

# The *TIMES* of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Vol. 50, No. 1

April - May 2020

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

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

FREE

Independent and all volunteer-run since 1970

## 2020 CENSUS

By Linda Cross

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As you know, the US government

conducts a census every ten years. Besides putting that information in Ancestry.com so that we can look up our family tree, why should we fill out the census survey?

The most important reason is resources. The 2020 Census will determine congressional representation, inform hundreds of billions in federal funding every year, and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade. The results determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. The results will show where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and more services for families, older adults, and children. The results also determine where funds are allocated to more than 100 programs, including Medicaid, Head Start, block grants for community mental health services, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP.

Most households received their invitation to respond to the 2020 Census between March 12 - 20. These official Census Bureau mailings will include detailed information and a Census ID for completing the Census online. The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who is or will be living with you on April 1, 2020. For the first time, you can choose to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail.

As a special concern to our neighborhood due to the inordinate number of students who live here—because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the census bureau is making accommodations to count students who would normally be living in dorms or university owned housing in our neighborhood on April 1st but have moved away for school closures through the group quarters enumeration rules (where the university reports this

United States®  
Census  
2020

information on behalf of the students). Students who have rented apartments or houses but have

left the neighborhood are required to fill out the census as if they were still in the apartments as of April 1st. The universities will not be reporting on behalf of these students, however, the universities have conveyed this information on their websites and communicated via email and social media to these students.

In addition to the resource allocation, the census provides a history of an area and notes trends of interest regarding race, income, and education. From Celebrating Skinker DeBaliviere History and Comeback, September 2009

Race was and is an important part of living in Skinker DeBaliviere. The proportion of black to white changed from 1970 to 1980 and then back again in 1990. 1970 Population-1,960: 44% white, 55% black, 1% other. 1980 Population-4,928; 35% white, 64% black, 1% other. 1990 Population-5,601; 41% white, 56% black, 3% other. Between 1970 and 1990, our neighborhood actually became more diverse, as it became successful.

By the year 2000, the population had decreased to 4,505, but the diversity actually increased slightly, to 50% black, 42% white, 8% other.

A Loyola University study quoted in Farai Chideya's book, *The Color of Our Future*, states that only "5% of American Neighborhoods are racially diverse and stable (rather than in transition from say, mostly white to mostly black)." Despite, or maybe because of, its many struggles, and certainly because of the hard work by many individuals, Skinker-DeBaliviere is undoubtedly one of very few American neighborhoods to succeed in both integration and redevelopment.

Please fill out your census. It is important to the region representationally, financially, and historically.



## Help Those In Need During the Pandemic

By Margaret Welch

Two funds at the St. Louis Community Foundation are helping fellow citizens affected by the coronavirus disruptions. They are:

### The Gateway Resilience Fund

Created by individual donors and entities like the Downtown St. Louis Community Investment District and the Regional Arts Commission, the Gateway Resilience Fund is offering short-term financial assistance to employees and owners of bars, restaurants, shops, entertainment venues, and other small business required to close as a result of the pandemic. In addition, artists are also eligible to apply for aid.

### The COVID-19 Regional Response Fund

A coalition of foundations, businesses and individual donors brought together by the St. Louis Community Foundation created the fund to assist nonprofits already providing services to populations disproportionately affected by the disruptions associated with the virus. Groups targeted for assistance include the elderly, children, and those with mental illness or suffering from food insecurity.

Grants from each are guided by advisory committees unique to the mission of each fund.

Visit [stlgives.org/COVID19](http://stlgives.org/COVID19) to contribute, learn more, and apply for assistance.



photo by King Schoenfeld

## Thank You to King for 50 Years

King Schoenfeld's photos have captured the best of the neighborhood spirit through the years. That is particularly important in this Covid-19 Era. He took many memorable photos at our neighborhood's MLK Day gatherings. Turn to page 7 for more of King's great photos.



## Editor's Notes

By Linda Cross

Our team has been looking forward to this issue for a long time. We discussed ideas and format and COLOR months ago - and then the world changed. As a newcomer to this endeavor I still want to take the time to thank the many people who have kept this paper alive for 50 years. Although a neighborhood paper, I think it is a valuable resource for information, and humor, and community. The people who contribute to this paper take it seriously and do their utmost to provide accurate, timely, and entertaining information that affects our little world. It is in that vein that I want to take an opportunity in this unprecedented (I have been using that word SO much in the past three years) time to think about why we bother with this paper. Our neighborhood has been through some unsettled and trying times, and a group of invested neighbors volunteered their efforts to ensure that truthful information was being distributed to the entire neighborhood on issues that would promote stability, inclusion, and unity. Although, as a whole, our neighborhood has become more prosperous, we still face challenges of inequity and divide that mirror our larger society. The recent shelter in place during a global pandemic has put a new filter on our actions and interactions. Things that we have taken for granted have vanished, there is uncertainty, confusion, and fear. I have found that what has kept me afloat during this time of duress is the comfort, stability, generosity, and friendship of my family and my neighbors. Just sitting on the porch and talking with so many friends that I know who are walking by (at a safe distance) talking of our shared experiences and concerns, plans to support our local businesses, and coordinating plans to check on our vulnerable neighbors, are why I chose to live in this neighborhood. This is a unique place in our city. I appreciate so much the community that we have and continue to work and fight for. That is why we continue to produce this little paper; to provide accurate, timely, and entertaining information. Check on your neighbors today, FaceTime with your family, order take-out from a local restaurant, and look forward to a time when we can hug each other again.

**Surprise!** The TIMES volunteers wish a very happy April birthday to editor emerita Lana Stein. Lana has been a neighborhood resident since the 80's and was chief Editor of the TIMES for nearly 30 years. Thanks to her diligence and clear writing, we have covered major neighborhood issues and introduced many neighbors to each other. Her dedication to the community has been so important, and we wish her all the best on this and every birthday to come.

