

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 35 No. 4

November-December 2004

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Wintermarkt Returns to Skinker DeBaliviere

Wintermarkt, an outdoor arts and crafts fair sponsored for the fourth year in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood, returns Saturday, December 4th, 1:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Greg Freeman Park at Four Corners (the intersection of Kingsbury and Des Peres Boulevard.

Guests will stroll outdoors among booths set up by participating artists and craftsmen. Potters, glass blowers, photographers, jewelers, and many others will offer their finest wares. Neighborhood bakers will present fine food products from their ovens, both for snacking that day or for gifting further into the holiday season. Roast chestnuts, hot dogs, hot beverages and other goodies will be offered. Musical entertainment features area choirs, a hand bell



group, a capella performers from Washington University and more. Individual craftsmen will demonstrate their skills. Horse-drawn carriage rides can be purchased through the neighbor-

hood. Come and share a creative afternoon of merriment and anticipation in the finest European tradition.

The festivities continue no matter what the weather; if it's really cold, wear your boots and mittens and sample some spiced cider or gluhwein.

Last year, over thirty-five vendors afforded shoppers a wide variety of hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind gift items. Many are returning for their second or third year! Organized by members of the West End Arts Council, the event is funded in part by a grant from the Regional Arts Commission. Funds raised help underwrite programming for the community throughout the year.

So don't miss out — visit this beautiful neighborhood, get in the holiday mood and be prepared for upcoming festivities.

New Sculpture on Delmar

An interesting and whimsical sculpture by artist Victoria Fuller, called "I Want," has been installed in front of Big Shark Bicycle Company at 6133 Delmar. The work was commissioned by Arts in Transit, a community partnership program of Metro (Bi-State) and was originally installed at a MetroBus stop in Maplewood. Funding for the project was provided by the Missouri Arts Council.

"I Want" consists of a man and his dog. According to Arts in Transit, "the man is filled with gadgets, tools, and similar items

of amusement, poking fun at our desire for objects of many kinds. The dog contains tennis balls and other dog toys, which illustrates what is perhaps a dog's most basic obsession. The piece is also a commentary on our consumer-based society, where we tend to mistake what we have for who we are."

Artist Victoria Fuller was also responsible for the "Shoe of Shoes" sculpture installed for a time at City Museum and now in front of Brown Shoe Co. in Clayton. Fuller has won many professional awards and has been shown in many venues across the

country.

No doubt, as time goes by, other interpretations and thoughts — and smiles — will be inspired by this interesting piece of public art, yet another welcome addition to the Delmar streetscape.



Arts in Transit brings sculpture fun to Delmar.

THE TIMES NEEDS YOUR HELP

Inside this issue you'll find a fundraising envelope for our own special cause, THE TIMES OF SKINKER-DEBALIVIERE. This all-volunteer newspaper has been published continuously for nearly 35 years.

Did you know that all our writing and all our distribution of nearly 3,000 newspapers is done by volunteers?

Our shoestring budget is managed well by Business Manager Lois Schoemehl, but advertising doesn't quite cover our expenses for layout and printing. If you agree that communications among neighborhood residents remains an important priority, please put a little something in the envelope for your own neighborhood newspaper this holiday season.

And, if you'd like to volunteer to help, note that, too. We'll be happy to have your input and/or help with delivery. Happy Holidays!

Christmas Caroling

Interested Carolers from the 6000 and 6100 blocks of McPherson are once again invited to share in Christmas festivities with their neighbors. Plans are to gather on the Rosedale/McPherson barricade and traverse the neighborhood singing carols. Afterwards, the Christmas carolers and friends are invited back to 6179 McPherson for fun and fellowship. Please bring your favorite holiday treats; hot chocolate and was-sail punch will be provided.

This festive holiday activity is organized annually by your neighbors Dave Schmidt and Mary Schmit. David is a volunteer with the St. Louis Christmas Carol Association and can help you start a caroling tradition on your block.



Editor's Notebook

By Lana Stein

In recent days, I've devoted some thought to how our neighborhood is different from what it was when I moved here in 1969. It is certainly safer and more stable. The desirability of our older homes has become more marked and property values have soared on certain blocks. Many young professionals, often with toddlers in tow, have joined us in Skinker DeBaliviere. Many apartment buildings are now occupied by Washington U. students, placing more people on the streets particularly in the evenings, and occasionally spilling forth party noise into the evening. We're a regular stop on the Wash U shuttle although you now needed passes, etc. to ride.

But, the tone is quite different. The various adversities of the 70s and 80s brought people together. Through block club, council, newspaper, disparate residents came together for selfprotection and to ensure a multiracial environment. Now, it's basically the same people volunteering to help in neighborhood activities and it's not always easy to find people to help. Perhaps success has inspired a kind of complacency. After all, things are basically going well. There is new housing, the property values climb and Delmar is being resurrected like a Phoenix rising from the ashes.

Will we remain a unique, involved, diverse neighborhood? Or will we become more bourgeois, more selfinvolved? Will people forget why we came together? Will this be just another neighborhood? People need reasons to become involved and selfpreservation has always been the best organizing principle. But, if there is no threat, nothing to spur us together, will we lose that essential identity that set us apart among neighborhoods? There remains a fragility to our success and we should not take the good times for granted.

Calendar

Upcoming Events Calendar

November 17: SDCHC Board Meeting, 7 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury

December 4: Wintermarkt 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Greg Freeman Park at Four Corners. Art, craft items, giftware, demonstrations, musical performances, more!

December 13: SDCC Board Meeting, 7 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury

Dec. 14: DeBaliviere Place Assoc., 6 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury

December 16: Police and Firefighters Appreciation Luncheon, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury. Open house luncheon offered in appreciation to the men and women who serve our neighborhood throughout the year

January 10: SDCC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 6008 Kingsbury

January 16: Martin Luther King Day Celebration, 3:00 p.m., Grace and Peace Church, 5574 Delmar. Call Laurie Porterfield at 862-5122 for more information or to participate in the planning of this annual neighborhood event.

