

The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 47, No.5

February-March 2018

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

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

STL Village Moves to CWE

By Liz Bachus

STL Village has a new home! After three great years at the offices of St. Andrew's Resources for Seniors on Delmar in University City, the Village has moved its office to Second Presbyterian Church in the Central West End.



"We greatly appreciate the past three years occupying space at St. Andrew's Resources for Seniors, which has recently moved their offices to West St. Louis County," said Madeline Franklin, executive director of STL Village. "Although we have relocated our office, the service boundaries of STL Village within the City of St. Louis and parts of University City will remain unchanged. We look forward to expanding our presence in University City as well as surrounding metro St. Louis communities."

STL Village is excited to be sharing space in the historic church building, and we invite the public to join us at one of the events we'll be hosting at our new location. We also welcome residents to attend one of our monthly get-togethers that take place throughout the St. Louis area. Visit stlvillage.org to sign up for our weekly calendar of activities or give us a call to find out about upcoming events.

Learn about our network of services and activities that support the ability to "age in community" right at home. Contact us at: STL Village, 4501 Westminster Place, St. Louis, MO 63108. Online at stlvillage.org, info@stlvillage.org or call us at 314-240-5020.

23rd FIREFIGHTER & POLICE APPRECIATION LUNCH

Friday February 16, 11AM-2PM
SDCC Office - 6008 Kingsbury Ave.

Join us in honoring the brave men and women who take care of our wonderful neighborhood.

Say Thanks: Stop by the SDCC office to just say thank you, or join the police and firefighters for lunch.

Dishes Needed: This luncheon is made possible by donations of entrees, sides and desserts donated by neighbors. Drop your dish off between 9AM-11AM.

Volunteers Needed: If you'd like to help decorate or serve dishes, or have additional questions contact: sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com or (314) 862-5122.

SDCC Thanks Busey Bank

By Brandon Sterling, Executive Director

In 2017, Busey Bank agreed to become a Business Member of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. In doing so, it continued a longstanding tradition of support by previous banks CWE Savings and Loan and later Pulaski Bank, located at the corner of DeBaliviere and Waterman.

As a business member and Busey's bank manager supporting the efforts of residents and other stakeholders in building and sustaining our neighborhood, Karla Carroll, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of the Skinker DeBaliviere branch, holds Busey's seat on SDCC's board, and also serves on the Neighborhood Programs Committee, volunteers at special events and provides in-kind services for various events.

It is worth noting that in addition to paying their annual membership contribution, Busey Bank also donated all of the proceeds of their casual Friday fundraiser from all City branches to SDCC as a 2017 year-end contribution!

Strengthening Our Blocks

By Molly Mulcahy and Cristina McGroarty

The SDCC and the Security Committee are working to update and strengthen our neighborhood Block Captain Program. There are multiple blocks that already have a very solid system in place because of the involvement and hard work of the current Block Captains and the interested and engaged neighbors. The goal is to build on the strengths of what is already working well and try to implement that on the blocks with less engagement. Our first step in doing this is to solidify our list of Block Captains. Your help with this is appreciated.

The duties of a Block Captain are:

1. Gather contact information for block residents
2. Communications including e-mails, texts, and phone trees for block
3. Block Meetings
4. Distribute newspapers, 5 times a year and SDCC flyers as needed

Making our neighborhood safer and

getting our neighbors involved in looking out for one another is not something we can do alone. We need your help. The role of the Block Captain is to increase communication among the block and in turn the Skinker DeBaliviere Community at large.

At an initial meeting on January 29th, current and prospective block captains were provided with a packet of information and a template for gathering contact information from your neighbors.

The Block Captain does not have to be one person but can be numerous neighbors who work together. Any of these duties can be delegated by the block captain and the block captain may just be the one who organizes the delegation for their block and makes sure that the duties are completed. The goal is not to make work for one person but to increase communication among many.

For more information, contact Brandon Sterling at SDCC, 862-5122.

Clean Energy Resolution Signals a Way Forward

From 28th Ward Alderwoman Heather Navarro:

St. Louis has become the 47th city in the U.S. to commit to clean energy with a resolution to reach 100% by 2035. I was the first one to co-sponsor Resolution 124, introduced by President Reed, and it passed unanimously. It calls specifically for "wind and solar and energy efficiency measures" and a plan to be developed by December 2018 to get us there.