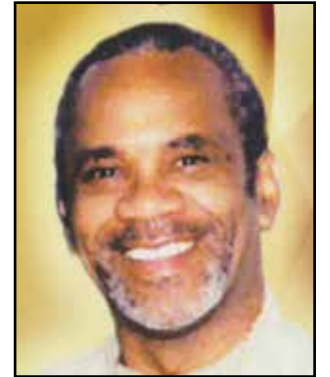


Lana Stein

## Remembering Willis Lloyd

By Lana Stein

Willis Lloyd lived in Skinker DeBaliviere for over 50 years. He and his wife Loretta were active residents. In the 1970s, Willis questioned the nature of development with the Washington Heights association. A decade later, Loretta joined the Delmar Committee and remained active till the present. She had owned the Sunshine Academy, a daycare center, on Delmar. Willis, a letter carrier in the neighborhood, helped her and also got to know many neighbors on his route. He joined in a number of Delmar meetings and events. Merry



Willis Lloyd

I was one of those neighbors and enjoyed our encounters, discussing the neighborhood, city politics, and everyday activity. Willis sprang from a political family. For some time, he served as campaign treasurer for his cousin, Congressman Lacy Clay.

He was also a Mr. Fix It and a consummate slide dancer. He was devoted to his family. He and Loretta enjoyed their home on McPherson because of its diversity. My regret is that I hadn't seen him more in recent years. I learned from him and enjoyed learning his perspective. He was a strong presence here and we extend our sympathy to his wife and family. He will be missed.

# SAVE THE DATE

## FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY

Tentative date is June 20

Check our website, and we'll have an update in our June issue

### 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: May 15, 2020**

for the summer Issue

Please send copy by e-mail to Linda Cross, [lcross@sdtimes.org](mailto:lcross@sdtimes.org), by disc to 6060 McPherson Ave, 63112.

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Readers are welcome to send us e-mail or letters commenting on any of our content. Send to [lcross@sdtimes.org](mailto:lcross@sdtimes.org).

## To Our Generous Year-End Donors

On behalf of all the TIMES volunteers, thank you for your generous year-end contributions to the TIMES of SKINKER DEBALIVIERE. And thanks for everything you've done for our paper over the years. There would be no 50th anniversary without people like you! And if you missed giving at year-end, you can send a donation of any amount to the Times of Skinker DeBaliviere attn: Mark Jacobs, 6229 Washington, 63130.

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Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council



# News of Neighbors

By Rachel Boxdorfer

Today I'm late for my deadline which is not unusual; the Times editors will be the first to confirm that fact. It is a time of uncertainty for our neighborhood, our country, our world. Coronavirus has spread and businesses are closing, social distancing is the new normal. And I hate it. But at this time, there is one thing I know. I am so grateful to be a part of this community, a part of the Skinker De-Baliviere neighborhood. I am reminded of that even more so as I escape my home and take daily walks, talking to neighbors from a safe distance.

And here we are, celebrating 50 years of our neighborhood newspaper! How many of you have even ever noticed that we are "the oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis"? How cool is that? I still remember when it was called "The Paper". In all honesty, I loved that. I wish it still was, but maybe with a tag line about Skinker DeBaliviere, we need to keep that name in there proudly. I think I'm just being nostalgic. This paper and the incredible volunteers early on and throughout its history gift us with such a unique and wonderful product when they produce this paper multiple times a year. We are so lucky to be part of this community.

We can track our history through the issues, through the years, which Marge Weir has organized for all to access online. It shows the progress of the community, so much of it because our neighbors, our community work together. And that is also rare in many areas. So thank you to everyone throughout the years who has put their efforts in to producing our neighborhood paper and to all of you for being a part of this wonderful neighborhood we all call home.

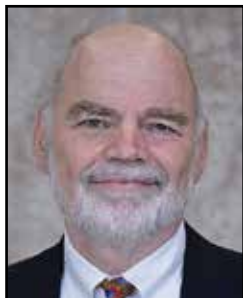


Marj Weir

And with that, let's move on to our current news of neighbors.

Congratulations are in order for Heidi Dowgwilllo on her recent retirement as Executive Assistant at Forest Park. Heidi and her husband Bob live on the 6000 block of Pershing. We wish her a very happy and enjoyable retirement!

Congratulations to our Tom Hoerr of the 6100 block of Kingsbury and former headmaster of New City School on the publication his new book Taking Social Emotional Learning Schoolwide: The Formative Five Success Skills for Students and Staff. In the book, Tom uses school culture as a tool to show how teachers and principals can bring SEL to life in their schools. He spent a great deal of time talking and emailing other educators and visiting schools. Taking Social Emotional Learning Schoolwide was just published by ASCD and is available at ascd.org.



Tom Hoerr

Congratulations to Evan Holden who was nominated for the FIRST Dean's Award in Robotics. Criteria for selection of the FIRST Dean's List shall include, but not be limited to a student's; demonstrated leadership and commitment to FIRST



Evan Holden

Core Values, effectiveness at increasing awareness of FIRST in their school and community, interest and passion for a long-term commitment to FIRST, overall individual contribution to their team • Technical expertise and passion, and entrepreneurship and creativity, as well as ability to motivate and lead fellow team members. Evan is the son of Dan Holden and Colette Morton of the 6100 block of Pershing and he attends Metro High School.

Five professors from the Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing have been named finalists for the 2020 Excellence in Nursing awards. One of those nomi-nees is our very own Cristina McGroarty, MSN who is nominated in the Oncology category. St. Louis Magazine will be announcing the winners in their May is-sue. Cristina lives on the 6100 block of Kingsbury with her husband Sean and their six children. She teaches courses in child health nursing, pediatrics and public health nursing. Her research is focused on mindfulness in students. Con-gratulations Cristina on this well-deserved honor!



Cristina McGroarty

In an earlier issue of the Times we covered Claire Rater's service in the Peace Corps. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, Claire's service in Senegal was cut short and she returned home in March. Peace Corps volunteers from around the world returned home and the entire service is being shut down. We are so sorry for Claire that her time and service ended so abruptly but we are glad that she has arrived home safely to be with her family. Claire is the daughter of Dan and Molly Rater who live in Kingsbury Square.