Other Events of Interest:

11/5-12/24: 40th Annual Holiday Exhibition at Craft Alliance, 6640 Delmar. This exhibition features an exclusive selection of gift items produced by nationally known contemporary craft artists. Explore the Gallery's carefully coordinated holiday objects which celebrate the season. From menorahs, mezuzahs, and blown-glass ornaments, to dinnerware, vases, home and fashion accessories, holiday shoppers will find that perfect one-of-a-kind gift for everyone on their lists. Call 725-1177 for more information.

11/11-21, 13th Annual St. Louis International Film Festival. At Tivoli Theatre & other locations. Presented by Cinema St. Louis, the festival is an open invitation to features, documentaries and short subjects from all over the world, with special emphasis on American independents, world cinema and prize-winning short subjects. This festival has achieved an official designation from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as a sanctioned short subject qualification event. For information call (314) 454-0042 or visit www.cinemastlouis.org.

11/20, Breakfast Lecture: "The Social Construction of 'Whiteness': Racism by Intent, Racism by Consequence" with sociologist Theresa Guess, 9am-11am, \$8.50 per person for breakfast, Missouri History Museum

11/20, "A Conversation with Bill Clay Sr." at the Missouri Historical Society, featuring Clay's new book: *Bill Clay: A Political Voice at the Grassroots*, published by MHS, at 2pm in Lee Auditorium, free and open to the public.

11/21, Holiday Fair at the Missouri Historical Society, 1-4pm., book signings by local authors including Thomas Crone, Frinkie Freeman, E. Terrance Jones, Brady Baybeck, Ann Liberman, Johnny Rabbitt, Lana Stein, Andrew Theising, Carolyn Hewes Toft.

12/4-5, Third Degree Glass Factory Holiday Sale! Noon-5pm, A large selection of ornaments, vases, bowls, and things we can't even name will be for sale.

12/10, Opening Exhibit and Free Public Reception, 5:30 p.m., Regional Arts Commission, 6128 Delmar, "Fortune: Then & Now", an artist reunion from a special experience working together at the Fortune Bank Building in the 70's and early 80's.

12/13, Cokie Roberts of NPR speaks on our founding mothers at Missouri Historical Society, 7pm, free.

12/16, 28th Ward Regular Democrats' Christmas Party returns to Third Degree Glass Factory for another fun-filled evening, open to all. Last year a wonderful selection of moderately priced and beautiful glass pieces were for sale, and party-goers could also watch glass-blowing in action. For more information, call Alderman Lyda Krewson or Committeewoman Lu Green, 862-4187, or Committeeman Joe Keaveney, 863-4060.

Remembering Sara Johnson

by Lana Stein

This is an overdue remembrance of a special woman devoted to her university and also devoted to the neighborhood where she lived and which she served. Sara Johnson, representing Washington University, came on the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council in the early 1990s. She was tall and lithe and basically quiet but she had a knack for the right phrase at the right time. A resident of Parkview, she did all that she could to enhance our neighborhood and to facilitate townsgown relations. I respected her composure and got to enjoy her company at a couple lunches.

She had done her undergraduate work at Wash U and returned in 1989 to work for then Chancellor William Danforth. When Danforth retired, she continued for two years as an aide to his successor, Mark Wrighton. She then assumed the position of Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences. She was very devoted to the students and to the university.

She was 47 when she passed away this spring, a victim of a rare cancer. Washington University lost a partisan as did our neighborhood. She will be remembered well by all who knew her here.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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Tom Hoerr	Venita Lake	Lana Stein	Marcia Kerz
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Guidelines for Submitting Copy

The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of the Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents. Calendar listings should be phoned in to the editor at 721-7532, or mailed to 5953 Pershing Ave., 63112.

The writer is responsible for the accuracy of the data, including times, dates, location, and particularly the spelling of names. The editor retains the right to omit or alter any material.

Deadline for February/March issue: January 15, 2005. Please send copy by e-mail to jvatcha@peoplepc.com or by disc to 6008 Kingsbury, St. Louis, MO 63112.

Readers are welcome to send us e-mail or letters commenting on any of our content. Send to jvatcha@peoplepc.com or lstein@umsl.edu.

Grand Open House for the New Kingsbury Animal Hospital

Saturday, September 18 was not oppressively hot and it did not rain. That was a good thing in that about 200 people gathered in the twilight to celebrate Kingsbury Animal Hospital's new and commodious structure.

The event was more than an open house however. It was also a fundraiser for Animal House. This is the effort to build a new city animal shelter, replacing a building long past its prime. A chief sponsor of this effort, Aldermanic President Jim Shrewsbury was in attendance with his wife. She and a Shrewsbury staffer helped tend bar. Everyone was asked to leave a check for Animal House.

Dr. Steve Brammeier has achieved a very special dream. He thanked Lyda Krewson for all her help, thanked architect Tom Cohen of the Johannes and



Dr. Steve Brammeier addresses the grand opening guests.

Cohen Collaborative, and expressed gratitude to his family and partner Hugh Pavitt for all of their support. Guests came from inside and outside the neighborhood. Katie and Paul Kurtz came by as did Georgi Fox and her sister Gaby. S D C C President Joe Keavany and Rosedale Neighbors

President Tim Schoemehl enjoyed the gettogether. Venita and Rick Lake came by.

Aside from a variety of beverages, guests were offered trays of exotic appetizers scattered throughout the new hospital. Animal hospital staffer Joanne provided the catering. You could nosh as you explored the facility. The surgery space was ample and pristine. A highlight was meeting

up with the house animals. There are two lovely one year old brownish tabbies, Spock and Clubb. There was also a very friendly young dog with shepherd markings, who was looking for a home. The animals were caged for the event but reacted to visitors with joy and warmth.

Steve has continued the tradition of having a wall of client photos. A new touch is a wall of small sculptures, containing various paw prints and messages. They had been prepared by clients and help to make all the creatures very much a part of the new facility.



Celebrating the brand-new animal hospital are, from left, Alderman Lyda Krewson, Drs. Delancey and Debra Moore, Hugh Pavitt, and Lana Stein.

News of Neighbors

Georgi Fox, 40 year neighborhood resident, is recuperating from back surgery. Her recuperation was helped by a visit from daughter **Genny**, who currently resides in Singapore. As her strength comes back, she looks forward to the arrival of son **Alex** and daughter-in-law **Maria's** second child December 2.