While backed by environmental groups, this effort will only be successful if it is led by a diverse group that incorporates social justice, economic development, and public health. The resolution lists participation by labor, frontline communities, academic institutions, housing, business, low income advocates, and any relevant groups.

While the City of St. Louis does not have jurisdiction over our utility companies, there are many ways for the city to be proactive in its energy usage. The city, for example, approves building codes. One study of the potential of upgrading our city building codes to modern energy efficiency standards shows that future homeowners would save \$438 per year, all while reducing dependence on polluting fossil fuels.

A greenhouse gas inventory revealed that in 2015, 97% of greenhouse gases came from the built environment. The stakeholder process could develop a commitment on behalf of various sectors to reduce energy usage. It could identify roof space on city buildings suitable for solar panels and funding mechanisms to invest in more solar power. The resolution is intentionally open-ended so that a diverse stakeholder group can determine the best pathway forward.

A diverse stakeholder group is important to ensure that the measures



Maria Navarro and Mom and Alderwoman Heather Navarro enjoyed the Loop Ice Carnival.

proposed benefit all St. Louisans. Through job creation, lower energy bills, and cleaner air we can turn clean energy into a win-win. The latest Solar Jobs Census shows that Missouri had 2,380 jobs in this growing field in 2016, up 28% over the previous year. The City of St. Louis could be working to increase that growth in the city, especially in communities that lack opportunities.

Personally, I am excited that St. Louis has made a bold statement supporting a transition to clean energy. Because of this resolution I, as an elected official, have the city's support to work with stakeholders to develop ideas that will reduce energy consumption, promote renewable sources of energy, save money, and benefit public health. It adds momentum to a movement that is building across the country and tells prospective businesses and investors that St. Louis is part of the clean energy

Clean Energy continued on page 6

Editor's Notebook

By Lana Stein

Politics and history have been my vocation and avocation for most of my life. In this neighborhood, a number of people share this orientation to some extent but for most Americans it would be an anomaly. Americans, according to survey research, pay less attention to political and governmental happenings than citizens of most other countries. Hence, a number of us lack a framework from which to evaluate campaign promises, campaign ads, or daily events in our capital. This has contributed to the sharpening of division between the political parties and within the parties.

Regrettably, our political system needs compromise to operate; sharp ideological differences historically have been better handled in a parliamentary form of government.

Our national schism echoes elsewhere in the world. Here, the situation suffers from negative ads, explosive rhetoric, unsubstantiated information. People seem to buy into the ideas and rhetoric of the group with which they identify and do not accept a factual evaluation of plans. I don't have an answer to this dangerous trend. I have my own ideological bias. What bothers me most is a change in position that is openly stated and then is changed later and the first position is denied or people who deny something, despite evidence to the contrary. Our opponents become enemies. There is no middle ground. It is Orwellian.

We have some divisions in Skinker DeBaliviere. Historically, however, people who have been on opposite sides then come together. We can all thank those who contribute to the SDCC and also those who support our TIMES! Following is a list of those who answered our fundraising request. We appreciate your support. If you would still like to help, send us a check c/o Linda Cross, 6060 McPherson.

Editor's Note: In our November-December, 2017, issue, we introduced the proposal of the German-American Heritage Society to restore the historic names of some St. Louis streets by installing plaques. Jim Merkel had invited responses from the neighborhood, and we are pleased that two letters representing both pro and con were received. Remember, you can always go to our website to read the previous articles, as well as explore the full archives of the TIMES, fully digitized and easy to search!

From Jim Merkel: There is no question an injustice was done. A couple of streets in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood received their names because of a nationwide attack on the heritage of patriotic American citizens. We don't want to change any street names or cause offense to anyone. We just want appropriate public markers acknowledging what happened a century ago this year. We hope to work with others to make this happen, including those with concerns.

Sincerely,
Jim Merkel

From Bob Dogwillo: When I purchased my duplex on Pershing in 1981, I found the street renaming an interesting part of local history, not controversial or an "injustice" or a wrong that just had to be righted.

As I gather from the article, the street names were changed with full regard to due process.

While I can see Jim's point, I think perhaps some of us are looking for an injustice around every corner. Jim is very close to this because of his German heritage...maybe too close.

