

The TIMES of.... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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December 1995

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

King Commemoration Set for January 14

Author Patricia McKissack
to Speak

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and Grace and Peace Fellowship will again hold a commemoration of the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr. in conjunction with the national celebration of his birth. The commemoration will be held at Grace and Peace Fellowship, located on Delmar at Clara, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 14th. Everyone is invited to attend this event. The New Cote Brillante Church of God choir will sing and students from a number of area schools will perform skits and musical numbers. Participating schools include: Bethel, Crossroads, Hamilton, New City. Jack Wright, a past president of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and an elder at Grace and Peace, will serve as emcee and deliver the opening remarks. Kurt Lutjens, new pastor at Grace and Peace, will begin the program.

Jack Wright chairs the committee which organizes the commemoration. He has been assisted in the planning this year by Ruth Johnson, NSO Jackie Wellington, SDCC Director Laure Porterfield, Shirley Polk, and Lana Stein. The Committee is particularly pleased that a long-time neighbor will be the principal speaker. Patricia C. McKissack, an award-winning author, has agreed to keynote the commemoration this year. McKissack moved to St. Louis from Smyrna, Tennessee when she was three years old. For many years, she and her husband Frederick, her frequent co-author, resided on the 59xx block of Pershing and were among the neighborhood's most renowned residents. They still spend a great deal of time there, using the home as their place to write.

McKissack has written a number of books geared to young audiences on topics of great interest to African-Americans including a biography of Jesse Jackson and with her husband, "Black Diamond: The Story of the Negro

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Patricia and Frederick McKissack

Rosedale Neighborhood Assn. To Hold Annual Elections Potluck Dinner at Crossroads Jan. 23

The Rosedale Neighborhood Association will hold its annual potluck dinner and meeting Tuesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m., at Crossroads School, 500 DeBaliviere. The Rosedale neighborhood encompasses the 60XX and 61XX blocks of Westminster, Washington, Waterman, McPherson, Pershing, and Kingsbury as well as Rosedale and Skinker from Forest Park to Delmar.

At this meeting officers will be elected for the coming year. Several key leadership positions in the Rosedale Neighborhood organization have been vacant as people change jobs, change residence, etc. Your participation in your neighborhood organization is vital!

The Association traditionally sponsors such activities as National Night Out, Rags to Riches, Neighborhood Halloween Party, and beautification activities in conjunction with the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council.

Positions to be filled include President, Vice President, and Secretary as well as two spots on the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council representing:

- 1) the 6000 and 6100 blocks of Westminster and Washington, and
- 2) the 6000 and 6100 blocks of McPherson and Kingsbury.

Arline Webb, 61XX Pershing, will continue to represent 6000-6100 blocks of Pershing and Waterman. The Association's Treasurer, Mary Ann Rudloff, reports that the organization is in good shape financially and has enough money in the kitty to get a good start on programs and projects for 1996.

For further information, please contact Laure Porterfield at 862-5122 or Beth Bender at 863-3854.

SPECIAL OFFER FROM THE TIMES

As a special gift to our financial supporters of *THE TIMES* this holiday season, contributors of \$ 20 or more will receive a FREE POSTER. This incentive is possible due to the generosity of the West End Arts Council, which helped with printing, and Andy Cross, the artist who drew this outstanding poster commemorating the 25th Anniversary of *THE TIMES*.

The poster, which was unveiled at the CWE Bank at the "25th Anniversary" party in honor of *THE TIMES*, features landmarks and scenes from the neighborhood. All the area churches are prominent, as is Washington University, the Central West End Bank, Wabash Station. There's a scene to remind us of the Forest Park Balloon Race, and some "street scenes", with our comfortable porches, complete with neighbors talking and children playing. All in all, a lovely reminder of our neighborhood and the places we know and love.

If we receive your contribution of \$ 20 or more by December 22, the poster will be hand-delivered to your door in time for Christmas giving.

Please note the little red printed envelope in this issue of *THE TIMES*, and, if you are able, send us a small donation. Include your name, so that we can acknowledge your gift in *THE TIMES*.

The Board thanks all our supporters for their loyalty and enthusiasm throughout the year. From our "Trivia Night" to our "New Neighbors" celebrations, we have felt renewed energy and spirit of neighborliness. And with our 25th Year of continuous publication inspiring us, we look forward to involving even more of you in reading, writing and distributing *THE TIMES*.

Happy Holidays!

Celebrating 25 Years of Service to Skinker DeBaliviere

Editor's Notebook

by Lana Stein

Happy Holidays from the Board members of the Times of Skinker DeBaliviere. We wish all our neighbors the nicest of celebrations and a healthy and happy New Year.