A lovely bride and groom and two ceremonies. October 23 was a very special day for **Dina Vatcha**, daughter of **JoAnn** and **Neville Vatcha**, as she joined her life with **Gururaj (Chintu) Kumar**. Dina grew up in Skinker DeBaliviere. Chintu is a Michigan native whose parents immigrated from India. They now live and work in Washington, D.C. On the morning of the 23rd, they were married in a Hindu ceremony at the Hindu Temple opposite Queeny Park in St. Louis County. As night fell, they received a Zoroasterian blessing and had a ring ceremony at the Mahler ballroom in the Central West End, followed by supper and dancing. Best wishes to Dina and Chintu!

This month's *Gateway Heritage*, the magazine of the Missouri Historical Society, features a profile of our West End neighbor and Delmar collaborator, **Marie Fowler**. The article highlights neighborhood reaction when Fowler and her husband integrated their block, north of Delmar. Also mentioned is Ms. Fowler's legendary stewardship of the West End Community Conference and her pride in their relatively recently acquired facility. Her son and his family live in

Parkview.

Jill McGuire, longtime resident of 61xx Westminster Place, has received this year's award for leadership in the arts from the Missouri Arts Council. She was also profiled in the *Post* recently.

Sincere condolences to **Roy Bell and family** of the 6100 block of Kingsbury. Roy's mother, **Laura Jeane Bell**, passed away in September. Laura Bell was past president of the Missouri League of Nursing and served as a supervisor/instructor at Barnes Hospital and Washington University's Schools of Nursing for many years. She received her RN from St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington DC, her BS from WU, and Master's from SLU, and was named 'Nurse of the Year' in 2003. In addition to these professional achievements, she was the beloved mother of 9 children.

Looking forward to more babies in the spring, we learned that **Rachael and Matt Boxdorfer** of the 6000 block of McPherson are expecting another! Congratulations to all. We're looking forward to learning more about all our young families in the months to come.

Welcome to new neighbors on the 6100 block of Westminster, **Tom Snider and Kathy Kniepman**. Tom and Kathy purchased the house previously occupied by **Christina (Fleener) and Sean McGroarty** and their growing family, who have moved to a larger home on the 6100 block of McPherson.

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Vatcha and City Win Award

JoAnn Vatcha, resident of Skinker DeBaliviere for close to 40 years, has worked as a volunteer for the TIMES and has received recognition for her work on the redevelopment of Delmar. But today we recognize the important work she has done for the city in her paid job.

JoAnn is a Housing Analyst for the Community Development Administration. She has spearheaded housing rehabilitation in a number of city neighborhoods, including Souldard and Benton Park. In recent months, she has worked with coworkers and CIN (City Information Network) to highlight CDA housing development projects on the city's website, various print media in St. Louis, including the American and the PostDispatch, and with City Cable's Channel 10 to produce a regular "Home in the City" broadcast. JoAnn originated and has written these features that demonstrate the vitality of new and rehabilitated housing in the City.

Because of her creativity in marketing the city and enhancing possibilities for minority homeownership, the Missouri Association of Realtors, at its annual convention, awarded JoAnn its 2004 HOPE Award. Jo Ann and Neville traveled to Branson to receive the award in person. Many congratulations, JoAnn, from your neighbors and collaborators at the Times.

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Italian Market & Outdoor Patio

New on Delmar

By Norbert Hart

People looking for unique gifts may want to venture into Big Shark Athletic Co. on Delmar, an affiliate of the bicycle store. While the main line of products is clothing, they feature additional accessories as well. Those wanting outfits for cycling, triathlon (similar to cycling), yoga, running, and swimming can find a variety of styles, as well as accessories such as running socks and goggles and fins

for swimmers. Training books are also available for the above sporting activities.

In addition to their sports clothes, Big Shark Athletic Co. also has some men & women's casual clothes. This line includes shirts, caps, vests, sandals, and jackets.

Accessories for the sports mentioned above are available. Items include fuel belts, watches, heart rate monitors (and some combination

watch/monitors), sunglasses, backpacks, yoga mats & blocks, body lubricants, and skin care lotions. There are also food items such power bars, gels, and water bottles.

Big Shark Athletic Co. is located at 6176 Delmar. Their phone number is 862-1818. Hours are: M-F 11-7, Saturday: 10-6, and Sunday: 12-5.

Miss Saigon

By Maggie Peters



While one of the newest restaurants on the ever-expanding loop, Miss Saigon is not new to aficionados of Vietnamese cuisine. Having formerly called Shrewsbury home, Miss Saigon had already acquired a bit of a following before opening its doors on Delmar in May.

Being somewhat new to Vietnamese cuisine myself, I studied up a bit before dining at Miss Saigon - motivated in part by having already agreed to write this very lay review. I learned that a newbie needs little more than fish sauce, rice, a Chinese steamer, and sharp knives to start their own Vietnamese kitchen. Although I have no desire to start my own Vietnamese kitchen, it was comforting to think that Vietnamese cuisine could be so simple. From one look at Miss Saigon's menu, however, it was obvious that the restaurant was far from a humble start-up Vietnamese kitchen.

Miss Saigon offers the usual appetizers, including different types of meats and veggies rolled in rice paper or rolled and fried in egg roll skin. The entrees vary from less expensive noodle bowls to house specialties such as stir-fried shrimp, calamari, and crabstick. Miss Saigon also offers vegetarian dishes and rice plates. The prices are very reasonable, with dinners ranging from \$6.95 for a basic noodle bowl to \$13.95 for more involved dishes such as hot and sour soup with catfish fillet. There are several specialty coffee drinks to choose from, wine, and beer. The wine is surprisingly affordable, especially because the glasses seemed to be either filled to the brim or spilling over.

I ordered the Cari Ga which was a chicken stir-fry dish with curry, lemon grass, coconut milk, and white and green onions. Admittedly, not a terribly adventurous dish, but as a lay restaurant reviewer, I didn't feel an obligation to go crazy and order the crabstick or catfish fillet. The Cari Ga was exactly as advertised, and very good. I liken it to Thai curry, which I suppose it is, but with a sprig of lemon grass on the top. The service was very speedy, and the portions were positively huge. Although it wasn't on the menu, we also ordered tiramisu, which was heavenly. Miss Saigon is separated into two rooms, with a total of approximately twenty tables. Both rooms were impressively decorated, with the decor being somewhat modern, but not stark. The walls were painted beautiful colors. Had I had a knife on me, I might have taken a chip of paint off the wall to duplicate the color in my home. Miss Saigon also has sidewalk seating, which was full while we were there. The clientele varies depending on what is playing at the Pageant on any particular night. On our night, we saw a wide range of folks, from couples on first dates to families with children.

