

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 49, No. 2

September - October 2019

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

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970



## The *TIMES*

By Jo Ann Vatcha

It's free, hand-delivered to every home in the neighborhood, written and staffed by volunteers. The *TIMES* of SKINKER DEBALIVIERE has been a mainstay of the neighborhood for 50 years.

"The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis", *THE PAPER*, later renamed *THE TIMES*, began with a controversy in 1970. The big story was entitled "Jack in the Box Conflict" and covered an important topic for many urban neighborhoods: tearing down an old building for a fast-food restaurant. The brand-new publication was not just a flyer about a timely topic. Instead, it was typeset, had photographs, news, features, and paid ads: news of schools, the upcoming Art Fair, a Black Nationalists Culture Center opening, an art show, alley clean-up, a food editor, and another big story: "Open Enrollment at St. Roch's", which was about to admit non-Catholics for the first time in the fall of 1970.

That first issue established high standards, which volunteer writers and editors have tried diligently to meet ever since. Emphasis has always been on facts, figures, fairness, often defusing rumors and clarifying important issues, and providing a forum for expressing ideas about improving the community. There have been book reviews, restaurant reviews, recipes ("Macho Menu" ran for years, many political profiles, and much more. "Vicissitudes", which recorded the everyday important events of individual people in the area, ran for more than a dozen years, renamed "News of Neighbors." Tom Hoerr's humor column, "In Your Ear," has endured since 1980.)

## The *TIMES*' New Managing Editor

By Lana Stein

This issue welcomes our new managing editor, longtime neighbor Linda Cross. She is a native St. Louisan. At the age of 9 she moved with her parents to Arcadia MO, population 683. She returned to our city to attend Washington University, majoring in psychology and minoring in business. She also met her future husband, Andy Cross, at Wash U. Andy grew up on 6100 Kingsbury. They married when Linda was 20 and lived on 6100 Pershing for three years. They then purchased their home on 6000 McPherson.

The Crosses have 2 daughters. Emily, 26, works at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation and is an artist. Sarah, 22, is finishing her master's thesis in Anthropology at University College London. All the Crosses have been involved in neighborhood events and projects. Linda co-chairs the McPherson Community Garden, where she is bee keeper, chairs the Residential Housing Committee and serves on the Finance Committee and the Community Development Committee. She has been business manager of the Times for five years. (Mark Jacobs is assuming that role.)

Linda would like to see more people informed and involved with the neighborhood and the paper. She wants to capture more of our increasingly diverse population.

The *TIMES* has provided a medium to air proposals and gain the input of residents. The proposed Historic District Ordinance, every new redevelopment plan, including DeBaliviere Place and the Delmar Link Redevelopment Plan, have all been fully disclosed and debated, because of *THE TIMES*. Bringing clarity to important issues as well as everyday problems, *THE TIMES* has often dispelled rumors.

It has always been the volunteers who made the publication a success. In the 70's and 80's, without personal computers, writing and layout was often a group activity, often on the 3rd floor of Marj Weir's home. Far and away our longest-serving volunteer, Marj Weir served as editor, wrote articles, did layout, first with scissors and paste, then with computer finesse.

Many, many people have been involved through the years: reporters, advertising solicitors, layout helpers, distributors to businesses and to every home on every block. Other volunteers have managed the finances, advertising, legal needs, photography and held fundraisers when needed.

Now in our 50th year of publication, The *TIMES* has attracted many volunteers, who have energized the newspaper with their writing and reporting: Dan Rater, Mark Banazcak, Andy Cross, Susanne Knese, Richard Bose, Rachelle L'Ecuyer, Cecelia Nadal, all faithfully and regularly gather information of interest to everyone. Rachel Boxdorfer has reported on "news of neighbors" for more than ten years. Lana Stein's Editors Notebook has tackled controversial and important issues. Tom Hoerr has written his humor column for 30 years! Many of those who deliver the *TIMES* to residents on their blocks have done so for decades. Thank you to all and on to our next 50!

### These neighbors have served as Editor:

Sharon Meier.....	4/1970-9/1970
Jody Creighton.....	9/1970-4/1971
Jean Eberle and Mary Parker.....	1971-1972
Marj Weir and Chris Lange.....	1972-1975
Marj Weir.....	1975-1978
Karen Bynum.....	1978-1979
Lois Schoemehl and Jo Ann Vatcha.....	5/79-11/79
Peggy Griesbach.....	1979-1981
Pat McLafferty.....	1982
King Schoenfeld, Jo Ann Vatcha & Venita Lake....	10/1982-9/1983
Katie Kurtz.....	1983-1988
Sue Rothschild.....	1988-1991
Lana Stein.....	1992-1999
Jo Ann Vatcha and Lana Stein.....	1999-2019
Linda Cross.....	2019



Andy, Linda, Sarah, and Emily Cross



### Editor's Notebook

By Lana Stein and Linda Cross

#### Why all this discussion about rentals in our neighborhood?

Our neighborhood was changed and molded by white flight, redlining, and crime. The 1970s were particularly turbulent. A strong coalition of residents, largely single-family homeowners, and institutions worked to bring stability and security to the neighborhood. Gradually their efforts bore fruit. Flight reversed itself and property values rose.