Jim mentions anti-German hysteria, anti-Japanese hysteria, anti-Muslim hysteria...all sadly true to one extent or another...but while we are at it why not include anti-Catholic hysteria...remember the No Nothings, or the KKK, or the latest Senate hearings.

As "injustices" go, the street renaming seems rather tame to me. So, I say "no" to this proposal while at the same time encouraging the Board of Alderman and the major to leave this alone and focus their finite time, talent and treasure on the critical health of our city.

From Glorianna L'Ecuyer

I'm in favor of a marker to show that Enright was once names Von Versen. My German ancestor, my great aunt, Blanche Wise McMenemy, was in her forties here in St. Louis when the United States entered WWI. Her great grandfather brought his family to Pennsylvania in the early 1800s. By the time they moved to Alton in 1840 their name had been changed from Weiss to Wise. I'm guessing it sounded very close to that in English.

My great aunt was quite the socialite. It must have been sad and even alarming for her to face the possibility of becoming a social outcast among her wealthy friends because of her German heritage. The pressure to be non-German must have been very real. As a result she told them that the family was from Alsace Lorraine, which was both French and German. Later I found census data that showed they had migrated from Bavaria.

My Great Aunt lived with her husband at the Jefferson Arms downtown. The flu epidemic took him from her, her sister died in childbirth, and her brother-in-law followed dying from heart disease. She then did what she had to do and moved into their home at 6018 Clemens. She took care of all six of her nieces and nephews until they were grown and on their own. She finally sold the house in 1947.

I think it's fitting to have a marker showing that Von Versen was previously the name of the street just south of Clemens, who was the wife of Von Versen.

Thanks to Jim Merkel for the great article and good luck to him in acquiring the markers.

Our deepest appreciation to our year-end residential donors,

whose contributions to date total \$1,750. Our esteemed treasurer and business manager, Linda Cross, will have our final report in our next issue, which will include thanks to all our great advertisers. Thanks to all who help keep our newspaper a vibrant part of our neighborhood!

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28th Ward Democrats 2018:

Next meeting is February 15

For up to date info on programs & other news of politics, go to the 28th Ward website:
<http://ward28.citywestend.org/index.html>

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: March 15, 2018.

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

The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Co-Editors: Lana Stein and JoAnn Vatcha
Business Manager: Linda Cross
Contributors: Rachel Boxdorfer Susanne Knese Brandon Sterling
Cristina McGroarty Cecelia Nadal Tom Hoerr
Richard Bose Michael Whisenhunt Art Santen
Cheryl Adelstein Andy Cross Derek Knight
Marj Weir King Schoenfeld Lana Stein
Jo Ann Vatcha Elizabeth Krasnoff Holzer Sean McGroarty
Dan Rater

The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere is published by the West End Publishing Co., a not-for profit, independent, community organization.
Layout: Karen Hilmes Printing: Arcade Printing

Advertising Rates - Display Advertising:
Column width, 2.25". Minimum ad size 2" x 1 col: \$25/insertion.
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Readers are welcome to send us e-mail or letters commenting on any of our content. Send to jvatcha@gmail.com or maxlana@sbcglobal.net.

News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

Happy New Year! The weather has certainly taken a turn and at this writing is downright frigid and yet by weekend, should feel like spring! I'm personally ready for spring. While we are dealing with the crazy St. Louis weather, let's see what some of our neighbors have been up to. We are going to begin with some of our younger neighbors because it is always exciting to hear what they are up to!



Zachary Voss in Shibuya, award of Japan with a Hachiko statue.

Zachary Voss of the 6100 block of McPherson went to Tokyo for a semester abroad through Webster University. While in Tokyo he lived in a dorm with other Webster students and students from around the world. He immersed himself in the culture by taking Japanese language classes and making friends with the locals. He especially enjoyed the food. Zachary visited several art and history museums including the Cup Noodle Museum. He found Tokyo itself to be crowded and lively. Weekends were spent visiting parks, mountains (including Mount Fuji) and beaches. Zachary is the son of Tim and Pattie Voss of the 6100 block of McPherson and is majoring in psychology and minoring in Japanese.



Emil Banaszak is in the back row on the far right

Emil Banaszak, son of Katrina Stierholz and Mark Banaszak of the 6100 block of McPherson, is in the midst of a service year with AmeriCorps. He is working with the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC). His first project was disaster relief for the hurricane victims on St. Thomas, in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Currently, he is working in Jackson, Wyoming. His squad is helping build low-income housing. He follows in his brother's footsteps. Theo Banaszak spent a year in AmeriCorps with CityYear Denver, where he served Denver Public Schools.

