

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

Global Foods Comes to Loop

by Jo Ann Vatcha

A recent Delmar Commercial Committee meeting was a full house as our committee of residents and business owners met to hear the great new plans for the Global Foods Market, the first full-service grocery store to locate in the Skinker-DeBaliviere Neighborhood in more than 30 years. This market will be modelled on the highly successful Global Foods located in Kirkwood, which introduced St. Louis to a very wide range of foreign foods, while stocking all the standard "American" foods as well.

Shayn Prapaisilp, vice president of Global Foods Market, shared his family's vision for the the new location in the Delmar Loop: an urban-concept grocery store that will cater not only to students, but also the greater community. In addition to carrying everyday staples like bread, milk, fresh produce and toiletries, the store will feature a large selection of international and gourmet groceries and an extensive section of prepared foods, including hot food stations, grab-and-go items, and salads and sandwiches.



Courtesy of Washington University

Cheryl Adelstein, Washington University's director of community relations and local government affairs and WU's representative to the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, said, "Many of those living and working in the surrounding neighborhoods have expressed a desire for a quality grocery store located nearby. The university is delighted to welcome a locally owned, unique grocer to add to the vibrancy and sustainability of the Loop."

Questions from the committee included the availability of parking. WU's Adelstein responded that they have a new agreement with the Schoomers to use their parking lot (behind Mission Taco), as well as street parking on both sides of Eastgate for handicap and other short-term users. Whether walking or driving, the neighborhood welcomes Global Market and looks forward to many years of enhanced and convenient shopping and dining on Delmar!

The Top 5 Things that Make SD's Annual Homecoming Unique, Quirky and Just Plain Cool

#5. THE HISTORY – Mention to someone that your neighborhood has an annual Homecoming and you'll be reminded how unique we are! Holding a homecoming was the brainchild of a few folks that were tasked with creating a fundraiser that would be as distinct and enjoyable as our neighborhood. Remembering stories of a Skinker DeBaliviere 'Prom' that had been held many years ago, the Homecoming idea was born for neighbors new and old.

#4. THE THEME – What's homecoming without a theme? Skinker Debaliviere is a diverse and interesting place to live, and every year we have fun and celebrate special aspects of our neighborhood with this themed homecoming



party. Past themes have included Creative Homecoming Formal (who can forget the Carol Burnett 'Gone with the Wind' remake?), the Roaring 20's, and an 'An Evening of Artistic License.' This year's theme is 'Hat's Off To Skinker Debaliviere' in order to toast our 5th Annual! Which leads to:

#3. THE OUTFITS – What's a theme without having a little fun with it? When do you get to dress a little funky (or quirky or cool) and go out? Ok, maybe Halloween, but that's a lot of pressure. Skinker Debaliviere isn't into pressure. We want you there regardless -- there's always plenty of folks dressed for the theme and others just lookin' good. But if you're in the mood, this year the theme is easy (baseball hat, anyone?) yet with lots of potential for fun. Don a hat and maybe an outfit to go

along and come on out.

#2. THE COUNCIL – You won't find a neighborhood council – especially one like Skinker Debaliviere Community Council – just anywhere! It really is a pleasure to celebrate and support our council and all it does for our neighborhood. SDCC is a group of neighbors and staff devoted entirely to working to keep us all connected, safe, and living together in a diverse, vibrant community. Homecoming is our single largest fundraiser and accounts for half of our fundraising income from neighbors. These funds support the core of the Council's work. There are a lot of good causes to support, but this one really is in your own back yard.

#1. THE PEOPLE – The people make the neighborhood and the night! In the end, it's an evening with unique, sometimes quirky, and all around great folks. It's always a whole lot of fun and there are always at least a few memorable moments (who can forget the 'Color Wheel' taking the dance floor last year?) We promise that you will leave at the end of the night feeling energized, excited, and impressed by your neighbors – whether you've known them for years or just met them for the first time. You can always start the conversation with, 'Hey, I like your hat!'

Event details: The 5th Annual Homecoming will be at the Regional Arts Commission, 6128 Delmar, on Saturday, October 19th from 7-11pm. Food, music, and fun are provided. Cash bar. There is also an amazing silent auction, thanks to many donations from neighbors and local businesses. Tickets are \$40, but if you buy your tickets early they are \$35 for one or \$65 for two! Tickets are available at the SDCC office, online at www.skinker-debaliviere.com, or email Lynn Tiede, Homecoming Committee Co-Chair at lynn.tiede@sbcglobal.net and she will personally deliver them to your door! You can also contact Liz Pund at liz.pund@skinker-debaliviere.com with questions, silent auction donations, or to purchase tickets. All proceeds from this event go toward supporting the work of SDCC.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 7: Skinker DeBaliviere State Fair • 10am-2pm [SDCC Office, 6008 Kingsbury Ave.]

Celebrate city farming at its best! Residents of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood are invited to submit entries that were grown, raised, or made within the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. At least one first, second, and third place ribbon will be awarded in each class. Stay for lectures on gardening, chickens and preserving, which are open to the general public.

Saturday, September 21: BBQ Concert Featuring Hudson and the Hoo Doo Cats

• 6pm-9pm [Greg Freeman Park at Four Corners, 6000 Kingsbury Ave.]

One of St. Louis's favorite swingin' shufflin' blues, 50s rock & roll, and rockabilly band will close our 2013 season with a bang! All Skinker DeBaliviere residents and visitors from around the St. Louis area are invited and encouraged to join us. Skinker DeBaliviere's Famous BBQ will be available for sale, which helps us cover the artists' fees. If you are interested in helping out for part of the concert, please contact Liz Pund at sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com or (314) 862-5122.

Saturday, October 12: Neighborhood Food Drive • 10am [Collections throughout the neighborhood; Headquarters at SDCC Office, 6008 Kingsbury]

The neighborhood food drive returns! On Saturday, October 12th, volunteers from the SDCC will be conducting a neighborhood-wide food drive. The four food pantries in our area, Grace and Peace, Grace Methodist, New Cote Brillante and St. Roch, will benefit. Non-perishable food items as well as toiletries, diapers and personal hygiene items are requested. Please have bags in front of your doors by 10 am so that volunteers may collect them. We also need people to help collect and sort these items on that day. If you have two to three hours to assist us, please call the SDCC office at 821-5122 to leave your name and the time you are available.