Claire Rater

Another neighborhood young adult had to cut her service short. Sarah Cross, youngest daughter of Andy and Linda Cross of the 6000 block of McPherson, was serving in the American Conservation

Experience in Corpus Christi, Texas. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, ACE-Texas's major and minor project part-ners terminated projects due to the fact that they've been shut down and so Sa-rah returned to St. Louis after a month and a half. Welcome home SJ, we are glad you arrived safely.



Sarah Cross

For those who don't know and since I did not get to cover Sarah's adventures yet, here is a bit of information about the program. ACE-Texas, located in the coastal bend region of South Texas in Corpus Christi offers AmeriCorps posi-tions for individuals interested in kick starting their careers in the restoration biology/ecology field! Although the workload is diverse, ACE-Texas' efforts are primarily focused at restoring gulf coast prairies and watersheds to support threatened and endangered animals and neo-tropical migrating birds such as the Whooping Crane.

Get well wishes go to longtime neighbor and Halloween pioneer Art Santen, who is now residing in the new Allegro center opposite St. Mary's. Art was one of the stalwart neighborhood supporters, always hardworking and willing to pitch in. For many years he helped distribute the TIMES to every block. For 50 years, he was "Mr. Halloween", organizing the event at St. Roch. His collections have been featured in our publication, as well as others. We hope to see Art again, and we wish his family all the best.

That my friends is our News of Neighbors for this issue. I'll conclude with a heartfelt prayer and hopes that all of you are safe and well. We will get through this time; we are a strong community of wonderful neighbors. We are Skinker DeBaliviere!

**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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# THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND: Gardens Grow Community!

By Mark Banaszak

McPherson Community and Block Unit 1035 Community Garden have been important features of Skinker DeBaliviere for decades, but urban gardening dates back much further. From the 1700s and into the Industrial Revolution, as urban populations exploded, urban gardening evolved on shared space for the health and relaxation of city dwellers. Some allotment gardens in dense European cities like London and Berlin have existed for centuries. Community gardening as practiced in St. Louis was part of an effort to improve an urban core suffering from the flight of many residents to suburbs and to provide gardening space for those who might not have access.

McPherson Community Garden and Block Unit 1035 Community Garden both developed out of the community garden growth in the late 80s and 90s in urban areas in the US. McPherson Community Garden, organized by Andy Cross and Chris Manzo and constructed by the labor of Skinker DeBaliviere neighbors, was created in the spring and summer of 1997. Block Unit 1035 Community Garden, led by Ronnie Halliburton and others of the neighborhood Block Unit on DeGiverville, followed the next year. Block Units were first formed in the 30s through the Urban League as part of their efforts for community empowerment and civil rights.

Both of these gardens are shared spaces. Plots are available at a low cost for all neighbors and includes access to compost, water, tools and the gardening expertise of other members. Any resident can call the Community Council office and make arrangements for a plot, but the benefits of participating in a garden are not limited to healthy vegetables and beautiful flowers. In addition to the individual plot, each gardener contributes to the garden as a whole—typically this means caring for the communal flower beds, maintaining the paths, and cleaning around the garden. Much as neighbors do for their yards, but this work is shared among the gardeners. The shared work is another form of community building that occurs within a community garden.

Many important thinkers consider public space a central concern for public well-being. Skinker DeBaliviere is a community known for openness and friendliness, but saying hello to neighbors is not the same as moving a truckload of mulch or compost for a shared project. Community gardens are shared spaces where the differences highlighted by income or background are secondary to the requirements of successfully completing a practical task like getting rid of tomato hornworms or pulling out all of the bindweed. Community gardens are places where we can share or learn from each other because all of us have the same dirt on our hands.

## OUR COMMUNITY GARDENS

Page 6  
The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere  
June 1998

### Notes from the Community Gardens

by Andy Cross

The spring work weekends for the McPherson Garden are over and the garden looks wonderful. Eight new raised beds were made. We now have roughly sixty raised beds and the waiting list is small once again. The alley side of the garden has been cleaned up and straightened out. The garden is spruced up and beds have come back from last year and are very healthy. Also, the wildflower vengeance (as are the weeds, but we are keeping on top of them).

We are working on some special gardens out in front in the tree lawn. Michelle Pike is creating a very special flower garden, with a flagstone path. It is going to be a beautiful addition to the McPherson Garden. More flowers have been planted in front near the sidewalk, and other plantings and projects will continue during the summer.

On Saturday, May 16, the McPherson Garden had a bar-b-que with the gardeners from Block Unit 1035 Garden and members of Gateway Greening—enjoyed meeting each other and sharing gardening tips.

The Block Unit 1035 Garden is being built under the direction of Ronnie Halliburton at 5838 Westminster and still has a little work left. It looks wonderful already! The Block Unit 1035 gardeners have been working hard and are building a great garden.

Both gardens have received many generous donations of plants from the "Great Perennial Divide," and the help we have received from the SDCC staff, Operation BrightSide, Viv Wolf (Neighborhood Stabilization Officer), and especially Gateway Greening has been fantastic.

When you are out for a stroll, come take a walk by our gardens. We think you will like what you see.






(Above, left, and below.)  
Neighbors take the first steps in the establishment of the Block Unit 1035 Community Garden.

The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere  
June 1997

### McPherson Community Vegetable Garden Well Underway

by Andy Cross

Last fall I attended a meeting at the Missouri Botanical Garden about a variety of grants available for neighborhood beautification projects. Ruth Beckloff and Gwen Lazard of the 59xx block of McPherson also attended this meeting and expressed interest in the idea of applying for a grant for a community vegetable garden.

At the next beautification committee meeting, we presented the grant possibilities and began gathering gardeners. Ruth and Gwen later introduced me to Chris Manzo, a soon-to-be architect, who also lives on 59xx McPherson, and Chris began recruiting gardeners.

