume. In addition, a dinner at the Flamingo Cafe, several portable radios, shirts, and Baskin-Robbins ice cream coupons were awarded as prizes.)

The run was definitely a success. The 375 registrants and the support of the Central West End Savings, & Loan enabled the run to generate approximately \$800 for *The Paper*. Of equal importance, a lot of us worked together to let some non neighbors see what a neat place Skinker-DeBaliviere is to live and play in.

Plans are already underway for next year's run. If you close your eyes and listen you can already hear . . . "Look, up ahead. Is that really Johnny Carson being chased by his ex-wives?"



photos by Gabriel Suarez

The Paper is extremely grateful to the CWE Savings and Loan for sponsoring The Paper Route Run. Many thanks to Ken and Nancy Cohen and Karleen Hoerr who devoted countless hours to insure its success, and particularly to Tom Hoerr, the sinister character who masterminded the whole event.

WEB FAIR

Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere Campaign 2001

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Technology Committee, under the leadership of Katrina Sterholz and in collaboration with the St. Louis Community Information Network, invite you to participate in a Web Fair open to all residents of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. The Fair will offer two introductory classes (content will be the same in each of these classes) and conclude with a more advanced class for those who are interested in building their own web page. All residents are urged to participate and to learn about the resources for our neighborhood on the web.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council has a web site, on the St. Louis Community Information Network. These classes will teach you how to access neighborhood information on the World Wide Web. Our site currently has information about housing codes and will soon be posting a neighborhood calendar.

The class schedule includes these sessions:

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Introduction to Email and the Web

2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Building your own Web page

There will be lots of help available during each session. You will receive handouts and refreshments. The web pages for the neighborhood will be featured in the demonstrations. We will have information about free public access computers available for your use. And much more.

Space is limited and will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Register today. There is a registration fee of \$2.00 to defray the cost of refreshments and materials. Residents of Skinker DeBaliviere receive priority as we fill the classes.

If a brochure has not yet been delivered to your house by your block captain, please contact the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office at 862-5122.

The Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere Campaign has been launched. By now, nearly every household in the neighborhood has received chairman Linda Cross's moving testimonial to the neighborhood and request for your participation. A few excerpts from Linda's letter follow:

"Dear Neighbors: We are so fortunate to be living in a neighborhood with an organized community council, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council... In the past year alone, the Council has lent support in developing strategies and positions for the neighborhood regarding MetroLink expansion and other proposed developments throughout the neighborhood. The Council continues to play a leadership role in the

redevelopment of Delmar Boulevard. They have aided in making the new playground a reality and sponsored neighborhood events such as National Night Out, the Breakfast Garden Tour, Operation BrightSide Blitz Day, the Annual Food Drive, the annual Police Appreciation Luncheon, and a number of other picnics, parties and social events. The council acts as a repository for information, a technical resource, and a gathering place for the exchange of ideas. It is your participation in this campaign and your continued support of the Council and its many activities that will help keep Skinker DeBaliviere the vibrant, vital and diverse community which we all treasure."

Funds raised during the campaign will be used to bridge the gap in this year's Council budget. After that benchmark has been reached, the remaining dollars will be dedicated to the renovation of office and meeting space in the building at 6008 Kingsbury, where the Council is a commercial tenant of the Housing Corporation.

The start of a new Friends Campaign is marked this year by the introduction of a new neighborhood T-shirt. With new artwork designed by our own neighbor Andy Cross (yes, he and Linda are husband and wife), the T-shirt captures the intricate textures that make up our neighborhood. To participate in the campaign or to order a T-shirt, please complete the attached form and mail it or drop it off at the Council office, 6008 Kingsbury. Your contributions are tax-deductible.

Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere

Participation Form
2001

Please complete the form below, choose your desired Friends level and mail a check and this form to:

SDCC Friends Campaign
6008 Kingsbury
St. Louis, Missouri 63112

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Sign me up for periodic updates of issues and activities via my e-mail:

Please register me/us at the giving level indicated below:

_____ \$100+ Supporting Invitations to special Friends events plus one free NEWLY DESIGNED Skinker DeBaliviere T-Shirt (a \$12 value).
(Indicate shirt size on the order form at the bottom of this page)

_____ \$50+ Family Invitations to Friends events

_____ \$30+ Individual Invitations to all Friends events

_____ \$20 Senior/Student Invitations to all Friends events

Does your employer match funds? Contact SDCC at 862-5122 with this information.