Fall Workshop Series

Watch the SDCC website for information about our upcoming Fall Workshop Series: <http://www.skinker-debaliviere.com>.

Book signing by Robert Kohn at Left Bank Books, Monday, October 7, 2013, for his new book, A Darwinian Reading of Bill Kohn's Painting.



Halloween Party at St. Roch's

Once again, Art Santen and his volunteers will sponsor one of the neighborhood's oldest traditions, the Halloween Party at St. Roch's. Last year's party had some exceptional costume winners:

Alexandrea Upchurch--Boo--from Monsters, Inc.;
Evan Holden--Ghost Buster; **Isabella Lauren--a baby Lady Bug;** **Zephyr Brown--Pirate;** **Skylar Wilson--Bee;** **Peter and Gerty Megroarty--Flamingo Dancer and Bull Fighter;** **Maddie Boxdorfer--a Scary Bride;** **Cal Kreuter--the Wolf;** **Jayden Beckemeyer--the ever-popular Dracula!**

Children from every part of the community participated in this annual tradition.

Don't miss this year's competition, starting at 5:30 on October 31, and concluding at 6:30, time to go trick-or-treating!

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

Since moving to Skinker DeBaliviere in 1989, I have seen the neighborhood undergo a number of changes. It has become more stable, more families live here and the presence of Washington University is greater. Some Wash U faculty have always lived here (as well as professors from SLU, Webster, UMSL, etc.). There have always been student renters and some have later bought homes here. In the 1980s, a private company reached an agreement with Wash U to rent to their students. Wash U bought the buildings in the 1990s and added to them. In recent years, Wash U has carried out extensive renovations on a number of their properties. Their security service patrols and responds to problems. The augmentation of student residents has had positive as well as negative elements. For one, the students tend to walk or bike, adding people to our streets and increasing safety. They also contribute to local businesses. Regrettably, there are fewer units for others who might wish to rent here.

I do not have a problem with the Wash U-owned buildings. In my experience, their staff have been available and helpful. What I dislike is individual owners who buy single family homes--sometimes foreclosures--provide minimal rehab and then rent to 3 or 4 or more undergraduates. One landlord told me that she sought out sophomores as tenants. These are 19 year olds. The landlords are not close by, they are the last to cut the grass, they do not shovel snow nor do they monitor the behavior of their young tenants. We have had problems with parties and noise late at night as well as tacky physical appearance. These are the new slumlords. They could rent to graduate students or others but they choose to maximize their income while various blocks suffer. I have seen student ghettos in Athens, Georgia and East Lansing. We do not need this here. I have shared my concerns with Wash U and they are sympathetic. It is a conundrum but hopefully legitimate developers who wish to rehab single families for owner occupancy can take precedence over the new slumlords.

Since I am on a roll, I also want to take on the dumpers--those who do not live here but bring building materials, old furniture, and many other things--and fill up our dumpsters, including recycling dumpsters. If you see someone dumping, try to get the license plate and turn it into the police and/or the Citizens Service Bureau. Bins fill up quickly enough without the dumpers adding to the load. More than once I have been unable to put out my own trash because of the dumpers.

Grace United Methodist Church: New Pastor and New Facilities

by Lana Stein

Several months ago, many noticed that the 2-family structure that used to house a pre-school was coming down. That building held many memories for those with children now in their thirties. There is now parking, including several handicapped spaces,, at the rear of the church. The entrance there is open and bright and leads to various public spaces. The moving process is in its last phase. The church's new pastor, the Rev. Yolanda Villa, explained that the church wished to make a greater impact in the community. Redoing the space makes it more inviting and accessible to neighbors and parishioners. It has been designed to be light and open.



Rev. Villa joined the church at the end of June. She came from the Kansas City metropolitan area where she had lived for over 30 years. She had attended Kansas Wesleyan University and originated in Oakland California.

Rev. Villa has found St. Louis to be a very friendly place. Appointed by the bishop, she makes her home in the church residence in Parkview, joined by her daughter. She enjoys the neighborhood and watching the generations walk by or ride bikes. Accessibility to the Delmar Loop is a plus. She has found a lot more individually owned restaurants in St. Louis and the food is excellent. She feels well-treated here.

About 10% of Grace's parishioners live in the neighborhood. There is also a pastor who focuses on those of college age. For many years, Grace has run a food pantry that draws from throughout the area. In any given week, 100 are served.



The church is focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for transformation of the world. According to Rev. Villa, the church has something to offer people today; it can make Christian tradition loving and relevant. There is too much dehumanization. We have to bring out the goodness inherent in who we are.

The church is involved in planning now. It wants to be more impactful in the community and will have meetings at the church.



What was this person thinking? Boxes should be flattened and put in the recycling dumpster. Our City trash trucks do a great job when we do OUR job.

Fall Football Festival

Washington University Fall Festival

St. Louis, Missouri

September 28, 2013 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Danforth University Center, Francis Field

The Centre College Colonels. Bring the entire family! Children's activities will include face painting, football toss and pumpkin decorating.

11:00 am: BBQ Lunch and Children's Activities

Danforth University Center, Tisch Commons & Edison Family Courtyard

1:00 pm: Kickoff: WU Bears vs. Centre College Colonels Francis Field

Free for Washington University Neighbors, RSVPs required – neighbors@wustl.edu

Walk on over or free parking will be available in the Danforth University Center Garage.