With prices so inexpensive and entrees so good, Miss Saigon should be on your list of places to frequent. Even a newbie to Vietnamese cuisine cannot go wrong. Miss Saigon is located at 6101 Delmar, and is open Sundays through Thursdays 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; and is closed Tuesdays. Miss Saigon also offers carry-out at 863-4949.



Photos by King Schoenfeld

609: It's So Fine

By LaLo

This is the tale of two women who love to lunch and who decided to explore a venue close by. 609, located on Eastgate at Delmar, has been open for at least 6 months. Needless to say, the women who lunch are not always quick on the uptake. The restoration of the building has been very nicely done. The setting is modern but with a nice degree of comfort. We were particularly glad that the window on the north side of the dining area had been preserved. That keeps a piece of St. Louis in a restaurant with strong continental overtones.

We debated what to order and finally decided to share two dishes.

One was a peanut-encrusted chicken sandwich and the other was crabcakes. The chicken was fine but the crabcakes were little short of divine. We attempted to guess at spices as we savored every morsel. Steve Yu, manager, appeared and we queried him about the flavors. He said he managed, he didn't cook. But, he was quite pleased at our response.

609 is truly a fusion restaurant. Normal American food is cooked in an Asian fashion with spices much more common to Asian cooking. And the translation works. It was a lovely lunch, with good service, and we know we'll be back.

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DELMAR UPDATE

By Jo Ann Vatcha

Recently, Project for Public Spaces, a consultant which our Delmar planning group worked with in the early 90's, contacted us to learn of our progress. Then SDCC Director Laurie Porterfield asked me to give an 'annual report.' It's great to think of all the positive activity which has taken place in the past few years, but during 2004, we could really say, "we're back, baby!"

- The streetscape construction is nearly complete! The wider sidewalks are being used for sidewalk dining already, and pedestrian activity has increased greatly.
- The special pedestrian lighting, paid for by 28th Ward Alderman Lyda Krewson, from block grant funds, was unfortunately bid out by Metro later than the sidewalk work, but installation is now set to begin December 10, 2004.
- Fabulous rehabs... what we now simply call "The Loop".
- Many new retail businesses have opened on Delmar:
 - Mirasol Tapas Restaurant
 - Chinese Noodle Cafe
 - Bittersweet Botanicals
 - Big Shark Athletic Wear
 - MacroSun International
 - Spot 9 Ladies Footwear
 - Peses Ladies Boutique
 - Sole Survivor Leather
 - Diversity Gallery
 - Big Shark Bicycle Company
 - Miss Saigon
 - "Pin-Up Bowl"
 - 609 Restaurant and the "U" Lounge
- The most important new buildings are the gorgeous Regional Arts Commission building, which brings numerous events and artists to our area every week and the magnificent Pageant Theatre. These two new buildings serve as special anchors drawing numerous visitors.
- East of the Metro Station, development has also escalated, with the folks at St. Louis Design Alliance taking the lead, currently building new shopping at Laurel and Delmar and at the site of a seriously outdated service station and later quick shop, planning for a major development at Delmar at Hamilton.
- At 5959 Delmar, a new business, GraniteWorks has just opened, offering a retail showroom with custom granite countertops and more.
- Metro's "Arts in Transit" executed a public art installation of several pieces, following a competition held earlier in the year.
- Delmar Commercial Committee continues to work on planning and parking issues. We completed a parking study and a preliminary study of whether a "TIF" (tax increment financing)

could help build a parking structure or open lot. As a result of working closely with primary property owner Joe Edwards, a major step forward was made when a large portion of the property along Enright just north of Delmar adjacent to the Pageant lot was purchased for free parking. Joe has also purchased the Ronald Jones Funeral Parlor. Plans to rehab this lovely building are underway.

- Special Election in 2003 brought official approval extending the boundaries of the East Loop Special Business District to all of the Delmar Link area, east to DeBaliviere. In the future, this will mean a substantial budget with which to do special projects, marketing, lighting, clean up, security, etc. The board now includes representation from east of Skinker. Longtime committee member Loretta Lloyd was elected to the board, as well as Neal Shapiro of Original Cast Lighting and Dave Mastin of St. Louis Design Alliance. This new board currently meets monthly with the Loop Special Business District in University City to coordinate activities. Debbie Murphy, who handles marketing for the Loop, now attends our Delmar Commercial Committee Meetings, too, to help plan cooperatively.
- "East Meets West" was the theme of a new street festival, held in May, 2004.
- Metro has continued to be a challenge for the community over the past two years, and we hope to learn soon about the revised prospects for the long-awaited Transit Plaza.

Here's what we wrote for the groundbreaking just over a year ago:

"The rebirth of Delmar Boulevard between Skinker and DeBaliviere began over a dozen years ago when area residents and business owners formed the Delmar Commercial Committee. Neighbors north and south of Delmar worked with Arts in Transit for the opening of the Delmar Loop MetroLink Station. Along with Aldermen Dan McGuire, Irving Clay, and Lyda Krewson, these Delmar neighbors created a plan for positive change that included redevelopment standards and a vision for revitalization. Today, a completed Pageant concert nightclub and several new shops are thriving; at least a dozen new stores and cafes plus the Regional Arts Commission building are preparing to open within a year. With the vitality of the Loop extending from University City eastward in the City of St. Louis, Delmar is bridging north and south and City and County. Visitors are invited to ride MetroLink to this unique shopping, arts and entertainment district."



Granite Works Brings New Retail East of Des Peres

By Jo Ann Vatcha

Over the past few years, several business persons have explored development of the old Waldman Glass Company building at 5959 Delmar. A marvelous structure with a glass-walled 'showroom,' as well as access to underground parking and storage, this interesting site also has lots of adjacent parking. A warehousing business attempt to locate there last year was scuttled by their inability to get an occupancy permit, thanks to the Delmar Link Redevelopment Ordinance in place for some years and diligently enforced by our local committee, together with the zoning department of the City of St. Louis.

