

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 46, No. 4

November - December, 2016

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

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

50 Trees for Lucier Park

A very special event was held at Lucier Park on October 15, 2016. The event was sponsored by Forest ReLeaf who provided us with 50 trees and 25 flowering shrubs. The planting was coordinated through the Parks and Forestry Departments of the City of St. Louis and the SDCC beautification committee. Participants included families who have lived on the 5900 block of DeGiverville more than 50 years, including Willie and Rogerene Kinds and family, Gwen Lazard, and the Brown family. Eric Trudo and Andy Cross facilitated the project, which brought together volunteers from around the park. More pictures from this great event are on page 4.



from King Schoenfeld

Wintermarkt Returns on December 3



from King Schoenfeld

Join us for our annual outdoor food and crafts festival at Greg Freeman Park. Find one-of-a-kind crafts and artworks which make great gifts for family, friends, and co-workers. Enjoy live musical performances, great food, and your wonderful neighbors at this annual tradition. A fun holiday shopping alternative to the mall. If you wish to donate baked goods to our food booth, and if you would like to enjoy the festival as a volunteer, call the SDCC office at 862-5122, or contact us at sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com.

50th Anniversary Acknowledgements

By Lana Stein

The history of American cities is a history of segregation. When blacks began to move into white neighborhoods, those neighborhoods soon became all black in a few years. Even scholars took this as a given. Yet, Skinker DeBaliviere proved them wrong. There are a number of reasons. In 1963, black families began to purchase houses here. The usual behaviors ensured: white flight, panic selling, redlining, realtors refusing to show houses to whites, systemic business disinvestment on the periphery. Yet, Skinker DeBaliviere did not tip. Seventy-five member families at St. Roch did not flee. Its school opened its doors to non-Catholics. There was a solid coterie of young white homebuyers who bought our beautiful historic homes at bargain prices. But, very key to what happened here is the formation of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC). Formed in 1966, fifty years ago, it was made up of resident organizations, Washington University, Delmar Baptist Church, Grace United Methodist Church and St. Roch. The council and its directors and members provided critical lines of communication and staged events to bring people together in while selling the neighborhood.

The concert held at Four Corners on September 17 honored the Council for its path-breaking goal of creating stability amidst diversity. Four past directors were present. Cal Stuart served during the tumultuous seventies and though he no longer lives in the neighborhood, it remains a strong part of him. Nancy Farmer served from 1984 through 1992. She was tireless and mastered the gift of communication. The two most recent past directors were in attendance: David Whiteman and Liz Pund. They worked on the master plan and many activities that continued to bring us together.

Stop by the SDCC Office, meet the current staff Brandon Sterling and Karen Kelsey, and marvel at the new display of photographs of all the prior directors and presidents who have served SDCC in the past 50 years.



from King Schoenfeld

PARTY LIKE IT'S

1966

November 12, 2016

STL ArtWorks, 5959 Delmar

The 8th annual Homecoming party is a fundraiser for the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council, celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Come pay homage to the 60's--be it Beatles, Stones, Route 66 or the founding of SDCC! Party with your neighbors and friends at this beautifully rehabbed arts facility. Live music by Delicious Fishes and a Silent Auction with many valuable offerings from local merchants.

Ticket prices are only \$35 this year. Purchase in advance at the SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury, online at sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com, or call 862-5122.

NEW IN NOVEMBER FOR SENIORS

Dancing into the Holiday Season

Saturday, November 5

10:00 a.m., location to be announced by SDCC.

Bring a friend and learn some of the latest dance moves--or practice familiar dance steps!

Managing Stress and Depression

Saturday, November 19

Learn tips to ease stress and depression that often occur during the holiday season, especially in the elderly and those living alone.

SDCC office, 6008 Kingsbury, 10:00 a.m.

Editor's Notebook

By Lana Stein

Today I offer comments on three disparate items, beginning with the November elections. This is the worst election that I recall living through and I started paying attention in 1960 when I was 14. Slash and burn strategies leave little room for legitimacy after ballots are cast. Neither presidential candidate of the major parties is seen in a favorable light in the polls. But talking about a rigged system, lies, etc., prepares us for four more years of gridlock and character assassination. Is it the media's fault? Is the media biased? It is biased in that it dwells, particularly on TV, with the horse race and not with issues. The Bernie Sanders supporters (and I was one I must admit) sometimes are irredentist. It reminds me of 1968 when some of those who were antiwar could not stomach Humphrey and voted for a third party or did not vote. And, what did we get? Nixon.