The Times is put out by volunteers—most of whom have fulltime jobs. It has always been a labor of love but a labor in which we would like to be joined by additional volunteers. There is always room for more writers, a photographer, new hands to help with layout, people to sell ads. If you have a couple hours a month that you could donate, please call us. We always have a good time and great parties to boot!

As editor, I would like to thank all of those who aided the Times this year. Sue Rothschild has become our fundraising maven. She and Venita Lake worked very hard on our booksale. Our financial people, JoAnn Vatcha and Julie Schoemehl, joined Sue and her husband Sandy in putting on our Trivial Pursuit party. Marj Weir has made possible the continued production of the Times with her computer-based typesetting. She has been joined on layout by our ace photographer King Schoenfeld, Venita, JoAnn, Julie, and new neighbor James Nacy. Thanks to Kathleen Williams, Lois Schoemehl, Rose Storey, Catherine Forslund, Katie and Paul Kurtz for helping out with refreshments at our 25th anniversary party as well as at the fundraiser. Thanks to Andy Cross for his marvelous commemorative poster and for Roy Roncal and the West End Arts Council for making its production possible. Thanks to our elected officials—Dan McGuire and Nancy Farmer—for having the Board of Aldermen and the Missouri House of Representatives recognize our anniversary. Thanks to Kathleen Hamilton and Central West End Bank for a very special plaque. Thanks again this year to Art Santen and Brad Weir, who distribute the Times to our neighborhood distribution sites every month.

Finally, thank you to those who have written for the Times this past year. We appreciate your contributions and I hope they will continue. Special thanks to Mary Schmit who has been arranging all the features about Hamilton School.

And now, Merry Christmas to All and to All a Good Night.



The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Lana Stein
Business Manager: JoAnn Vatcha
(Acting) Production Manager: Marj Weir
Typesetting: Marj Weir

The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere is published by the West End Publishing Co., a not-for-profit, independent, community organization. Members of the Board of Directors are:

Tom Hoerr	Venita Lake	Sue Rothschild	Lana Stein
Marcia Kerz	Loretta Lloyd	Juliet Schoemehl	JoAnn Vatcha
Katie Kurtz	Essie McLean	Lois Schoemehl	Marjorie Weir
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Guidelines for Submitting Copy

The Times welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of The Times has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents.

All material - articles, letters, notices, classified ads - must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Copy may be submitted on computer diskette if the diskette is in DOS format or on high density Macintosh diskettes. Submissions on diskette should be accompanied by a printout of the article, the name of the word processing software in which it is written, and the full name and address of the party to whom the diskette should be returned. Signature on correspondence to the editor may be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phoned in to the editor at 721-7532, or mailed to 5855 Nina Place. Deadline for all copy is the 18th of the month.

The writer is responsible for the accuracy of the data, including times, dates, location, and particularly the spelling of names.

Pictures or illustrations should be in black and white. Color photographs do not reproduce well.

The Editor retains the right to omit or alter any material.

CALENDAR



Neighborhood Meetings and Events

- 1/8 SDCC Board of Directors, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7:30 pm.
- 1/10 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon
- 1/14 Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, Grace and Peace Fellowship, 5574 Delmar, 3 to 5 pm.
- 1/15 Apartment Owners Association, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 7 pm.
- 1/23 Rosedale Neighborhood Association Potluck Dinner, Crossroads School, 500 DeBaliviere, 6:30 pm. 12 Noon
- 1/24 Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation, SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, 12 Noon

Other Events of Interest:

- 12/16 Neighbors Andy Cross, Mary Schmit, and David Schmidt will be caroling on the 6000 and 6100 blocks of McPherson from 4:30-5:30pm.
- 12/17 "A Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols," Grace United Methodist Church, Skinker and Watman, 4:30pm. Free and open to the public.
- 12/17 10th Annual Sing Out St. Louis, Union Station, 5pm.
- 12/17 St. Louis Chamber Chorus will perform "An American Christmas" at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 825 Union, 3pm. \$12, \$10 for seniors and students.
- 12/17 Compton Heights Concert Band's Annual Family Holiday Concert, St. Francis DeSales Parish, 7:30pm, \$5.
- 12/21 Architect William A. McDonough speaks about "green architecture"—buildings and urban spaces that draw from the designs of the earth's natural systems—at the Library and Research Center of the Missouri Historical Society, 225 S. Skinker, 7pm. Free.
- 12/27 "Celia," a special reading by the Black Repertory Company, a courageous story of one woman's determination to save her integrity. At the Missouri History Museum, Forest Park, 2:30pm. Free.
- 12/30 Kwanzaa Celebration at Missouri Botanical Gardens - Shoenberg Auditorium at 3pm.
- 12/31 First Night St. Louis at America's Center and Washington Loft District at 15th St. A non-alcoholic New Year's Eve celebration for the whole family. For information, call 534-1111.
- 1/7 "The Web of Life," the role of women in American Indian mythology. Presented at the Missouri History Museum, 2pm.
- 1/14 Laclede Quartet playing Viennese Bon Bons at the Missouri History Museum, 2pm, free.
- 1/25 Dennis Judd, Political Science Professor at UM-St. Louis will speak on "The Tourism Niche in the Ecology of Cities," the relation of tourism to the urban ecosystem. Missouri Historical Society Library and Research Center, 225 S. Skinker, 7pm. Free.