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Co-Editors: Lana Stein and JoAnn Vatcha
 Business Manager: Lois Schoemehl
 Contributors: Rachel Boxdorfer, Susanne Knese, Sean McGroarty, Christina McGroarty, Cecelia Nadal, Tim Voss, Tom Hoerr, Richard Bose, Art Santen, Sen. Joe Keaveny, Cheryl Adelstein, Liz Pund, Andy Cross, Anne Voss, Marj Weir, King Schoenfeld, Lana Stein, Jo Ann Vatcha

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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: October 15, 2013. Please send copy by e-mail to jvatcha@gmail.com or by disc to 6008 Kingsbury, St. Louis, MO 63112.

News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

The month of June has always been a popular time for weddings.



And on June 21st of this year, there was a real Skinker DeBaliviere style wedding! Very special congratulations go out to Skinker DeBaliviere resident (and a former Homecoming King), Mark Gorman and his bride, Karin Hagaman, also a Skinker DeBaliviere resident. Mark and Karin were married in the presence of family in their new home with none other than artist Bill Christman officiating. The ceremony was followed by a wonderful celebration at Joe's Café! Mark and Karin now live on the 6100 block of Kingsbury. Congratulations to you both!

One of my favorite parts of this neighborhood column is learning about new neighbors and we seem to have a lot of new, little neighbors! The stork has been very busy here in Skinker DeBaliviere this year. There must have been something in the water, because we have had a baby boom!

Buzz and Jenny Matthews of the 5900 block of McPherson celebrated the birth of their first son, Tobias Max Matthews on February 16, 2013, weighing 7



pounds, 3 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. Jenny reports that Toby has been the source of so much joy over the past 6 months and his parents are settling into the ever-changing rhythms of parenthood. Earlier this spring, Toby would nap in the McPherson

Community garden while Jenny weeded and planted crops. Now he's enjoying yummy veggies as he learns to eat real food. Buzz and Jenny feel blessed to live in such a wonderful and supportive neighborhood.

Kris and Brittany Klinkerman, of the 5900 block of Pershing, welcomed their first baby, Wyatt Kristopher, on February 27, 2013. He weighed 6lbs 15oz and was 19.5 inches long. Wyatt has grown into a giggly, plump 6 month old. His favorite pastimes include knocking over blocks, smiling, and touching trees.

And baby makes four! Mike and Katie Wilson of 58xx Pershing have welcomed a second daughter, Molly, born on June 5 at



7 pounds, 11 oz. she joins her big sister, Lucy, who is 19 months old.

Duan and Desiree Speed of 5900 Pershing also added to the neighborhood population with the birth of their son, Noah. He was born on June 20 and weighed 7 pounds. He joins proud big sister Nia. Congratulations to all of these families on their special blessings! There is certainly going to be a lot of new walkers hitting the neighborhood pavement next summer!

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood has always enjoyed the talents of so many of our neighbors. We have many artists and musicians; young and old. And we have many writers, many published writers. Our latest notable author is long-time Skinker DeBaliviere resident, Dan Shea (formerly of the 6100 block of Kingsbury). Dan's latest project is the publication of "The Patience of Pearl: Spiritualism and Authorship in the Writings of Pearl Curran". The book brings back the once famous story of Pearl Curran and her Ouija ghost, Patience Worth. It all sounds fascinating and worth picking up the book to find out more about this old tale that binds with our St. Louis history. Congratulations to Dan on this great accomplishment.

Any regular readers of this column know that my least favorite part of writing this column is to report on the passing of longtime friends and neighbors. But I do

try to keep in mind that as we note this news, we need to cherish the wonderful memories of these people, share their stories, and keep them in our hearts and prayers. With that reminder I am sorry to say that longtime neighbor Dorothy Hogan passed away on June 5th. Dorothy lived on the 6100 block of McPherson. Our sympathy goes out to her sister Anne.

Another longtime neighbor, Bruce Tanner, passed away on Monday, August 5, 2013 at the age of 90. He was a beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend. He had a passion for trains, photography, archery, birds, and a devotion to Boy Scouts of Greater St. Louis, and the church. To my recollection (and I could be wrong), Bruce lived most of his life on the 6100 block of Kingsbury.

Our deepest condolences go out to the family of A.J. Cohen who grew up in Skinker DeBaliviere. A.J. died suddenly in Oregon on August 15th. A.J. was the son of Ken Cohen and Nancy Cohen, and the step son of Margie Brammeier. Ken and Margie's last home in Skinker DeBaliviere was on the 6100 block of Kingsbury. Memorial contributions can be made to Stray Rescue of St. Louis, 2320 Pine Street, St. Louis, MO 63103 or Pixie Project, 510 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Portland, OR 97232.

Do you have news to share? Please send your submissions via email with the subject line News of Neighbors to rachelb@sdtimes.org or drop off a note to the attention of Rachel Boxdorfer at the Skinker DeBaliviere office. Be sure to mark it "News of Neighbors".



by King Schoenfeld

Residents of Westminster were treated to a special "new neighbors" welcome party on July 19 at the home of not-so-old neighbors John Lents and Lawrence Marsco. Their beautiful home and pool made the perfect summer garden party location to meet: Melissa Waters; Jim Holzer, Elizabeth (almost Holzer) and Lisi Levy; Bob and Kamika Stewart; Jamie Farah and Leigh Hunt; Ryan Bogdan and Arpana Agrawal-Bogdan; Gil and Cathy Sison and kids; David Sahpian and his kids Elliot and Olivia. Welcome to all our new neighbors!

Join "Home Plate" - Host Dinner for Wash U Students Away From Home - Starting this Fall

Washington University is looking for warm-hearted families to host 2-3 students for casual dinner and conversation. Help them feel at home in St. Louis and your family can enjoy the company of Wash U's incredibly smart and talented kids. We only require that you have 2-3 get-togethers over the course of the academic year. We also try to match students to family interests. Many students stay with their families throughout their Wash U years!

E-mail Risa Zwerling at zwerling@wustl.edu to sign up! We will ask you to host your first dinner this late September or early October. There will be a reception at the Chancellor's residence for all program participants in the Spring.