NEW Skinker DeBaliviere T-shirt Order Form

of shirts/size

_____ M \$100+ Supporting Friends get one T-shirt FREE. Additional orders cost \$12.00 ea with proceeds going to the Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere campaign

_____ L

_____ XL

_____ XXL

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. Questions? Call 862-5122.



**COMMENTARY
THE S-D TIMES — PART OF THE LIBERAL
MEDIA CONSPIRACY**

The liberal, left-winged media does it again! No, not the Post-Dispatch or Riverfront Times this time.

That's right! You, the Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere, are part of the liberal media conspiracy. You've finally shown your true colors. You don't even try to hide your westward tilt; you print the evidence right there on the Front Page Header:

The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere (Vol. 31 No.3/Sep-Oct 2000)...FREE

There it is. Self-incriminating evidence! No self-respecting, feet on the ground, truth telling, God-fearing conservative newspaper would give its news away - **FREE** - no way. But, the S-D Times Does!

Yea, well, we all know "you get what you pay for!"

Check out the bottom of page 4, right under the headline "**Glimpses Of Rags To Riches 2000.**" First, there is this unauthorized photo of long-&-upstanding 5-D resident Ed Stout wearing a "BRAINS — 25 CENTS" T shirt along with this unsubstantiated bit of yellow journalism:

"Ed was not actually selling brains!"

How does the Times get away with such unabashed character assassination? bid you have any sources to support this statement or did you just assume that Ed didn't have any brains — a typical left-winged, liberal media bias. It should be obvious to the intelligent residents of this fine neighborhood what you are up to. You know the truth. Admit it. On the list of junk being sold at your old rags sale, Ed's brains were #1, and, now, you want to corner

the brains market in the neighborhood for next year's sale, with one purpose in mind: to raise enough funds to continue spreading your left-tilting, mind controlling, pinko hold on this fine neighborhood.

(The offending photo and caption)



Ed Stout and Georgi Fox, ready to cope with the weather, confer about business. Ed was not actually selling brains.

We have been closely following your drive over the past year or two to stockpile money. Your need for additional financing has become so desperate that you will violate the basic principles of this God-fearing neighborhood and steal someone else's idea.

Well, the jig's up, Times! We caught you. And, the truth will set you **FREE!** The citizens of S-D will not allow you to organize a takeover of Ed's monopoly on brains in the neighborhood. Ed has brains. Profits were plentiful and he has ample inventory for another record breaking profit at your 2001 second hand yard sale. However, if you plan to compete next year in the neighborhood market for brains, be ready for the capitalistic fight of your life.

Ed's new strategy for the 2001 Rag To Riches Sale is unbeatable:

BRAINS - FREE!

See, he has guts, too!

Submitted by

THE ED'S MONOPOLY ON BRAINS WILL SET YOU FREE COMMITTEE

RESIDENTS OF SKINKER DEBALIVIERE -- PUT A STOP TO THIS CONSPIRACY — SAVE ED'S MONOPOLY ON BRAINS IN S-D - PUT A HALT ON THE TIME'S UNETHICAL TAKEOVER - TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE TIMES OF S-D - IT WILL SET YOU **FREE!**

**Scouting and Soaring
Are A Wright Family Tradition**

The famous Wright Brothers of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, have little on the Wright Brother of St. Louis, Missouri. Though the former were the original adventurers I flight, the modern brothers named Wright are creating their own family legacy by soaring high with eagles. John and James were presented their Boy Scout Eagle Awards on November 25th at Grace Methodist Church. This honor is the highest rank in boy scouting.



James and John Wright

Both young men were active for four years at Grace Methodist Church in Cub Scout Pack 31 during the 80's and early 90's, and then participated for 7 more years as boy scouts in Troop 09 at St. Roch Catholic Church. Both were also active in the Keystone Order of the Arrow chapter holding offices, performing on ceremonial teams and participating in community service.

John performed his Eagle project for Our Little Haven, a permanent foster care facility for infants and toddlers. He built wooden toys and craft containers for the day room at the center.