St. Louis Carols Association Spreads the Spirit of the Holiday Season

"All creatures great and small" have an opportunity to participate in the 1995 caroling season with the St. Louis Christmas Carols Association now through January 7, 1996 - "Little Christmas." Through the organization's efforts, last year over \$45,000 was raised to help needy youngsters through 78 local charities.

Ask a few friends and neighbors to join you to bring the Christmas message in song on your block in Skinker DeBaliviere. Call 863-1225 to reserve your street and to receive song sheets, a canister and logo identification. Longtime caroler, David Schmidt, 61xx McPherson, 863-4512, will share his experience and enthusiasm to help every block in Skinker DeBaliviere to be graced by carolers.

Remembering Art Mounts

by Catherine Forslund

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood lost an admired and loved neighbor last month when Art Mounts (61xx Waterman) passed away on November 18. Art and his companion of 30 years, Terry Buckley, moved to St. Louis in 1985 and made an impression right away. During Christmas-time, their house has been the greatest wonder with the best decorations in the area—including a fully decorated tree, packages, and multitudinous bears--festooning their home.

The rehab of their home created a bright spot in the middle of a busy block of apartment buildings on the south side of Waterman. The San Francisco-inspired multi-colored exterior accents their well-appointed and bountiful front yard, the highlight of which is Art's rose bushes which line the front walk and bloom all season in a multitude of hues. The apple tree was bent over this summer by its generous yield. I enjoyed seeing Art out front tending to his roses or pulling up errant weeds as I walked home from school. He always had a kind and friendly word, always a smile and a cheery wave.

When Art and Terry opened their backyard for neighborhood events (like the wine tour in 1988), those attending entered through a vine-covered arbor-like gangway which opened into an oasis of trees, flowers, and comfortable seating. It was like a wonderful garden cafe dropped

into the midst of the city. And their delicious food was always a treat! The mood was invariably festive when Art and Terry hosted a gathering and all were made to feel at home.

The evening of the traveling wine tasting, sponsored by Rosedale neighbors, was an occasion of great delight in Art and Terry's backyard. As the party wound down, my husband and I were engaged in a conversation with Art about music--jazz in particular. Art, with a sparkle in his eyes, took us into their basement where he kept a collection of classic records, mostly 78 rpms. It was Art's treasure and were flattered that he shared it with us. After that evening, we felt a particular tie to Art because of our musical bond. The light danced in his eyes whenever he talked about his passion and we will greatly miss that and are not likely to find anyone else so caring and willing to share.

We know that Art's passing takes away from us the warmth, friendship, and concern of a favorite neighbor. All who knew him are saddened by the prospect of never seeing him again, puttering with his roses, warmly greeting us.

Good-bye, neighbor. We miss you.

(Terry has requested that any memorials be sent to St. Louis Effort for AIDS, 1425 Hampton Ave., St. Louis MO 63139.)



Artemus E. Mounts



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Neighborhood Cleaners Celebrates 25th Anniversary



Dennis Townsend, Cynthia Mintor, and David Al'Amin

The Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood is fortunate to have two family-owned dry cleaners that have been in business in our neighborhood for many years, Delmar Cleaners and Boulevard Cleaners. Boulevard Cleaners is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary. It was founded by Osby Townsend and was originally located at 500 DeBaliviere, now home to Crossroads School. Mr. Townsend moved the business to 6032-34 Delmar after the closing of the shopping strip at 500 DeBaliviere in 1972.

Mr. Osby Townsend has retired from the day-to-day operations. He is currently chairman emeritus of Townsend/Gouche Companies. The current man-

agement is under the direction of his son, Dennis L. G. Townsend and his knowledgeable staff: David al'Amin and Cynthia Mintor. They strive to continue to bring top quality service to the historical Skinker DeBaliviere area for many years to come.

Dennis Townsend has been a member of the Commercial Committee for five years and helped to prepare the Delmar Redevelopment Plan. He also took advantage of municipal programs to plan trees outside his building and to install awnings.

The Times hopes to feature other longtime businesses that are helping to revitalize the area in upcoming issues.