In October, a new business gained approval of its application for an occupancy permit to operate as "Granite Works." Owners Mike Rasch and Pamela Primm did their homework. They learned from Laurie Porterfield at SDCC about the Delmar Link Redevelopment Area, for which we have established several use restrictions. They met with Alderman Frank Williamson, and with the Delmar Commercial Committee, to address concerns such as deliveries and storage. The Committee stressed the importance of the site in the future development of Delmar east of the station, and emphasized consistency in applying our use restrictions in the redevelopment ordinance. For example, warehouse use is not allowed, and open storage is clearly spelled out as a prohibited use.

The zoning department held the required "conditional use" hearing, which gave neighbors and organizations an opportunity to comment further. The Delmar Commercial Committee and Alderman Williamson outlined restrictions to be included in approval for occupancy, including limits on the type of delivery trucks to minimize unnecessary delays on Delmar. A new privacy

fence will be built to screen and protect public at the new loading dock.

Retail showroom will be constructed to house full-size samples of countertops, fireplace surrounds, etc. Sound-deadening insulation of the west wall, adjacent to the child care facility next door, will be added. The north wall is already insulated for noise control. Drainage issues will be examined and solved, so that sewer can handle any drainage from wet-sawing of granite. A previous mound in the parking lot, which caused flooding in alley, will be removed. The new business will be improving the parking lot per city regulations and the redevelopment ordinance standards. "Fabricating" activity will be limited to preparation of customized products made from broken pieces of granite in order to facilitate on-time delivery to customers, in place of re-orders in the event of breakage. Hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday-Saturday and Sunday by appointment. No outside storage and no deliveries on Sunday.

The Delmar Commercial Committee worked closely with Alderman Williamson and solicited input from nearby neighbors on Enright, with help from committee members Marie Fowler and Ann Voss from the West End Community Conference. Adjacent business owner, Sunshine Academy's Loretta Lloyd, one of our original committee members, and her husband Willis, helped to frame the provisions to make the proposal work.

Granite Works promises to be an asset to our commercial district and neighborhood, offering new services and products to neighbors upgrading their homes, as well as to builders working nearby on the construction of new homes. Congratulations to Mike and Pamela as they launch their new business!

Martin Luther King Commemoration Celebration Committee Continues a Neighborhood Tradition

Plans are underway for Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council to host its annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Celebration Sunday, January 16th, 2005 at Grace and Peace. As this issue goes to press, the details of the program have not been finalized, but it will follow the same neighborhood-oriented parameters that have worked successfully for so many years.

Reverend Kurt Lutjens, a longtime member of the committee, will welcome the community and the program back again to Grace

and Peace. As Committee Chairman Liz Johnston notes, "Dad would be thrilled to know that we have returned!" Liz, the daughter of Jack Wright, one of the founders of this neighborhood tradition, takes her responsibilities as chairman very seriously, and is working hard to make this program shine in the spirit that Jack Wright would want.

Anyone interested in assisting with this committee's work is urged to contact the SDCC office at 862-5122.

Sunflowers

By Rachelle L'Ecuyer

Whimsical, colorful, inspiring: sunflowers. One summer ago, a friend arrived at my home with a jelly jar filled with sunflowers. The bright, animated blooms became the center of the room no matter where I placed them. I made a note to plant them the following season.

When the spring finally arrived this year, I remembered the sunflowers and boldly planted them on the back borders of my lawn. I soon forgot them and began attending to other plants, until one day I noticed green stalks shooting up from the soil. Everyday the stalks grew taller and taller.

One neighbor quipped, "They aren't going to stop 'til they reach the sky." Until the blooms appeared the sunflower plants held a "Jack and the Beanstalk" quality about them and my children made bets on when we would see them touch the sky. My patience was just beginning to wear, when fresh and lively flowers, more than a foot in diameter, burst open on stalks that stood 8 feet tall. I saw passersby slowing their pace as they caught sight of the flowers, and 9 out of 10 times, a smile emerged on their face.

Coming home everyday was like being greeted by a smiling crowd of friends. I could not help but smile when I saw them and I noticed it was contagious; a neighbor walking up her stoop

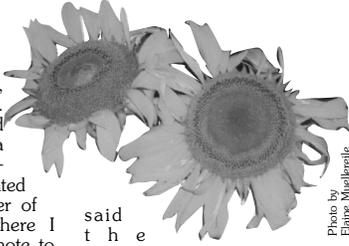


Photo by Elaine Mankreke

said t h e sunflowers made her so happy when she saw them. When the blooms began to peak, I cut some down for her and it created a wave of excitement in her household. I offered some to another neighbor, an artist, who apparently had been waiting to be asked; when the offer was made he had one request, "May I have them in varying degrees of decay?"

It wasn't just the neighbors that enjoyed the sunflowers, but a pair of golden finches found my lawn and made 3 or more meals a day out of the sunflowers. Their brilliant yellow feathers served as camouflage while they dined hanging from the large flowers. I hardly noticed them right away. I began to look for them and they came everyday until the flowers began to grow weary and the stalks darkened from green to brown. I cut them down one evening. My front yard with many of the plants at beautiful lush peaks suddenly seemed void of life. The signs of the seasons changing were very clearly defined for me with loss of the sunflowers. I know, though, that in the spring, I will plant more.

Holiday Open House to Thank Police, Firefighters

On Thursday, December 16th, the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council will host a Holiday Open House at the Council Office for the police and firefighters who serve our neighborhood. This tenth annual Open House will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 6008 Kingsbury.

We continue to need your help. Please consider contributing a dish or a dessert for the luncheon buffet. You are also urged to drop by the Council office to meet some of the men and women who protect our

neighborhood, and if you can, drop off your holiday treat for this festive occasion (food drop-off begins at 8:00 a.m.)

We are once again recruiting volunteers from the neighbor to serve as hosts and hostesses throughout the day, and would like to coordinate the items being contributed for the buffet.

Please call the Council office at 862-5122 to sign up as a host/hostess and/or to let us know what you might bring. As always, thank you for your support. And best wishes for a safe joyous holiday season.