Today there are new threats to our diversity and stability that over the long term could affect us. One is the growth of short-term rentals which have proliferated our neighborhood, little hotels in our midst. The other is the growing number of single-family homes used as rental property, often for college students. Both of these threats limit the presence of homeowners who surely are key to involvement and stability.

A recent study by online news source Curbed entitled "Airbnb vs. the City: How Short-Term Rentals are Changing Urban Neighborhoods," states, "... thanks to companies like Airbnb, communities are losing their most important asset: neighbors." In addition to reducing the number of homeowners who live on site, vote in elections, send their children to neighborhood schools, and bring a sense of community to the neighborhood, renting of single-family homes take these homes out of the market and creates housing shortages. Some of the blocks in our neighborhood have over 25% of the properties owned by investors.

#### Our neighborhood has 686 single family homes\*

There are 101 single family homes that are not owner Occupied\*..... 15%

There are 34 single family units that are owned by corps or entities\*..... 4%

There are seven single family entire homes listed as short-term rentals..... 1%

\*(this information is taken from the city's assessment records from 2018 with additional research on short term rental listings)

There will always be renters here and there will always be students. Skinker DeBaliviere cherishes our diversity. Our goal is to abide by city zoning regulations, no more than 3 unrelated individuals per dwelling, and the healthy presence of owner-occupied single-family homes to maintain the strong sense of community that we share today.

#### 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: October 15, 2019.

Please send copy by e-mail to Linda Cross, mccross@swbell.net, by disc to 6060 McPherson Ave, 63112.

## The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Managing Editor: Linda Cross Business Manager: Mark Jacobs
Editorial Team: Linda Cross Jo Ann Vatcha Lana Stein
Contributors: Rachel Boxdorfer Susanne Knese Brandon Sterling
Cristina McGroarty Cecelia Nadal Tom Hoerr
Richard Bose Art Santen Alderwoman Heather Navarro
Andy Cross Derek Knight Marj Weir
King Schoenfeld Lana Stein Jo Ann Vatcha
Marvin Nodiff Mark Banaszak Dan Rater
Rachelle L'Ecuyer Frank Schaper

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.

For a complete list of sizes and rates, write: The Times, 6060 McPherson, 63112, or call 726-6974.

Readers are welcome to send us e-mail or letters commenting on any of our content. Send to mccross@swbell.net.

### SAVE THE DATE for SKINKER DEBALIVIERE TASTE\*

Friday October 11th 6pm to 9pm

Join us at the top of the Moonrise Hotel for great food, great neighbors, and a great time!

\*formerly known as S.D. Homecoming

#### Views from the 2019 Breakfast Garden Tour



Felicia Hunter took an old large useless tree stump and turned it into a display area for a bright and lovely garden and everyone passing by can enjoy her creativity because there are no fences to block the view.



This formal garden planted by Darell Hartke and Nancy Farmer is lovely and surprisingly low maintenance because of the plants that they have chosen - boxwoods, ferns, lirioppe, columbine, and some annuals like begonias- as well as being a shade garden.



Opal Hebron has the oldest garden that has been on the Breakfast Garden Tour, started in 1962. In 1971 Opal turned two used tires into clever planters well before the word "upcycling" had been coined.

## News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

One thing is for sure, it has been a very busy summer and as I write this column, I cannot believe it is coming to an end! I have no doubt that many of you have also had busy, adventurous, and newsworthy summers. So please, be sure to drop me a line with your news and photos to share with the neighborhood.

Many of our older or long time residents of the neighborhood certainly remember the Neill family from the 6100 block of Kingsbury. And many other neighbors and St. Louisans are certainly familiar with the many wonderful experiences they have had dining out at one of Eddie Neill's restaurants. Well, good news folks, Eddie Neill has reopened The Dubliner in Maplewood. The new location is at 2733 Sutton Boulevard (not too far from Eddie's childhood neighborhood!). They say they have the best Guinness Pour around, the best food and a friendly staff and that you're always welcome at The Dubliner. So why not check it out!



Eddie Neill

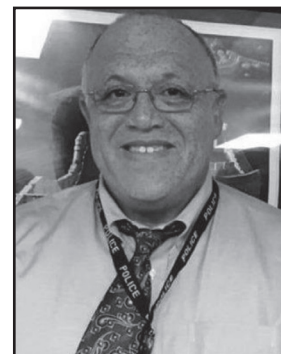


Sister Leo Ann with students

On Wednesday, July 31, Sister Leo Ann Bub passed away. Sister Leo Ann was Principal of St. Roch School through the 60's and 70's. She is remembered by longtime Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors as a fearless fighter for the children and neighborhood. She worked closely with non-Catholic parents and lay teachers and led the other Sisters of St. Joseph--Sister Charles, Sister Dorothy, Sister Herbert, and others, who taught at the school during this challenging time of the neighborhood's history. She was principal when the school first opened to non-Catholics in 1970, a milestone for the Sisters and for the neighborhood. Sister Leo Ann's life was celebrated at a memorial mass at Nazareth Living Center on Tuesday, August 6. Memorial donations may be given to the Sister of St. Joseph Retirement Fund, 6400 Minnesota Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63111.