The Board of the Times of Skinker DeBaliviere extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Vincent C. Schoemehl, Sr., longtime neighbor and friend, who passed away on November 30 at the age of 78. A memorial tribute is planned for our next issue in February. Neighbors are invited to submit their memories of Vince for inclusion in this tribute. Please submit them to Lana Stein, c/o SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury.

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I Never Saw Another Butterfly Strikes Strong Chord in Crossroads Production

by Gregory Freeman

"I Never Saw Another Butterfly" was performed at Crossroads School on November 17-19. Directed by Brad Schwartz, the cast included: Ellen Clifford, Maury Browning, Andy Crowe, Kelly Shelton, Will Freeman, Mike Vagnino, Andrea Taylor, Elizabeth Fitzroy, Laura Fischer, Kara Muhilly, Paul Stevens, and Meke Smith. Sam Fisher, Sam Martin, Jon Ellis, Aja Falker, Afrisha Kincaid, Kara Muhilly, Laura Fischer, and Elizabeth Fitzroy were the Children of Terezin.

More than 50 years after the end of World War II, it is sometimes easy to forget the pain and the suffering that was experienced by Jews in Europe during that period. The Crossroads School production of Celeste Raspanti's "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," brought back the heartache and pain created by Adolf Hitler.

A most moving production, the play easily surpassed what many think of as high school drama. Instead, Crossroads students performed like professionals, leaving few eyes dry by the end.

Between 1942 and 1945, more than 15,000 Jewish children passed through Terezin, a former military garrison set up as a ghetto. It eventually became a stopping-off place for thousands on their way to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. When Terezin was liberated in May 1945, only about 100 children remained to tell the story of what had happened to their friends, their families, their lives.

Their stories, drawings and poems were collected in the book, "I never Saw Another Butterfly," and were later written as a play.

The play's central character, Raja Englanderova, was performed with great feeling by Ellen Clifford. Through Clifford's efforts, audience members could feel the pain experienced by Raja and other children of Terezin, first believing that all would be well and then later learning that they and their families are to go off to their deaths.

Maury Browning did a fine job as Irena, a Jewish teacher, who naively attempted to calm the children's fears until she herself realized what was in store for them all. Browning put in a strong performance as the audience watched her transformation from a strong-willed woman to one whose emotions became almost too much for her to bear.

Will Freeman and Mike Vagnino put in good performances as Father and Pavel, respectively. Freeman portrayed the distraught father of a once middle-class family which saw its freedoms erode rapidly before them. Vagnino played the defiant son, one who wanted to stand up to the persecution perpetrated by the Nazis. In one of the more powerful scenes, Father slapped Pavel in an effort to shake his defiance. Kelly Shelton also gave a good performance as Mother, who tried desperately to prevent her son from performing acts of contempt against the Nazis. The audience could sense the frustration of this once-proud family.

Andy Crowe did a nice job as Honza, a young man who lived with other boys who had been placed in the ghetto. He fell in love with Raja, only to be deported and later put to death.

Baseball Leagues." The McKissacks have been recipients of the Coretta Scott King Honor Book Award, the American Library Association Notable Children's Book Award and the Boston Globe/Horn Book Award for the biography "Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman?" This volume also received the NAACP Image Award and was the American Library Association's Best Book for Young Adults. The McKissacks are also authors of "Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters," which delineates the

City Ordinances Will Be Enforced

Snow Shoveling

There is a City ordinance that requires snow be removed from sidewalks. This does not mean a direct line from your door to where you park your car. What it does mean is that all the sidewalk fronting your property must be cleared.

Our neighborhood has many residents who walk to school, work or to access public transportation. Cleared sidewalks enhance their safety and protect the property owner as well.

Let's work hard this winter to keep our sidewalks cleared.

Pet Pick Up

There is a "scoop" ordinance in the City of St. Louis that requires pet owners to pick up after their pets. The Council office receives numerous calls on this subject. Many individuals report that they have advised pet owners to pick up after their pets, only to be laughed at or worse.

This is, however, no laughing matter. Pet feces poses a health hazard at worst and a serious annoyance to all.

Please be responsible for your pet.



Happy Holidays to our Valued Readers!

"I Never Saw Another Butterfly" was Crossroads School's first performance in its new black box theater. The new theater gives its actors a flexibility that did not exist before, and it wouldn't be a

surprise to find other production companies seeking the use of the theatre as well. "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" was a fine way to kick off the theater's maiden voyage.

King/McKissack

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discrepancies between the lives of the owners and the lives of slaves. Patricia McKissack began writing at an early age. She wrote her first poem in third grade. As an adult, she taught for nine years and then was an editor for six. She says that, "Teaching helped me recognize what books were needed and what children enjoyed reading; editing taught me how to develop an idea. She notes that, "Writing is hard work but rewarding. ... We try to communicate to a wide audience that Africans and African Americans

have made outstanding contributions to civilization."