I drew up pages and pages of drawings and designs for the garden, and brought them to Chris, who transferred the site layout to computer for cleaner and easier reproductions. Laure Porterfield of the SDCC helped us find a location for the garden, coincidentally on the 59xx block of McPherson, a vacant double lot 125 feet by 125 feet. She received permission from the owner for us to use the lot in exchange for keeping it clean and mowed. We can use this lot until it is developed.

We received a grant from Gateway Greening (formerly Gateway to Gardening). The grant included lumber for 48 raised beds, wood chips, soil, tools, hoses, design help, even plants! Kathy Bosin and Erin Brubaker of Gateway Greening have been helping us build our garden. Erin even has a plot with us.

The neighbors of Skinker DeBaliviere have done an incredible job building this garden. Every Saturday for the past two months a big group of hard-working men, women, and children have come to the McPherson Community Vegetable Garden. They have moved mountains of soil and wood chips, and, side by side, have helped build raised beds, often for neighbors they haven't met yet, saying "If we build it, they will come."

And they have come. We have over 52 raised beds, some with multiple gardens, two for St. Roch School, and a growing waiting list for plots. Some gardeners come to the site to work and aren't even asking for a vegetable plot, they simply want to help out.

In the center of all of our vegetable activity, we have created a butterfly garden, an octagon with a terraced eight point star, that was created with reclaimed lumber. The butterfly garden is surrounded by a sunflower garden, also made of reclaimed lumber.

Come take a look at what your hard-working, green-thumbed neighbors have created. They have done a wonderful job.



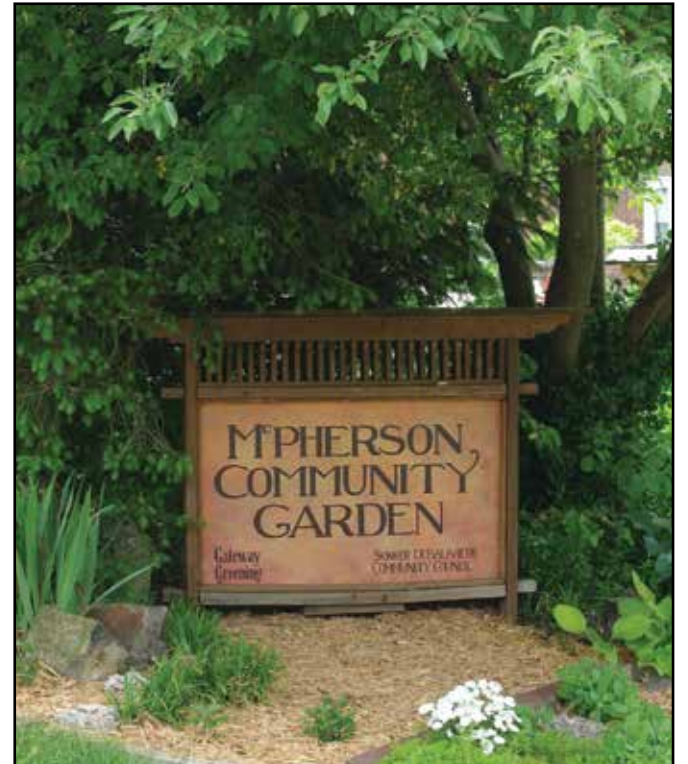
Andy Cross and Chris Manzo, organizers of the McPherson Community Garden Project.



Urban Gardeners pause to pose for a picture to record the progress of their labors.



### THE BREAKFAST GARDEN TOURS & GARDENS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD





## From Your 28th Ward Alderwoman: Heather Navarro

Changes are here and I'm not just referring to all of the closed businesses, canceled events, and school closings. Before COVID-19 sent everyone inside, you probably had already seen some changes in the neighborhood, changes for the better. The forestry division has been hard at work in the 28th Ward and throughout the city. For the last few years there has been a backlog of tree trimming, removals, and plantings. Recently, the forestry division was able to bring on additional help through a contract with a local company to assist the city in caring for all of our trees. This resulted in several trees in the neighborhood coming down at one time. I've received several calls about what seemed like a rash of tree removals. Before a tree is marked to be removed at least one certified arborist has to determine it is necessary.

The city never wants to take a tree down but will when necessary. As we've seen in recent storms, weak and diseased trees can cause a lot of damage. When a tree is removed a new one is planted and over 300 trees are being planted this season in the 28th ward. If you have a preference for a particular type of tree to be planted in the tree lawn in front of your home you may make a request of the forest service. They have a list of trees that are appropriate for urban settings.

We are lucky in Skinker-DeBaliviere to have streets lined with tall, shade trees and I recommend that we replace dead and dying trees with more shade trees whenever possible. They help keep our homes cool in the summer, add to property values, and maintain the special character of the neighborhood.

The city maintains a map of its trees and you can see many of the trees in the neighborhood mapped at [showmotrees.mytreekeeper.com](http://showmotrees.mytreekeeper.com). The map shows you the species and size of the tree along with the benefits it provides. Check out the map and contact forestry with any questions. Then get outside for some fresh air and take in our beautiful urban forest. Trees provide great benefit when they are healthy and strong so please help new trees planted near your home by providing water, helping keep them supported so they grow up straight and tall, and contacting forestry if you see that a tree has been damaged in any way.



**Happy 50th Anniversary from the  
28<sup>th</sup> Ward Regular Democrats**  
*Be Informed*  
*Organize with your Neighbors*  
**GET OUT THE VOTE!**  
Follow us on Facebook & [Ward28STLDems.org](http://Ward28STLDems.org)

## Traffic Study

At the request of the 26th and 28th Ward Alderwomen, Shameem Clark-Hubbard and Heather Navarro, the Board of Public Service is conducting a traffic study for the area bounded by Skinker and Delmar Boulevards, DeBaliviere Avenue, and Forest Park Parkway. The study will develop strategies to address traffic-related concerns about safety, connectivity, and speed.