Second, I would urge all residents to stay involved in our neighborhood. We may be asked to vote on a special property tax. The first meeting on the tax drew a decent crowd. Hopefully the second will as well. It's time to think of what the neighborhood and its council and housing corporation offer and whether we concur. For those who are concerned with safety, the Security Committee meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 at the council office. Representatives of the police, the Washington University police and sometimes Metro are there to answer questions and talk about any incidents that may have occurred.

Finally, I am someone who ought to join recyclers anonymous. I am continually angered by seeing recyclables in the regular bins, failure to break down boxes in the recycling bins and people throwing trash in those bins. Our society has been a throwaway society but it can't afford to be anymore. Brightside reminds us that recycling reduces energy usage considerably. This helps the planet. So, as an old boy friend once used to say, "Let's get with the program."

To the Editor,

I went into the neighborhood Special Business District Assessment Meeting as a SBD advocate and left an opponent. I was expecting to hear why we needed SBD funds. Instead I heard about other neighborhoods that had implemented SBDs and saw a financial model that minimized the costs to individual residents while emphasizing the total revenue it would generate for the neighborhood.

This greatly surprised me. I was a SDCC Board member when the SBD was first brought up. At that time there was a clear and compelling need for revenue. We had just found out that our CDA grant was in jeopardy. At its peak this grant provided in excess of \$40,000, amounting to about 1/3 or the council's total operating budget.

This loss of funds led the SDCC Board and its professional staff to explore the SBD. I remember going line by line through the budget and looking at every fundraising event and campaign. We saw that all fundraising activities combined contributed less than half of what CDA provided. We concluded that the lost CDA funds could not be replaced by neighborhood fundraising. We also considered approaching our institutional sponsors and came to the conclusion that it was either impossible or imprudent to look to them cover our annual shortfall.

Another option would have been to eliminate our professional staff and move their work to volunteers. One only has to look at the quantity and quality of staff work to realize how much the council and the neighbors would lose. Examples of this included; physical presence of staff during working hours, planning, organizing and overseeing events, liaising with, police, fire, elected officials, city and state agencies. We also came to appreciate the need for professional experience when working with our partners like Washington University, the City of St. Louis, the State of Missouri, and Metro and outside commercial entities that have a financial interest in projects in or near our neighborhood. The loss of high quality professional staff would have greatly diminished the effectiveness of the council in the short term and put us on a path for the slow demise of the organization over time. The council looked at a many options. In the end the SBD appeared to be the only viable alternative.

The board realized that an SBD could potentially raise more funds than needed to simply replace the lost CDA funds. There were discussions among members. SBD funding presented a tradeoff. Using the SBD to raise significantly more money than was needed to meet the funding gap would empower the us to take on projects without the need for city state and/or other funding sources. It would also increase the cost of living in our neighborhood (either directly through higher property taxes or indirectly through higher rents). This in turn would add to gentrification that threatens the economic diversity that we all value.

At the time I ended my involvement the board and staff seemed to be proceeding along the following lines:

- Clearly articulate the value of the council and the need for maintaining a sustainable level of funding to our fellow neighbors
- Carefully explain how the board had come to believe that the SBD was the best means to meet this need
- Solicit the support of the neighbors

Obviously things have changed. The SBD Meeting presented no clear need for funding. Instead we heard about how much money the SBD could raise for projects "yet to be determined". For me the choice is clear. If the neighborhood needs funding to support the work of the council and its professional staff then I am fully in favor of the SBD. I will work tirelessly to support its passage and gladly pay my assessment. If not I will oppose the SBD and vote against the issue should it make the ballot.

I challenge the SDCC to take the lead. If SBD funds are needed then the SDCC board should present the neighbors with a line item budget clearly stating where the shortfall is and how it will be addressed. If there is no clear need for funds the council should abandon the idea of a SBD.

Respectfully,
John "Hitch" Powell

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The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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an outdoor crafts sale in the spirit of the holiday season.

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INFO & VENDOR REGISTRATION: WWW.SKINKERD.ORG

News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

Welcome fall! It is fall after all, although at this writing the weather is in the high 80's! Hopefully by the time you are all reading this we are all enjoying the cool crisp air and the changing color of the leaves as we catch up on some news of our neighbors.



Many of you have read about our Parkview neighbor Rachel Ebeling, of the 6300 block of Waterman, and the amazing work she and the Angel Band Project are doing. Rachel took her dedication to the Angel Band to new heights in September when she literally jumped out of an airplane to help raise money for the organization! That's right, Rachel and several other people participated in Chutes to Heal, a skydiving event in Maine supporting survivors of sexual violence by raising funds for Angel Band Project. The Angel Band now has an office in The Loop. You can learn more about them at <http://angelbandproject.org>.