McKissack is a most appropriate speaker for this commemoration of the work of Dr. King and can bring back to us the life and times and deeds of the man who led the way to freedom for so many. Following her remarks, the Rev. Miki Merritt of New Cote Brilliante will offer the benediction and all in attendance will join in singing "We Shall Overcome." Grace and Peace Fellowship then will host a reception in the social hall of the church for all the participants and the audience.

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HAMILTON SPOTLIGHT

by Betsy King

The faculty at Hamilton Elementary Community Education Center is pleased to announce that Hamilton has been selected as a site for the first round of the Dr. Samuel Shepard Oratorical Contest, which will be held on April 23, 1996. This contest is for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. Each elementary school in the district will have one student performing an interpretive reading and another student performing as an original orator.

On November 22, 1995, Hamilton welcomed Ms. Roseanne Bennett from the Women's Self Help Center at 2838 Olive St. Ms. Bennett had a booth set up during parent teacher conferences with literature available about helping agencies for abused women, about dealing with anger, and about Project H.A.R.T., which promotes Healthy Alternatives for Relationships among Teens.

This month's spotlight is on Room 201 and Room 202, two fifth grade classes that have participated in noteworthy activities. Room 201, Verline Jackson's class, spearheads the "Wee Deliver" program, which was started at Hamilton last year. Room 202, Sharon Ware's class, participated in a program with the Coro Fellows. This service and leadership organization is made up of male and female college students of ethnic diversity from across the United States.

Wee Deliver is a program that was designed by the U.S. Postal Service. It is intended to help students to improve their writing skills by involving them in letter-writing. At Hamilton, each classroom and each office has an "address" and a mailbox. All Hamilton students are taught the correct format for writing letters. "We have to put the heading, the greeting, the body, and the closing," said fifth grader Ivan Wilson. The students must also address the envelopes correctly, with the mailing address for the addressee, their return address, and a stamp. The stamps for Wee Deliver were designed by the fifth graders.

Ms. Jackson's students serve as letter carriers, sorters, and stampers for the postal service. Several times a week, they collect the outgoing mail from each mailbox and bring it to the "post office," a corner of room 201. There, the postal workers inspect the mail to see if it is properly addressed. If it isn't, the letter is stamped "Return to Sender," and is returned to the mailbox from which it was collected. If it is correct, it is sorted by address and delivered by the letter carriers. August Taylor, another fifth grade student, said, "Being a letter carrier is a privilege. We have a mail bag and wear a special shirt. I get to do it a lot."

"I have learned how to write letters better this year," said fifth grader Heriberto Rendon, who often serves as a postal worker. "Maybe now I can write a letter to my grandmother in Mexico." In addition to promoting good writing skills, the Wee Deliver program has increased communication between members of the faculty and student body.

Sharon Ware's fifth grade class had the opportunity to participate in a workshop given by the Coro Fellows. The presentation was based on the changes in farming over the past 75 years, and what changes may be expected in the future. The Coro Fellows divided the students into three groups to discuss the past, present, and future of farming and agriculture. The students, prompted by the Coro Fellows, brainstormed about the farming implements used in each of these times. Then, each group presented their discussion to the rest of the class through a pantomime of the farming methods.

"In the past, the farmers had to get up real early," said Doniece Turner. "They worked by hand and only had a few tools. They had to milk the cows and get eggs before they could even make their breakfast. They had to do it every day because there was nowhere to store the food and keep it cold. They didn't have any tractors, so they had to plant seeds with a hoe."

"Now the cows are milked by machines, but the farmers still have to get up real early to get the machines going and to feed the chickens," added Shameika Morris. "Tractors do the work in the fields, and before they drink the milk they pasteurize it. Before they just drank it right when it came out of the cow. They also have a machine to check the chickens for healthy eggs so they don't have a disease."

"In the future, they won't have to go out and turn on the machines," said Clinton Barker, "because computers will do it. More milk will be produced because the machines will run independently. They might also get satellites to keep the bugs off the vegetables and to get more sunshine for the crops. The crops will be better in the future." All of the students agreed that the presentation by the Coro Fellows was informative and interesting.

Hamilton has many volunteers performing community service this school year. High school students from Westminster Christian Academy and DeSmet Jesuit High School are working with Hamilton students in the first through fourth grades in order to fulfill their community service requirements. Also, Taquincy Smith, a neighborhood middle school student, comes to Hamil-

Jim McLeod Becomes Vice Chancellor at Washington University

Jim McLeod, a past president of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council and longtime resident at 61xx McPherson, has been appointed Vice Chancellor for Students at Washington University by the school's new chancellor, Mark Wrighton. McLeod will also continue as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, a position he assumed three years ago.

He is a 1966 graduate of Morehouse College and did graduate work at Rice University. He received the 1991 Washington University Founders Day Distinguished Faculty Member award.

