

The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 41, No. 2

Summer 2011

<http://SDTimes.org/index.html>

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Breakfast Garden Tour is on June 4th

Join your neighbors for a fine breakfast and tour at the 13th annual Breakfast Garden Tour. Our tour features a fine breakfast in the colorful McPherson Community Garden followed by a unique to meet neighbors and new friends in a variety of clever, attractive, and interesting back yards.

Advance tickets are only \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 10-15 years old, and kids under 10 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the SDCC office at 6008 Kingsbury Ave, 862-5122.

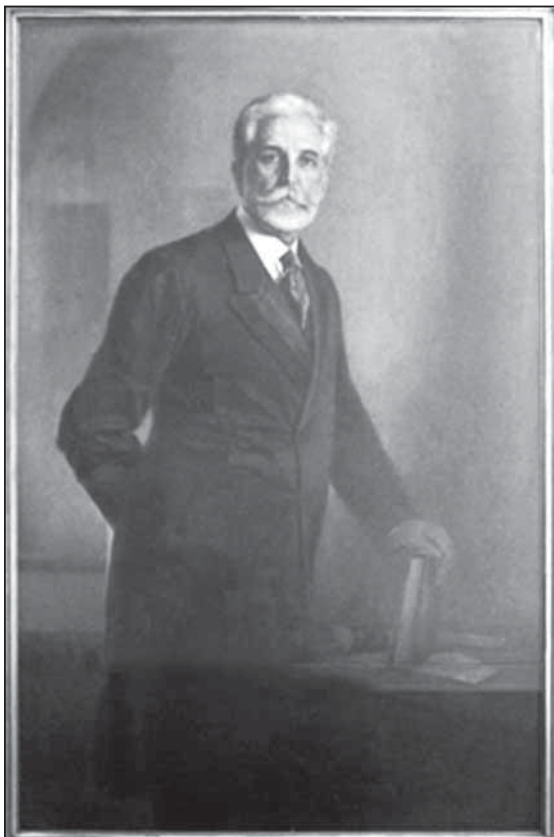
Breakfast starts at 8:30, and private back yards are open from 9:00 - Noon.

Where else can you get a delicious and healthy breakfast and a tour with such friendly people for only \$10! The award winning McPherson Garden is located at the 5900 block of McPherson.

The Panther Summer Adventure

Hamilton Community Education Full Service School at 5819 Westminster Place announces its free summer program, June 6 through July 29, 2011. Activities include Academic support in Math and Reading, Art, Music, Basketball and Baseball Camps, Friday Field trips and Movies, and a special Summer Wrap-Up Event. The program accepts only 60 participants, Grades 1-8, and there is no transportation provided. Classes and activities are every day, Monday through Friday, 1:30-6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Ms. Avis May, Community Collaborative Specialist, 367-6996. Call right away to enroll in the 2011 Panther Summer Adventure!



History in the Making

The newest addition to the Loop Landscape will make its appearance on July 29 in the Loop. A statue honoring the great Chuck Berry will be located at the new plaza at Delmar/Melville, alongside the new Centennial Greenway as it crosses Delmar and goes north. The friendship and partnership of Chuck Berry and Joe Edwards has had an unforgettable impact on both men. The ever-innovative Edwards worked with many others to insure that cultural icon Berry be recognized for his lasting contributions to the Loop and St. Louis as a whole.

The unveiling ceremony happens on July 29 at 9:30 for dedication of the Centennial Greenway and 10:00 a.m. for dedication of the Chuck Berry statue. KMOX Radio will be broadcasting live from 9 - 11 a.m. All are invited to participate. For more information, go to www.visittheLoop.com.

Roberts S. Brookings Star on the Walk of Fame

To commemorate the unveiling of the Robert S. Brookings Star on the St. Louis Walk of Fame, Washington University will co-sponsor a lecture with the Clayton Historical Society.

The Lecture will take place on Wednesday, June 22, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m. in College Hall on Washington University's South 40 student housing area. These forty acres along were donated by Brookings to Washington University in 1923. Brookings also donated his home to the University, which now serves as the University' Alumni House.

The lecture, entitled: Robert S. Brookings, Visionary, Decisive man of action, will highlight Brookings pivotal role as a civic leader in the region at the turn of the century, his creation of the Washington University Campus and its development, as well as the founding of the Brookings Institution. The Lecture is part of the ongoing Clayton Century Foundation Lecture series.

The lecture will be delivered by

Eugene J. Mackey, the founding principal of Mackey Mitchell and Associates. In addition to being a distinguished architect who has help shape the face of St. Louis over the last 40 years, Gene is an historian and tour guide who speaks with great authority of the life and times of Robert Brookings.

The University will host a reception following the lecture. The lecture and reception is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is required. Contact Jane Miller at janemiller@wustl.edu or 314-935-5752 to RSVP.

On June 23 at 11:30 a.m. Chancellor Emeritus William Danforth will take part in the dedication ceremony of Brookings' star on the St. Louis Walk of Fame. The Brookings star is located at the corner of Skinker and Delmar in front of the "Corner Building." This building was recently purchased and renovated by Washington University.

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

The marketing study of Delmar is good news. We look for continued commercial vibrancy and, hopefully, stores that cater to the needs of our neighbors. I still dream of obtaining locally grown produce, a bakery, a cleaners, etc. We all will be able to have input and I hope everyone takes advantage of that.

At the same time, we can never be too sanguine about the state of our neighborhood. It is something that must be continuously tended. We've come a long way but there is more to be done. A security issue or some other disturbance can spoil complacency. Taking precaution should be second nature. The economic cataclysm has forced some owners into foreclosure and turned some houses into student rentals. This can at times be a problem on streets filled with single family homes occupied by young families and older citizens. Washington University is very helpful at trying to alleviate less than courteous behavior by the student renters. The city has other pathways. Needless to say loud talk at 4:30 am is not neighborly and sound carries; in fact it carries upward into our bedrooms. Crime will never be fully alleviated and town-gown problems won't vanish either. The SDCC Security Committee meets monthly. We have come so far; we can continue but we can't sit passively by--even though we all get tired once in a while.