And in the year that he has celebrated his 60th year as a priest, his 35th year as the Pastor of St Roch Church and his 85th birthday Monsignor Salvatore Polizzi was awarded the Mother Cabrini Award for 2016 from the Italian American Heritage Corporation on October 8th at the the Italia America Bocce Club.



During his time on the Hill he was responsible for the creation of Hill Day and formed the Neighborhood Association Hill 2000 that delivered many improvements

to the area. His leadership fought the rerouting of Highway 44 which included having a pedestrian overpass after a committee from the Hill presented the US Department of Transportation with a check for \$50,000. The overpass allowed residents to continue to walk to work and worship at St. Ambrose Church. Congratulations and thank you Monsignor Polizzi for all of your accomplishments and recognition on this very special year and for all your dedication, leadership, and service to the St. Louis community all these years.

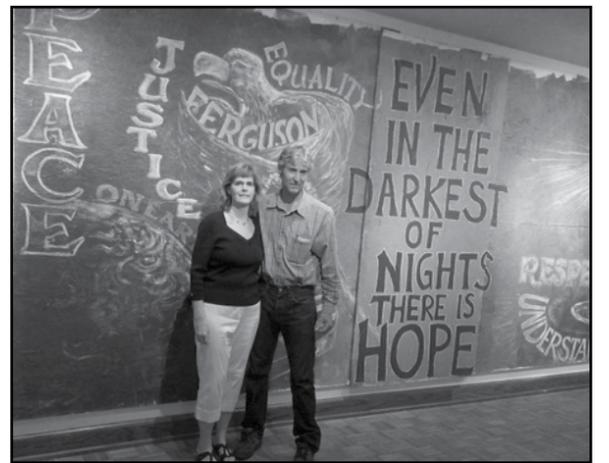


And catching up on the summer that flew by, we have an update from the McGroarty clan and some of their summer travels! Early in the summer, the McGroarty family of the 6100 block of McPherson embarked on a journey to their Irish homeland, all six children in tow. As an added benefit, Sean's father, Ed McGroarty, accompanied them as well. They climbed the Rock of Cashel in Tipperary with its ancient and imposing ruins, visited the dramatic Cliffs of Moher, and spent not nearly enough time on Achill Island in County Mayo. The western Irish say that if one could live on scenery, they would be the richest people in the world, and the McGroartys agree. Now, naturally, they cannot wait to go back.

Jeff and Jamie Ryan recently took a trip to visit daughter Jessica who is a freshman studying in the Faculty of Arts at McGill University in Montreal and reportedly is absolutely loving Canada! The Ryans live on the 6000 block of McPherson.



And speaking of service, Andy Cross has done it again. Andy has a mural on display at the Sheldon as a part of the Outside In - Paint for Peace project. The murals from the Ferguson board up are on display at several different art galleries throughout the city including COCA in our neighborhood. Most of the murals are on display through the end of October with the Sheldon exhibit being open through November 19th.



That's all for this edition. Please keep us in mind for all your news. We love to hear about your travels, promotions, awards, adventures, and more!

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". We love to hear about neighbors accomplishments, awards, travels, weddings, anniversaries, births, and more!

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.

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: January 15, 2017.

Please send copy by e-mail to jvatcha@gmail.com or by disc to 6117 Westminster, St. Louis, MO 63112.

Want to learn more about our community's history?

Check out our website at sdtimes.org

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STL Village: Building Community One Neighbor at a Time

By Liz Backus

Beautiful architecture, tree-lined streets, and a central urban location are just a few of the qualities that make historic Skinker DeBaliviere a desirable place to live. In addition to attracting people new to St. Louis, the area boasts many long-time residents who love their neighborhood and want to continue contributing to its vibrancy. The mission of local nonprofit STL Village is to empower older adults to do just that – stay put and stay active in their communities.



Joe Koerner

STL Village is a member-driven community network that helps people 50+ age in their own homes with access to a full range of activities and support services. Founded in 2014 by a group of residents from the Central West End, the organization serves several surrounding neighborhoods in St. Louis city and county. STL Village is affiliated with the Village to Village Network, also headquartered in St. Louis, which supports aging-in-community organizations throughout the country and internationally.