Reporting to McLeod are the Associate Vice Chancellor for Admissions, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Financial Aid, and the Dean of Student Affairs.



ton every day when she gets off the bus and assists three of the kindergarten teachers, a first grade teacher, and the librarian.

In addition to benefiting from service of these young volunteers, Hamilton is a site for Americorps, the domestic service organization initiated by President Clinton in 1994. It promotes public safety and student success. This year, two Americorps workers are at Hamilton, working in the school and the community. Erick Moorehead concentrates on the school success aspect by leading fourth grade students in activities that promote service learning. His colleague, Amy Gronquist, focuses on public safety by working with Operation BrightSide, COPS officers, the Neighborhood Stabilization Officers, and the Hamilton Council.

The Hamilton faculty invites neighborhood residents to visit or volunteer at Hamilton any time.

BrightSide and Hamilton Students Work Together

Hamilton Elementary Community Education Center and the St. Louis Partners Americorps Program are working with Operation BrightSide to clean up the Hamilton schoolyard.

Students who are serving in school detention are allowed the opportunity to brighten their school environment and at the same time develop a sense of community responsibility by putting something back into their school. This is also an opportunity for students to discuss conflict resolution skills and ways of preventing future detentions. Things are already brightening up at Hamilton.

Hamilton and the Americorps Program would like to thank Kingsbury Square Hardware for their generous support of Operation BrightSide. This business generously donated gloves and glove liners for the students to use.

"Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere" Nears Goal

The 1995 Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere campaign is drawing to a close. Our goal of \$5000 (which we reached last year) has nearly been achieved, and with a little help from those who have not yet participated, the goal can be met.

"It is important to remember how much the neighborhood benefits from having a full-time office here," observes Beth Bender, Chairperson of the 1995 campaign. "With shrinking dollars for projects like ours, it is up to us to provide on-going financial support."

Indeed, a safe, stable neighborhood comes about when we can all work together. The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council coordinates information to the block captains about neighborhood events, possible problems in the neighborhood, proposed changes in services, and other important issues.

Whether it's a proposal for a pawshop on Delmar, a pilot recycling project, neighborhood beautification, or our National Night Out Block Party, chances are the SDCC office coordinated funding and services to bring this information or activity to you.

Because SDCC is a not-for-profit, your contribution to the Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere campaign is tax deductible.

As you finish your pre-holiday chores, please take a few moments to remember your neighborhood.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Board of Directors

Minutes of Meeting on Monday, November 13, 1995

In attendance: Directors Ruth Johnson, Sara Johnson, Lana Stein, Shirley Polk, Ann Smith Carr, Beth Bender, Arline Webb, Joe deBettencourt, Juliet Schoemehl, Gary Hayes, Gregory Freeman, and Aaron Johnson; NSO Jacqueline Wellington; Alderman Daniel J. McGuire; and Executive Director Laure Porterfield.

Reported absences: Maggie Hart-Mahon and Jack Wright.

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Board President Beth Bender at 7:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Arline Webb and seconded by Gregory Freeman that the minutes of the October meeting be accepted as corrected.

III. Treasurer's Report

Due to Maggie Hart-Mahon's absence, the report was made by Laure Porterfield. The October financial statement was handed out. The "Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere" campaign has now surpassed \$4000. The goal is \$5000. Staff will try to get repeat participation from those who contributed last year. The Whitaker Foundation contributed \$3000 for the neighborhood playground. This money may have to be returned if we do not acquire more funds. Income tax (990) has been filed for 1994. A \$500 check was sent to French McGowan as directed by the Board last month. It was moved by Gregory Freeman and seconded by Sara Johnson that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as read.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Handouts were passed to the group. Laure Porterfield will meet with the owner of the Council's office building to discuss conditions of the building and rectify some of the existing problems. Questions were asked about the Police Citizens Academy. Jackie Wellington described the activities, requirements, etc. It is a six week commitment; eight hours a week. Next classes begin in March.

V. Nominating Committee

President Beth Bender announced she will not be a candidate for another term. Nominations for Board officers will be presented in December. Directors who volunteered for the Nominating Committee are: Sara Johnson (Chair), Lana Stein, Gregory Freeman, Gary Hayes, and Juliet Schoemehl.

VI. Committee Reports

Commercial Planning - Lana Stein reported that the site at 633 North Skinker (Rally's) is for sale. Sales agents have been advised of the ordinances restricting use of the site.