James designed, cultivated and planted a perennial garden for St. Matthew's Catholic Church in north St. Louis as his project. His garden became a part of an area wide Revitalization 2000 project sponsored by the church and neighborhood community.

Both brothers are encouraging their third sibling, Joseph, to continue the family tradition and attain his Eagle. That will likely happen in the next year as he is already Life rank and only his project and a merit badge from attaining the Eagle honor.

John, James, and Joseph are the sons of Alan and Mary Wright of the 6200 block of Waterman in St. Louis, Missouri. John is a sophomore at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA, and James is a senior at St. Louis University High School in St. Louis.

Who Is Responsible for the Alleys?

- **PROPERTY OWNERS** in the city of St. Louis are responsible for keeping their half of their alley free of litter, weeds and overgrown trees, as well as in a safe and sanitary condition.
- The **CITY** is responsible for lighting in the alleys and easement, but this work is contracted out to the electric company for maintenance and replacement of bulbs. To report any alley or easement light out, call Ameren UE at 342-1000.
- **DUMPSTERS** are provided by the City and are designated as either a **TRASH DUMPSTER** or a **YARD WASTE** dumpster. Household trash is collected twice a week, yard waste once a week. These dumpsters are not intended for use by commercial enterprises. Several households share each dumpster, but if your particular dumpster is filled you may use another. However, only the residents who live on the same block are permitted to use the dumpster in that alley.
- The dumpsters are city property and are not provided for public use. All users of the dumpsters are expected to keep the area around the dumpsters clean and sanitary.

OFF. 721-5600
RES. 863-0220



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ASSOCIATE

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**COLONIAL
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Complete Floor Service
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726-3281

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Minutes

November 13, 2000

In Attendance: President Dan Schesch, **Directors:** Lara Lennon-Doyle, Peggy Droege, Georgi Fox, Greg Freeman, Steve Givens, Ronnie Haliburton, Dee Joyce-Hayes, Joseph Keaveny, Gwendolyn LaZard, Tim Schoemehl, Lana Stein, Katrina Stierholz, John Thomas. **Guests:** DeAndre Harris Bey, Brian Byrd, Andy Cross (Beautification/ Playground), Paul Hohmann (Transportation/Rosedale), Larry Isom (NSO), Shelly Goebel-Parker, P.O. Don Reynolds (7th District Police). **Staff:** Gary Boehnke (Housing Corporation Project Administrator), Laure Porterfield (SDCC Executive Director). **Absent:** Sharon FitzGibbons, Rev. Miki Merritt, Shirley Polk, Sole Van Emden.

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Dan Schesch.

Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

Minutes were read and approved as corrected.

Treasurers Report

Copier needs to be replaced. Resend letter to Central West End Bank regarding dues. Still working within budget. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made and seconded. Passed.

Auditors report: copies available at the office

Comptroller's Office audit: went well-waiting for feedback

2001 Budget - worksheet is in progress- more details at next meeting

Friends Campaign - outline of campaign to be presented at next meeting

Security Report

P.O. Don Reynolds stated that there have been a number of neighborhood robberies probably committed by a group of kids. Rocks thrown at a Washington University bus, windows broken. Arrest had been made for the shooting at 6045 Delmar November 3rd. Car theft is up; property stolen from cars is down. Undercover still working on it. Couple of incidents in regard to the opening of the Pageant. Safety Seminar on Sunday, November 19, at Grace Methodist Church. November 13 shooting at Shell Station. Victim died; suspect's car found in the county. November 13 police chase from Wellston ended on Delmar in the City.

Executive Committee Report

Ad Hoc Education Committee - report attached.

Historic District Review Committee is being re-activated.

Security Committee forming/contact Dan or Laure with nominees or to volunteer

Nominating committee: Sole Van Emden, John Thomas, Georgi Fox. Motion made and seconded to accept these appointments. Passed.

By-Laws committee presented a written report - changes outlined to eliminate any ambiguous interpretation of the nominating committee's role. Moved to use first interpretation. It was moved, seconded and passed to use the committee's first version for Article V, Section 2.