Our condolences go out to the family of Army Private Camryn Richard-son of the 6000 block of Kingsbury who was killed on July 3.

Our sympathies are also extended to the family of former University City Police Department Detective Lee "Tom" Hall who passed away in July. Detective Hall grew up on the 6000 block of McPherson and served the City of University City for twenty years. According to a post on the UCPD Facebook page, Detective Hall was a juvenile detective who had a heart for the youth.



Detective Hall

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!

SAVE THE DATE CELEBRATING 5 YEARS Friday, October 4th, 2019 7 pm to 10 pm VILLAGE AGLOW A gala to benefit STL Village featuring the music of Motown at the Historic Mahler Ballroom

#### Village Aglow at the Mahler Ballroom

It's a party! Join STL Village as we celebrate five years of service to the St. Louis community at Village Aglow: A gala to benefit STL Village featuring the sounds of Motown, Friday, October 4, 7 p.m., at the historic Mahler Ballroom. Enjoy delectable appetizers and cocktails while listening and dancing to your favorite Motown hits performed by renowned local artist Phillip Graves and his band, all within the beautifully restored landmark Mahler Ballroom.

Proceeds support STL Village, a not-for-profit organization providing a cost-effective network of services and activities designed to help adults in our community age successfully in their own homes in a safe and socially connected way. For tickets and more information contact STL Village at 314-240-5020 or stlvillage.org.

Did you know? FOOD PANTRIES Did you know that the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood is home to four food pantries? An annual food drive will be held on October 5th, 2019 and donations of non-perishable foods will help replenish these food pantries at Grace and Peace Fellowship, Grace United Methodist Church, New Cote Brillante Church of God, and St. Roch Church. Place your food donation on your front porch by 10am and a friendly volunteer will pick them up! Of course you don't have to wait for the annual food drive to help out. Grace United Methodist Church has a weekly food service every Tuesday and they are happy to take your food donations year round!

Want to learn about our community's history? Check out our website at sdtimes.org



## Getting Even

By Dan Rater

Once upon a time, in a land of sunshine and daydreams, there lived an arrogant man. He wouldn't wear sunscreen, and spent his days in front of the mirror combing his hair. He never shopped discount, and was easily satisfied with name brands. His poor wife was left to pay the bills, and maintain their modest home. One day, he decided to make a career change in a tight job market. He kissed his wife goodbye, and promised her he would return. As the days passed by, she listened, in silence, for the sound of his footsteps striking the path. At night, before she went to sleep, her plaintive whispers were echoed in the wind, "Whatever happened to Danny?"

Danny was out making his way in the world; he had finished his training to become an X-ray technologist. On the way home, he came upon an old beggar woman. "Please kind sir, could you give an old woman a sip of water from your canteen." In disgust, he scoffed at her, "You silly old woman. This isn't just water, it's Perrier, the Champagne of mineral waters, and I can't spare a drop". Her piercing black eyes twinkled with mischief, "What is a man of your stature doing on this beaten down trail?" Danny swept back his hair, puffed out his chest and declared, "I am returning home to start a rewarding career in X-ray technology." "X-ray," she cackled, "You should have gone into ultrasound. You'll never get a job in X-ray; the market is saturated." Danny took a swig from his canteen, rinsed his mouth, and spit the Perrier on to the dusty trail, "What do you know?" he snarled, you're just an old, beggar woman, I'll get a job in X-ray,"

Immediately, an infernal flame engulfed the old woman, and in her place stood a wild-haired enchantress. "You petulant child," she hissed. "You're too blind with vanity to see that you're going bald. When you get a job in X-ray, you'll spend ten years on the night shift!" The sky bristled with anger, as the enchantress waved her arms. "If the last follicle of hair drops from your head, before you find humility, you'll be damned to eternal darkness!"

Nearly ten years had passed, and Danny stood, lonely, in front of the mirror. "Oh mirror, I curse these endless nights! My sleep pattern is all screwed up, and I'm getting unsightly bags underneath my eyes. Am I still as handsome as I think I am?" The mirror answered curtly, "I wouldn't worry about your eyes. I'd be more concerned about that delicate comb-over you have. Your hair is falling like leaves, and we're approaching perpetual Midnight." A tear fell down Danny's cheek, and he raised his voice to the moon, "Nothing good ever happens to Danny!"

Meanwhile, back on the day shift, Danny's wife kept her lonesome vigil. Alone at night, watching her shows, she could hear a distant moan, and wondered if it might be him. She resolved to find out. Her co-workers were aghast. "Don't you dare go in to the night shift! It's dangerous, foreboding, and the food is terrible." But she wouldn't listen. She clocked in at 9:00 p.m., and searched the empty corridors. As she passed by the desolate cafeteria, she heard the heavy sighs that had brought her into the gloom.

She opened the door, and saw him standing in front of the chicken wing bar. A single hair clung to his head, and he cried, "I swear if I could get off the night shift, I'd wear a hat in the sunlight, and even buy generic. Just then, his beautiful wife stepped out of the shadows, "Danny, I've come to take you home."