Pawnmasters on Delmar was bought by a national company, Cash America, in early summer. They want to relocate to 61XX Delmar. The Commercial Planning Committee voted unanimously to oppose the relocation based on the restricted use ordinances now in place. A neighborhood meeting will be held November 14 to inform our neighbors of this proposed activity. We will gather at New Cote Brilliante Church of God. The Urban Land Institute's redevelopment ideas are also on the agenda. Lana suggested that SDCC support the recommendation of the Commercial Planning Committee. Gary Hayes moved that SDCC support the Commercial Planning Committee in the opposition of relocation of the pawnshop, seconded by Shirley Polk and passed unanimously.

Alderman Dan McGuire reported there is interest in constructing a new building which would be some sort of warehouse for glass (windows, cars, etc.) on the Wabash Triangle site.

Kingsbury Square - No report.

Nina Place - Dean Burns is no longer developer. Representatives of Boatmen's Bank will assist in finishing. The situation should be resolved soon.

Parkview - No report.

Rosedale - A brief update on the Rosedale Neighborhood Association was made. New officers and delegates to SDCC will be elected at the January 23 potluck dinner.

Washington Heights

There are still no historic lights at Forest Park and DeBaliviere. Jackie Wellington reported the city is working on the problem.

Social Services - Another food drive is coming soon.

Beautification - Alderman McGuire reported that the Apartment Owner's Association is beginning installation of entry monuments.

Personnel - The Executive Committee is meeting on December 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Playground - A new plan needs to be devised.

Recycling - Pilot recycling program involving a small portion of our neighborhood (touching DeBaliviere and Kingsbury Square) is being proposed. Will be presented to the Board in the spring, closer to the time of initiation of the program.

Recreation - No report.

Community Fund - No money has been requested lately. An article advertising the fund was suggested.

VII. Other Business

Jack Wright was hospitalized; is doing better. Activities for the Martin Luther King Day Commemoration must be planned.

Forest Park Report - Alderman McGuire reported the next public meeting will be November 18.

Jasmine's - The owner of the building does not want to have it reopened. The establishment provided good service for neighborhood youth.

Delmar MetroLink Station - The parking lot is still being negotiated.

Washington University Representative - Sara Johnson reported that a student representative will be elected next year; meanwhile, they will appoint a person this spring.

"Friends of" Campaign - Beth Bender reported that she will be calling people who gave last year and will also ask some people who have not participated in the past to participate this year. Presently \$4000 have been raised; this year's goal is \$5000.

Arline Webb moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Shirley Polk and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.

Election of Officers: January 8, 1996



"Friends of Skinker DeBaliviere" Membership Form

Please complete the form below, check your desired Friends level, and mail to SDCC, 6008 Kingsbury, St. Louis, MO 63112.

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Address _____ Phone _____

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Enroll me at the level indicated below:

- | | |
|---|---|
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| ☐ \$30 Individual | Invitations to events, a subscription to the Friends' Newsletter and Update, and merchandise discounts. |
| ☐ \$20 Senior | Invitations to events, a subscription to the Friends' Newsletter and Update, and merchandise discounts. |
| ☐ \$20 Student | Invitations to events, a subscription to the Friends' Newsletter and Update, and merchandise discounts. |

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ payable to Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council.

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Pet Talk

by Steven A. Brammeier, D.V.M.

During the Holiday Season, I thought sharing a success story of Veterinary Medicine, modern technology, owner dedication and animal spirit would be appropriate.

Cody is a year and a half old, male, yellow lab belonging to Ellen Block and Amy Mosher. When he was only seven months old they brought him to me because he seemed "stiff" and less interested, or able, to run and play with their other dog. Unfortunately, Cody did have pain in his hips; his right hip was worse than his left. This normally very friendly, "do anything to me" dog would growl and try to bite if I tried to extend his back legs. He was also getting aggressive about having his rear toe nails trimmed. We made a tentative diagnosis of hip dysplasia.

Hip dysplasia is a malformation of the hips joints of mostly larger breed dogs. The abnormal structure of the joints leads to early joint degeneration and arthritis. Dog's with the most serious cases, like Cody, will be very painful at an early age, generally, around 6 months. Left untreated, the dogs will, within a few months or years, be unable to walk and in constant pain. Early surgical intervention can greatly improve a dog's condition; alleviating pain

and decreasing the degeneration of the joints giving the dog the ability to move without pain. Cody's hips were too abnormal to consider much beyond a total hip replacement.

It may sound unreasonable, or impractical, but Ellen and Amy are happy with their decision to take Cody to the University of Missouri for hip replacement surgery. Ellen says, "It was the right thing to do". The University told them that the success rate for the surgery was 90%, and the greatest risk was infection. If the leg became infected the hip would have to be removed, and another replacement joint would not ever be able to be used. Sometimes, only one hip is replaced, but Cody has had both hips done; the right hip

was replaced in June, and the left in late September.