We often take time in this column to say goodbye to neighbors who are moving away or to welcome new neighbors. In this case, as in many in our unique neighborhood, we can do both! Kristina Stierholz and Albert Webster have taken quick advantage

of becoming empty-nesters this past fall and have moved from the 6200 block of Waterman to a smaller house on Pershing in Parkview. Along with their dog Louie, they love having a front door right on the Pershing "triangle park". Kristina continues to work at the Federal Reserve Bank and Albert continues with "Live from Here" (the new title for public radio's "A Prairie Home Companion"). Where are their children? Eric has started his college career at Valparaiso University, Lilly is pursuing a PhD in Mathematics at the University of Minnesota, Karl owns his home and makes most of the donuts at the Schnucks on Clayton Road.



The Webster/Stierholtz family is not alone in making a move within the neighborhood. Many families have done so over the years, some more than once! A few families that come to mind having done similar moves in the neighborhood (moving a few blocks or less) including (and this is not inclusive of everyone, I know I am missing many); the Hogans, the Stierholtz/Banaszak family (Kristina's sister), Beth Bender, Boxdorfers, Tiedes, Schneiders, Kneses, Gills, Bartons, Friesens, the Raters, and the McGroarty's. With a little more thought and reaching back in years, this could be a very long list. I think it says a lot about our wonderful neighborhood. Wouldn't you agree?

Sadly, I need to report that our neighbor Joseph Hugo Davenport Sr. passed away on December 22, 2017. Joseph lived on the 5900 block of DeGiverville with his wife of forty years, Sheryl Ann (as he affectionately called her). We offer our condolences to Sheryl and their sons Joseph Jr. and Stephen, his grandchildren and their entire family.

We also extend our sincere sympathies to the Bowe and Hutchinson families on the death of Shaun Kelton Hutchinson, 35, who died Friday, December 15, 2017. He is survived by: his mother, Angela; his father Gerard; his brothers Alex and James; his grandfather Samuel Hutchinson, Jr. (Laurna Godwin Hutchinson), his grandmother Gracie Thompson (Patrick); his grandparents Richard and Joan Bowe; his aunt Graquel Schaeffer (Chris); his uncles Kevin, Steven, Mike, John and Tommy Bowe; his girlfriend Caitlyn James; his dogs Samson and Dewey; and many friends. A celebration of Shaun's life was held just before Christmas at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel. Rich and Joan Bowe lived on the 6100 block of Westminster for many years, raising their six children there, and Angela's family continues to reside there.

We also lost an old neighbor who has been out of the neighborhood for some time. Some of the old timers will remember the Miller family who lived on the 6200 block of Washington in Parkview. Jeanne Catherine Miller left this world on November 2, 2017 at the Mary Rider Home in St. Louis. She leaves behind her sister Joan McDonald, her children Lucy Miller, Paula Taylor-Miller

(John), Bartholomew Miller (Marlene) and Christopher Miller and her grandchildren Katherine and Sarah and Rachel, Luke and Olivia and two husbands, Clarence Miller and Jess Ullom. According to her obituary her favorite poet was Emily Dickinson, and it stated that we may hear her voice in the opening lines of her poem, The Chariot: "Because I could not stop for Death, He kindly stopped for me; The carriage held but just ourselves And immortality." Our sympathies to all of her family and friends.

There have been some changes in the leadership of Boy Scout Troop 98 at St. Roch. After years of service to the troop, Scott Santen has stepped down as the Chairman of the Troop Committee so that he can enjoy his time as a scout parent and Assistant Scoutmaster. Taking on the position of Troop Committee Chair is Sean McGroarty. Sean currently has three boys in the troop. And following countless years of dedicated service, Art Santen has decided to step down as the treasurer and Andy Mulcahy of the 6000 block of McPherson will be taking on the role of treasurer. Paul Winter is still serving as Scoutmaster and the troop meets every Wednesday night at 7:30 in the St. Roch gym. For more information about the troop, please call Paul Winter at 314-971-7265.

The troop is very active with hiking and camping trips on a regular basis and has a group going back to Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico this summer. They are training throughout this year to prepare themselves for this trip. For most, this will be their first time going to Philmont. This high adventure crew is being headed up by Sean McGroarty and Greg Minana.