Back in the land of Happy Hours Ever After, Danny's wild-haired waitress brought him a glass of ice cold tap water. "How are we doing today, sir?" Danny leaned back in his chair, and smiled, "I'm just living the dream."



**PLEASE JOIN US**  
for the last two **Concerts of the Skinker DeBaliviere Concert Series**

**Saturday, September 14**  
Lucier Park • The Hollow Ends

**Tuesday, October 1**  
Greg Freeman Park • Big Mike & the Blu City All Stars

## THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND: Get next year's garden ready!

By Mark Banaszak

Fall is the best time to prepare your yard or garden for spring. There are many things you can do to prepare your plants to thrive. Adding compost to lawns and gardens in the Fall is always a smart idea. Fall compost reduces thatch, encourages beneficial soil life, and helps reduce soil compaction. For lawns, 1/2 inch of compost is recommended. Cotton burr compost, a common industrial by-product, is available at many garden stores. It is best raked over lawns because it may contain some larger chunks. Winter weather decomposes these quickly. Cold winter weather freezes the pests that live in compost, like Japanese grubs and beetles, that may infest spring lawns and gardens. For garden beds, 2 to 3 inches of cotton burr compost can be used. With this much, the compost is also serving as a protective mulch.

Cover crops is another way to get your garden ready for the spring. Gardeners use cover crops for two purposes. First, they can be used to choke out weeds. Some gardeners use annual ryegrass for this purpose. Planted in the fall, annual ryegrass can prevent weeds and will die back in the coldest part of winter. Second, cover crops are also used to add nutrients to the soil. Field peas, hairy vetch and some clover varieties can be planted in the fall for nitrogen, and then spaded into the soil a few weeks before planting in the spring.

It is common to cut back perennial garden beds and mulch over them, but it often depends on what kinds of perennials grow there. Some perennials are not cut back to give some visual interest over the winter (grasses), to provide food for birds (black-eyed susans), or to prevent disease and encourage spring growth (catmint). Mulching in the fall helps prevent weeds and protects plants and can make mulching unnecessary in the spring.

September, October and November are good months for dividing replanting flowers like irises and daylilies. This gives them enough time to get established before cold weather makes them dormant. These are also the best months for planting spring bulbs, like tulips and daffodils. Summer blooming bulbs, like gladiolus or dahlias, are best planted in the spring after the last frost.

Fall is also a great time for planting many trees and shrubs. One of the main advantages of fall planting is that cool, wet weather encourages root growth. Trees have time to establish a stronger root system. When air temperatures are colder than soil temperatures, root growth is stronger than top growth. However, it is important to plant them early enough in the fall to catch the cool wet weather. Trees and shrubs planted after November may struggle.

Whatever you do, a little work in the coming months can help your lawn and garden come back to life quickly with less work in the spring. Get outside and get your spring garden ready now!



PROUD TO BE A **SKINKER DEBALIVIERE** RESIDENT!

**RACHEL BOXDORFER**

*I live in the city... I sell the city... I love the city.*

★★★★★  
**FOURTEEN** TIME RECIPIENT  
Five Star Real Estate Agent  
2006-2019

**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY**  
HomeServices  
Alliance Real Estate

c: 314-691-0538 | o: 314-872-6641 | rboxdorfer@bhhsall.com  
[www.RachelBoxdorfer.com](http://www.RachelBoxdorfer.com)

# KIDS CORNER

By Susanne, Isabella and Chloe Knese

## MADE

A few days ago, my daughters and I had a great time at MADE, a makerspace that The Magic House created. MADE stands for M - makerspace A - artist D - designer E - Entrepreneur

The cost is \$5 per person and includes access to PLENTY of fun. They offer interactive station including pottery (\$5 to take home), woodworking, tool bench, laser cutter (\$5 to take home), robotics, sewing, space exploration, recycled creations, rocket launcher, daily design challenge, 3D printer (\$5 to take home), air tube parachutes and more. Chloe enjoyed building a large crane out of wood and making pottery, while Isabella's favorite activities were pottery and making a pot holder. Our family spent 3 hours there and the time flew by with so much more to do. We definitely recommend this experience, which is located on Delmar just east of Union.

### SOME EXTRA INFORMATION:

Location: 5127 Delmar Blvd, Saint Louis, MO 63108

Number: 314-328-0561

Website: [www.magichouse.org/MADE](http://www.magichouse.org/MADE)

Free parking on the side of the building.



Our neighbor Ana Carolina Pires McGinn sent this update to Suzanne Knese regarding the completion of the summer edition scavenger hunt. Great job to our neighbors for locating these gems of our city and to Suzanne for entertaining children during the summer!

My kids Maya and Lucca had a great time doing the scavenger hunt and showing our neighborhood around to the exchange student Leire visiting us from Spain.

It was challenging walking on Delmar during the hot Sun, but the kids braved the heat and found most of the clues. Their favorite place was Blueberry Hill (their favorite adventure and their recommendation to other kids). Maya and Lucca shared with Leire a few of their favorite St Louis typical foods: toasted ravioli and Fritz root beer float. They were delighted to recognize so many famous people in the pictures on the walls. Maya and Leire had a blast looking for the dolls and taking pictures at the photo booth. They also enjoyed hanging out at the Pac Man room. Although the Charing Cross library was not on the scavenger hunt, the girls really enjoyed walking there and to get books.