Skinker DeBaliviere residents Maria and Joe Koerner, who moved to the area a few years ago from the Central West End, are members of STL Village and have neighbors who are also members. "Maria and I have found a most meaningful array of activities through the Village that reach across the spectrum of our life here in our neighborhood," Joe commented. "We have regularly enjoyed the happy hours, times just to be together and share ideas and experiences; we've also received help from the Village with minor repairs around the house. We responded to an invitation to work one day a week at the food pantry at Trinity Episcopal Church on North Euclid Avenue; there we have found inspiration not only in the people served but also in the people who serve with us."

STL Village executive director Madeline Franklin notes, "Our members are an important resource not only for each other but for the whole community. Members share their talents and explore interests by participating in initiatives that are strengthening the St. Louis region." The Village's support of the Skinker DeBaliviere summer concert series is an example of how the organization partners with local neighborhoods.

Residents are invited to attend one of the many STL Village activities to see what we're all about. There are also opportunities to help our members by volunteering. Details on membership, volunteering and our monthly calendar of activities can be found at stlvillage.org or by contacting the STL Village office at 314-802-0275.

Liz Backus is a communications volunteer for STL Village.

The Kinds family at the Lucier Park Tree Planting Day October 15, 2016. This extended family, led by William and Rogerene, has lived on the 5900 block of DeGiverville more than 50 years. Gwen Lazard, also a 50+ year resident of the neighborhood, joined in the celebration.



from King Schoenfeld

The Brown Family are also 50+ year residents of 5900 DeGiverville. Mary, with her late husband Jesse, were leaders in the community for many years.



from King Schoenfeld

SDCC Est. 1966
CELEBRATE 50 YEARS
PARTY U.S. 66

Get your kicks and party like it's 1966!
 Support your Community Council at its 8th annual Homecoming while sharing a fun evening with your neighbors. Food compliments of neighborhood restaurants.

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8th Annual Homecoming
Saturday November 12th @ 7PM
St. Louis Art Works 5959 Delmar Age 21+
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28th Ward Democrats 2016:
 2016 Meeting: November 17
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<http://ward28.citywestend.org/index.html>
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KIDS CORNER

By Susanne Knese

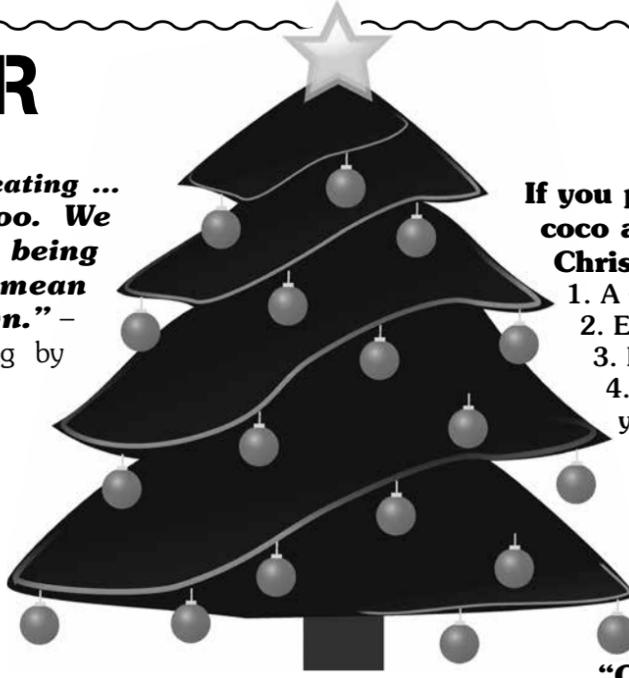
“But Thanksgiving is more than eating ... and we should be thankful too. We should just be thankful for being together. I think that’s what they mean by ‘Thanksgiving,’ Charlie Brown.” –

Marcie, A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving by Charles M. Schultz

FUN ACTIVITIES DURING THESE COMING MONTHS:

- Thanksgiving Day Parade in Downtown St. Louis – November 24
- Delmar Loop’s “Light up Delmar” weekend of November 25
- Science Center – Public Telescope Viewing the 1st Friday of every Month
- Sled riding down Art Hill followed up with Hot Chocolate by the fire at the Boat House!
- Skating at Steinberg outdoor rink in Forest Park through February 25
- Wild Lights at the St. Louis Zoo

Question for February edition: What is your favorite Dr. Seuss story or quote? And / or Submit a valentine picture. Include your name and age. Please submit drawings to kidscorner@sdtimes.org by January 10th! If you have other kid friendly events you would like included in this section, please email kidscorner@sdtimes.org



If you plan on snuggling up with a cup of coco and a movie, here is a list of classic Christmas movies:

1. A Charlie Brown Christmas
2. Elf
3. It’s a Wonderful Life
4. Meet Me in St. Louis . . . wait for “Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas.”
5. Home Alone
6. A Christmas Story
7. Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas
8. Miracle on 34th Street
9. The Muppet Christmas Carol
10. The Polar Express

“Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree, how lovely are your branches!”