Searching the TIMES

Thanks to the expertise of Marj Weir (and the encouragement of Dan McGuire), there is now a general search capacity built into the SDTimes website! It isn't perfect because the Optical Character Recognition done on the scanned issues isn't perfect. The issues since 2002 when they were created in PDF format are much more accurate. Test it out: just search for a last name, and once you've selected an issue from the list returned by the search, you'll have to "Find" the word again in that issue. It cannot tell which page it's on. Use the buttons next to the Find box to Find Next and Find Previous instances of the word. It can be fun to look for a former neighbor or friend from the past forty years of living in the Skinker-DeBaliviere Neighborhood.

Now it is also possible to email directly to the website: jvatcha@sdtimes.org.

Plans are afoot to have a larger photo capacity on the website in order to share more photos, including color photos, that are sent us about neighborhood residents and events. Look for more news about that in the fall, and send us your best SD photos!

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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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. Opinions expressed in Commentaries are the opinion of the author.

Deadline for next issue: August 15, 2011. Please send copy by e-mail to jvatcha@gmail.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@gmail.com or maxlana@sbcglobal.net.

Calendar

The Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council meets on the second Monday of each month at the office located at 6008 Kingsbury, 7 PM.

1. Housing Corporation Board Meeting- Wednesday, June 1, 6 PM
2. Historic Review Committee Meeting- Wednesday, June 1, 7 PM
3. GARDEN BREAKFAST TOUR- Saturday, June 4, 8:30 AM
4. Executive Committee Meeting- Monday, June 6, 6:30 PM
5. DOG SHOW- Tuesday, June 7, 7: PM
6. Security Committee Meeting- Wednesday, June 8, 5:30 PM
7. Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Meeting- Monday, June 13, 7:00 PM
8. Housing Corporation Board Meeting- Wednesday, June 15, 6 PM
9. DINE OUT FOR SDCC- Tuesday, June 21
10. Residential Committee Meeting- Monday, June 27, 6:30 PM
11. Executive Committee Meeting- Tuesday, July 5, 6:30 PM
12. Housing Corporation Board Meeting- Wednesday, July 6, 6 PM
13. Historic Review Committee Meeting- Wednesday, July 6, 7 PM
14. Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Meeting- Monday, July 11, 7:00 PM
15. Security Committee Meeting- Wednesday, July 13, 5:30 PM
16. MLK YOUTH WORKSHOP - Saturday, July 16, 1 PM
17. CONCERT SERIES: 4 CHOIRS @ 4 CORNERS - Saturday, July 16, 6:00PM
18. Housing Corporation Board Meeting- Wednesday, July 20, 6 PM
19. Residential Committee Meeting- Monday, July 25, 6:30 PM

If you would like to become more involved, have e-mails sent to you regarding neighborhood events and receive information about what is going on in our general area, please contact the SDCC office: 314-862-5122 or jackie.nolan@skinker-debaliviere.com.

New Gallery Show at Four Corners

by Lana Stein



Exhibit organizers Bill Christman, Keith Spoeneman, Greg Rhomberg

For several decades at least Four Corners (Kingsbury at Des Peres) has been the site of artists' studios and art shows. Art Exposed introduced a number of people to our neighborhood circa 1990. Today, Andy Cross has had several shows at his studio on the northeast corner. Currently, an ambitious show opened May 7-8 at Ars Populi, 6010 Kingsbury, studio of Keith Spoeneman. The show, "The Human Face," features the work of over 100 artists and will be open to the public every weekend in June and July. It is a show of the familiar -- Christman's work--but offers many new surprises as well. Spoeneman, joined by Greg Rhomberg and Bill Christman, organized this showing and brought new crowds to the area. I particularly liked Spoeneman's "Paterfamilias" and Hope Edwards' portrait. About half the works featured are available for purchase. Just to be on the safe side, call 862-2541 if you plan to drop by. The display of art has long been linked with revitalizing the neighborhood and the tradition continues.

News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

One of the things I have always loved about our neighborhood is that even after people move away, they are still very connected. Living here leaves a lasting impression on a person, and long time neighbors are always thrilled to hear updates about the people who have moved on to new places in their life.

That brings us to our first bit of news this month – a new baby! **Louisa Hitchcock Spaminato** and her husband **Rob** welcomed their second son, **Pascal Antonio Spampinato** on February 28th. He must be a morning person because he arrived at 4:28 a.m.! Louisa and her family reside in Brooklyn, New York. Proud grandparents are **Jim and Helen Hitchcock** of the 6100 block of Kingsbury.

Chris and Amanda of the 57## block of McPherson welcomed **Addison Gainey** on December 16. She joins her



big sister **Annabel**.

Of course, for people to move on (and hopefully keep in touch with us), we have to say goodbye. Another article in this issue is doing just that to longtime residents **Billy Handmaker and Betul Ozmut**, and their sons, who will truly be missed. We are also bidding farewell to **Brady Baybeck and Jennifer Olmstead**, and their beautiful daughters **Sarah and Madeline**, shown here with **Maisie and Lana Stein**. They have resided in the neighborhood for over a decade, first on the 6100 block of Washington, and then on the 6100 block of Westminster. They have been involved in many committees and brought great energy and ideas to SkinkerDeBaliviere. Brady will be a political science professor and program director at Wayne State and they will reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to updates about their



new adventures.

Many residents are raving about the new email newsletters and Facebook updates about our neighborhood! The reason for these great technology blasts has been the addition of our new SkinkerDeBaliviere Community Council staff member, **Jackie Nolan**. If you have not already done so, please be sure to introduce yourself to her at the next neighborhood event or stop in the office to say hello. She has jumped right in working alongside **David Whiteman**. They make a great team!

The SkinkerDeBaliviere Fundraising Committee has some

upcoming dates you need to mark on your calendar. First, Dining Out for SkinkerDeBaliviere will be held on Tuesday, June 21st. It's as easy as dining at one of your favorite participating restaurants, with a portion of the proceeds going to our neighborhood! Participating restaurants will be publicized prior to the event. And, our third annual SDCC Homecoming event is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th at Crossroads. Be sure to tell old neighbors about this party as well. It is after all, a homecoming and we would love for old and new neighbors to celebrate our wonderful and unique neighborhood together!