We were home most of the Summer and having the scavenger hunt was great! Thank you for creating it and sharing it with us :).




Great for Private Parties

**Red Beans & Rice**



Have you had our Red Beans & Rice in a while?

6504 Delmar in The Loop  
314-727-4444 ★ [BlueberryHill.com](http://BlueberryHill.com)

VOICE MAIL 721-5600 x115  
karleenhoerr@aol.com  
Fax 721-3678



**KARLEEN HOERR**  
LIFE MEMBER MLLSOM DOLAR CLUB  
MEMBER MLLSOM DOLAR CLUB

**DANIEL B. FEINBERG REAL ESTATE CO.**  
350 N. Skinker Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63130

**PIN-UP BOWL**

**Parties**



we **specialize** in Kids' Birthday Parties!

also work parties and neighbors' groups

6191 Delmar • 314-727-5555  
**PinUpBowl.com**

High academic standards in a diverse, supportive community.  
*That's St. Roch.*



Faith • Education • Service • Discipline

To learn more, call 314-721-2595 or email  
Principal Dr. Mark Gilligan at [markg@strochschool.org](mailto:markg@strochschool.org)

Preschool - 8th Grade - morning and after school care available.  
[www.strochparish.com](http://www.strochparish.com)  
Accredited by the Missouri Chapter of the National Federation of Nonpublic Schools.



### From Your 28th Ward Alderwoman: Heather Navarro

Those of us lucky enough to live near Forest Park are rarely surprised when we hear it has been listed as one of the "world's most beautiful city parks" or one of the country's "top 10 coolest parks." We experience it everyday. Yet, when I was invited to attend the City Parks Alliance's Greater and Greener Conference in Denver, I wondered if the mountain views and the crisp dry heat would shake my enthusiasm for what we have here in St. Louis. Denver is known for its natural beauty, its incredible outdoor recreational opportunities, and its booming population. I went expecting to be blown away by its success. After biking a section of the High Line Canal (a 71-mile bike trail along a historic irrigation canal), visiting a youth farm started by Denver Urban Gardens (DUG - cute, right?), and networking at Denver's Confluence Park, I came home even more excited about St. Louis.

Let me first say that Denver's confluence doesn't have anything on St. Louis's confluence. Yes, it's in the heart of Denver with a giant REI flagship store on the banks, but nothing compares to the size and majesty of the muddy Missouri River meeting the mighty Mississippi. And yes, the High Line Canal was fun to bike along, but due to the region's water shortage, it's a dry canal getting even drier -- Great Rivers Greenway boasts 125 miles of trails so far!

I also toured the 16th Street Mall with an eye towards our own Delmar Loop. The mall is a bustling, 1.25 mile pedestrian corridor lined with shops and restaurants offering visitors and business commuters free rides on a shuttle bus. The mall struggles with out-of-control scooter riders, much like many of our streets, but it has its own challenges, including an 8-year life span for the trees lining both sides of the mall.

I visited a golf course that had been transformed into stormwater infrastructure and was reminded not only of the water wealth of our region, but the vastness of our green spaces to absorb water and feed lush wetlands, diverse prairies, and stands of old growth forest, all ecosystems found in Forest Park.

In addition to better appreciating what we have here in St. Louis, I started seeing opportunities. While walking along Cherry Creek in downtown Denver, I saw what the River Des Peres could have become if it hadn't been buried underground and combined with our sewers. I saw visions of what our biking infrastructure could look like and I learned how other cities are protecting affordable housing options around thriving parks.

The City of St. Louis has 109 parks. These parks can be the keys to safe, healthy, thriving neighborhoods. They make St. Louis more resilient to the climate crisis by providing shade trees to reduce the heat island effect, absorbing excess water from flooding, and purifying the air. Parks play an important role in keeping our kids healthy and protecting pollinator habitats so we have a reliable food supply. I can't say enough about the benefits of our parks. Studying parks in Denver was fun, but it was also a reminder of the incredible assets our city parks are when it comes to building a viable future for everyone in our region. I'm not the only one who thinks so. Next year the City Parks Alliance will host its biannual park city tour right here in St. Louis.

### Honey Bees are Important Pollinators for Flowers, Fruits and Vegetables



Approximately one-third of all the food Americans eat is directly or indirectly derived from honey bee pollination. If you see a swarm of bees, they are not being aggressive, they are just looking for a new place to live. For removal of a bee swarm that is safe for both people and the bees - please refer to the list of beekeepers that will remove a swarm of bees for no charge from the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association website: [https://easternmobeekers.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/EMBA-SWARM\\_BUILDING-REMOVAL-LIST-2019.pdf](https://easternmobeekers.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/EMBA-SWARM_BUILDING-REMOVAL-LIST-2019.pdf).