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Welcoming the Skink!

by Susanne Knese

Skinker-DeBaliviere has a mascot: our very own Skink! A skink is a type of lizard native to Missouri and fortunately shares the name of our neighborhood. The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC)'s Art Committee hosted a workshop at Andy Cross' art studio for children of our neighborhood to help create the Skink on June 15th. They reused colorful plastic bags, mesh fruit bags and large chip bags by attaching them to a metal form created by Jenny Murphy of Perennial STL.. The Skink made its debut Wednesday, August 6th at our Skinker-DeBaliviere National Night Out celebration. It sits atop one of the kiosks at Four Corners watching over the children who visit the playground. Make sure you stop to check it out! Thanks to Tim Woodcock (6100 Westminster) of the SDCC Art Committee, Jenny Murphy of Perennial STL, Andy Cross (6000 McPherson) for his workshop and repainting the kiosk and bench and Michael Holohan (6100 Westminster) for helping to assemble the remaining parts of the Skink.

Kids Corner

by Suzanne Knese

Calling all kids of our Skinker Debaliviere neighborhood! We need your help in creating your own Kids Corner here in the Times. The Times comes out in February, April, June, September and November and will have a section focusing on kid friendly activities, puzzles, art work, craft ideas and other recommendations by you and your friends . . . But that will all come in time. What we need from you for our November issue is:

Question: What are you thankful for and/ or what are you thankful for in this neighborhood of ours?

Art work: send in your best Thanksgiving picture.

Submit these to Kidscorner@sdtimes.org or drop your answers or pictures in an envelope Attn: Kids Corner at the SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury. We look forward to hearing from you.

DeGiverville Highlights from 2013 Breakfast Garden Tour

by Andy Cross

The 2013 Breakfast Garden Tour explored a section of Skinker DeBaliviere where new construction, rehab, and new energy abound. Most of the yards and green spaces are only a few years old and gardeners have faced a few challenges to make things grow. At each yard, tour goers received a fresh sprig of herbs. At the end of the tour, at the cul-de-sac at 5700 DeGiverville, they received an illustrated guide of seven herbs that grow well in Skinker DeBaliviere. The guide included growing information and tips on how to use the herbs.

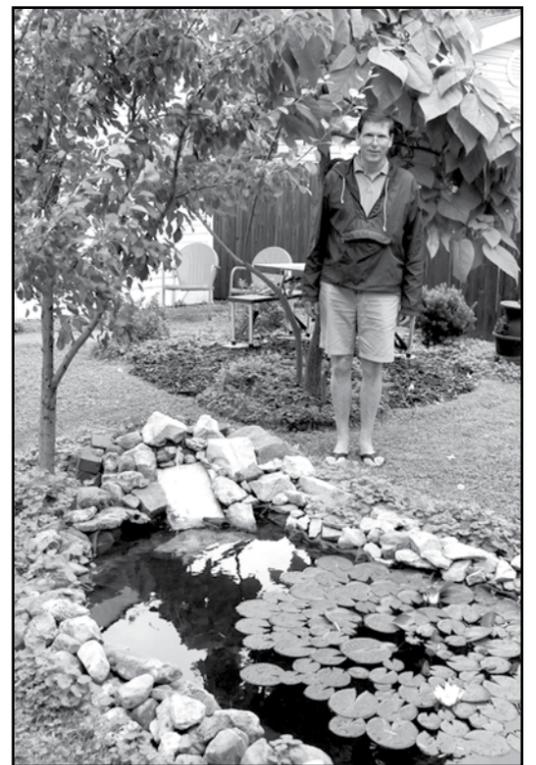
Here are a couple of excerpts from the tour book:

Dean Porter – 57XX DeGiverville

This yard was a big ol' mess when Dean found it in 2007. He removed everything but the red maple, which is sheltered from the sun and sets the color scheme for the yard. Sun-patients and hosta thrive in its shade and are held up by a retaining wall which Dean built. He also designed the garage, shelter, and cedar fencing, which make the patio an excellent space for entertaining guests. The elegant fence and woodwork are sealed with CFW cedar tone, and provide a rich, warm glow. You can't miss the two knockout roses, which adorn the entrance to the open sunny area with black eyed susans, Shasta daisies, and miscanthus, where wisteria and trumpet vine dwell on the fence to create a comfortably secluded yard without walls.

Fred Hicks – 57XX DeGiverville

Fred attends to the 'arts and crafts' notion of simplicity and function: the placement of the plants and other features in the yard are compact without feeling crowded. He likes to walk barefoot on the sand walkway in summer afternoons, which leads from the patio to the picnic area. This year Fred added an herb spiral – a raised garden designed with microclimates – it is an attractive way to grow your herbs. Some gardeners consider creeping Charlie to be an invasive weed, but in Fred's yard it is a welcome ground cover; attractive and easy to maintain, and it came with the yard four years ago. The focal point of the garden is the statue of St. Francis, in commemoration of his daughter Paige. In her two summers' riding for the "Bike and Build" program serving Habitat for Humanity, she made herself homeless for the homeless, much as



St. Francis did. Rather than use an artificial Christmas tree, or buy a pine tree and throw it out each year, Fred gets a small evergreen shrub and later plants it in the "Christmas circle," which will be a part of his yard for years to come.

Thank you to all of the gardeners who opened their beautiful yards to us. Also thanks to the volunteers who help us share these special parts of our fine neighborhood.

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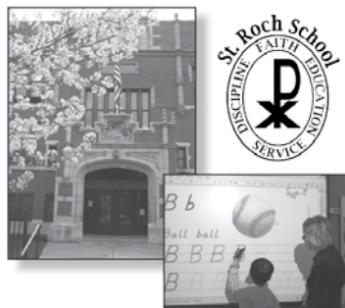
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Delmar Business Spotlight

Fork + Stix

by Cristina and Sean McGroarty

Well, your Clueless Culinarians did it again. We went to a restaurant without a liquor license. But it was okay this time, because we were forewarned. Anne Marie Lodholz, of the 57XX block of DeGiverville, told us that this particular establishment does not serve alcohol, but that you can bring your own. They even supply the glasses. Brilliant!