Section 2-Elections - Officers shall be elected for one (1) year terms in the first quarter of each calendar year. They may serve consecutive terms. At least two

(2) regular Board meetings prior to the election, a nominating committee composed of at least three (3) Board members shall be approved by a majority of the Board. The nominating committee shall obtain a candidate or candidates for each office and shall receive all candidates nominated by a member of the Board no later than the meeting prior to the election. At the meeting prior to the election, the nominating committee shall advise the Board of all candidates who have agreed to run for an office. No candidate shall run for more than one office at any one time. The method of election may be by acclamation, voice or written ballot as determined by the President. The committee also presented some options it is considering to amend terms of office. Further discussion after the first of the year; probably at the February meeting.

Executive Director's Report

CDA update: better reporting, receiving payments more regularly.

Please try to attend Security Seminar on Sunday, November 19th

Police Appreciation Lunch - December 14 (Thursday) Ruth Johnson is chairing.

Martin Luther King Celebration - volunteers welcome.

Cultural Resources meeting earlier today. Presented the Board position letter.

Microwave tower on apartment build at McPherson and Skinker. Big visible tower. Here to stay.

Stop work order at 6010 Pershing pending permit application/approval.

Housing Corporation

Gary Boehnke noted that progress on this building (6008-6010 Kingsbury). Discretionary funds are gone. Some improvements will have to wait. Estimated time of completion is one month.

5700 Block of McPherson. Phase been prepared for its re-development by a team set up by the Housing Corporation and including appointees from both the 26th and 28th wards. No block grant funds available from either 26th or 28th Wards. This block was included in the Historic District by an amendment to the original ordinance in 1984.

Committees/Neighborhood Reports

Transportation Committee requested that Bi-State conduct a study to put MetroLink under DesPeres using open trench and a bridge. Tom Irwin refused. Still pursuing alternatives.

Alderman's Report

Lyda reported that she has been asked if it is okay to change Milbrook-Boulevard's name to Forest Park Expressway. Also shared a letter to Bi-State regarding need for maintaining left turn into the neighborhood.

Other Actions:

Playground - Grand Opening was well attended.

Halloween Party - great fun and great participation.

Food Drive - very successful. Dr Magic and kid's participation a great addition.

Beautification - next month

Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

January 8, 2001

In Attendance: President Dan Schesch, **Directors:** Lara Lennon-Doyle, Peggy Droege, Georgi Fox, Greg Freeman, Steve Givens, Ronnie Haliburton, Joseph Keaveny, Gwendolyn LaZard, Shirley Polk, Tim Schoemehl, Lana Stein, Katrina Stierholz, John Thomas, Sole Van Emden. **Guests:** Susan Allen (WCC), Karen Branding, Andy Cross (Beautification/ Playground), Paul Hohmann (Transportation/Rosedale), Larry Isom (NSO), Asha Jahi (West End Community Conference), Katie Kurtz (Historic District Review Committee), Leah Merrifield (Washington University), P.O. Don Reynolds (7th District Police), Mike Schroeder, Richard Wilkes (SDCHC). **Staff:** Laure Porterfield (SDCC Executive Director). **Absent:** Gary Boehnke, Sharon FitzGibbons, Dee Joyce-Hayes, Rev. Miki Merritt. Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Dan Schesch.

Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

President Schesch indicated there would be three special presentations - Susan Allen - World Community Center; Big Jakes; and Billy Handmaker - Crossroad School.

Minutes from the November Board meeting were read and approved.

Presentation

World Community Center, 438 North Skinker, has been located in Skinker DeBaliviere for twenty-five years. Their current plans include renovation of the previously-unused third floor: this will increase office space for current members. No increase in parking is needed. Minor changes to the exterior (within code) and improved landscaping are also planned.

Commercial District Committee

Lana Stein presented the Commercial District Committee's report on Big Jake's Barbecue at 5863 Delmar (formerly McDonald's location). Plans call for a sit down restaurant - with patio - for approximately 75 people. The partners are James Anderson and Freeman Bosley Jr. They seek a liquor license for beer and

wine only on site until 1:00 a.m. Will also have take-away food service. All plans conform to Delmar Redevelopment Plans. A motion was made and seconded to write a second letter of support as recommended by the Commercial District Committee.