WINTERMARKT CALL FOR ARTISTS

The West End Arts Council invites you to participate in the fourth annual West End Arts Council Wintermarkt on Saturday, December 4, 2004 from 11 am until 4 p.m. Wintermarkt is held in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood at the corner of Kingsbury and Des Peres (a public square).

We seek artists (including crafters) to sell their works at this outdoor arts and crafts fair. Last year we had ceramicists, candle makers, jewelry makers, glass artists, a doll maker, garden-inspired accessories, handmade purses, musicians, wax ornaments, beeswax products, and more. In keeping with European tradition, the event will be held outdoors. We will also feature a bonfire.

We also are looking for donated baked goods for our bake sale. The West End Arts Council will offer an array of homemade baked goods, along with hot drinks, hot dogs, and roasted chestnuts for sale.

If you would be interested in participating, please register by November 26th. Artists will be required to supply their own table and chairs.

For more information about the artists' sale, to register, or for donating baked goods, contact Laure Porterfield at 862-5122 or at skinkerd@stlouis.missouri.org.

St. Louis Smart Commute Initiative New Program helps SkinkerDeBaliviere residents get more home for their money

By Nicole Blummer

A national Fannie Mae program launched last month in St. Louis will help area residents living near public transportation get a better deal on buying a home. The "Smart Commute" Initiative can help home buyers qualify for a larger mortgage if they live within a quarter mile of a bus stop or half mile of a MetroLink stop. Smart Commute stands to benefit SkinkerDeBaliviere substantially as the entire neighborhood is eligible for the program.

Fannie Mae partnered with Metro, the City of St. Louis, and lending partners Countrywide Home Loans and First National Bank of St. Louis to establish the St. Louis launch of Smart Commute. The program was launched on October 28th at the Forest Park Metrolink station in the SkinkerDeBaliviere neighborhood. Mayor Francis Slay, Congressman William Lacy Clay III and Metro Director Larry Salci were among those gathered to announce their support for the initiative.

Smart Commute recognizes the link between housing affordability and transit costs. For many households, transportation costs are the second largest budget expense after housing. Purchasing a home near public transit and using bus or rail service to travel to and from work each day is a convenient option for many SkinkerDeBaliviere residents. Transit commuting, at \$50 for a monthly pass, can lead to a significant reduction in expenses over commuting by car, which can easily surpass \$400 per month. Using public transit can reduce, or even eliminate, the expense of owning and maintaining a vehicle.

There are no income limits to the program, and buyers can qualify for up to \$250/month additional mortgage payment. Smart Commute participants are not required to give up their car. As an added benefit, participants will receive free Metro tickets for travel on all Metro routes in St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Clair County.

Advantages of purchasing a home through Smart Commute include:

- Required down payment of as little as \$500
 - Allows the use of a portion of the potential savings achieved by commuting to and from work to help purchase more house for every homebuying dollar
 - Can reduce or eliminate the expense and upkeep of a personal vehicle
 - Free Metro tickets
 - Benefits the environment by conserving natural resources and reducing the impact of vehicular emissions
- For more information on the program, contact participating Countrywide Home Loan lenders at 1-800-877-5626 or 1st National Bank of St. Louis at 314-835-3700.

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Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 9, 2004, SDCC Office

ATTENDANCE: 19 persons in total. President: Joe Keavany; Directors: Christine Bubbico, Peggy Droege, Paul Hohmann, Liz Johnson, Shirley Polk, Daniel Schesch, Alice Stanley; Alderperson: Lyda Krewson; Staff: Laure Porterfield; Guests: Arlene Webb n Rosedale, Christopher M. Clark - Wash U, Ann Goodwin - Wash U, Amy Wells - Wash U, Sgt. Kevin Day (SLPD), Lt. Larry Lee (SLPD), Robert Citek, Molly Rater n Kingsbury Sq., Veronica Luzzi

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS - President Keavany opened meeting at 7:10pm

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve with corrections the minutes for May 10, 2004 and June 14, 2004. Motion passed.

FINANCE REPORT: Peggy Droege gave financial reports for June & July. For the 2nd half of the year, contributions from some institutions are behind resulting in a low cash balance. Motion was made and seconded to accept Financial Report. Motion was approved.

SECURITY REPORT: Officer Larry Lee gave update. Criminal activity:

	2004 YTD	2003 YTD
Robbery	15	19
Burglary	9	10
Larceny	17	28
Vehicle theft	10	16
Property crimes	36	54
Total Crimes	38	59

There was an incident in the 400 N. Skinker - a woman pushing a baby stroller was approached; there have been 3 significant arrests - 2 for burglary and 1 for street robbery. Crime statistics for this year are down compared to last year. Recent robberies at Subway & Papa Johns in DeBaliviere strip mall.

Aldermanic Report: Alderwoman Krewson reported that Arts-n-Transit has unveiled 4 temporary art pieces in the Delmar loop area. Two lanes are open (1 each way) on the Skinker Bridge. Water issue is creating a problem. METRO hopes to have it resolved by the 16th. Forest Park Expressway is closed from Euclid; the City is rebuilding the expressway and repaving the eastbound entrance.

DesPeres School Building: Dan Schesch commented on the possible use of the vacant DesPeres Middle School as an addition to Metro High School.

Executive Director's Report: The Executive Director presented a written report. In addition,

tion, Laure provided information of the City's Recycling program; announced that Rags to riches is August 21, 2004, the Security Seminar is scheduled for September 22nd, 7:00 pm at The Regional Arts Council on Delmar. The Security Seminar is a joint effort of the 7th District Police, University City Police, and Washington University & Security. The Club, a car anti theft devices, will be available.

National Night Out - Laure commended Andy, Linda and their extended family for the job they did. A big thanks to the Cross family for all their hard work in making this event a success. Next year, we'll have a committee to work on National Night Out or just have neighborhood parties.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was a lengthy discussion resulting from an email from a resident concerning how to best make residents aware when crimes occur in the neighborhood. There was a suggestion that we add a link to the St. Louis Police Department to our website. It was suggested that we develop a policy on this issue. We will revisit this item at the September meeting. There was also some discussion about identifying registered sex offender in the area.

Transportation Committee: Per Dan Schesch, most of the transportation related items were covered in Alderwoman Krewson's report.