Calling all kids to come decorate the Christmas tree at our very own neighborhood library, Charring Cross at 356 North Skinker. There will be a basket in the window November 17 – December 24 for you to place your ornament (please write your name and age on the ornament) to decorate Mr. Charles’ tree. If you would like your ornament back after the holidays please pick it up by January 14.

LYDA KREWSON *for* MAYOR



Paid for by Lyda Krewson for Mayor, Harvey Citerman, Treasurer

Interviews and Information on Special Business Districts in St. Louis

By Jo Ann Vatcha

During the spring of 2016, as part of the work of the SDCC funding committee, I volunteered to meet with and talk with neighborhood representatives, city department managers and SBD consultant to find comparable residential SBDs in SL, ask how they are working and how we can apply these lessons to our decision. My brief report follows.

Track Record of SBDs in STL:

List of SBDs in STL is long, includes districts that are business-only or mostly businesses (Soulard, Cherokee, South Grand, Baden, Kingsway, Downtown, Locust Center, Grand Center). One other residential-only SBD is Waterman/Lake. There is a brand-new SBD in DeBaliviere Place.

Many were organized by and use part-time consulting services of the Park Central Group, the go-to consultant in STL. Susan Andersen, who led the South Grand SBD, is actively involved with several SBDs, including the Grove and South Grand, CWE (several). By sharing their services, they use less of their money for administration, more for security and other services.

Local successes:

CWE South--Uses of funds--budget percentages, considered typical by administrator Park Central; 65% of revenue used for patrols by off-duty police through private security. Has had to change services when residents dissatisfied.

South Grand-- now a CID so sales tax can also be levied, does not include residential area. Works on marketing area, creating parking and signage, recruiting businesses to area. Works

with residential neighborhoods nearby through arts organizations and neighborhood groups.

Local critiques--neighborhoods that have turned down SBDs and why:

Lafayette Square--voted down legislation in 2015. Long time resident reported that there was resistance to lack of specifics in proposal. Putting out broad categories of spending was not enough to convince voters. Thought neighborhood leadership is good at raising money and spending it, but not so good at planning.

Shaw, TG South, SW Garden--combined forces to create TGNeighborhoods CDC, to reduce budget and utilize assets of housing corporations:

Success in controlling absentee landlords, funded mostly through rental income, tenant screening and development fees. Now own 23 properties. 3 staff, decided not to pursue SBD; Works closely with SLPD, doesn't plan to consider private security service.

These observations were made to the committee, which is still analyzing the data from the survey and from the neighborhood meetings to decide whether to pursue a vote on the taxing district.

Additional information: A new DeBaliviere Place SBD went into effect in April 2015 and includes both sides of DeBaliviere, and the multi family area east to middle of Union. They raise about \$300k per year. Their main focus is safety and security, including Patrols, possible cameras and lighting.

Special Business District Update



from King Schenfeld

The SBD funding committee of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council is currently asking neighbors to continue taking the two-minute survey about special taxing districts. In particular, more input is needed from neighbors east of Des Peres Avenue.

The survey is available online at www.tinyurl.com/sbdmeeting or you can request a hard copy by visiting the SDCC Offices. If you are an older adult or home-bound, you can request that a survey be delivered to your home by calling (314)862-5122 or emailing sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com. In addition, if you would like to host a small informational, a committee is available to lead 20-30 minute

small group discussions about Special Business Districts in November. At least three households must be confirmed to set this up.

On the website you will find information about Special Business Districts and how tax revenue can be used for security and neighborhood improvement projects. More information will be added to the website throughout the month.

A public forum will be scheduled for January or February 2017 to discuss the findings of the survey and determine if enough residents are interested in SBDs to move forward. Please visit the website for a breakdown of next steps, should that occur.

Tax Questions and Answers Surrounding the 9/27 Public Meeting

By Lana Stein

In this article, I am drawing on questions posted on Next Door by David Garin and Margaret Hermes, longtime residents. Co-editor (and former city housing analyst) Jo Ann Vatcha answered those questions, and Garin and Hermes also supplied thoughts following the meeting. As I attended the meeting, some of the recollections are mine.