For anyone who has not yet been to Fork + Stix, it is on Rosedale, between Delmar and Washington. It occupies a one-story building on the west side of the street. On the night we went, the McGroarty kitchen featured an accidental two-course meal of waffles and chocolate chip cookies. We are such gourmets that date night for mom and dad means waffles for the kids. The catcher for Sean was that on this night there were chocolate chip cookies that were intended for a friend but that Cristina had not hidden fast enough and were quickly becoming the second course of said date night meal for children. Cristina is embarrassed that this meal of meals is now being published for all of the neighborhood to judge. Sean is still not quite sure what was wrong with that arrangement. Needless to say duty called so off we went to honor our promise to review one of our favorite eating establishments for the Times. Sean swiped a cookie (wrestled it from that hands of one of the older boys actually) on the DL, we stepped out



and headed north.

Fork + Stix features Thai food, specifically from the northern regions of Thailand. Apparently, this differs somewhat from the other Thai restaurants in our neighborhood, which feature cuisine from the southern regions of the country. The thing to keep in mind about all of this is that my knowledge of Thai food is completely contained in the previous two sentences. And I don't even know that, it's just what someone told me once.

Perhaps inspired by our children wolfing down waffles as we left home, we ordered two deep fried appetizers. The Crispy Spring Rolls are appropriately titled: cabbage and carrot wrapped in an egg roll, deep fried, and served with a Thai sweet chili sauce. The Thai Stix remind you of Crab Rangoon: cream cheese and crab wrapped in an egg roll and deep fried, also served with a sweet chili sauce. Both appetizers were fantastic, even making Sean forget about the waffles at home. The beauty of said appetizers is that while they are indeed fried they are not enormous nor are they gross and dripping in grease. I don't know how they do it but this ain't your grandma's fry

daddy Nary a drop of oil was seen on the little white butcher paper the Thai stix were served on nor were our hands so greasy that the bottle of wine that we brought with us and enjoyed immensely, slipped out of our hands. They are little nuggets of deliciousness that you must try.

The first time we tried Fork and Stix we experienced the Chicken Sateh appetizer which is really just heaven on stix. Pun intended. If you are looking for a light meal-look no further. Chicken sateh and you are set. A little something more to get over the dream of waffles for dinner then order an appetizer. Fork and Stix is versatile as well as fresh and delicious!

The entrees required a little more thought. That is, we couldn't just select the dishes that were deep fried, because there were not any. Cristina ordered the Green Curry Chicken, which features bamboo shoots, green peas, bell peppers, coconut milk and Queen of Siam basil. Sean ordered the Pad Ka Prao chicken, which is a classic Thai stir-fry dish, with soy sauce, Thai chili paste, Queen of Siam basil, and onion, served on a bed of rice. The waitress asked what level of heat I (Sean) wanted with the Pad Ka Prao. I replied medium, thinking that would give a moderate kick to the dish. Holy Smokes. Cristina said that her dish was just spicy enough to feel it on her lips. I replied that the spices on my dish must have knocked out the lesser heat sensors, because I could not feel my lips at all. It was so good that, once again, I tried to lick

the plate clean. Luckily, Cristina stopped me. That could have been kinda awkward.

On the sweat meter Sean's meal was a medium. Three glasses of water and a whole lot of sweating medium. That being said Sean is a "sweater". I (Cristina) took a picture of his glistening forehead for this article but alas the shine was so bright it was deemed not fit for our article. Sorry. You're welcome.

The lovely ladies of Fork and Stix will happily advise you honestly about each dish and it's spiciness factor. Not a fan of spicy food-fear not! These ladies will not steer you wrong. Just ask. With appetizers in the range of \$7 and entrees not much more than that our total for date night was a whopping \$26.00 Gotta love the BYOB aspect as well as the delicious food.

At the end of our evening, the only downside was timing. Because they served our food so efficiently and we ate it so quickly, we faced the distinct possibility of arriving home before our younger three children were in bed. This is indeed a BIG downfall for us but luckily an unseasonably lovely evening in late August helped draw our evening out a little bit longer.

In summary, if you have not tried Fork + Stix, go now. I mean right now. Take the Times with you; they won't care. And if you have no need to clear your sinuses, just order your entrée without extra hot sauce.

From The Keaveny Connection

by Joe Keaveny, State Senator

My first bill to receive approval from the governor's pen was SB 69, which is designed to improve productivity and eliminate the arduous process when dealing with mistakes found in administrative child support orders. My bill grants authority to administrative hearing officers from the Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) to set aside or correct administrative child support decisions or orders and proposed administrative modifications... the bill will help eliminate unnecessary steps in the process of correcting mistakes. By allowing officials to fix errors themselves, those professionals can get their work accomplished in a more timely manner and prevent cases from backing up in the courts.

Veto Session: As written in the Missouri Constitution, the Legislature's veto session is held on the Wednesday following the second Monday in September if the governor vetoes any bills during the regular legislative session. This year, the Legislature's veto session falls on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Only the primary sponsor of a bill can make the motion to override the governor's veto. If the



Senator Joe and wife Karen Keaveny (center) with former U City Mayor Frank Ohlendorf and 28th Ward Alderman Lyda Krewson at SDCC's "National Night Out"

bill receives a veto override in its originating chamber, the primary handler of that legislation in the other chamber may take it up for veto override consideration. Both chambers must vote to override a veto by a two-thirds constitutional majority.

One of the bills passed during the 2013 legislative session was HB 253, which would have dramatically increased tax burdens on Missouri citizens. I firmly opposed the legislation and was glad that it received a red X by the governor (click here to read the governor's veto letter of HB 253). I'm hoping the Missouri Legislature does not attempt to override the veto.

To reach Senator Keaveny by email: Joe.Keaveny@senate.mo.gov, or go to www.senate.mo.gov/keaveny. Phone toll free 866-783-1534.

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Band of Brothers

By Tim Voss

Attention, all new residents: Welcome to the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood, where all things work together for good. Sometimes even despite our expectations.

Case in point: 6101 Waterman Avenue.