Your input is needed to document any traffic, speeding, or safety issues in the neighborhood. Information from this survey will be used to help guide the traffic study. Please take the survey online at [skinkerdebalivierestudy.metroquest.com](http://skinkerdebalivierestudy.metroquest.com) or hard copies are available outside the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council office at 6008 Kingsbury. The survey will close on April 15, 2020. Completed surveys should be mailed to the SDCC Office and postmarked by April 15, 2020.

The results of the traffic study will be shared at a public meeting this summer. Stay tuned for more information.

## Getting Even

By Dan Rater

Leave it to me, and the Skinker-DeBaliviere Times to have milestone birthdays in the midst of a worldwide crisis, and I wish I meant the 2020 Presidential election. With all the angst, and uncertainty engulfing our lives, I was tempted to write an obituary, instead of a column. But like the Times, I have faith in Mankind, so we press on.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Times turns fifty this year, and I'll be sixty on June 8th, just in time for opening day of the baseball season. What has been said before remains true today; hope springs eternal in the human breast. Being a columnist for the Times is the ultimate act of self quarantining. I sit at the keyboard alone, accompanied only by my thoughts, which I scrub often, and try to keep clean. I've never had a problem with social distancing; the only question being, is it me, or them, keeping the distance? Since I've started writing the column, I think the question has been answered.

The Times and I were born in the crucible of conflict and change. The old guard gave way to a new generation, unimpressed with the status quo. Wars, riots and corruption altered the landscape of our society. A generation born with the notion that all men and women should have an even chance grew up in an age of possibility. Honestly, that last statement might only apply to the Skinker-DeBaliviere Times. Like Peter Pan, I peaked when I was eight, but I married well and caught the last ship out of Neverland.

One of us can be proud to have served their community for the last fifty years. The other one is proud to have snagged a 24 pack of soft, squeezable Charmin at Target. One of us has eloquently chronicled the history of our community, and the lives of its people. The other one wrote a letter trying to get out of jury duty. One of us is forging ahead, confronting uncertainty, confident in its expression, and comfortable with its past. The other one colors their hair, and wears sweat pants all the time. I'm pretty sure you can figure out who is who, but I'll give you a hint. I'm wearing sweat pants right now.

What the Skinker-DeBaliviere Times does so wonderfully is to bind our community together. I think of it as the thread that stitches the different patches into one beautiful quilt. I've only been a columnist for about three years, but five times a year I've felt the needle as I'm staring at a deadline and a blank page. I think that's worth celebrating. I pray the storm will soon pass, and a rainbow will lead us to a bright future. We may run out of that 24 pack of Charmin, but we'll always have the Skinker-DeBaliviere Times.

Happy birthday Skinker-Debaliviere Times and me (June, 8th)!

### Want to learn about our community's history?



**Congratulations on The Times 50<sup>th</sup> Year!**  
**Thanks to the volunteers!**



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# The Official TIMES Photographer

By Jo Ann Vatcha



King and wife Dee have lived on the 6100 block of Westminster for over 45 years, and their involvement in the neighborhood has extended to the entire Skinker DeBaliviere community. They were founding members of the People's Clinic, which was located at the current home of the SDCC at 6008 Kingsbury in the 70's. Its success began in reaching out to everyone, regardless of income, to give inoculations to children and wellness checkups to all ages and later expanded to its current location on Delmar. That's the kind of community spirit King has always worked for.

King Schoenfeld has been our primary photographer for nearly the entire history of the TIMES.

His photos have included portraits of residents and coverage of major events in the neighborhood, and we could always rely on him to be there to take photos like this memorable MLK Day celebration photo, capturing the spirit of "We Shall Overcome." As he wrote in an earlier anniversary issue of the TIMES:

I began shooting news photos for The Paper when I was just over 30 years old and recently married. I discovered my true avocation: trying to put a story into one photo image that got your attention. Hours in the darkroom were a monthly ritual, finding the right black and white images to drop off for Marj Weir next door. What I didn't realize at the time was how this job pushed me into the life of the neighborhood, meeting its wonderful people and gaining a sense of contributing to its life.



Winter Market



Ice Cream Social at Lucier Park

King said he wanted to cover "events that we are familiar with as Skinker DeBaliviere traditions, favoring those that had emotional appeal or graphic appeal." His photos demonstrating that achievement will be featured in a special exhibition at the Andrew Cross Studio on June 20, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the TIMES.



King's photos have captured the beautiful architectural features of the neighborhood.



Special events such as the family celebration in the garden have been important subjects for King's photos. Willie and Rogerene Kinds have been residents of the neighborhood for more than 50 years.



This King Schoenfeld photo was featured in a MOHIS publication about the neighborhood.



Halloween at St. Roch



# KIDS IN THE TIMES

By Jo Ann Vatcha

Since its inaugural issue in April, 1970, the TIMES (then called the PAPER), has emphasized the importance of community spirit and diversity as values we want our children to learn and hold dear. In nearly every issue over 50 years, there are photos or articles about them. And some were big news stories!

For example, in June, 1970, St. Roch gave details of their brand-new "open enrollment" policy welcoming non-Catholics to the school. The \$ 300 annual tuition, which naturally seems a grand bargain now, was said to be comparable to other private schools like Forsyth and New City School. Dr. Jose Sanchez, president of the school board, said "St. Roch's intends to become a genuine neighborhood school."

That issue of the TIMES also featured some students at Hamilton School who had won championship trophies in boxing. Cliff Westbrook, featured in this photo, still lives in the family home on Westminster, one of many children who grew up in the neighborhood and chose to stay or return as adults. That's a story in itself! Think of what the neighborhood would be without Andy Cross, Dan Hudspeth, Rachel Boxdorfer, Kristina McGroarty, Chanaya Jacobs, and so many more.

Participation in neighborhood activities has been stellar for many years. Even the toddlers helped kick off the Operation Brightside 1984 clean up of the railroad tracks!

Many neighborhood institutions have sponsored special activities for children in the summer, welcoming kids to get to know each other at such locales as Craft Alliance, Grace Methodist Church, MOHIS, Wash U, and many others. The library, in the 70's located at the former grocery store across the street from the Andy Cross studio on Des Peres, then in the 80's (after a devastating fire) known as the Kingsbury Kiosk, was a great place for everyone to meet and learn, in the center of our great neighborhood. The summer reading club gathered for a photo at the 28th ward HQ, then located at 6010 Kingsbury!