Crossroads School

Billy Handmaker, the Headmaster, reported that Crossroads is currently in the quiet phase of fund raising; seeking corporate donations. Phase I is a full gym and performing arts center. Phase II adds classrooms and library. Currently, there are 195 students and is likely to increase to 250 maximum. Expansion will allow for more community access to the facility. A motion was made and seconded to write a letter of support for expansion plans. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Peggy Droege

Came in within budget with very little left over. Will adjust line items on maintenance and office expenses. See written report. Money from Friends Campaign to renovate the office. A motion was made seconded and passed to approve the December treasurer's report.

Security - P.O. Don Reynolds

Car thefts increased in the neighborhood. Possible break in the fatal shooting at the Shell Station on 13 November. Very few gunshots fired on New Years Eve. Request to patrol alley behind businesses as in the DeBaliviere strip center.

Nominating Committee

Chair Sole Lujones Van Emden made the following recommendations for the 2001 slate of officers:

President - Dan Schesch

Vice President - John Thomas
Secretary - Lara Lennon-Doyle
Treasurer - Peggy Droege

There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and vote on the slate. Yes 14 - No 1. A motion was made and seconded to approve the candidates for office. Passed unanimously. Thanks were extended to Greg Freeman for his years of service as Vice President.

Committee/Neighborhood Reports

Transportation - Paul Hohmann

A major change in alignment was announced December 15; train is to run on the southside of Forest Park Parkway - at grade the proposed. Des Peres would terminate at Forest Parkway. (Possible pedestrian tunnel or bridge) would cross the Parkway and train tracks. Neighborhood feels this is a better plan but still requests that the City portion of MetroLink be underground. On another topic, the Transportation Committee recommends restoring the left turn at DeBaliviere on to Lindell (east bound). A motion was made to send a letter to Alderman Krewson making this request. Seconded and passed.

Technology Committee - Katrina Steirholz

The list serve is under construction. A webfair is planned on March 10 at Washington University - Eads Hall computer lab. A motion was made to adopt an E-mail privacy policy: E-mail names gathered for the Council's distribution list will be sent as blind carbon copies. Thus, all e-mail address will be hidden from every reader (with the exception of the sender's address - that is, the Community Council's e-mail address). The executive director will use all reasonable care to keep the list of e-mail recipients private. Your e-mail address will not be given out to others without your permission. Seconded and passed.

Historic District Review Committee - Katie Kurtz

The Committee had its first meeting discusses permit requirements in a historic district. The Building Permits section tries to offer "one stop" shopping. A staff person from Heritage is assigned daily to the permit window. The committee is currently drafting a brochure that explains the overlay of City Building Code and Historic District Code. Katie and Laure will meet with Kate Shea to talk about many other issues.

Executive Director's Report

Thanks to all who helped with Police Appreciation Lunch. Letter sent to MSD requesting that SDCC be included on rate commission board. We are on target with CDA goals. Would like to institutes a policy for inclement weather - to be voted on in February. Calendar for 2001 meeting schedule - approved.

Executive Committee Report

Security committee to be chaired by Gary Hayes and will meet in late January.

Education committee to meet with St. Louis Public School officials in regards to Tri A Middle School (now DesPeres Middle School) at the former "Little Hamilton" branch building

Archway Communities will not expand at this time; retail shops will most likely occupy ground level again.

Other Business

Reinstitute Finance Committee - Katrina Steirholz to be chair; also Peggy Droege, Shirley Polk and Linda Cross have volunteered. Friends Campaign moving forward.

Garden tour planned again this year. Adjourned 9:55 p.m.

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IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr

I don't know what to make of the fact that I've been hearing the R-word quite a bit lately.

No, not Recession. Not Ruminant, and neither Rapture. Roll, Rodomontade, nor Rapsallion.

The R-word is *retirement*.

Mind you, I'm not thinking of retirement. My job is still fun and I enjoy rolling out of the sack and going to work each day. But at my age, am I in the minority or what? Everywhere I turn, someone has called the world of work quits forever. Everywhere I turn, folks are staying in their pajamas until 10am and giving all of their work clothes, ties, or high heels, to Goodwill. (Yes, some are giving away their ties and high heels, but that's another column.) It gets worse: those who aren't already retired are talking about their impending retirement. The boom in the baby boomers is gone; we are now without gunpowder!