And finally, an invitation to all of you to update us on your summer adventures. We seem to have so many neighbors who travel to far off and exotic places, or do the most interesting things right here in their own backyards. We always love news of babies, engagements, weddings, awards, etc... So feel free to send your News of Neighbors, (and photos if you like), to rbboxdorfer@prudentialalliance.com, or drop off a note to the attention of Rachel Boxdorfer at the SkinkerDeBaliviere office. Be sure to mark "News of Neighbors" in the subject line.

St. Roch Memento

by Helen Hull Hitchcock

On my first visit to St. Louis, my then-fiancé took me to church at St. Roch parish. We had both been living in New York when we became engaged, and he had accepted a job at St. Louis University for the fall term. In August 1966, we had driven from New York to St. Louis, his native city, but one which I had never visited. He chose to take me to church at St. Roch's, he said, because it was reputed to be a most interesting parish, with a very large congregation — some of whom were also actively engaged in higher education, as he was. Among them was Thomas Neill, a long-time history professor at St. Louis University. That first Sunday we attended St. Roch's for Mass, the church was packed. We arrived fifteen minutes early, and the usher barely managed to find us a place



A painting by Kelly Hull, Kansas artist and teacher and mother of Helen Hitchcock, depicts the St Roch school poster contest held just before the school parade in the neighborhood, followed by the end-of-school picnic, May 1974. Students in the painting are Kirsten Nelson, Alexandra Hitchcock, Theresa Vossen and Marty Cross on the extreme right, black hair, back view. All were completing first grade at St. Roch's school. The St. Roch Centennial Celebration will be held September 25. For info, contact St. Roch's.

to sit.

Both my husband-to-be and I would have been surprised, that day, if someone had told us that we would start our new household in St. Roch parish only a few months later. (We were married that November at the Old Cathedral, and very briefly lived in an apartment in the Central West End.) We would have been even more surprised to hear that more than four decades in the future we would still be St. Roch parishioners — and to know that all four of our daughters would be baptized and confirmed in this church, and would attend St. Roch school, or that two of our children would be married at St. Roch's, and three of our grandchildren would be baptized here. That our family history at St. Roch's is not entirely unique is, perhaps, even more surprising.

St. Roch parish, in 1966, was in what was then called a "changing neighborhood". When we bought our house on Kingsbury, there were ten houses for sale on this block alone, and "for sale" signs dotted the surrounding streets. In light of what had happened in other similar neighborhoods in the city, it seemed unlikely that we would be able to live here for much more than five years. But it seemed to us worth the effort, despite the daunting challenges. Three families on the block, the Neills, the Crosses, and the Leguey-Feilleuxs, were also St. Louis U. faculty — and within a few months there would be more: the Benders and the DiLorenzos. All were St. Roch parishioners, as were the Sheas, a Washington University faculty family. There was a shared commitment among the new residents, as with those already here, to overcome the obvious challenges to this "inner city" neighborhood — a unity of

Betul and Billy to Move

by Lana Stein

Inevitability each year brings the departure of individuals and/or families who are special to the neighborhood and the city. This year is no exception. After 17 years on 61xx Washington, Billy Handmaker and Betul Ozmat and their sons, Simon, 14, and Lev, 12 are saying au revoir. Billy has headed Crossroads School, on our periphery, for 15 years, making this 7-12 institution a premiere college preparatory for increasing numbers of students. Just recently the school was certified bond platinum, a rare and valued designation, because of its investment in environmental sustainability in its expanded campus.

Betul, who grew up in St. Louis, has been Assistant Dean for the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University. She has enjoyed this position and a "great group of colleagues." Since 2006, Betul has been Committeewoman of the 28th Ward. In this office, she was able to meet a number of people who are committed to the city and who care about their neighborhoods. She spoke strongly of the positive leadership of Alderman Lyda Krewson.

Billy and Betul were active in Skinker DeBaliviere as well. They

were involved in the growing community on their block. Billy served as a Times columnist for a time and wrote glowingly of how our front porches contributed to



the health of the area. Betul served on the committee that brought the playground to Four Corners. She also advised on the drafting of the SDCC's long-range plan and was pleased to work with now SDCC president, Katrina Stierholtz, on both occasions.

There is no doubt that they will miss the neighborhood but they have much to look forward to. In June, they move to Albuquerque, New Mexico where Billy will become head of the Bosque School. Betul noted that it is very sunny there, with very little humidity. They have found a house along the Rio Grande River, by bike and hiking trails. We hope they enjoy their new lives in the Land of Enchantment but we will miss their presence here.

purpose that was strongly nourished by St. Roch parish.

There were many, many young children on the block during the late 1960s and 70s. The largest family, who lived across the street from us, were the McCarthys, who

had thirteen children. But families with 6 or 8 or 9 children were not uncommon. Our family of four children was considered rather small. When our older children



WITS workers help Paul and Katie Kurtz unload their electronics at SDCC's 1st annual Electronics Recycling Fair. Despite the drizzle, approximately 100 residents delivered a dozen pallet-loads of old electronics - enough to fill a 20 foot truck. WITS reconditions 70% of the products they collect and put them back in service; and they use zero landfill methods to recycle the remainder. Start saving your household batteries, printer cartridges, and electronics for next year's event.

SDCC Board Meeting, April 11, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Katrina Sierholz at 7:05 PM.

Financials: Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2011 and Statement of Activities, January - March, 2011 were presented and discussed. Cash Balances as of March 31, 2011 were as follows:

Operations Account	\$39,343
CDA Account	\$1,910
WEAC Account	\$8,812
Brick Account	\$2,276
Playground Account	\$4,852
Total	\$57,193

Karin Hagaman reported that portion of the Operations Account will be transferred to a restricted account; and that the Finance Committee will revisit the 2011 Budget at the end of June.

Alice Stanley made a motion

to accept the financial report, John Powell seconded, and the motion carried.

Staff Report: Communications: SDCC Public Calendar was created and posted, SDCC Facebook was created, Mail Chimp account has been established and a new newsletter format has been created, temporary new website is being created in WordPress, email platform is in the process of being migrated to Gmail.

Policies and Procedures: worked with Marvin Nodiff to draft Grievance Policy for CDA contract. The council discussed and voted unanimously to adopt the policy as presented. Staff also created content outline for Office Procedures Manual: Record Retention Policy and By-Laws are under review.