In recent years, our own Suzanne Knese has written about activities for the children in the neighborhood with her regular column Kids Corner, carrying on the great Skinker DeBaliviere traditions.



Grace Outdoor ice cream social



Jeremy Schoenfield helps with BrightSide clean up 1984



Summer Reading Club Awards 1988



Kids at school



Halloween costume winners



8th Annual Dog Show



# KIDS CORNER

By Susanne Knese with contributions from Mark Gorman, Rachel (Bender) Boxdorfer, Andy Cross, Suzanne Leguey-Feilleux and Pat Cantwell.

## 50th Anniversary edition!

- Cost of..... in 1970
- Standard stamp ..... \$.06
- Gallon of Milk..... \$1.32
- Hershey Milk Chocolate Bar ..... \$.15
- McDonald's Big Mac..... \$.65

The year was 1970 when The Times first started so in honor of those by-gone days, I thought it would be fun to share some residents' memories of growing up in Skinker-Debaliviere. Every single one said how much they loved growing up here and had such fond memories. They also said each and every kid looked out for each other and learned the basics of life: play nice with others; doesn't matter how good you were at a sport, just enjoy playing; stick up for others, don't cheat and have fun! Here are some of their stories:

**Mark Gorman** (grew up on the 5900 block of Pershing) enjoyed playing Cork Ball with a stick and tennis ball with home plate up against St. Roch church. He also said there were always basketball games going on in the school yard. As for making money, many kids sold papers on the corner or with a paper route. Delmar / Skinker corner was the best for foot traffic especially for selling the Sunday Post-Dispatch on Saturday evenings because it cost \$.07, and hopefully someone would pay with a dime and tell them to keep the change.

**Rachel Boxdorfer** (nee. Bender, grew up on 6100 block of Kingsbury) fondly remembers playing on Kingsbury with the hundreds of other kids who lived in the neighborhood. She said kids lived outside playing from sunup to sundown, only halting when parents would call each kid by name or bell for a meal. In the Fall, leaves were raked into the street to build play houses. Toys like Barbie and Fischer Price doll houses would find their way outside where pop-up towns would be created for hours upon hours. Some favorite games were Johnny Cross, kickball and step ball.

**Andy Cross** (grew up on 6100 block of Kingsbury) added to this list of games with his favorites including cork ball, street

hockey, freeze tag, hide-n-seek, Red Rover, Kick-the-Can, basketball and bike riding (aka Bike City where hundreds of kids would ride on the empty 6100 Kingsbury street because there were very few cars back then). Friday nights meant Groovy Movie Nights when someone would play an old black and white movie (like Elvis movies) on their TV and host a bunch of kids to watch with lemonade and popcorn. A lot of kids made money doing yard work to purchase coveted tennis balls or pay off the occasional broken window or car antenna, thanks to ball games.

**Suzanne Leguey-Feilleux** (grew up on 6100 block of Kingsbury) shared memories of fashion (bell bottoms, tie-dyed shirts, hip hugger pants and maxi dresses) and music (Carol King, Jonie Mitchell, Carly Simon, James Taylor, the Osmond Brothers). Some of her fondest memories include sitting and talking with friends on the porch and catching fire-flies on warm summer nights.

There were several places in the neighborhood where kids could buy candy and special treats. Pete Fossel's Vegetable and Fruit truck came to the neighborhood Wednesdays and Fridays to sell fresh produce to the parents and Bub's Daddy Bubble Gum for \$.10 to the kids. Ice cream trucks were an everyday occurrence in the summers.

**Pat Cantwell** (grew up on 6100 block of Kingsbury) fondly remembers walking to St. Roch school. School was let out at 11:40 a.m. every day and started back up at 12:30 p.m. to allow enough time for everyone to walk home, eat lunch, and then hurry back to the school playground in the back of church to play games before classes started again. During that time, the school was so big (2 classes per grade) many neighborhood kids had to take a bus to St. Joseph's school in Clayton.

**Question for June Kids Corner:** What is your favorite vacation destination? Share your favorite summer activities here in St. Louis? You may just inspire other families to try out your favorite places. Draw or write your answers to kidscorner@sdtimes.org by May 10th! Kids share with us activities your school, club, scouts and sports teams doing. This is YOUR corner, so make it what you want!

Please submit to kidscorner@sdtimes.org by May 10th! Kids share with us activities of your school, club, play, scouts and sports teams. This is YOUR corner, so make it what you want!



St. Roch's 1977



Kids art



**Hamilton School Champion Boxers.** Marshall Franklin, Clifford Westbrook and Steven Westbrook pose with their trophies which they won in the Springfield Golden Gloves Downstate Tournament of Champions. Clifford Westbrook won the top trophy for lightweights. Steven Westbrook won two fights in the welterweight division and Marshall Franklin won a fight in the light middleweight division. In the background is the large traveling beautification trophy which Hamilton School children won for their clean up campaign. They won the trophy over all the other school in the Enright District. May 1970



## SUPPORT LOCAL NOW

By Rachelle L'Ecuyer

The Covid-19 Crisis has hit the Delmar Loop business district hard. No one is operating "business as usual". Salons are closed. Retail shops are closed. All the entertainment venues are closed. Restaurants are doing their best to work under the restrictions. Luckily, many of the businesses had delivery services in place. Still it's very difficult and many staff people have been laid off. Now is the time to support your local businesses.

Even through all this the entrepreneurial spirit shines brightly. Guerrilla Street Food developed the Kamayan Kit, a family-style meal for 4-5 people. Pi Pizza is offering Pizza Maker Kits that is a pizza making kit that includes fun math and geometry for all levels. Mission Taco has Taco Kits for 4 people. Nudo House is selling packages of their housemade uncooked noodles and broth that can be cooked now or frozen for later.