And finally, as some of us dream of warmer weather and summer fun, take your thoughts to The Munny. This year, The Munny is celebrating its 100th season. Among many ways The Munny is marking the anniversary with an all ages coloring book that you can purchase. And this beautiful book is written and illustrated by none other than our very talented neighbor, Andy Cross. Andy, who lives on the 6000 block of McPherson and grew up on the 6100 block of Kingsbury has been working at The Munny to produce beautiful scenery since 1982. Congratulations to Andy and everyone at The Munny! I know I am really looking forward to this celebratory season!

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!

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DELMAR DOGGIE DESIGN

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Getting Even: Weather

By Dan Rater

I've lived in St. Louis for north of thirty years, and I've learned you can live an entire year in a single day. I can wake up in the morning and smell the sweet fragrance of spring. I take an allergy pill, and at lunch time I'll be slathered in baby oil, catching some rays. When the dinner bell rings, and the leaves are falling, I promise I'll carve the pumpkin. By bedtime, I'm nestled in for a long winter's nap, while visions of sugar plums dance in my head.

If St. Louis weather were counted in dog years, I'd be Old Man Winter's grandfather. Everyone loves talking about weather. We worry about weather. Complain about weather. Praise weather, and let weather control our lives. Weather's a teenager: Sunny, stormy, unpredictable, and sometimes you're scared to drive with it. Like overindulgent parents, we'll say, "Did you hear? Someone just pushed the wrong Nuclear Button; but first, let me brag about my Weather.

I grew up in Milwaukee, a simple weather city. Winter was the only season, despite an occasional rumor of summer. It wasn't talked about much, because spring and autumn were cruel stepsisters, too mean and nasty to fit into flip flops. My first summer in St. Louis, the bank clock read 103 degrees for what seemed an eternity. I came to see it as Satan's wristwatch. I found a switch in my apartment that read "Cool"; I flicked it to ON and set it to 65. I'd come home from work and draw snow angels on my glass door. One day, I came home and Frosty had melted. It was said the Electric Company had a heart two sizes too small. Since I had no money, they stuffed my cool air, and took it straight up the chimney.

I met my wife in St. Louis. When our relationship flared, we went to Milwaukee, in April, to meet my parents. She had heard Milwaukee was a great lake town, and brought a bathing suit with her. She came down for breakfast, as Papa, Mama and I were eating our porridge. She said, "I think I'll take a morning dip in the lake." We all looked up, spit out our porridge and said, "Honey Bear, you're crazy!"

I reckon you get used to the weather you know. My daughter just moved to Southern California. I asked her, "What do you miss most about St. Louis?" She said, "I miss the weather. I miss talking about it, complaining about it, and being surprised by it. In Los Angeles, it's the same thing every day. I feel like a grown up. Then she came home for Christmas, and the weather threw a temper tantrum of minus two. She loves the visit but glad it won't come home with her.

The guy at my grocery store thinks I look like the weatherman from one of the local TV stations. We have a running joke; he always asks, "How's the weather?" I always say, "Just open a window."

Listen to Bob Dylan, Nobel Laureate, howling, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows."

The Land of Blue Roofs

By Terry Vanicelli

Mary and I flew down to St. Thomas on October 29 to celebrate the first birthday of our (hopefully) first grandchild, Van Taylor. Monica, our oldest daughter has lived on The Island for about four years. This was the first time we'd seen them since the hurricanes. We were happy to verify first-hand that they had come through all of that turmoil in good shape.

Monica runs the after-sales service office for a chain of Caribbean jewelry stores (ironically headquartered in Troy, Michigan). She started this job a week before the hurricanes hit! Only six of the thirty-seven stores were still open after the storms. She originally went there when she worked for the Ritz-Carlton. She was transferred from the Clayton property to St. Thomas to take a promotion.

Vaughn was partly raised on St. Thomas and graduated from high school there. He owns an automotive service business. His shop was flattened by the hurricanes but he recovered enough equipment to keep operating his on-site service.

Monica is a real survivor. She went to work at a hotel in Shanghai, only to be caught in a mass layoff eight months later. She secured a position as the business manager for a commercial florist and was able to stay for another three years. She then moved to Cairo, where she wrote for a news summary service. From there, she returned to St. Louis, where she resumed her previous career with the Ritz-Carlton. Along the way, she picked up fluency in Mandarin and Arabic.