A tax would be enacted by registered voters in Skinker DeBaliviere and property owners. The proposed tax district does not include Delmar, which has its own district, nor DeBaliviere which enacted its own district recently. Therefore, the only businesses in the district are the Yoga Center building on Pershing and on Skinker two law office buildings and Kingsbury Animal Hospital. Parkview is not included. What about the property owned by Washington University? By state law, Washington U is a nonprofit and tax exempt. However, a number of properties it owns in our neighborhood were recently renovated, using historic tax credits. To receive these credits, Washington U created a for-profit real estate entity. Because of the tax credits, it has to pay property tax for 5 years. After that, it can revert the buildings' ownership to nonprofit (and tax exempt) status.

The tax could be set as high as 85 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. On a \$200,000 house that tax would be about \$325/year added to an owner's property tax bill. Because of the Hancock amendment, the amount you pay in year one is the maximum you would pay.

If the tax is enacted, who decides where the money goes? There will be a 7-member committee appointed by the mayor. Neighbors can politick with the members or the mayor, but there is no guarantee their views will be heeded. The ballot measure to enact the tax can contain categories that the funding may be used for, e.g., security.

Some speakers at the September 27 meeting were skeptical of the tax. A few were interested in security. Marvin Nodiff, another longtime resident, suggested the special committee studying the tax cost out certain security items such as cameras or new lighting.

A survey available on the Council's website, skinkerdebaliviere.wordpress.com, will be used to gauge sentiment about the tax and preferences for spending tax money if the spending is enacted. It will be there till November 11. The meeting, held at Grace United Methodist Church, was well-attended and Beth Bender and Vincent Flewellyn provided significant information.

PAGE FROM THE PAST

Who was Lucier?

May 1970

The May, 1970, front page of The Paper announced a major gift to the neighborhood by Parkview resident and president of the Continental Telephone Corporation Philip J. Lucier. \$ 150,000 was to be used to form West End Townhouse to address urgent housing issues in the neighborhood. As Lucier said, "the primary purpose of the investment was "fostering maximum racial integration and neighborhood improvement." The new corporation got off the ground quickly and had acquired several buildings when, just months later, on July 24, 1970, Lucier was killed by a car bomb in Clayton, a mystery which was never solved but is thought to have been a case of mistaken identity. Although his sudden death shook the hopes of many, it survived, as Continental Telephone turned over the corporation in trusteeship to the people of St. Roch's parish. Board members included residents Gerry Deppe, John Roach, Steven Saller, Jack Wright, Tom McPherron, as well as Bob Blackburn of WU, served on the board, eventually owning and stabilizing about 100 units of housing. In the 80's most of the properties were sold, with some donated to Grace and Peace Fellowship and the remaining funds reverted to St. Roch for other parish priorities. Lucier Park was dedicated in 1986, with then-Mayor Vince Schoemehl calling Lucier, "a man who taught optimism to this community."

CONTINENTAL TO INVEST \$150,000 IN AREA

Philip J. Lucier, President of Continental Telephone Corporation, and a resident of the Parkview area of the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood, announced at the Assembly of the People of St. Roch's on Sunday, April 20, 1970, the formation of West End Townhouse, Inc. a company with an initial capitalization of \$150,000 which will rehabilitate and rent single family homes and apartment buildings in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. Lucier stated that in addition to the investment program of West End Townhouse, Inc. which will begin sometime late this spring, the corporation will sponsor a limited partnership as a vehicle for individuals and corporations to match Continental's initiative in neighborhood investment. He noted that it is anticipated that \$150,000 worth of equity or risk capital should attract between \$600,000 and \$700,000 of total investment. Lucier emphasized that the corporation would conduct its investment program with the primary purpose of fostering maximum racial integration and neighborhood improvement. Lucier feels that public utilities such as water and sewerage are a positive responsibility which can be accomplished in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. Lucier went on to emphasize that the Board of Directors of the corporation will determine its investment policy and carry out the programs which he described. He noted that Ray Hutchison, an employee of Continental and a resident of the 5900 block of Parkview Avenue is Treasurer of the corporation, that Gerry Deppe, a resident of the 6200 block of Waterman is a member of the Board of Directors and that John Roach a member of the Board of Directors and Secretary of the corporation.