Many Delmar Loop restaurants use UberEats, Postmates and Grubhub making ordering and delivery very easy. "Touchless Takeout" is what you will find for pick-up.

An interactive map of restaurants open for business can be found at VisitTheLoop.com, just click on the map points and the information appears! Regular updates appear on our Facebook page at @TheDelmarLoop.

### The Baked Bear o

6140 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Carry-out or delivery through Ubereats and Grubhub

314-578-8576

<https://www.thebakedbear.com/st-louis>

<https://www.facebook.com/thebakedbearstlouis/>

### Fork and Stix

549 Rosedale, St. Louis, MO 63112

Please call 314-863-5572 for take-out.

314-863-5572

<http://www.forknstix.com/>

### Gokul Indian Restaurant

6101 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

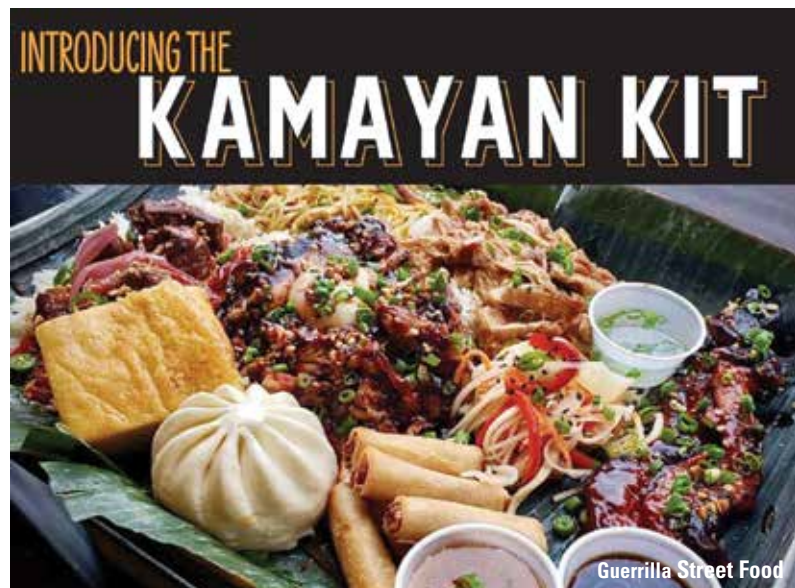
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Call-in or order online.

314-721-1888

<https://mymozo.com/myrestaurant/>

<https://www.facebook.com/gokulstl/>



### Guerrilla Street Food

6120 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Call-in & carry out, curbside pickup, and delivery through Postmates and UberEats. Order gift cards online here: <https://squareup.com/gift/A8BC9004832NG/order>

314-226-9786

<https://www.facebook.com/GSFDelmar/>

### Gyro Grill

6227 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63130

Call-in or order online for take-out. Postmates and Grubhubs.

Open everyday 11 AM to 10 PM; Sunday 11 AM to 6 PM

314-899-9437

<http://www.gyrogrill.co/#menu>

<https://postmates.com/merchant/gyro-grill-6227-delmar-blvd>

### Gyro House

6152 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Order online at <https://eatstreet.com/st-louis-mo/restaurants/gyro-house-st-louis>

314-721-5638

### Just Chicken

5942 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Call-in and carry-out.

Menu online at [www.justchickenstl.com](http://www.justchickenstl.com). Open Tuesday - Sunday

314-726-3303

[www.justchickenstl.com](http://www.justchickenstl.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/justchickenstl/>

### Krab Kingz

5860 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Call-in or order online for take-out at

<https://www.krabkingzdelmar.com/#/>

314-390-2004

<https://www.krabkingzdelmar.com/#/>

<https://www.facebook.com/krabkingzseafoodstl/>



### Mission Taco Joint

6235 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63130

"Open from 12 - 8 PM for curbside, pickup, and Postmates and DoorDash delivery.

Offering regular menu along with TACO KITS available! Feeds 4, you pick 2 proteins, 2 sides, comes with toppings and chips and salsa.

314-932-5430

<https://www.toasttab.com/mission-taco-joint-delmar/v3>

<https://www.facebook.com/MissionTacoJoint/>

### Nudo House

6105-Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

"To Make An Order:

- Create on Postmates app/
  - Use "special instructions" on your item to give your phone number and note your car color/model/
  - Choose PICKUP in "Order Method"/
  - Call when you arrive and we will safely bring it out./
- NOTHING TO SIGN OR TOUCH!"

314-274-8046

[www.nudohousestl.com](http://www.nudohousestl.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/nudohousestl/>



### Pi Pizzeria

6144 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112

Curbside pick-up and delivery. Order online here: <http://www.pi-pizza.com/order>.

314-727-6633

<http://www.pi-pizza.com/order>

<https://www.facebook.com/PizzaPi/>

### Taste of India

608 Eastgate, St. Louis, MO 63130

Call for take-out or order on Postmates and Grubhub

314-833-4055

<https://www.grubhub.com/restaurant/taste-of-india-eastgate-ave-608-eastgate-avenue-st-louis/1175284>

<https://postmates.com/merchant/taste-of-india-st-louis-1>

Thai Country Café

6223 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63130

Call for take-out or order online at doordash.com

314-862-0787

### Thai Gai Yang Café

6250 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63130

Call for take-out or order online at doordash.com

314-862-4400

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6241 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63130

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<https://unitedprovisions.com/>

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# Washington University Low Income Taxpayer Clinic



## Washington University in St. Louis

The Washington University Low Income Taxpayer Clinic was founded in 2014 to provide free legal services to taxpayers with an IRS controversy in the greater St. Louis area. The Clinic does not prepare tax returns, but instead advises and consults with taxpayers that are already in a dispute with the Internal Revenue Service.

This dispute could involve any interaction with the IRS that a taxpayer might have- ranging from being audited to already owing back taxes. We can assist in anything from an initial audit to representing a taxpayer in Tax Court. We also deal with many other issues, including innocent spouse issues, setting up installment agreements, and even helping taxpayers get a "fresh start" through an offer in compromise.