**Sandwiches**  
Gourmet Sandwiches, Salads and Soups

The Loop • 6301 Delmar Blvd. University City, MO 63130  
P. 314-725-4800 F. 314-725-4805

MX Building • 614 Washington Ave. St. Louis, MO 63101  
P. 314-241-0100 F. 314-241-0105

5LU 374A • 5. Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63103  
P. 314-833-4828 F. 314-833-4829

5skinker • 360 N. Skinker Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63130  
P. 314-449-1771 F. 314-449-6823

**WE DELIVER & CATER!**  
[WWW.SNARFSSTL.COM](http://WWW.SNARFSSTL.COM)

**CREATiVA design**

GRAPHIC DESIGN SERVICES:

- 100+ page catalogs
- brochures/annual reports
- print/email newsletters
- logos/infographics
- illustrations/children's books
- invitations/menus
- trade show/exhibit graphics
- digital ads/GIFs
- interactive PDFs and more

**Karen Hilmes**  
314-849-6769 • [khilmes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:khilmes@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.creativastl.com](http://www.creativastl.com)

**28th Ward Democrats 2019:**  
28th Ward meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month  
September 19, October 17, and November 21  
**Eclipse at the Moonrise Hotel**  
Meetings start at 7:30, food service available from 6:30  
Free and Valet parking available  
More info at <http://ward28.citywestend.org/index.html>



**MOONRISE Hotel**  
Eclipse Restaurant

Serving brunch on both Saturdays & Sundays  
10am-4 pm

314-726-2222

**Small business is big business.**

We *promise* to keep your business successful and nimble.

Busey understands that small businesses are the lifeblood of our local economy. For 150 years, we've remained a dedicated partner to those businesses and entrepreneurs who bring vibrancy to the local economy.

Busey. Your Dream. Our Promise.

**BuseyBANK**

Member FDIC 314.367.8800 [busey.com](http://busey.com)

### Loop News

By Rachele L'Ecuyer

Recently, I was at lunch at Three Kings Public House with an old friend who happens to be a life-long University City resident. "The Loop is just not a place to shop anymore," she lamented. When we were done eating, I walked her out the door and pointed her in the direction of several new retail shops. Her response, "Wow!" and off she went to shop.

My conversation with my dear friend got me thinking. At least 20 new businesses have opened in the Delmar Loop since last August. Limit Avenue to Melville boasts a shop in every storefront. Further east, the 5800 block is also fully leased. New businesses have popped up throughout the Delmar Loop that lend to the diverse culture of this celebrated boulevard. What have you missed? There's so much to discover!

1. Babes Boutique, 6378 Delmar
2. Bob.Q, 571 Melville
3. Body Genie, 5856 Delmar
4. CBD Kratom, 6331 Delmar
5. Fox Fire Restaurant and Bar
6. HopCat, 6315 Delmar
7. Ivy Grace, 6277 Delmar
8. Krab Kingz, 5860 Delmar
9. Maine Chic Boutique, 6360 Delmar
10. Mark Anthony Collections, 617 N. Skinker
11. Masala - Indian & Pakistani, 6170 Delmar
12. Perfect Taste, 6310 Delmar
13. Poke Doke, 6316 Delmar
14. Prime 55, 6100 Delmar
15. Simply Flawless Hairtique, 5860 Delmar
16. Streetstylez Boutique, 5854 Delmar
17. Sweet Leaf, 6633 Delmar
18. Tasti-Tea, 567-A Melville
19. The Baked Bear, 6140 Delmar
20. Yoga Source, 6170 Delmar

If you need an excuse to get out, Get Looped - First Fridays in the Delmar Loop features close to 40 businesses offering specials and promotions all day and well into the night. And, while you are out and about you can rediscover some of your longtime Loop favorites. How is this for some LOOPevity: Fitz's since 1993. Plowsharing Crafts since 1985. The Silver Lady since 1987. Subterranean Books since 2000. Iron Age Tattoo just celebrated 25 years, woo-hoo!

If you have guests, visiting the Delmar Loop is a great way for them to get a real taste of St. Louis. Take them on a St. Louis Walk of Fame tour and ride the Loop Trolley to the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park.

Need some help navigating the district? Kiku Obata's team has just completed the brand-new brochures. Pick one up at the Moonrise Hotel, 6177 Delmar, Blueberry Hill, 6504 Delmar, or Componere Gallery, 6509 Delmar. Look for updates on news and events at [VisitTheLoop.com](http://VisitTheLoop.com) and find us on social media @TheDelmarLoop.

Save the date: Small Business Saturday kicks off the holidays in the Loop on Saturday, November 30th.