Block Captains Meeting was held March 24; met with Lisette Dennis to discuss SDCC's relationship with RAC and application process for Opportunity Grant for this

summer.

The Staff Report is attached.

Nomination of Board Members: Jamie Kenyon introduced Eric Trudo, Block Captain for 5900 block of DeGiverville and nominated him to serve as an at-large member of the board. Karen Godar seconded the motion, the motion carried, and Eric was seated as a member of the board.

2010 Census - Changes in the SD Community: Katrina Sierholz presented a summary of demographic changes in the Skinker DeBaliviere Community between 2000 and 2010. Lyda Krewson indicated that the City's website has a block-by-block summary of census data.

Community Reports:

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation: Gary Boehnke confirmed that SDCHC has acquired 6188 Westminster with plans to renovate the property - and will create a new entity to

take advantage of Historic Tax Credits.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising Committee: Friends Campaign contributions total \$68870 as of March 31.	WEAC Account	\$8,512
Karen Godar will chair Dine Out for Skinker DeBaliviere scheduled for June 21.	Brick Account	\$2,276
	Playground Account	\$4,852
	Total	\$33,311

Beautification Committee: Andy Cross requested that people let him know if they want plants for planting day, scheduled for May 14. Andy also reported that a yard waste dumpster is missing on the south alley of 6100 Westminster.

Residential Committee: Norb Hart requested that the Council send a letter to Ald. Frank Williamson requesting that the City acquire the fire damaged house at 5859 DeGiverville and make it available for redevelopment - and request the City Attorney to enforce the "demolition by neglect" ordinance on the same property. Norb and Paul Hales agreed to research the latter further before the next board meeting.

Security Committee: There was considerable concern about the recent incidents in the Loop resulting from the large number of youth on the street. (see further discussion under Aldermanic Report). Also, there are a number of problem properties on the 5800 & 5900 blocks of Pershing.

Paul Hales encouraged the blocks organize and report all behavioral incidents to the police.

Aldermanic Reports: Lyda Krewson announced a Public Hearing for the Loop Trolley and the St. Vincent's Greenway to be held from 5PM to 8PM April 20 at the Missouri History Museum. Alderman Krewson reported that the 28th Ward will need to lose approximately 1000 people in the redistricting process.

Alderman Krewson addressed the recent youth incidents in the Loop. She has called a meeting for tomorrow, April 12, with the U. City Police Chief, Lieutenant Colonel Atkins of the SLMPPD, and the Head of the Washington University Police to develop a response strategy.

The May Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 PM.

SDCC Board Meeting, March 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Katrina Sierholz at 7:02 PM.

Financials: Statement of Financial Position as of February 28, 2011 and Statement of Activities, January - February, 2011 were presented and discussed. Cash Balances as of February 28, 2011 were as follows:

Operations Account	\$17,670
WEAC Account	\$8,512
Brick Account	\$2,276
Playground Account	\$4,852
Total	\$33,311

Invoices totaling \$22,500 have been sent to Institutional Members for their 2011 membership dues.

Alice Stanley made a motion to accept the financial report, John Powell seconded, and the motion carried.

City Earnings Tax: Hon. Francis Slay, Mayor, discussed Proposition E (City Earnings Tax) which is on the April 5th ballot. Proposition A passed statewide in January causing St. Louis and Kansas City to vote to retain or eliminate the tax. However, only 32% of St. Louis voters voted for Proposition A in Jan. The 1% St. Louis Earnings Tax generates \$140M annually, or 30% of the City's operating budget. If the vote is to eliminate the City Earnings Tax, it would be phased out at 10% per year over 10 years starting 2012. The City has closed a \$40M budget gap for the current fiscal year and the mayor has agreed to meet with business leaders to investigate other revenue options.

St. Louis Public Schools Update: Blake Youde, Deputy Superintendent, gave a report on the status of the St. Louis Public Schools. Proposition S, a \$150M bond issue, was approved last summer; bonds have been sold and design is underway. Improvements include science labs for high schools and playgrounds for elementary schools - including playscapes for Hamilton School. The Special Administrative Board and Superintendent Adams's contract have been extended for three years. The SLPs district is in a balanced budget mode and is paying down the debt. Academics - the district has seen improvement in all categories except 3rd grade Communication Arts. Early Childhood Education - there is a waiting list and the district will add 25 additional classrooms next year. High Schools - only Roosevelt, Vashon, Sumner and Beaumont remain as "comprehensive" schools - the other 10 are magnet schools and have higher test scores. 8th graders are now able to select the comprehensive high school of their choice. The District is also considering charter schools and gender specific schools at the elementary and middle school level. Finally, the District is doing a comprehensive evaluation of all vacant and underutilized school properties and anticipates a decision in the next six months regarding the use or disposition of these.

Executive Director's Report: Jackie Nolan started March 1 as the part-time Administrative Communications Coordinator. David and Jackie have been consolidating, culling and

organizing the paper files; and Marvin Nodiff will provide SDCC with an outline for a retention policy.

Jackie has established an SDCC Facebook page and a public (Gmail) calendar, is building a contacts database, and is tracking donations to the Friends Campaign.

SDCC was selected by GO! St. Louis as 1 of 5 neighborhoods to receive \$1000 for fielding a cheering section for the April 10 St. Louis Marathon. Jennifer Olmsted will organize the event. The Community with the best cheering section (as voted on by race participants) will receive an additional \$1000.

A Block Captains meeting will be scheduled in the near future to update block captains on resources available to them, organize for Blitz Day, and discuss Neighborhood Watch training.

Electronics Recycling Fair and Planting Day are scheduled for May 14.

The Executive Director's report is attached.

Nomination of Board Members: Karin Hagaman introduced Jon Tiede and nominated him to serve as an at-large member of the board. Dan Hudspeth seconded the motion, the motion carried, and Jon was seated as a board member.

Community Reports:

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation: Gary Boehnke confirmed that SDCHC has acquired 6188 Westminster with plans to renovate the property.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising Committee: Friends Campaign contributions total \$5790 as of March 14. The Fundraising Committee is seeking a volunteer to chair Dine Out for Skinker DeBaliviere scheduled for June 21.

Beautification Committee: Andy Cross reported that both community gardens are up and running.