The new cities representatives will be chosen by the two neighborhood groups. It is expected that Skinker-DeBaliviere will elect its representatives at its annual dinner, May 2, at St. Roch's. Washington Heights is expected to appoint its representatives during its regular annual elections next winter. Members chosen must reside in specific areas within the neighborhood. This is required to ensure that all parts of each neighborhood have some representation. In the Skinker-DeBaliviere area, two of the representatives must live in the area north of the alley between McPherron and Kingbird and two must live in the Washington Heights area, two must live in the area bounded by Des Peres, the Forest Park Expressway and the Washington University tracks, and the Washington University tracks, bounded by the Washburn tracks, DeBaliviere and Laurel, Delmar and DeBaliviere.

the paper

Art Fair to be Held May 10- Five Homes To Be On Tour

Mother's Day, May 10, will once again see the Skinker-DeBaliviere area hosting visitors from the entire St. Louis metropolitan area. For the third Annual Art Fair from noon to 5 p. m. For the second year, the Art Fair will be joined by a House Tour. Tickets for the tour will be on sale at the Art Fair in the 6100 block of Kingsbury and at the homes on the tour. Visitors, as well as residents of the area at the Skinker-DeBaliviere area. Once a tour is given by the Kingsbury family, this area was subdivided around the time of 1904 World's Fair. Many of the homes, in fact, were constructed from bricks used in the World's Fair buildings. The term "sub-division" hardly seems apt in the neighborhood of broad, tree-lined streets and private shaded patios. A great variety of styles and materials are to be found in the homes which offer repeated examples of craftsmanship and maintenance of another era, carefully maintained and tastefully renovated over the years.

Although most structures in the area are unique in design, The Curtis Home, a duplicate of the neighboring dwelling built by builders who wished to live near each other. Throughout the first floor of this distinctly Florentine structure, are well-preserved terrazzo floors of colorful patterns on a white background. The spaciousness of the rooms in this area, and the decor chosen by the present owner is a good example of the way comfort and elegance are represented," he said.

RAIN OR SHINE THE CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN GOES ON. In what was one of the most extensive neighborhood clean-up ever undertaken, residents Washington University Students, and St. University students combined forces with city and Washington University trucks to clean up the alleys of Skinker-DeBaliviere, the Washburn railroad right-of-way, and part of the 5700 blocks. Some of the biggest helpers were the kids. Helping with this particular truck were Arthur Mitchell, Sammy Mitchell, Corey, Calvin Malloy, Greg M. and Darrell Crawford. Supervisors were area residents, Mrs. Annie Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lovig, Pamela Coleman, Valerie Carter, Brady A. Mitchell, Jeffery Crawford and Stanley Carter.



Pulaski Bought by Busey

by Jo Ann Vatcha



Another change has come for our bank on DeBaliviere as Busey Bank has now assumed ownership of the Pulaski Banks throughout St. Louis area, including our own neighborhood bank at 415 DeBaliviere.

are excited to combine two organizations with similar values and focus on customer service and organic growth." The bank on DeBaliviere has been an important asset to the neighborhood since it was Central

Busey was founded in 1868 and is committed to providing personal service to neighborhood customers. Like Pulaski, Busey is a community bank. CEO and President Van A. Dukeman said, "We

West End Savings and Loan, opened by neighborhood residents and investors Kathleen Hamilton and Tom Scatizzi in 1979. The CWE Bank was formed to make mortgages possible in this area which was Redlined by the banking industry in the 60's. It has continued to make an important contribution to our area ever since. You may notice changes in the coming months; current bank manager Curtis Cantrell will continue to lead the local team on DeBaliviere. Stop in to see what's new or call 367-8800.

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IN YOUR EAR

By Hawkeye Z. Hoerr, Commentary in the TIMES for more than 33 years.

Thank goodness the Olympics are over. Now I can get on with my life. I spent hour upon hour watching this game and that competition. I am not a television junkie but I was riveted to the tube.

Once I wrote a column in which I suggested new events that might be added to the Olympics. I mean, really, who does most of these things anyway, other than the people who are training for being in the Olympics? I suggested that we add "Luggage Jamming," a contest in which the goal is to see how big an item you can cram into an airplane's above-the-seat baggage compartment in 60 seconds, close the door, and be seated with your belt buckled. Someone else has suggested "Synchronized Shot-putting" (wish I had thought of that one!), and then there is my favorite idea, "Grocery Bags Up the Stairs." Competitors get 90 grocery items, and once the buzzer sounds, they commence trying to pack all of these items into plastic bags and then carry as many as they can up a flight of 16 stairs. A contestant is disqualified if a bag breaks, drops, or if he succumbs to temptation and eats a Hostess Cupcake while packing. I enjoy watching Beach Volleyball but its viewer rating wouldn't hold a candle to this contest.