### SDCC Dog Park News



Rupert and Cali Need MORE Exercise

By Mickey Clark

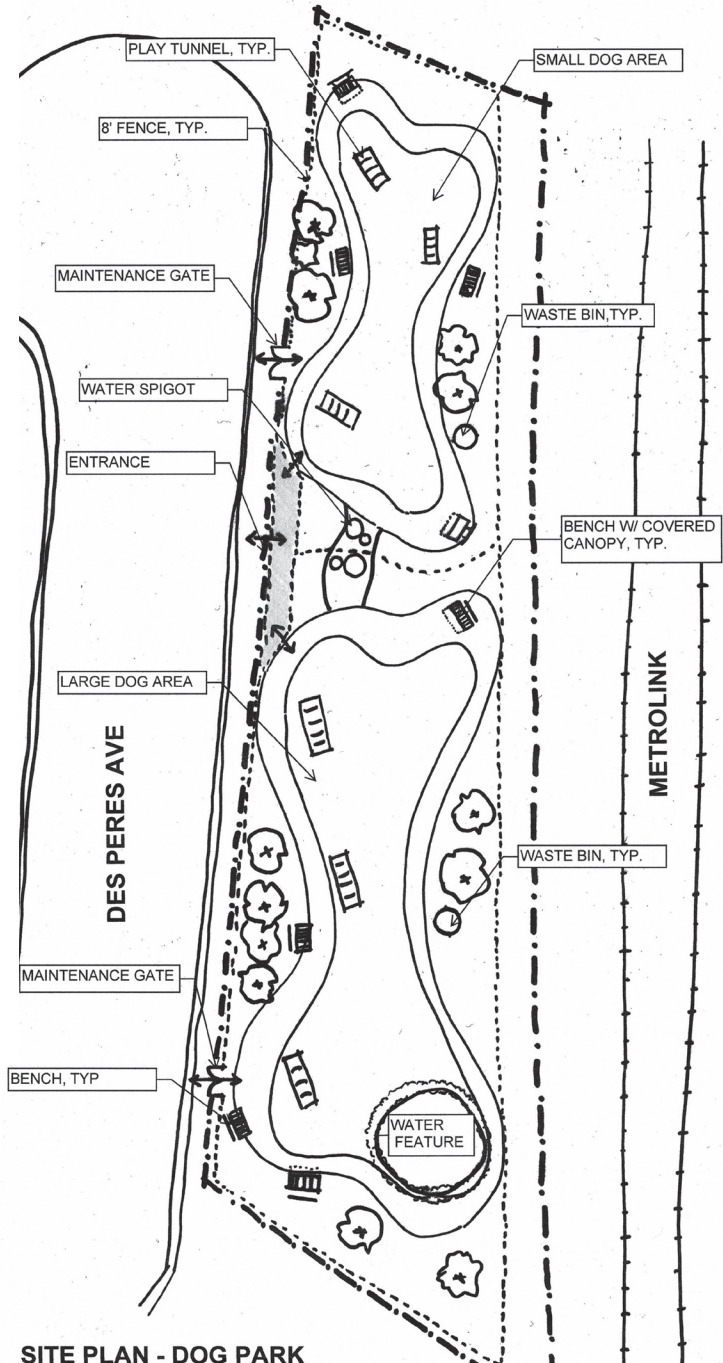
Rupert and Cali are looking forward to having an off-leash play area in the neighborhood. Their human is often too lazy to load them into the car and drive to the nearest dog park.

The SD Dog Park Leadership Committee continues to work on making a park reality for our neighborhood. We have been recognized by the SDCC Community Council as a program, thus allowing tax-free donations to the dog park project. We are completing the signature collection required for the Health Department permit application required by the city. We are looking forward to some fund-raising activities in the fall.

Duane Thompson, a local architect has generously provided a drawing of the proposed dog park. Take a peek and imagine the fun!

Donations are happily accepted at the Community Council Office. Make checks payable to SDCC and be sure to note Dog Park in the memo line.

Rupert and Cali look forward to playing with your furry friends at the park.



### Grace UMC Community Wide Food Packing Event

On Saturday, October 19, at 9:00 AM, Grace will host a community-wide food packing event to pack 1,000 meals for Midwest Mission to distribute through "Food for the Poor" - which distributes food in 17 different Latin and Caribbean countries. This event will be a multigenerational event. Children who are in first grade or older may participate in the food packing (although those younger than 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian). Parents who would like to participate and bring children who are not yet in first grade are asked to note their names and ages when they sign up. Childcare, with a curriculum and activities relating to food insecurity, will be provided for these younger children. There is no charge for participation. Please call the church office at 314-863-1992 or email Cathi at [secretary@graceumc-stl.org](mailto:secretary@graceumc-stl.org) by October 15 to add your name to the list of participants.

Learn about our community's history

Check out our website at [sdtimes.org](http://sdtimes.org)

**KINGSBURY ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

Internal Medicine  
Dermatology  
Dentistry  
Grooming

**Dr. Bret Shaw, DVM**

420 N Skinker (at Kingsbury)  
St. Louis, MO 63130  
Phone: (314) 721.6251  
[www.kah.com](http://www.kah.com) [doc@kah.com](mailto:doc@kah.com)

**Blueberry Hill**

**Lunch Special**

**\$10**

Burger, fries & soda, tea or coffee

11am - 1pm • Mon - Thurs

6504 Delmar Blvd. • 314-727-4444 • [BlueberryHill.com](http://BlueberryHill.com)

**PARKER'S TABLE**  
AT OAKLAND AND YALE

WINES, FOOD, BASKETS & BEERS

[PARKERSTABLE.COM](http://PARKERSTABLE.COM)  
314.645.2050



# IN YOUR EAR

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

Been to a baseball game lately? Do you avidly watch MLB games on the tube? Probably not. Cardinal Nation may be an exception – for now – but baseball has a problem. An item in the May 31 St. Louis Post-Dispatch notes “Major League Baseball’s overall average of 26,854 through Wednesday is 1.4 percent below the similar point last season, which wound up below 30,000 for the first time since 2003” and “The average attendance peaked at 32,785 in 2007.” From what I’ve seen, the 32,000 must include empty seats and squirrels.