Getting a notice from the IRS can be scary at the best of times and it is often difficult to know how to navigate within the IRS to get your problem resolved. We are experts in this area and are here to help guide you through the process.

To become a client of the Clinic, a taxpayer must be have a controversy with the IRS. This means that the taxpayer must have gotten a notice from the IRS indicating that there is some sort of problem. In addition, the taxpayer's controversy amount (including interest and penalties) cannot exceed \$50,000 for any given tax year. Finally, the taxpayer's income cannot exceed 250% of the Federal poverty line. For someone living alone, this would mean that his/her income could not exceed \$31,900 for the year 2020. If someone had one other person in their household, household income could not exceed \$43,100. This limit increases with each additional household member.

Tax issues can be scary, and getting a lawyer can be cost prohibitive. We are here to provide free first-class legal services to qualifying taxpayers. If you need help with a tax issue and meet the above qualifications, or know someone that does, please call (or have them call) the Clinic at (314) 935-7238. We look forward to helping you resolve your tax issue. In addition, you can contact us by filling out an online survey. You can access the survey by just googling Washington University Low Income Taxpayer Clinic and clicking on the "prospective client" button.

**Thank you, St. Louis!** Because of the strong support our city has for local businesses and restaurants, our St. Louis family-owned restaurants are able to keep our "doors open" and keep our employees working. We appreciate you all during this trying time!

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*We hope everyone* in the community can take comfort in each other during these extraordinary times.

We look forward to seeing you again one day for our reopening celebrations!

*Congrats to the Times for 50 years!*





# IN YOUR EAR

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

As a City resident, I recognize that Better Together had a good idea. It's also hard to argue against the Freeholders planning to create inter-government synergy. Dr. Google notes that St. Louis City contributes \$28.5 billion dollars to MO's economic output and St. Louis county generates \$71.6 billion; think of what they could do together! Alas, despite my exclamation mark, the mistake that Better Together and the Freeholders are making is that they're thinking too small.

Forget undoing the 1876 City-County divorce. Think BIG. The City of St. Louis should become a state.

The State of St. Louis has lots of potential. Think out of the box; out of the state. There's nothing magical about 50 states. It was 13 so why not 51? Yep, St. Louis could be the fifty-first state in the Union. For this to happen, the residents of St. Louis would have to vote for it, the remainder of MO would have to agree, and then the folks in the other 49 states would have to approve. Believe me, these steps would be a no-brainer.

Of course we City folk would be in favor of this. Wouldn't it be nice for Chesterfield to be in another state and for us not to have to pay when the Missouri River overflows again? Plus, we'd get to have our own state flag. How cool would that be? All of MO west of Skinker would be happy to eject us, I'm sure. And we could simply attach this legislation to some federal Republican bill to reduce taxes on gazillionaires and no one would even notice. Our 61 square miles would be the smallest state in the Union, just a little less than Delaware's 2,489, but Delaware doesn't have the City Museum, a major league sports franchise, or Skinker-DeBaliviere, so it's about even.

As the state of St. Louis, we'd get one U.S. Congress person and two U.S. Senators for our population of 318,069. Yeah, three congress people just for us. This representation is set out in the U.S. Constitution, and there's sort of precedent for it. After all, the population of Wyoming is 580,000 and they send two senators and one rep to congress. Who the U.S. Representative should be is obvious. First district Democratic congressman Lacy Clay (who used to live in Skinker-DeBaliviere) can keep his job. He currently represents 711,000 people, so he would be happy, I am sure, to have fewer

letters to kiss and babies to sign.

Determining the two U.S. Senators for the State of St. Louis could be challenging but it wouldn't be difficult to do better than our current twosome, Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley. They used to be Republicans but have switched to become Trumpians. How else to explain their protection of The Donald as he bartered Ukraine funding in exchange for some dirt on a political opponent? No, we wouldn't want spineless people from The Party of Donald to represent us. Instead, we need visionaries who will move our fifty-first state forward.

Joe Edwards would be a natural U.S. senator. Sure, his Loop Trolley hasn't turned out so well, but everyone's entitled to a mistake or three. And in a decade or so when the trolley is part of Metro and expanded, everyone will think it's a tremendous community resource. Joe's record for creativity and energy, from creating Blueberry Hill to making the Delmar Loop one of the top 20 streets in the USA, cannot be denied. Plus, it would be fun to see him in a suit and tie. Welcome to D.C., St. Louis Senator Joe Edwards!

Our other new U.S. Senator has had a relatively low profile but he'd bring the gravitas to get legislation passed that would benefit our state. Yep, I'm thinking of Ted Drewes. Granted, Ted isn't active locally and he doesn't say much beyond his 30-second commercials, but think of the impact of Ted Drewes on Capitol Hill. Avarice fuels congress and every senator and representative would be clamoring for Ted's frozen custard, so he'd be able to leverage these calories to advance the State of Saint Lou. Within a year or two, we'd be awarded an expansion NFL team, the new Smithsonian Museum, dedicated to microscopic life forms, would be built here, and St. Louis would become a major international exporter of toasted ravioli. Hooray for St. Louis Senator Ted Drewes.

But there are other advantages to forming the State of St. Lou. Unlike our parsimonious state of MO, the feds spread greenbacks. In 2013, the U.S. Government provided 37.4% of Montana's state funding and contributed over \$10,000 in benefits to each citizen of North Dakota. Our City is cash-poor, so imagine how the State of St. Louis could benefit when we step up to the trough with the other 50 state feeders! Senators Joe and Ted would bring home the bacon, and I don't mean

feral pigs. With that additional state revenue, we could repair potholes, improve schools, pick up trash more regularly, and do away with parking meters. And we'd no longer have those suburban county leaders – the same ones who turn their backs on our homeless problem –

clamoring and conniving to get their hands on our airport.

Featuring a State Slogan of Fifty-one Is Fun, it's clear that the State of St. Louis will have a lot going for it. Keep your eyes out for the St. Louis Statehood petition in a future issue of The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
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 Check our website, and we'll have an update in our June issue

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