This nine-unit, multifamily building on the corner of Waterman and Rosedale was sold earlier this year to Waterman, LLC (“limited liability company”), of Philadelphia, Penn. Not aware of the sale, neighbors were surprised when workers suddenly showed up and started gutting the place. But hey, these things happen; change is inevitable. The building undoubtedly needed renovation. This was a good thing.

Attitudes changed quickly, however, when rumors got around that the building, caddy corner from St. Roch Church, was being converted into a fraternity house. Even worse, it would be housing a fraternity that was kicked off of Washington University’s campus because of...well, fraternities don’t typically get thrown off a university campus for doing something good.

Word on the street was that the buyer was some guy in PA who had some connection to the ousted frat or one of its members. There was talk about the demise of the neighborhood by an absentee landlord who had no problem setting up an “Animal House” (recall the 1978 National Lampoon movie starring John Belushi) across the street from a Catholic church and elementary school.

The thing about rumors, of course, is that they’re just rumors—

unfounded speculations based on limited or distorted facts, albeit with some kernels of truth buried deep within.

The Missouri Beta Chapter of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity located on WUSTL’s Danforth Campus recently lost its way... and its charter with the national fraternal organization. It was officially disbanded and removed from the WUSTL campus in November of 2012. According to Cheryl Adelstein, WUSTL Director of Community Relations and Local Government Affairs, this action was the result of the chapter’s “consistent inability to align its activities” with the codes of conduct of both the university and the national organization.

“It wasn’t just one bad thing,” said Ms. Adelstein, “but an ongoing series of poor choices.”

Because of these poor choices, the disbanded band of brothers would soon have to go their separate ways. And likely would have, were it not for Waterman, LLC.

Waterman, LLC, as it turns out, is a company put in place by WUSTL alumnus Chad Remis, in partnership with The Harlan Company, a construction management company here in St. Louis. (This is the company that has been renovating the property.)

In addition to being a Wash U grad, Mr. Remis earned his MBA this past May at the University of

Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business (hence the Philadelphia address for the LLC). There he received the “The Benjamin Franklin Kahn/WRIT Real Estate Award” and had served as an officer of the Wharton MBA Real Estate Club. An accomplished young man, by any measure, and clearly into real estate. Also, he belonged to Sigma Phi Epsilon while a student at WUSTL.

Improvements to the building



have been extensive. A tour guided by Scott Smith, project manager for The Harlan Company, revealed historically restored woodwork, door hardware and newly finished hardwood floors throughout. Each unit has a brand new bath, kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and its own central air and hot water system. The entire electrical system has been replaced, with two new telephone poles and a transformer installed by Ameren to accommodate the upgrade. Leaded glass windows have been restored, clay tile roofing replaced, extensive landscaping—the list goes on. It’s been reduced from nine units to seven with no common area. There should be little doubt that the

renovation of the building is a good thing for the neighborhood, and it’s no frat house by any stretch of the imagination.

When neighborhood residents questioned, calls were made. Good people complained. Good people listened, including Mr. Remis.

According to WUSTL’s Adelstein, after learning of residents’ fears, Ms. Adelstein, Alderwoman Lyda Krewson, Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council Executive Director, David Whiteman, along with representatives of WUSTL’s Neighborhood Initiative team, met with Mr. Remis to share residents’ concerns. As a result, Mr. Remis insisted on putting strict codes of conduct into the lease agreements for his renters.

Those agreements are in place, says Waterman attorney Margo. Each student must sign his own agreement, and his parents must cosign. “Failure to adhere to the code will be considered a breach of contract and cause for eviction,” says Margo, offering his phone number should anyone want to report a problem.

Additionally, Adelstein would like to remind SD residents that, as WUSTL students, the young men are still bound by the university’s judicial code. Two WUSTL staff members living on Waterman who are involved in the Neighborhood Initiative program will be keeping an eye on the students and the property. “The school still has some teeth,” she says.

Attention, new residents of 6101 Waterman: Welcome to the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood.

Delmar and Forest Park Station TOD Planning – Part 1

by Richard Bose

A transit-oriented development (TOD) is a mixed-use residential and commercial area designed to maximize access to public transport, and often incorporates features to encourage transit ridership. With both Metrolink lines, six bus routes, and the new trolley, the area near the Delmar and Forest Park Stations offers the best opportunity for TOD in the region. In May the consultant team, led by H3 Studio, presented three alternatives for development goals. The attendees, recognizing the attractiveness of the area and the societal shifts mentioned above, chose the most ambitious option. The technical action committee met July 7th to hone the plan. A second public workshop was held July 23rd to present the latest and get feedback from the public. With the help of piggy-backing on the Skinker DeBaliviere Urban Design Planning Process, and despite the limited time, the plan has come together very well.

There is a lot in these presentations. I won’t cover everything here. Go to the Skinker DeBaliviere website and click on the “Skinker DeBaliviere Urban Design Planning Process” link in the top menu to download the presentations. Understand that these plans represent a multi-



decade vision for the future of the area. It won’t happen overnight, far from it.

The plan envisions, and the meeting attendees showed preference for, equal or higher densities throughout the study area. More residents and workers are essential to support the private businesses and public enhancements that make a great neighborhood. Along Skinker, Delmar, and DeBaliviere would be the biggest buildings. The important thing here is that they be mixed-use so that they can meet the market when built and adapt to changes in the market afterward. The plan points out that the jobs/housing ratio is way

too low, which implies many are driving elsewhere for work. The Loop Media Hub plans to be a catalyst for job growth. It and all the other features in the plan should create a place attractive to employers too.

If the Metro garage on DeBaliviere goes away it would be replaced by mixed-use along Delmar and residential behind, perhaps with an eye toward senior housing. We will certainly need much more senior housing in the future. I would add a spot for a community gathering place, church, plaza, garden, etc within.

The Delmar Station is hidden down behind the Wabash Station. The platforms should be under

Delmar with the Wabash station as its main entrance. It should have been that way in the first place, a missed opportunity for sure. The difference will be dramatic. Instead of arriving in The Loop to an abandoned train station and an abandoned car service center, you will step out of the Wabash Station onto Delmar with the trolley going by and occupied businesses in all directions. It would foster a feeling of “I have arrived” to live, work, and play. Also a great idea is to add access via elevator on the south side of Delmar so pedestrians don’t have to cross Delmar.