The Delmar Commercial Committee: Sent a letter to Mayor Francis Slay & The Honorable Charles Dooly, expressing dissatisfaction with the many problems associated with the Delmar Streetscape project including the delay in the lighting installation and the sidewalk reconstruction. A copy of the letter is included in the agenda package.

Charter Reform: Dan Schesch brought a request from Mary Bartley, former schoolholder, to see if SDCC wanted to hold a joint meeting with the Central West End Association on Charter Reform.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SKINKER DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION: No oral report was given; a copy of the written report is attached.

KINGSBURY SQUARE: Requested to have their annual meeting her. Laure will work with them on this.

PICNIC: Shirley Polk reminded us that the annual picnic is August 22, 2004. They still need donations of charcoal, school supplies, and containers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 13, 2004, SDCC Office

ATTENDANCE: 24 persons in total. President: Joe Keavany; Directors: Christine Bubbico, Lara Lenzini, Doyle, Georgi Fox, Steve Givens, Ronie Haliburton, Rev. Mary Harvey, Paul Hohmann, Liz Johnson, Gwendolyn LaZard, Shirley Polk, Daniel Schesch, Tim Schoemehl, Alice Stanley; Staff: Laure Porterfield; Guests: Christopher M. Clark - Wash U, Sgt. Mark Helmhett n SLPD, Gary Boehnke n SDCHC, Charles Lewis, Betty Lewis, Andy Cross n Beautification Committee, John Barack n Kingsbury Square, G. Holley, Jaina Stus

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS - President Keavany opened meeting at 7:08 pm

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve with corrections the minutes for August 9, 2004. Motion passed.

Corrections - Under Aldermanic Report, it should read: Three lanes are open (1 lane southbound and 2 lanes northbound).

FINANCE REPORT: Deferred to next month.

SECURITY REPORT: Sgt. Mark Helmhett gave update. An arrest was made for a burglary in the 5500 block of Waterman. An unmarked car with two officers is patrolling the neighborhood between 6pm and 2am. A drug arrest made in the 5800 block of DeGruenville

There was a suggestion to have cameras to catch people in the act of dumping.

Aldermanic Report: No report.

Executive Director's Report: The Executive Director presented a written report. In addition, she included a copy of a conditional use permit issued by BPS to the Shell Station on Delmar, which also denied the sale of liquor on the premises. She reminded us of the upcoming meeting and events (see agenda for list of specific events, dates & times). She also reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is the annual meeting. Congratulations were extended to Andy Cross for the recognitions received by the McPherson Garden n 1st place for an established garden, Block Unit 1035 Garden n 5th place, and the scarecrow n special recognition.

Shirley Polk for a successful picnic, a wonderful time was had by all attending.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation: Minutes of the SDCHC meeting were provided in the Board packet. Gary Boehnke reported that they continue to work on structuring financing for the Allison project. Refurbishment of Rosedale Square units is complete. The Strategic planning committee looked at Rosedale Square this summer and will make recommendation to the board for future plans - maybe condos.

A question was raised about the status of Mr. Amos will initiate the reconstruction of the convent. Currently the building is condemned as a result of the fire. The condem-

nation is for occupancy purposes only, the building itself is not condemned. Discussion followed on the status of the dog park n SDCC will not issue a letter of support until after the Aldermanic report to support it.

Rosedale: Tim Schoemehl reported that Rags to Riches in August was a success. They ran out of food and had 52 yard sales, an all time high. He thanks everyone for making it a success. A suggestion was made to consider Johnny on the Spots for future years. The Rosedale annual meeting and elections are running behind schedule. The Halloween event is still on, date to be determined since Halloween is on a Sunday this year.

Picnic: Shirley Polk reported that the picnic was a success and that everyone had fun. She thanked everyone for participating. She also advised that the price for the picnic ground had increased.

Beautification: Andy Cross reported on the recognitions received by the neighborhood/community gardens this year, he also shown articles from several publications with pictures of the gardens. They had been entering the contest for the last seven years and this was the lucky year.

McPherson Garden received first place in the category of established community garden; Block Unit 1035 for best raised beds and Four Corners was also recognized.

Other Business: Steve Givens reported that October 8, 2004 is the presidential debate. On either October 17 or 24, there will be a special concert in the Quad of music from the St. Louis World's Fair (from 1904).

Dan Schesch asked about the Executive Committee reporting on neighborhood crime. A link between the SDCC website and the police system has been established. A question was raised about the hardware store on DeBaliviere. The hardware store is going out of business. Able Lock will take over part of the building.

Shirley Polk mentioned that a petition is being circulated for a liquor store in the DeBaliviere strip mall; several of the neighbors brought this to her attention. Many of them had already signed in favor of it, apparently believing this to be a petition for a convenience store.

One of the visitors expressed her thanks for the traffic signs on Pershing. She said it is making a difference. Also, inquired about the status of the Westminister speed zone. Basically, this has proven to be more costly and probably will not happen. Call Capt. Moran or Sam Hill with the Police Department to further discuss the speeding and traffic concerns.

Transportation Committee: Dan Schesch reported that the 5700 Pershing alley is closed and reopening is delayed due to unexpected sewer relocation. One resident in the neighborhood, a 75-year-old man appears to have contacted the West Niles virus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Music in the Neighborhood

From Bill Christman comes the fall schedule for his "Joe's Café," a Thursday evenings-only BYOB music venue located at Bill's artist studio at 6014 Kingsbury. There is a \$ 5 donation for the events, which start at 9:00 and end at 11:30 p.m.

November 4: Tom Hall

11: Soulard Blues Band

18: 4 Guitar Players

25: Vaudeville Nite: a good excuse to exit tedious family

gatherings or just walk off that big dinner: there will be a musical saw and ukulele, a belly dancer, an escape artist and human pin cushion, magician and ventriloquist, plus other exotica and pyrotechnics.

December 2: Young Irish musicians

9: Tom Sleet & Phil Flute

16: Transformer (Lenny Mink)

23: Brian Curran

30: Tom Hall

For additional information, call Bill at 862-2541, or just stop by and see what new ideas are coming from his unique creativity.