West End Arts Council: Andy Cross reported that planning has begun for the concert series.

Corporate Compliance: David Whiteman will meet with Paul Hales to review by-laws and other compliance issues.

Aldermanic Reports: Dotti Pennington, 28th Ward NSO, reminded everyone about Blitz Day scheduled for April 2 - with bulk item pick-up on Monday April 4.

New Business: Norbert Hart asked if the Transportation Committee should be reconstituted. This issue was tabled and will be taken up by the Executive Committee.

The April Board meeting will be held on Monday, April 11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

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Unique Internships at Kingsbury Animal Hospital

by Jill Cook, Mass Communications Graduate Student, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Deciding a career path before graduating from high school might seem difficult for some teenagers. For 17 year-old Jasmine Norman, the decision to go into a high school pre-vet program and intern at an animal hospital that offers grooming services was natural. "I love animals and wanted to do something that wouldn't make me sad like the medical aspects," Norman said. "I also like beautifying things. You might say, taking an ugly duckling and turning it into a swan."

Norman is just one of many lucky students who are taking advantage of the opportunities her school is offering by teaming up with local businesses.

Gateway Institute of Technology, located in the northeastern corner of The Hill, is a different kind of high school. Its students concentrate on studies in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

Students studying in the sciences can narrow their area of study down to medical science, science studies or pre-veterinarian. Selected students in the pre-vet program have the opportunity to intern their senior year, according to Kara Dalton, pre-veterinary studies teacher and internship coordinator.

But finding enough veterinary clinics to work with interns can be challenging, especially when student interest in the program almost tripled in one year, according to Dalton.

"Not being from St. Louis makes it difficult," Dalton said. "I did some research along with Googling, reading reviews and asking

people for their recommendations. I also knew that Dr. Bender used Kingsbury's grooming services."

This connection introduced Dalton to Rose Wekenborg, lead groomer at Kingsbury Animal Hospital. Elizabeth Bender, Gateway's principal, and Wekenborg share a much longer history than the more recent client contact. Bender and Wekenborg were Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors and St. Roch Parish members for many years.

"The school had impressed me with their goal to educate students in real world career opportunities," Wekenborg said.

It did not take much to convince Dr. Steve Brammeier, Kingsbury Animal Hospital founder and owner, to accept the partnership.

"Rose was enthusiastic about it, and she is very good at teaching," Brammeier said. "I think all the employees enjoy sharing their talents."

Currently, Kingsbury Animal Hospital is training two interns, Norman and 18 year-old classmate Richelle Smith.



Jasmine Norman (above) and Richelle Smith are interning at Kingsbury Animal Hospital.

"I've always had a love for animals," Smith said. "And this is a better learning experience than being in a classroom reading about it."

The students' excitement about working at something they love is one of the reasons Wekenborg enjoys teaching them.

"It's a neat thing when someone that young has an interest, a passion, in a career so much that they want to pursue it in other ways like this," Wekenborg said.

And the relationship the students have with Kingsbury, and in particular Wekenborg, has been recognized by Dalton.

"With Rose's teaching background, it makes her and Kingsbury a natural fit," Dalton said. "She gives good constructive feedback, which is important for the kids."

But Kingsbury Animal Hospital does not focus on just the technical aspects of veterinary science and grooming. The employees recognize the opportunity to give the interns an even more valuable opportunity.

"I enjoy showing the kids what it's like to handle the responsibilities of a regular job," Wekenborg said.

And for Norman, that example will be especially beneficial come the summer as her internship will turn into a part-time job as a grooming assistant at Kingsbury.

"Having the experience I already do here, I feel comfortable already. And I can continue to learn," Norman said.

Even if the internship didn't lead to employment, the opportunity for high school students to experience a possible career before four years of expensive college education can be worth as much as a job.

9th Annual Ivory Perry Park Concert Series

Free Outdoor Concerts Every 4th Sunday June – August 6-8 p.m.

Join Union Communion Ministries as they bring in the summer with the sounds of Jamaica. Trench Town Rock who recently played at Blueberry Hill in the Loop will be performing music by the legendary Bob Marley on Sunday June 26th at 6 p.m. on the Commerce Bank stage in Ivory Perry Park, located at 800 N. Belt (down the street from Connect Care). Whether you are in the mood for jazz, R&B, Blues, pop, or adult contemporary, Charles Glenn will deliver it all, on Sunday July 24. Soul, funk, jazz, and R&B artist Tony Simmons will conclude the series on Sunday August 28.



Ivory Perry Park, formerly Visitation Park, is located at 800 N. Belt Avenue. Off of Delmar, turn north on Belt Avenue at Connect Care Hospital. (Belt Avenue is one stoplight east of DeBaliviere or one light west of Union.) Grab a friend, your lawn chair or blanket and head on over to Ivory Perry Park the 4th Sunday of June, July, and August to enjoy quality St. Louis music by some of the most sought after artists. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The concert series emerged out of the tragic death of a 10 year old boy, who was mauled to death in the park by a pack of wild dogs back in 2001. At the time of the child's death, the park had been abandoned. The grass was over grown and the grounds were covered with litter and glass. But because of the efforts of many concerned citizens, local congregation members, businesses, neighbors, St. Louis City public officials, the Missouri Arts Council, and the Whitaker Foundation, the park is now the majestic site of the annual concert series. Therefore it is only befitting that each concert will feature free children face painting, arts and crafts, and games sponsored by

Old Newsboys Day. There will be attendance prizes and a raffle.

In conjunction with the concert series a food drive benefiting a local food pantry will take place. Please consider bringing a non-perishable donation with you to any of the concerts. For more information, visit the web site at www.ivoryperrypark.com or call Archilla Buford at 314-367-2112. You will not want to miss this spectacular musical event.



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All performances begin at 6 p.m. on the 4th Sunday in June, July, & August

<p>Sunday June 26</p> <p>TRENCH TOWN ROCK Reggae-Bob Marley Tribute</p>	<p>Sunday July 24</p> <p>CHARLES GLEN Blues, jazz, funk, & R&B</p>	<p>Sunday August 28</p> <p>TONY SIMMONS Jazz, soul, blues, & R&B</p>
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Support a local food pantry. Bring a non-perishable food item to each concert.