My gunpowder has been wet for some time. You see, I just had what my family calls "a highway birthday." In this case, it was the big 5-5. No, I'm not at highway 70 yet, thank you very much! While I feel fairly youthful (on some days) and can certainly make claim to remaining immature (on all days), I recognize that I am no longer a young pup. Indeed, no matter how much I would like to feel like a young pup, those days are over. Young-pupism is gone. Tail-wagging and howling at the moon are but distant memories, and I can't tell you the last time I chased a car.

As everyone who works with me knows, you'll never see my picture in the dictionary next to *mature*. So I can often deceive myself that I'm not getting any older after all. But then my body tells me I'm aging in lots of not-so-subtle ways. Each and every day it tells me; it shouts to me. Getting out of bed in the morning is now a multi-step process: move this knee, squirt WD-40 on it, move it again, then another squirt. Then move the other knee. And it's not just my creaking and rusty joints. More and more of

the pathways through which I receive information can be placed in the "endangered senses category." My hearing is virtually extinct. Huh? If I had to survive on my sense of smell, I'd be in real trouble. My eyesight is fine as long as I remember where I placed my glasses when I last took them off. Thankfully, my sense of taste, always a strength of mine, has weathered the test of time. I can still discern among brands of glazed donuts and can easily identify a ceegar with Cuban origins. And my sense of memory is, will be, uh, sorry, I've forgotten my point here. My hairline is but a memory and I often fail to recognize that person who looks at me in the mirror. He reminds me of my dad, but other than that, I'm not sure.

Like most of us who have been getting the AARP membership card for longer than we like or can remember, I try to convince myself that I'm resisting aging. After all, I still play quasi-semi-full-court basketball at least weekly, read the comic strips, and am a devotee of Fleetwood Mac and the Rolling Stones. Indeed, I'm astounded to realize that not only am I a tad older than Prez Clinton, I'm not that much younger than Dick Cheney. Now there's a scary thought!

But retirement? No way, Jose. As I said - at least I think I said it, I'm not quite sure - I enjoy my job. I am successful and feel like I'm helping to make a difference in the world. That sort of satisfaction is hard to beat.

Now granted, much as I enjoy my job, I also enjoy not enjoying my job. That is, I relish the weekends and vacations. In fact, I've been fortunate enough to have some prolonged periods away from work, and while I'm always happy to return, it's not because I was bored while away. I have a myriad of interests, from writing letters to the *Post* that are never published to thinking about my Great American Novel to reading at least some of the books that taunt me from my bedside. But each time I'm away, I appreciate how much fun it is to be back at work. I

figure, perhaps foolishly, that I can do the other stuff when I'm older and grayer. So for me, retirement isn't something to which I necessarily aspire.

Yet everywhere I turn, someone my age, sometimes even younger, is hanging up the strap. Just the other day I was talking with an old college fraternity brother. He's been teaching for more than 30 years and "come June," he says, he is "outta here." Both the date and the party are set. Huh? He's my age with a June retirement party planned, and I'm thinking about hiring people for the next year. His toothy grin would make the Cheshire Cat look shy.

"But what will you do?" I asked him, a bit enviously but more curiously. "Oh, I don't know," he replied smugly, having clearly fielded this particular question a raft of times. "I'm thinking of making getting into landscaping, or maybe I'll have time to watch all the great games on Classic ESPN."

"Whoa," I thought to myself, I don't know anyone who really has the time to watch Classic ESPN, except for Bernie, and you can argue that this is part of his job. Think about it: time to watch the 50's Yankees, 60's Packers, 70's Steelers, 80's Cards, and 90's Bulls. Now there's nirvana for you!

Then, at a holiday party, I talked to another friend, someone even, gasp, younger than myself. He's been retired for a few months now. "Investments have been good to me," he said. "Investments have been good to me?" I'm not even on a first-name basis with my investments, and his have been good to him? Where did I go wrong???

"So," having regained some of my composure, "what will you be doing?" I asked him, preparing for the worst.

"I donno," he responded with a smile, "looking for projects, reading, sleeping late, getting acquainted with Diane Rheim and Alex Trebek." His smile lit up the room.