Continued on p. 7
TOD Planning

It's Always History in Skinker-DeBaliviere

by Jo Ann Vatcha



The TIMES has often featured personal memories of the early days of the neighborhood. In early 2000, we announced the formation of a neighborhood archive, and the wonderful contributions of many neighbors resulted in our neighborhood centennial project, the publishing in 2008 of a book, CELEBRATING SKINKER-DEBALIVIERE, HISTORY AND COMEBACK. It is still very much available, at the Missouri History Museum shop or by direct purchase from the TIMES website.

Since then, we have received many more memories, and we've begun a more focused research project in cooperation with the Great

neighborhood.

Rivers Greenway organization, to highlight the unique history of the DeBaliviere Strip.

We've already made some amazing finds, and we can't wait to share them with our readers.

Recently, Anne Reis Voss, who grew up just north of Delmar and DeBaliviere and who still lives nearby on Windemere Place, sent us some great photos and memories of growing up on DeBaliviere.

There are many stories to come! And soon, we will be assembling other pieces of the history puzzle on our TIMES website. Send me your stories and photos at jvatcha@sdtimes.org or by dropping by at the SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury.

Diversity Watch: Share your stories!

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood is so special in our efforts to build a diverse and dynamic community. There is nothing like hearing true stories that demonstrate how our compassion reaches across cultures, gender, religion, physical ability, age and economics...maybe even species!

Share your inspirational experiences with us so that we can in turn ignite a fire of encouragement and active cross-cultural engagement that will be a model for St. Louis! Many of these stories will be included in the TIMES and other mediums as examples of compassion across cultures. You may contact Cecilia Nadal at info@gitana-inc.org or 314-721-6556 with your questions or to discuss your experiences or ideas.

Cecilia lives in the neighborhood and is actively involved in community

engagement, education and the arts in St. Louis. She is the founder and Executive Director of Gitana Productions, a nonprofit arts and education company that promotes cross-cultural engagement through music, dance and drama. Recently Gitana's work with immigrant and local families was featured in the PBS Special HOMELAND: IMMIGRATION IN AMERICA. Gitana produces original plays, sponsors international concerts and runs a community arts program for immigrant and local youth in north and south St. Louis.

Cecilia's comments about writing this periodic feature for the TIMES, "What fun it will be to write about the active love and generosity of our neighbors in a community that strives to be authentically inclusive!"

MEMORIES OF THE BOULEVARD

by Anne Reis Voss

Some of my earliest memories of DeBaliviere were when we lived at 5650 Clemens [around 1930]. My father would give me a ride jumping off a large back porch. We would sleep on a blanket in the back yard. I arose early one morning and walked over the gangway past Glazier's Hardware to a jewelry store on Delmar, just west of DeBaliviere, to wait for the store to open. The owner would give me candy. I was 4 years old.

Later, my mother would send me to Moll's Bakery to bring home a loaf of fresh bakery bread. As I carried the bag home, my nose was over the bread. A heel was usually missing by the time I arrived home.

In the early forties, I rode my brother's bicycle over to Forest Park where I played tournament tennis. On the way home, there were two places to buy ice cream--Velvet Freeze on the east and Green Lea on the west side of DeBaliviere.

Later, I discovered the wonderful back room of Garavelli's at Pershing, with sawdust on the floor and a line where you could watch the server carve humongous slices of beef or ham for a sandwich. If I had a generous date, we would eat in the main dining room with a two-story atrium and outstanding walnut paneling.

On Sunday afternoon I went to the matinee at the Apollo Theatre on DeBaliviere or the Pageant on Delmar.

The Ice Skating Club at Blewett High School went to the Winter Garden [previous home of the Jai Alai sport during the 1904 World's Fair and Olympics and now home to Crossroads Academy]. Mr. Bockelbrink was our patient teacher sponsor. After skating, we descended on Parkmoor, on the west side of DeBaliviere at Pershing, to listen to the juke box and dance in the aisles. Some thought it cool to smoke and wave around a cigarette, often with uncool results.

We had an excellent art teacher, Mr. F. Arthur Krause, at Blewett HS [located on Enright near Hamilton]. One of my paintings of speed skaters at the Winter Garden hung at the City Art Museum.

On the west side of the street at Delmar, I often watched a Chinese lady stir fry our fresh dinner in a large wok.

With Mark Kay Burke or Patsy Daly, I would walk over DeBaliviere, sit in the free seats, and walk home late at night.

Often, when walking over to ice skate, I would stop in the Barrel Bar on Delmar to visit with my brother, Tom. It was across the street from Golden Fried Chicken Loaf, just west of Clara, where you could purchase a wonderful, fresh, whole fried chicken in a loaf of fresh bread.

DeBaliviere was the grand entrance to the 1904 World's Fair and is today the great entry to Forest Park.

TOD Planning

Continued from p. 6

Around the Forest Park Station there would be a transit plaza covering the tracks on either side of DeBaliviere. To the north new buildings fill in the empty/parking lots and replace the suburban-style buildings. Access from Pershing to the west is added, an obvious oversight. We want people to use this thing, right? Whether one is going to the station or Forest Park there is no reason one should have to go all the way around. The Metro parking lot would be replaced by an 8-story tower with structured parking.

The plan introduces a form-based code for the area. A form-based code regulates the physical form of buildings rather than

just their use. So for a new development at a given site the code would say what range of heights, what sort of setback, and what sorts of uses are permitted. It does not include minimum parking requirements, instead leaving it up to market forces. This regulatory scheme will foster the types of developments outlined in the plan.

With the Vision for Parkview Gardens, the Loop Area Retail Study, the Skinker DeBaliviere Development Plan, and the TOD Station Area Plan, the area is quite adequately planned and studied. The visions in these documents indicate the area has an aspirational and ambitious mindset. If it all comes to be we will have a world-class urban neighborhood.