In the event of rain visit us at www.ivoryperrypark.com for indoor venue information.

Concerts supported by:

News from State Representative Susan Carlson

We are over halfway through this legislative session. Here is an update on some of the bills we have considered.

This week, we voted to gut the Proposition B initiative that regulates puppy mills. Senate Bill 113 will remove the most basic provisions of Prop B - the right to clean cages, clean water, veterinary exams and several other humane acts. Receiving over two hundred letters, calls and emails asking to respect the will of the voters, I did vote against this bill. It narrowly passed by an 85-71 vote and now heads to the Governor for his signature or veto.

One of the first bills that passed the House was the unemployment extension. This bill passed with overwhelmingly bipartisan support and was being held hostage in the Senate by four Senators. They were keeping 109 million dollars in federal unemployment funds from reaching families in need. In addition, they are still blocking 189 million dollars in federal education funds from being approved in the state budget. Their idealistic stand helps no one. Fortunately, the Senate finally passed the unemployment extension, and it was signed by the Governor on Wednesday.

Senate Bill 188 would make it more difficult for those who have been injured by illegal race, gender, age or disability discrimination to file lawsuits and win claims against their employers or others who discriminated. This bill will also remove legal protection for whistle blowers that are fired. I voted against this bill, but it now heads to the Governor for his signature or veto.

At the end of last week, the House preliminarily passed a congressional redistricting map. Several of my democratic colleagues proposed alternative maps, but none of these measures passed. I voted against the new redistricting map which puts Rep. Lacy Clay and Rep. Russ Carnahan in the same district. The Senate voted for a slightly different Congressional map, and it now heads back to the House for re-approval. A different process is used for redistricting the Missouri State Senate and House districts.

The Commissions drawing those maps are working now. They will probably unveil their proposed maps during the summer.

Finally, a Jobs Bill! House Bill 468 establishes the Missouri Science and Innovation Reinvestment Act (MOSIRA). It encourages investment in technology and businesses. Provisions are included to expand data centers, redevelop the Fenton Chrysler Plant and give assistance for business expansion. I supported this bill.

The Missouri General Assembly also passed a bill to repeal the corporate franchise tax and phase it out over the next few years. This would decrease state revenue by more than 87 million dollars. This tax only applies to corporations with certain assets valued over 10 million dollars. Should this bill be implemented, our state government will continue to see a decline in revenue and massive cuts to education, mental health programs and social services. I voted against this legislation and will urge Governor Nixon to veto this bill.

It also looks like a vote may be nearing on a bill to allow local control of the St. Louis City Police Department, House Bill 71. This bill passed the House in February and passed out of a Senate Committee this week. We'll see if it gains the momentum to pass the Senate and move to the Governor's desk.

On a happier note, Former Representative Rachel Storch gave birth to a baby boy on March 30th. David Wellington Rockford Akrongold weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and is 21 inches long. Baby, Mom and Dad are all doing well. Congratulations, Rachel and family!

If you have any questions or concerns about any bill that's being considered this year, please do not hesitate to call my office. Either I or my legislative assistant, Ashley Vaughan, will be able to assist you. My contact information is below:

Office: 573.751.1400
Toll-Free: 866-596-1645
Email: Susan.Carlson@house.mo.gov
Address: 201 W. Capitol Ave.
Jefferson City, MO 65101

From State Senator Joe Keaveny

Keaveny Votes Against

After passage of several acts that will profoundly misrepresent Missouri citizens, Sen. Joe Keaveny, D-St. Louis, expresses his disapproval with a number of measures approved by lawmakers during the First Regular Session of the 96th General Assembly. "There are numerous bills that I voted 'no' on throughout this session," Sen. Keaveny said. "If these bills are passed by lawmakers and sent to the governor, several of them will raise costs for citizens, many of whom live on low-income salaries, and others will take away rights of the people."

House Bill 73 would require certain applicants for and recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program benefits to be tested for illegal drug use. This bill has been sent to the governor for his signature. "This bill unfairly targets single minority mothers, and offers no real solution to those who have drug problems," Sen. Keaveny said.

Measures that would require citizens to produce photo identification to vote (SB 3 and SJR 2) would go into effect upon voter approval. "The photo identification requirements in these measures do nothing to prevent voter fraud," Sen. Keaveny said, "and exclude many citizens, particularly seniors, from voting."

House Bill 167 would require Missouri driver's license examinations to be administered only in English. "This measure discriminates against citizens who haven't yet learned the English language, and would prevent them from obtaining a driver's license, subsequently stopping them from voting or finding employment,"

Sen. Keaveny said. House Bill 294 would allow citizens to carry concealed weapons at a younger age. "Lowering the age for conceal and carry permits is not a wise move," Sen. Keaveny said. "Gun safety is a serious concern, particularly in urban areas."

Measures that modify Proposition B, which was approved by Missouri voters last November (SB 113 and SB 161) have been signed by the governor. "These bills diminish the will of the voters who voted in favor of Prop B, and eliminate the most important provisions of Prop B that so many fought for," Sen. Keaveny said.

Senate Bill 187 modifies the laws regarding nuisances and junkyards. The bill has been signed by the governor. "This bill has the potential of letting large corporations get away with problems that need to be addressed," Sen. Keaveny said.

Senate Bill 50 would have allowed electric companies to recover costs from ratepayers associated with early site development for certain electrical generation facilities. "Even though this measure did not pass, if this measure is brought up again next year and passed by the Legislature, it could take advantage of ratepayers," Sen. Keaveny said. "Also, in light of the nuclear crisis that Japan has faced since the devastating earthquake, I think it's necessary to take a second look at how we handle nuclear energy."

"I would like my constituents to know that I did everything in my power to repel these measures, and that I absolutely do not support their passage," Sen. Keaveny said. "I appreciate your calls and e-mails of concern, and I will continue to fight for your rights and wishes."

St. Roch

Continued from page 3

attended St. Roch school, you could hear all the children gathering to walk to school — and again coming home after school. And the sound of children playing on the street in the summertime was the norm. Another standard practice was "hand-me-down" St. Roch school uniforms — not only within families, but also to other families with younger children. (Once a friend and I counted 80 children 18 and under living on this block. And a similar account could doubtless be given of other sections of the parish.)