Hope this helps.

Monica was lucky. She and fiancé Vaughn moved to this apartment from the more-exposed North side of the island before the hurricanes hit. Better yet, their landlord, a former engineer for the Water and Power Authority, had prepared well for natural disasters. The house survived the storms intact; it also had a full cistern of water, solar power, and a backup generator for overcast days. As they were unable to leave the apartment for several days after each storm, it was vital to have power for the refrigerator and the food stockpiled inside.

The view from Monica's apartment on the West end of St. Thomas is fascinating. As you look in that direction, the Atlantic appears on your right and the Caribbean on your left. On a clear day, you can barely make out the tip of Puerto Rico, some 40-odd miles away. St. Thomas is essentially the top of a mountain sticking out of the water, so the view down-slope displays a number of homes. A lot of these homes have Blue Roofs.

Blue Roofs are tarpaulins that are temporary replacements for roofs lost to Hurricanes Irma and Marie. The people on this end of St. Thomas were relatively lucky, as both storms originated southeast of The Island. Farther East on the island, these roofs became more prominent. So do ruins. Some of these ruins date from the 1995 Hurricane Marilyn. The ruins stand in testimony to the area's poverty and Mainland neglect.

A lot of help is here now, however. The B757 that Delta sends to The Island once a day was mostly full of relief workers, notably a large contingent of Jehovah's Witnesses (they displayed ID tags, which makes them easier to thank). We talked to a Red Cross volunteer, who told us that organization is regularly rotating people in and out of the Virgin Islands. A FEMA employee we met on our return trip was going home for the first time in three months.

Not much work is being done to rebuild the houses. Although many of them are insured, there is a shortage of insurance adjusters on the island. Some have been flown in, but, as one of them told me, they are concentrating on the commercial buildings. Residents will have to wait. In the meantime, the inhabitants risk losing their right to a claim if they do anything to make their houses habitable. Blue Roofs will be part of the landscape for quite some time to come.

Some of the stores are back in business. Shipments are coming in by sea, but fresh food is scarce and of poor quality. There are no working traffic lights. The Home Depot lost some of its roof and is only partly open. As of November 1st, 38% of St. Thomas had power and cellular service was available (but not reliable) on about 2/3 of the area. Most of the hotels need rebuilding. This will take a couple of years to remedy.

The best way right now to visit the area is by cruise ship. They resumed visits in November. Many of the beaches, including the famous Magen's Bay are open. Downtown has power and many of the shops are open. The roads are finally passable (no sidewalks outside of Charlotte Amalie), and "disaster tours" should be interesting. Water taxi service to St. John and the National Park is running. So much of what people like to do in this area is still available.

Someone posted graphic satellite views of St. Thomas, showing the island just before and just after the hurricanes. The island's color changed from green to brown. It's green again now, even though the foliage is not at all high. Monica could not see the Atlantic from her house before Irma because of the dense foliage. Most of the houses were isolated in their own little patch of jungle; they can see each other now. This will pass soon. The Virgin Islands' need for help will not. I hope they will not be forgotten, as they have been so many times before.



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KIDS CORNER

By Susanne Knese

These cold winter days could make anyone go stir crazy so get up, grab your parents and head to the St. Louis Science Center for plenty of fun and you could learn a thing or two! Here are just a few activities you can all enjoy: daily science demonstrations (kids get front row seats), build arches or bridges, create parachutes and sail boats in MakerSpace, experience Energy (literally!), dig for fossils, operate a space rover at Mission: Mars, stand in the middle of a tornado! Oh and did I mention these are all FREE . . . a parents favorite word! They also feature 2 amazing movies, these you have to pay for, in their OMNIMAX Theatre: Journey to the South Pacific and Amazon Adventure. You have to see them to believe!



Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss, March 2nd

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You’re on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the guy who’ll decide where to go.” – Oh, the Places You’ll Go



Kids please submit photos of you having fun this winter to kidscorner@sdtimes.org by March 10th! Here is a picture of Duff and Calvin Gelle with Isabella and Chloe Knese taking a break from skiing at Hidden Valley.



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Skinker DeBaliviere celebrates the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For many years, SDCC sponsored an event at one of the area churches to honor members of the community for their service to others in this neighborhood. Although there was no special event in 2018, the TIMES remembers the many memorable gatherings of the past. Special thanks to King Schoenfeld, who has photographed these and other important events over the past 37 years for the TIMES.