Throughout the Olympics, one comment that I heard over and over again (not counting the line about the awards Chevrolets have won) is "world's greatest athlete." That was how Michael Phelps, Usain Bolt, and Simone Biles and were described. But how could Alistair Brownlee, the winner of the Triathlon, not be the best? I mean, he isn't just running or swimming or doing acrobatics, he is running and swimming and bicycling. Doesn't succeeding in a variety of activities mean that you're a better athlete?

While they're fun to watch, I think the importance of the Olympic skills is overblown. So what if Michael Phelps is a great swimmer? How much good would that do him while standing at the intersection of Delmar and Skinker? Nada! (If it turns out that his swimming talent is, in fact, valuable at that location, we are all in big trouble and I'm calling Noah immediately.) I marveled at the skill shown by Simone Biles but, really now, when was the last time you had to use a balance beam at work? Sure, her floor exercise was impressive, but once the coffee break is over,

it's back to her desk. And yes, Usain Bolt is the fastest person in the world for a short distance, but the slowest Uber would leave him in the dust. For that matter, can he hit a curveball or shoot a free throw?

Actually, I think that you can only be athletic while using a ball. You can do other stuff but it ain't a sport. Take long-distance running, for example. What that really shows is how much pain you are willing to endure. Running is running; there's not a lot of style. Faster runners aren't better athletes; they're simply better at putting up with the pain that comes when your body wisely says, "Hey big guy, time to stop."

Swimming is a bit different but not much. There are some particular strokes and habits that will make you a better swimmer (beginning with not drowning), but then it's like running. A high tolerance for pain means longer practices and more perseverance. That's great and will help if you're ever water-boarded but it's not particularly athletic. We don't consider having dental work to be athletic, but it's the same as long-distance running without the running.

Add a spheroid to the mix, though, and need athletes. No skill is more difficult than hitting a round ball with a round bat. If someone can do that well one-third of the time, we revere them. To put this in perspective, you wouldn't put up with one-third of the food being good at a restaurant or a surgeon succeeding one-third of the time!

To be fair, while all sports involve a ball, not every use of a ball is part of a sport. Soccer is an example of a non-sport. Soccer is simply running without tripping over the ball. Besides, any game in which 99% of the time is back and forth while only 1% is scoring will be so boring that it doesn't matter whether it's a sport.

Playing shortstop is the most challenging athletic task. A shortstop has to not only be able to run and jump, start and stop quickly, she must have the coordination to catch and throw a ball while off balance or even jumping in the air. That's athletic! Similarly, a basketball player who is good because of skill - not just due to height - has to demonstrate mighty athletic skills. And what could be more athletic than throwing or catching a football, an odd shape, while fending off people

who are after you? The only sport that begins to approach these levels of difficulty isn't found in the Olympics; rather, it's the juggler who circulates six balls in the air while rotating a hoop with his right leg and playing the harmonica. Now that's athleticism!

Sorry, I have to stop now. It's time for my juggling lesson and I need to go to the grocery store. Hey, there's an interesting thought: What if the "Grocery Bags Up the Stairs" competition awarded extra points for juggling? This could be really interesting!



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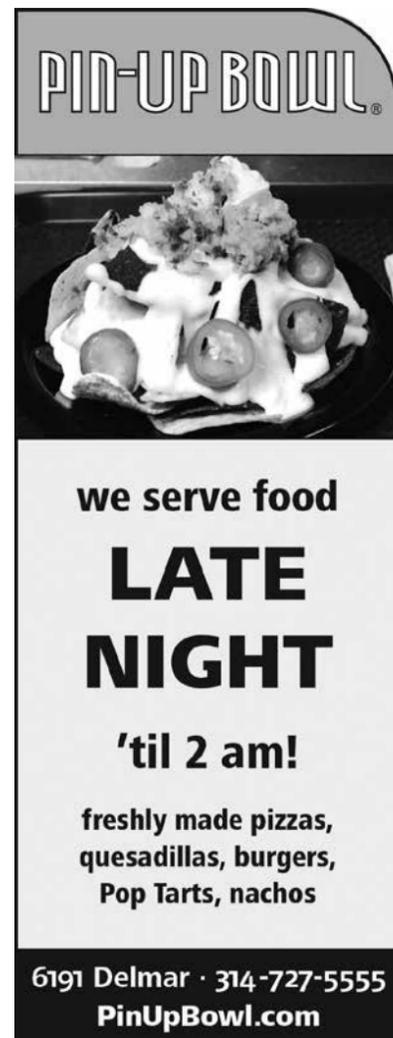


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