By the early to mid-1980s, however, the "kid-population" had considerably diminished — in part because the neighborhood had long since stabilized. The kids grew up. And the new families who moved in had fewer children. I realized this only when our youngest daughter started school at St. Roch in the mid-eighties. No more crowds of kids on the block to walk to and from school with! No more noisy summer afternoons with kids playing tag, Red Rover, Johnny Cross, Ghosts in the Graveyard, Hide and Seek, Sardines, and other street games! And, though the

neighborhood was no longer under threat, the parish Masses were no longer "standing room only" as they had been a decade or so before. Things had changed during the more than twenty years — 1972-1993 — that the Hitchcock children had attended St. Roch School.

Still, the spirit of the neighborhood — and the parish — remained vigorous and forward-looking. A new pastor, Father Sal Polizzi, who arrived in 1981, following the very popular Monsignor Robert Peet, did much to encourage involvement with parish and school activities — an effort that has borne much fruit for more than three decades. St. Roch parishioners on both sides of Skinker continued to be very engaged in school programs and parish initiatives. If the church attendance at St. Roch declined, as it did, many social factors could account for this, including smaller families and fewer Catholics living in the parish.

Nevertheless, the commitment — and the strong Catholic faith — of St. Roch parishioners has made this entire part of the city an unusual example of social and cultural stability that could never have been predicted when we first arrived.

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Exploring Retail Possibilities in the Loop and on DeBaliviere

by Lana Stein

Under the aegis of Washington University, HR&A Advisors, Inc., joined by H3 Studios, Inc. and RPG will implement a retail market study of the Loop in both University City and the City of St. Louis and on DeBaliviere, anticipating effects of the proposed trolley line. The study will provide recommendations for additional retail recruitment and will identify strategies to address the needs of current and potential shoppers. This includes permanent residents of the surrounding neighborhoods.

The lead company, HR&A is a leader in producing retail market analyses in cities such as New York, Portland, Los Angeles, and Greensboro. They ground their recommendations in market realities. They will try to expand the energy of the Loop further east on Delmar and south to the History Museum. They see considerable strength in the diversity of the Loop area and certain landmark destinations such as Craft Alliance, Blueberry Hill, and the Pageant. They also note the strong presence of the cultural arts. HR&A has produced a retail redevelopment

strategy for Times Square as well as studies for Princeton University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The lead person will be Kate Coburn.

Washington University's representative on the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, Cheryl Adelstein, has assembled a Steering Committee from the various stakeholders of the area which includes institutions, property owners, elected officials, and residents of Skinker-DeBaliviere, University City, DeBaliviere Place, and the West End area north of Delmar, as well as several business owners in the area. Many of these folks are quite knowledgeable and have been active with the Delmar Commercial committee, headed by Jo Ann Vatcha, and the Loop and the East Loop Special Business District organizations.

There will be a public meeting in late June where HR&A and its local partners will address the aims of the study and the means to achieve them. For more information about the meeting, call the SDCC office at 862-5122.



The Moonrise Hotel hosted their annual Green Ball highlighting all the ways to save energy and have fun at the same time. Thanks to Hope Edwards and Heather Strahorn and friends for sharing the fun. The Moonrise also announced recently that they have added solar panels to their rooftop to power the bar high above Delmar. The Moonrise is also the first hotel in the region to offer a charging station for electric cars.

Being Safe In Skinker-Debaliviere (3rd of 5)

By Dan Hudspeth

Howdy neighbors. Its that time of year when people are out enjoying the weather doing the things that put us in a relaxed state of mind. STOP, we are most vulnerable at this time. We become complacent and we let our guards' down. STOP LOOK AND LISTEN. You need to have eyes in the back of your head. For example, its night time and you're bringing in groceries. Look around before you turn away from the street and side walk. If you notice someone coming your way, wait until they have passed; they could be friend or foe. Never let your guard down. If you feel that you are in danger run in the opposite direction or get inside quickly. If by some unlucky circumstance you are not able to get away, comply with the thug. Nothing is more valuable than our own health and well being.

Last month I had the unhappy task of replacing the back door and jamb for a neighbor who their back door kicked in during broad daylight. Maybe if they had a lock on the back and side gate this would not have happened. If think that it might be inconvenient for you to unlock the gate each and every time you have to take out the trash or what ever, how inconvenient do you think you will be after the fact. Loss of stuff, Hundreds of dollars; Cost of new door and locks; Hundreds of dollars; Cost

of your lost sense of security and well being; PRICELESS. Maybe if they also had an alarm system that not only made lots of noise but also is monitored by a security company and or police this might not have happened. Remember folks we need to make it as hard as possible for that lazy thief to get at our stuff. As an American we enjoy many freedoms in our daily lives, one of which is not freedom from crimes of opportunity.

If you would like to get involved with YOUR neighborhood, become a neighbor who cares. There are several committee meetings, held monthly at Our community council office. One of the few that I belong to is the Security Committee, all kinds of valuable information can be had by attending one of these meetings. To find out more you may contact me via e-mail huddy@sbcglobal.net or one of our friendly. Council staff members David Whiteman or Jackie Nolan at Nolan@skinker-debaliviere.com.

A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA: A little maintenance goes a long way - When it comes to your locks and doors, if you keep all screws tightened and all moving parts lubed, just a spritz of WD 40 once or twice a year will do, our doors operate correctly and our locks latch securely.

Blitz Day 2011 Report

by Andy Cross

The warm weather brought out a lot of neighbors for this year's Blitz Day. On the 6100 block of Westminster/Washington alley about two dozen neighbors were out at one time cleaning up and working together. Their alley looks great.

5700 DeGiverville residents Jim and Jan Hatch with their visiting family and neighbors cleared a big stretch of alley near their house and addressed the plantings at their

cul-de-sac. 5900 DeGiverville had a big undertaking; neighbors Jamie Kenyon, Erich Trudo, and others cleared trash, branches, and heavily overgrown vines along the Light Rail side of the alley. On 6000 Westminster at Des Peres neighbors Michael Hollohan and Faith Sandler, and Susan Allen pruned trees, cleared brush and weeds, and leveled the knarly overgrown junipers which had become safety hazards and trash collectors. Great job by all. We appreciate all neighbors coming out to make the common areas of our neighborhood more beautiful.