.....

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.....

IN YOUR EAR

by Hawkeye Z. Hoerr, Commentary in the TIMES for more than 32 years.

The mosquitos are upon us. I'm covered with so many bites that I feel like a sausage. Yep, it's mosquito season with a big M. Come to think of it, though, that's backwards. I mean, it's not as if we're hunting the mosquitos. No, they're hunting us! It's really human season. Listen carefully and you can hear the buzz.

I'm an evolutionist. I don't have a Darwin bumper sticker, but I understand evolution and see how it got us where we are. According to the American Museum of Natural History website (www.amnh.org), humans and chimpanzees share 98.8% DNA. That not only explains the behaviors of some of the people I know, it illustrates how we got here from there. Darwin never uttered the phrase "survival of the fittest," but it is apt nonetheless. Those living entities with traits that made it more likely to survive, well, they survived; having survived, they passed on those traits which allowed them to survive. Right-wing pastors, I'm sorry, but this is not rocket science. In fact, it's just common sense. But where do the mosquitos come in this equation? How in the world could evolution have accounted for the mosquito???

I mean, why would a mosquito be here in the first place? Other than being something which birds eat and other than slowing down the building of the Panama Canal, what possible use is there for a mosquito? Shhh, was that a buzz?

But that's beside the point. Like it or not -- SMACK, I missed it -- mosquitos are here. They're more than here; they're on me, myself, and I. It's buzz X3.

It turns out that mosquitos aren't attracted equally to everyone. In a given room -- better, in a given garden party -- mosquitos bite persons A, B, and C, while practically ignoring D, E, and F. Why is that, inquiring minds want to know. Well, dear reader, relax, Dr. Hawkeye has done a bit of research, and he, I mean, I, can explain.

Just as I favor a chocolate chip concrete at Ted Drewe's while you prefer a strawberry cucumber or a vanilla booger, mosquitos have different tastes too. Actually, they have different smellers. You see, despite the fact that you've never seen one wearing glasses, mosquitos have terrible eyesight. They can barely see past the end of their proboscis. A mosquito couldn't see to differentiate Mary from Marianne, but neither can I. It's a good thing that stop signs are in the shapes of octagons. If I had had to wait until I could read the word STOP, I'd be sailing through those intersections.

But mosquitos use their sense of smell to identify a target and

SMACK, missed it again -- go after it. In determining the mosquito's motivation, scientists have discovered four factors which attract mosquitos. This explains why Sam and Samantha get bitten but Henry and Henrietta do not. None will surprise you, I am sure.

First, mosquitos are attracted to odors. Smells yell "Hey, here's some flesh. Come bite me!" Mosquitos particularly like perfume. Jungle Gardena, not surprisingly, is a favorite flavor, but Old Spice rates high too. Other smells ring the M-bell too: smells of vomit, feces, and beans & bacon score high. Now you know why your mom wanted you to take regular showers. Rinse, man, rinse.

Second, mosquitos are attracted to sweets. You thought you were being clever when you used diluted Hershey syrup to get your hair to lay flat, right? Wrong. Even though you diluted it, the chocolate grabbed the M-bug. They also like coconut, bubble-gum, and Tanqueray.

Third, mosquitos are attracted to Democrats. I must tell you, dear reader, this one puzzled me. At first, I didn't understand it at all. We vote behind a curtain so who knows? OK, bumper stickers might be a good signal but we've established that mosquitos have terrible eyesight, plus they can't read. So how can mosquitos know which politicians are out to make the country better versus which are simply trying to help their fellow fat cats? Beats me! But there's no doubt that Democrats are bitten far more often than Republicans.

And then it came to me. Mosquitos are attracted to IQ. Now Hawkeye would never be so crass as to suggest that Democrats are smarter than Republicans. Not me! Heaven forbid. I mean, you'd never catch me saying that Barack Obama is smarter than George Bush. However, I will say that if Barack and George are in the room, Obama gets bitten and Bush doesn't. Oh well.

So we know that mosquitos are attracted to smells, sweets, and Dems. On the off-chance that you're a sweet and smelly Democrat, watch out. No doubt Mr. and Mrs. M are gunning for you already. Hear that buzz? There are more mosquitos than people, trees, and cable channels combined; you can't run and you can't hide. So what to do?

As a public service, Hawkeye offers three strategies for avoiding the bite of mosquitos. These are guaranteed to keep your skin unbroken.

1. Move to the arctic. There are no mosquitos beyond the 86th latitude. So whether your go north or south, 86 degrees latitude

and above offers a mosquito-free environment. You can walk around in your swimming suit and never, ever worry about getting bit. How's that for a deal. (Of course, you may well freeze to death, but that's a column for another month.)

2. Live in front of an oscillating or under a ceiling fan. You see, despite their punch -- SMACK, I think I got that one! -- mosquitos don't weigh much at all. They weigh like, less than a piece of an ounce (that's a technical term) and are constantly being Jimmy Buffeted by winds. So whenever there's a breeze, mosquitos can't fly, and definitely cannot land to nail you. Thus if you keep the breeze on you, if you remain the cynosure, if you're clothes are flapping and your hair is a-blowing, you're one safe puppy.

3. Stay underwater. Sure, there are sharks and stingrays, not to mention piranha, electric eels, nuclear submarines, whirlpools, killer whales, and paranoid mermaids, but there ain't no mosquitos under the surface. So take a deep breath and submerge. You'll be mosquito free forever (or at least until you have to come up for air).

Note that I did not suggest that you become a Republican. Sure, that would protect you from the bite of the mosquito, but think about it: Rather than voting Repub, wouldn't you rather live in the Arctic, submerged, with winds blowing on you?

Readers: I need your help! I've been thinking about the past and the future, and I keep wondering what has changed the most. A future column will be dedicated to "If Washington, Franklin, and Jefferson returned to life today, what would surprise them the most?" I'd love your thoughts on this. Please email Hawkeye at trhoerr@AOL.com.

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