Photo by King Schoemehl

Throughout the neighborhood, colorfully dressed, friendly young people made Halloween a treat for everyone who calls Skinker-DeBaliviere home. The winners of the annual party at St. Roch's, organized by Art Santen, carried on a fine annual tradition.

They included: India Thomas of the 5500 block of Delmar, Snow White; Charles Barker of the 6200 block of Washington, Superhero; Mary Raten of the 5700 block of Washington, Zombie; Christopher Palmer of the 6100 block of McPherson, Dumbo the elephant; Clara Parker of the 6000 block of Kingsbury, Dalmation; Olina Johnson of the 6000 block of Kingsbury, Ghostie; Cardeir Ellis, Zooby Doo; Kayla Bernard of the 5900 block of Enright, Dragon; Terrance Bernard, Dog; Emily Vascola of the 1400 block of Wright, Bat.

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IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr

As you read this column, the dust from the presidential campaign has settled. At least I hope it has settled! I am writing in mid-October, and my fear is that Florida-Florida-Florida will be replaced by Ohio-Ohio-Ohio or The Return of Chad. I hope not. It would be nice to have an election determined by someone other than Diana Ross and her cohorts. It would be good to know the results of the election by Thanksgiving.

Candidates were just at WashU for their debate. Everyone loved it because there was enough evidence to support whatever position you already held. Finding the sound-bite that supports your candidate and shows that the other person is a mouth-breather is what a debate is about, after all. The debate was almost as interesting as the jack-booted storm-troopers lining the neighborhood streets. No, it's clear that the debates didn't change many people's minds. Indeed, I wonder if they changed any people's minds?

I keep hearing that it's the undecided voter who will determine the next president. Undecided? Give me a break! How can anyone be undecided after all these syllables? I mean,

what is there that you need to know that you don't already know? The candidates have worked to make their positions as fuzzily clear as possible; more, they've worked even harder to make their opponents' positions even more fuzzy and less clear. Then there are the off-line advertisements sponsored by the various political groups. Whether it's the swiftboats or moveon.org, the airways are choked with information, misinformation, mrsinformation, and mrinformation. Oh yeah, if you regularly watch "Meet the Press," there's also drinformation. We are swimming, make that drowning, in information, some accurate, some inaccurate, and some deceptive; it's a mishmash that makes the election process quite confusing and tiring.

Worse, this advertising avalanche costs millions and millions of dollars. While the media folks are delighted at the extra revenue it generates for them, the rest of us are (or should be) bothered by the time and energy that candidates have to spend hustling for bucks. We are (or should be) concerned that candidates listen too much to dollar signs; ca-ching, ca-ching is the slogan of the major parties. If you think that I'm over-reacting and writing from a nadir of fatigue (not Ralph), check out the voter participation data. Less than half of eligible voters bother to vote, and less than half of those votes result in a winner. Yep, that means that if someone can get 25%, just one-quarter, of the eligible voters to vote for him or her, that's, as Jack Buck used to say, a winner.

My buddy, Winston Churchill, was right: Democracy is the worst form of government except for all the rest. But we shouldn't settle for that standard; this isn't a pennant race or bake-off. There simply has to be a better way to select a president. How hard can it be to design a process that is quicker, cheaper, less laden with duplicity, and more likely to increase voter participation? My contention is that we haven't done so because we've not been

creative. We've been inhibited by concepts like representative government, democracy, and equity. No wonder it's so hard! If we just start from scratch, it should be easy to design a new way to select a president, one that is quicker, cheaper, fairer, and brings a smile to everyone's face. What follows (drumroll) dear reader, is a far better way to select the Prez of the United States. This approach is designed to eliminate the ills in the present system.

We should determine the prez by a national lottery. If this system is a good enough to create instant millionaires, why not use it to determine our president? Just as with the present lottery, people would buy their presidential lottery tickets at quick shops, bars, and grocery stores, and the drawing would take place on live television. It's 9:55 p.m. and all the channels are televising the drawing. There stands Pee Wee Herman, selecting the winning balls from the churning machine. I can see the numbered balls being read aloud to determine who will be the prez: three, one, two, eight, six, three, two, two, four, and then a letter is read to reduce the chance of a tie: D. Someone, somewhere squeals for joy because s/he has been selected as president! What could be more equitable? It's clear, the PBL (President By Lottery) system has a lot to offer.

The revenues from the presidential lottery tickets would go to support the poor underfunded casino river boat industry. Yes, I realize that the PBL system isn't perfect. Wealthier people would buy more tickets and increase their chances of winning. That's no different than it is today though, and, in fact, a poor person would have a far greater chance of becoming president under PBL. Further, under this system, we won't have to wait until the twenty-second century to have a president who is a female or a person of color. PBL is sounding better all the time, right?

Granted, PBL may result in a less proven, less experienced, and more uncertain president. How bad can that be, really? What's the likelihood that we'd really get a president who is less suited for the job than the incumbent? Plus, more pragmatically,

as we've seen by the reign of Darth Cheney, as long as the vice-president is in control, does it really matter who the prez is?

I care about this country and want the PBL system to succeed. As a result, under PBL, the VP is no longer elected; we just can't leave that decision to chance. We need to be sure that the VP is someone we trust and someone with the skills necessary to lead our country. What to do? Simple: I get to pick the VP. That's right, the VP will be chosen by me. Who would be better to make the decision? Objectively, I can't think of anyone. I'll take nominations, interview the final 200-300 candidates, and then once the prez is chosen by PBL, I'll supplement the talents of that person by naming a VP who can balance the ticket. And trust me, I will take each of your needs in consideration when I make the VP selection.

Are you interested in being the VP? If you want to avoid the last-minute crunch, know that I am currently accepting applications for VP for 2008. Please send your application - just a brief letter of introduction and an explanation of what you will bring to the ticket - to Hawkeye Hoerr, c/o The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere (or contact me directly at rhoerr@AOL.com". I'll begin interviews sometime after the mid-term elections. By the way, if you enclose a gift-certificate to Kayak's Coffee with your application, it will increase your likelihood of getting an interview. Is this a great country, or what?

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A female red-tail hawk that has been returning to Brookings Hall for the past several years, perching on trees and on the spires, photographed by Linda Ragsdale, who works in the General Counsel's office at Washington University. Maybe the hawk will keep an eye on the presidency for the next four years!



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