Saving energy in centennial homes

Ursula Goodenough of the 6100 block of Kingsbury has written that she is interested in retrofitting her home on Kingsbury so that it's more energy-efficient. If anyone has already done this with a similar house, she would be most interested to learn what was done, how much it cost, whether anyone found a good contractor, whether the results were or weren't satisfactory, what you might do differently if you were to start again, and so on.

The TIMES would a good avenue to share these ideas with everyone. Email the TIMES at or email Ursula Goodenough at ursula@biology.wustl.edu. We'll follow up in the fall with any ideas submitted, and perhaps there may emerge a "best-practice" approach.

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IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr, Commentary in the TIMES for more than 31 years.

Scrambled eggs, a glazed donut, a Hershey bar, two cups of coffee, a fine cigar, and ice cream for dessert; that's what I had for breakfast today.

You see, it's May 21, 2011 as I type, and this is the final day. Yep, it's Rapture Day. By 6pm today, it's all over. Or, if you're a believer, it's all started. Today is the beginning of the end of the world. This is big stuff, bigger than the fall of the Berlin Wall or even the O.J. trial.

Since there are only a few hours left, why should I worry about healthy eating? The Hershey's chocolate was even better on the eggs than I could have imagined. And the cigar was heaven, no pun intended. As I listen to my clock's tick-tock count down, I'm no longer worried about the value of my 401K or my overdue library books.

Of course, you won't get to read this column so I'll ignore spell check. I mean, we'll all be history by the time this erudite column is actually published so why bother? (Sea what I mean about spill check?) Today being the Rapture isn't just my imagination. No siree, what I'm saying is based on seasoned judgment, not just Hawkeye's opinion! A minister and radio host, Harold Camping, has announced that today is Judgment Day. The cynics among you may think that this is just a fabricated date - like Valentine's Day or the Super Bowl, but that is not the case. Camping has calculated and actually counted.

I bet you didn't know, for example, that the Great Flood was 7,000 years ago. Exactly 7,000 years ago, to the day, was when Noah shut the door and cast off upon the waters, making sure that he had two of everything. Given that there was water everywhere, it was essential that Noah be a good sailor, and he was. Unfortunately, though, Noah was not the most organized person in the world. There also was not an Organized Living franchise in the Middle East at the time (the closest was in Nebraska which really hadn't been discovered yet, so sales there were quite poor and it went out of business until later discovered by the Mormons) to counter his disorganization.

As a result of Noah's lack of planning, there were more species waiting to board the Ark than actually made it when he shoved off. To be fair, it was raining like crazy and the waters were rising faster than River

Des Peres in a thunderstorm. We have to give Noah credit for making sure that there were two mosquitoes, two ringworms, and two cobras. Of course, those species that didn't make it on to the ark are no more. Unicorns and compassionate Republicans, for example, were unable to board, and that's why you only see them in fantasy books today.

Minister Camping says, "On Judgment Day, May 21st, 2011, this 5-month period of horrible torment will begin for all the inhabitants of the earth. It will be on May 21st that God will raise up all the dead that have ever died from their graves." On one hand I'm excited at the prospect of seeing Abe Lincoln, Cleopatra, and Babe Ruth. On the other hand, what will they look like? What it, gasp, it turns out that Lincoln is a Tea Party backer? What if the tallest president wants to play in the NBA?

Camping quotes the bible in talking about earthquakes and floods happening just before Judgment Day. Well, to be fair, that's pretty current and on-target. He must know what he's talking about. I wonder if he has any quotes about nuclear melt-downs?

Knowing that the end is near makes me wonder what's next. Is the good afterlife like being in a continual re-run of a situation comedy? Are we stuck next to Fonze in "Happy Days," forever hitting the juke box? Or is arriving in Heaven like being a permanent guest on Oprah? Then there's the other world, down under (and I don't mean Australia). What's eternity like for those of us who have fallen short? Is it perpetually shoveling coal into the unquenched fire, always sweating and being thirsty and sunburned? Or is it like being in the dentist's chair forever, hearing the drill grinding away in your mouth with no Novocain? Worse, is hell being forced to listen to Rush Limbaugh for hour after hour and day after day? Maybe if you look closely, it turns out that the people shoveling the coal are all wearing earphones that are tuned to Rush! Gasp, a double hell awaits me!

But if you're reading this, then my hunch is correct. Despite the dire predictions and associated hoopla, May 21, 2011 ain't the end of much other than May 21, 2011. It was a good excuse for a wonderful breakfast, but that's about it. We need not worry about the Rapture happening today.

We can continue to do foolish things - going to the casino, chain-smoking, and voting Republican - because the end isn't near yet. Granted, the end is just around the corner but we don't know which corner it is. It's some corner, but that's not particularly helpful. And what happens once we turn that corner?

Alas, despite all of our wishing, no one really knows. But why not assume that something is beyond these shores? If we're wrong, what have we lost other than thousands of years of hopes, aspirations, prayers, paeans, blessings, and offerings? And if we're right, an eternity of chocolate without calories awaits us. It's all about probability, so let's lean toward the maybe column. Maybe something good awaits us around that corner! But what should we do to make the right turn? My readers want to know!

OK, trusty reader, here are the seven rules to increase the likelihood that your May 21, 2011 will turn out fine whenever it happens.

- 1) Be good to your mom.
- 2) Adopt a stray.
- 3) Don't say unkind things about others unless they really deserve it.
- 4) Support NPR pledge week.
- 5) Think good thoughts.
- 6) Don't eat mammals - you are one!
- 7) Vote Democratic.

I'd like to go into a bit more detail about the big seven but I want to cover my bases. I mean, this is May 21, 2011 and while I don't think it really means anything, I want to be prepared just in case. I've always worked hard, adopted strays, been good to my mom, voted Democratic, and I don't eat meat, so I figure I'm covered. I'm going to pack now so that I'm ready when the clouds part at 6 pm and Mick Jagger begins to sing "You can't always get what you want..." First in the suitcase goes my Kindle; I have to have an eternity's worth of reading, then my cigars, and then my work-out shoes. I hope Noah has a treadmill on the ark. I'll see you around the corner!

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