Clean Energy Continued from Page 1

revolution.

Although some will downplay the significance of this measure, it can be a catalyst for engaging more people in making St. Louis a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient city.

St. Louis is a city with many challenges. If we do this right, the clean energy resolution can create opportunities for job growth, improve public health, and save citizens and the city money. I look forward to making the most of Resolution 124. Our city depends on it. To be involved in this effort please email me at navarroh@stlouis-mo.gov.




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Home and Away

by Derek Knight

As a relative newcomer to America, I'm often asked "Where are you from?" when someone hears my accent for the first time. My first response of "England" does satisfy most of the questioners, but sometimes it is met with a reaction of, "well of course, but whereabouts in England." This question presents a dilemma to me: should I recite the many towns I lived in during my 50 plus years in the country, and risk the boredom of my listener at the list? Maybe I could just say London, but while it is true that I lived in many different suburbs of the capital city for much of my life, each one was different, and none of them are the "London" that the average visitor will know. Instead, I often say that I was born on the south coast, lived around London for most of my working life, and then moved to the East Coast when I took early retirement.

I recently vacationed back in England, and while no one questioned my accent, I had a similar issue with where I lived now. Most people have heard of St. Louis, many because of the film "Meet me in St. Louis", and most of the questions are if it should be pronounced Lou-is or Lou-ee. After that, few have any real idea of our location, and it is difficult for those from that small island to comprehend the size of this country.

Before I moved here, I lived in a small market town called King's Lynn. It is an ancient town, and, in fact, the apartment I lived in was a converted warehouse built in 1773, three years before the Declaration of Independence. At first, it is easy to imagine that the two places are entirely different and that there is almost no area of connection between the two. It is true that, in terms of infrastructure, King's Lynn is more isolated than St. Louis, and it has about a third the population and almost none of the fame of St. Louis. The climate is vastly different (but not the fact that we complain about it), and although we officially speak the same language, the way we do so makes it hard, at times, for natives of the two areas to understand what that other is saying

However, in some ways, there are significant similarities between my old and new towns.

Both are historical river cities and important ports. Both are heavily influenced by the



Skinker DeBaliviere or England?

trade they once undertook, St. Louis by its French roots, and King's Lynn by its historic connection with the Germanic states. Both celebrate their history while looking forward to the future.

Concerning the population, one could at first say that they are very different too, indeed in terms of ethnic mix. But at the same time, there is something about the feel of the people that are similar. When I was new in both towns, many old-timers told me about the glory days of the place, but even so, the townspeople were often staunchly loyal to their neighborhood. Outside of the town itself, there is the same feel of the slightly arcane, the country folk of Missouri and the population of the rural areas around Lynn presents the same kind of hillbilly image to the rest of the world.

The distances are enormously different, of course, but even so, the landscapes are familiar. When I drive up to the Chicago area, the flat fertile lands of Illinois remind me of the farmland of Lincolnshire just to the west of Lynn, even though the English equivalent is vastly smaller. The county of Norfolk, of which Lynn is a part, is much like eastern Missouri, with its mix of rolling hills and pretty villages.

That is why I find it hard to answer the second question that people ask me after where I am from: what is the main difference: I see now I'm an American resident. Because, while there are a lot of differences, even the differences are the same. When the weather changes, we complain about it. We celebrate our histories, and we move on from them. Above all, we each live our lives one day at a time, doing the best we can.

Maybe I should change my reply to the initial question to "I'm from planet Earth," because if we look for the differences we will find them, but underneath is a more significant similarity.

Theresa King

By Lana Stein

The neighbors who had initial plots in the McPherson Community Garden quickly came to know Theresa King. She lived in the building immediately to the east of the garden. When gardeners came by to plant, water, or weed, Theresa spoke to them from her window. She was part of the garden's work days and also appeared at many neighborhood events, often accompanying by her neighbor, Gwen LaZard. Andy Cross said she provided inspiration on a particular Blitz Day. That was true of many events in the 1990s and the first decade of this century.

Theresa was visually challenged and her sight declined over time. When she was unable to go outdoors she kept her role as window supervisor. Andy Cross and several others wished to honor her role in the garden. Andy constructed a beautiful inscribed bench that now sits in the garden. He brought the bench to her in her apartment. She could not see it; she was blind by this time. Andy described it to her and she touched the wood, following his words with her fingers.