Baseball was invented in 1869, and just about everything else from that era is dead: horse-drawn carriages and the Republican Party, for example. Baseball was popular until 2000, but then electronic games flourished, and attention spans diminished. (Bush #43 became president, too, and that began the spiraling death of the Republican party.) Baseball is too slow to compete with the NBA, Minecraft, or Button Mash. When I am at a game, I can hear the synchronized snoring in the stands by the seventh inning (and I have bad hearing). To be fair, from my perspective, that slow pace is an attraction because I can read while “watching” the game. If something exciting happens (a rarity), the crowd noise or the announcers yelling cause me to allow me to watch the replay.

Baseball’s big wigs (a technical term, not a fashion statement) have worked to speed up the game. There’s now a 20 second time limit between pitches, an intentional pass is announced rather than requiring four pitches, and next year a pitcher will be required to face a minimum of three batters, reducing the time-consuming transition from pitcher A to pitcher B (or in late innings, pitcher G to pitcher H). There have even been discussions of starting every extra-inning game with a man on second base. These ideas are steps in the right direction but they’re baby-steps. They won’t entice kids to put down their smart-phones or stop watching Stephen Curry shoot 3-pointers from North Dakota.

Fortunately, once again, just like in the contest to create new permutations of bacon ice cream, Hawkeye comes to the rescue! He – I mean I - offers strategies to make baseball faster and more interesting.

1. Why nine? NPR says, “The average nine-inning baseball game took 3 hours and 8 minutes. That’s up from 2 hours and 46 minutes in 2005.” I’m not a mathematician but there’s a good chance that games would be quicker if they were only five innings. There’s nothing sacrosanct about nine.
2. Just one. In my wild and semi-crazy youth, I played in a one-ball softball tournament. That didn’t mean we only had one spheroid (love that word!), but that every better came to the plate with a 3-2 count. There might be a couple of foul balls, but it sure sped up the game. It was great fun and we could get to the post-game bar earlier. (Alas, I was much better at the bar than on the field.) Beyond making the game move faster, Hawkeye has suggestions about how to make the game more interesting. Hint: More scoring is a good thing.
3. Gloveless. Players are prohibited from wearing a glove. There would be many more hits and broken fingers, and we all like to watch an accident taking place. If gloves are allowed, they should at least be vibrant colors.
4. Fielding Roulette. Each fielder’s cap has an electronic button that receives signals from the giant vertical roulette wheel near the scoreboard, featuring eight slices, one to indicate each fielder except the catcher. As the pitcher winds up to throw, the wheel begins to spin, and as the ball heads to the plate, the wheel lands on a slice indicating a player, the button in his cap buzzes, and that player is frozen until the next pitch. He can only catch a ball if it is near enough that he can do so by moving one leg.  
No one will know which player is frozen until the pitch is hit, so it will always be a frenzy: Does the ball go near the stationary player? If so, someone else will have to get there to field it because Mr. Stationary is immobile until the next pitch. This features chance, unpredictability, and tragedy, the great American popularity formula (think of the political conventions!).
5. Rotate the compass. What if the base-running route was changed for every-other batter? Instead of everyone hitting the ball and running to the right, to first base, and then going left to second, left to third, and then left to home, what if half of the batters first ran to the left after hitting the ball, going to third base, and then right to second, to first, and to home? Think of the excitement on the base paths with batters on first and third, and a ball is hit. The runner on first goes to second, while the runner on third also goes to second. If it’s an extra base hit, they continue running

in opposite directions, maybe meeting at home. As I type this, I’m confused, so I can’t imagine a shortstop knowing what to do. Yep, this offers more chance, unpredictability, and tragedy (surely the runners will collide, more accidents and tragedy), so it’s a winning formula!

6. Co-ed. You may have noticed that I kept referring to HE and HIM. But why? Sure, guys are often bigger and throw harder and hit farther, but many of these changes value brains over brawn, and Hawkeye knows the smarts hierarchy, so women would be extra valuable. Each team would be half-female with four or five women on the field. Baseball would be more attractive to young girls, and although I’m not a mathematician, that’s probably about half of the population.

OK, there you have it: Dr. Hawkeye’s recipe for saving Major League Baseball. Next month I will offer sage recommendations for revising political debates, funerals, and the lines at Ted Drewes.



*Expert Landscape Design and Installation.*

**QUIET VILLAGE**  
LANDSCAPING CO.

**DESIGN YOUR PARADISE.**

314.657.7050 QuietVillageLandscaping.com



**PEACOCK**  
LOOP  
DINER

**Where breakfast is served all day!**

**Open 8am 'til late night!**

PeacockLoopDiner.com • 6261 Delmar in The Loop



**CONCRETE CONTRACTING**  
**WEIR**  
LLC  
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

**RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL**  
314.398.1499  
GREG WEIR GREG@WEIRCONCRETE.COM

- DRIVEWAYS
- PATIOS
- SIDEWALK
- RETAINING WALLS
- MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS
- POWERWASHING
- SEALING
- CAULKING
- DECORATIVE FINISHES