The next day I was at work, where else, when the first wife called me, returning from a Girls' Luncheon she had

attended. She called about 4pm and when I asked her why the lunch had gone on so long, she said, "Oh silly, my friends are all retired. We had nothing better to do than eat bon-bons and gossip." They're retired, too, I pondered, rubbing my sore knee. Were their investments good to them too? Or was it their first husbands? Or both? Clearly I'd done something wrong in my feral youth. Somewhere there was a retirement ticket and I must have passed on it. It's a bit like the fact that I never took the SAT because I kept forgetting to bring my money, simply another lost opportunity.

I began this column by saying that I enjoy my job and am not looking forward to the BIG R. That's still true. On the other hand, it's clear that at this rate, in a few years I'll be the only person my age who is still working, at least still dressing up (relatively speaking) and leaving the house each day to go to work. I already wear clothes that are older than many of my employees, but with all my peers hanging it up, this is getting ridiculous. After all, we don't know when the grim reaper is coming, so we may as well have some time to relax before the final whistle.

What to do, though? Surely, Shirley, it will cost a bundle for me to retire. My magazine subscriptions, alone, will exceed my Social Security check. Then there's my monthly online and cable television fees, not to mention the cost of belonging to both the Cigar- and Pastry-of-the-Month Clubs. I can do without new clothes or travel, but these, dear reader, are necessities.

It's too late to buy AOL or Microsoft and expect to make a gonzo profit when selling. Buying options on Rams' PSL's has gone by too. I can be frugal, I can save every dollar possible, but since I'm already at the highway age, that's not likely to do the trick. It's clear that there's only one route left to me to avoid being the oldest person I know who still goes to work each day.

"I'd like 100 Power ball tickets, please."

COMPREHENSIVE CODE ENFORCEMENT DRAWS NEAR

Continued from page 1

sible areas that could be cited, but it provides a common-sense guideline to the sorts of issues the inspectors might raise regarding your property:

- Walls Tuckpointing, painting, shifting, cracking, bulging, loose siding, etc.
- Chimney Tuckpointing, loose bricks, etc.
- Porches Tuckpointing, structural components deteriorating, handrails, siding, etc.
- Doors Broken glass, painting, securing, screen doors torn, etc.
- Basement
- Areaway Tuckpointing, painting, securing, handrail, drain, debris, trash
- Retaining Wall Tuckpointing, cracked/bulged, collapsed
- Premises Walk Cracked, shifted
- Windows Broken/cracked, need painting, screens, trim
- Gutters &
- Downspouts Defective, need painting, sewer connections faulty
- Parking area Surface deterioration
- Fences Defective, need painting
- Autos Unlicensed auto in yard
- Garage Painting, tuckpointing, gutter and downspouts, doors, windowpanes, securing structural cracks and shifted walls.
- Open Storage Trash; and debris, bricks, appliances, lumber, etc.
- House Front and rear Numbering

CHANGES IN METRO LINK ALIGNMENT IMPACT NEIGHBORHOOD

Continued from page 1

cross both the Parkway and the MetroLink tracks. The fourth option was an at-grade crossing. Under this option, pedestrians would cross the parkway as they do now and come to an opening which would allow them to cross the light rail tracks.

After these options were presented, neighbors were invited to make comments and ask questions about the proposals. Although Bi-State officials noted that the underpass would include security cameras, a number of residents expressed serious concerns about possible safety risks with the underpass. Some of the residents in attendance objected to the overpass, believing that it would be unsightly or obtrusive. Finally, some residents expressed concerns about the safety of people crossing the MetroLink tracks on foot. Bi-State officials noted that a similar at-grade crossing currently exists downtown near Busch Stadium and has been used by many people daily without incident. At the conclusion of the meeting, those in attendance were asked to evaluate each of the four options on four different criteria: safety, convenience, neighborhood context, and aesthetics.

nience, neighborhood context, and aesthetics.

On February 13th, the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council passed a resolution affirming its support for placing the MetroLink tracks underneath DesPeres. However, among the options presented by Bi-State at the February 8th meeting, the Community Council expressed a preference for a combination of an overpass and an at-grade crossing to give pedestrians multiple ways of accessing Lindell and Forest Park.

Bi-State's final decision on the type of pedestrian crossing at Des Peres is still pending. Neighborhood residents will have their next opportunity to provide input on this and other issues related to MetroLink at a design charette scheduled for March 28th.