Theresa had moved to our neighborhood a quarter century ago. She had no family and neighbors served that role for her here. She had to move to a care facility and her friends here lost touch with her. She died in November 2017. Those of us who knew her will remember her humor and her good cheer. And the bench will tell her story to current and future gardeners.

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IN YOUR EAR

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

Are you focused? How many topics have you been contemplating in the last three minutes? When were you last in an emergency room? These are not idle questions, dear reader. Pay attention because Hawkeye is offering morsels of high quality information, data and facts that will change your life.

I just finished reading an article, "When the Mind Wanders," by Jake Pelini, in the October 2017 issue of The Atlantic, and it was quite enlightening. He begins by noting that one in 16 Americans visited an ER last year due to daydreaming. They went there because of ladder falls, accidents while cutting with a knife, and errors with cookware. Can you believe it? How can you be daydreaming while on a ladder or while using a knife?

Sometimes I envision myself playing third base for the Cardinals. There I am, glove in hand, slightly bent over, watching the pitcher and hoping that a ground ball will be hit to me. (Actually, chances are I am hoping it will be hit to someone else, but that's another story.) Or now I'm batting, fouling off pitch after pitch, waiting for one I can hit with the bat's sweet spot. The crowd is on their feet, anticipating that I will once again come through in the clutch. It's fun to think about all of the World Series in which I've played.

No surprise, Pelini says that there's a positive correlation between drinking and daydreaming. Yep, the more you drink, the more likely you are to daydream. Of course, and he did not make this point, if you drink enough, who can tell whether it's a daydream or reality? Maybe,

says Dr. Hawkeye, maybe drinking and daydreaming are both escapes? Do people daydream more while drinking wine or beer? I wonder what it would be like to tour wine country in a chateau limousine.

I see myself in my prison cell. The trial was rigged, you understand. I couldn't possibly be guilty of that charge. But I'm not waiting for the scales of justice to tip in my favor. As an "Enemy of the State," there will be no favors coming my way. But that's OK because a compatriot has been sending me a cake each week - the prison food is terrible, no bacon to be found - with an emery board embedded inside. So, after the guards are asleep, which is often, I quietly file on the bars in my window. Right now, I'm trying to decide where to go after I slip out. There's a serene pasture on the right and an amusement park on the left. I wonder what rides are there.

The article states that daydreaming, also no surprise, plays a significant role in traffic accidents. Pelini says, "French researchers visited an ER to interview 955 patients involved in traffic accidents. The majority of them have reported daydreaming just before the crash." Is this an argument for driverless cars, or what? Indeed, when driving on a highway, I've often wondered what percentage of the other drivers were impaired because of something they had imbibed, smoked, mainlined, or snorted. Now I will also wonder what percentage of them are distracted. I wonder if they're wondering that about me.

Free-falling from an airplane has a certain appeal to me. I bungee-jumped once in my youth - which was a long time

ago - at a July 4 Fair on the riverfront, and as I was being put in the harness, the attendant asked me if I wanted to go feet-first or head-first. "Head first," I replied; go big or go home. But free-falling takes it to another level. I wonder what altitude is needed to escape the Earth's gravity so that the free-fall could go up. And how high would you need to go to see the curvature of the Earth?

Another non-surprise from the article is that creativity is enhanced by daydreaming. It only makes sense that creative people will daydream more. Or is it that daydreaming actually leads to creativity? I wonder if Steve Jobs daydreamed a lot. He sure doesn't seem like the type. I never knew Jobs but I am sure if we met he would have recognized my talents and given me a lofty job at Apple. I can see myself there, wearing black t-shirts and helping to design the iPhone.

I remember Grandma Hazel as someone who was always on the phone. Realistically, that cannot be the case because she had a party-line (does anyone else recall these?), so some of the time she had to be waiting for her turn. But that's not how it seems to me. And I remember the great Easter cakes she would make with a mold that was in the shape of a lamb. I wonder if those lamb molds are still available.

The article concludes by saying that "79 percent of adults would rather admit to a humiliating experience than divulge their daydreams." What about you, dear reader? Are you in that 79%, and, if so, what in the world are you daydreaming about? More important, is Hawkeye in your daydream?

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