Ellen and Amy tell me that Cody is "a new dog". He does everything he wants to do, is free of pain, and his easy-going, non-aggressive behavior has returned. The veterinarians at the U. of Mo. expect that Cody's prosthetic hips will serve him well for his full lifetime. Although for Ellen and Amy, "Money wasn't the issue", these two surgeries have a total cost of more than \$3,000. They tell me that the University gladly takes major charge cards. I suppose Cody is going to look great as part of the Holiday celebration at their house. With his new hips, he certainly will enjoy those winter walks in the park.



Cody Recuperates at home.

Vicissitudes

by Lana Stein

Georgi Fox announces that her daughter Genny will marry James Malcolm on September 7, 1996, in England. Following the nuptials, the couple will reside in Tokyo where Mr. Malcolm will complete his Ph.D. He is a student of the Japanese economy.

On Dec. 8, the 28th Ward Regular Democratic Club held its annual holiday party at Victoria's Kitchen, located on Union in the Westmoreland on the Park building. The party was festive with wonderful music and food and good company. Victoria's bar is an excellent setting for this type of gathering while the dining room serves American cuisine breakfast, lunch, and dinner and ice cream concoctions sure to please.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Gregory Freeman is the recipient of this year's Catfish Award from the Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis. The award is given each year to the journalist who has done the most to help the Press Club. Freeman, who lives on 57xx DeGiverville in Skinker DeBaliviere, is currently board chairman of the Press Club. He had been the organization's president for 3 years and is a 15 year veteran with the Post-Dispatch.

In Your Ear

continued from page 8

with his performance. His political values are good -- that means that they generally match mine -- but he's not the leader I'd wish him to be. Being a president, after all, is mostly about leadership, demonstrating what George Bush called "that vision thing," and if the president isn't being a leader, we have a problem.

People worry about finite energy supplies, pollution, an ever-increasing population, poverty, and high crime. Those are all valid worries, and I'm glad that others are concerned and investing their time and energy there. For me, though, I'm concerned about leadership. The messes that we've inherited and those we've created ourselves didn't form overnight. Their solutions are neither quick nor cheap. Under the best of circumstances, improving our community -- not to mention our country and our world -- seems very difficult. Without leaders, it is impossible.

It's December 1995. Where are our leaders?



Work begins on foundations for entrance pillars along Skinker, here at Pershing.

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In Your Ear

by Hawkeye X. Hoerr

Leadership. It's written about a lot, talked about even more, but not seen all that often. Unfortunately. There are many definitions of leadership, but one I like says, "a leader takes you where you didn't want to go, but then you're happy when you get there."

Leading a parade that has a predetermined route is easy. It's not too hard to lead by being negative, reacting against things. And leading those who want to be led is certainly simpler than leading those who need to be persuaded. In any case, we'd probably agree, leadership makes the difference. A good leader helps us be better than we really are; whatever the challenge, we perform above our skill level with good leadership.

Most of what's good in our world is there because of leaders. Leaders ignored the odds; they made the whole greater than the sum of its parts; they fought the good fight. Whether it was leadership in science, like Louis Pasteur ignoring his peers who thought him foolish when he said that germs caused disease, or political leadership, as when FDR built a social structure that protected those who couldn't protect themselves, it made the difference. It was the leadership at the institutional level that Bill Danforth gave to Washington University, and leadership at the community level that Vince Schoemehl provided as our mayor that made the difference. At all levels, it's leadership.

In his book, *Managing the NonProfit Organization*, Peter Drucker says that the question we should ask ourselves is whether the world will be a better place for our being here. Have we made a difference? Have we changed the world, even a little bit? Acting on our own, perhaps we can do that. But by acting as leaders and by acting with leaders, we can do far more than if we act alone. Together, with leadership, we can change the future.

As I've gotten older, I recognize different leadership styles. I realize that not everyone responds to — or needs — the same leadership style. Good leaders, then, are good, in part, because they've found themselves (or placed themselves) in a situation where their particular talents are valued. After all, Churchill really wasn't any wiser in 1944 than he was in 1934. What changed was the context. In '34 he was warning everyone who would listen about Germany's military build-up and aggression, but was ignored. Then, a decade later, he was a world-wide leader. It was the world that had changed, though, not Churchill. That's why he was voted out of office when the conflict ended.

I consider myself pretty lucky because I know quite a few leaders. These people aren't the Churchills of the world, but they make a difference; they influence others in a positive way. They embody the leadership qualities we need so badly, even though they don't wear stars on their shoulders or have titles that connote their influence.

One person I know is a leader by action. This person leads by his involvement. This person takes the time to care and get involved, to ask the hard questions. Everyone around this person performs a bit better, at a higher level. Our corner of the world will forever feel the imprint left by this person.

Another leader has a different style. This person leads by effort, presence, and understanding. This person has the knack of saying the "just right" thing, the comment that crystallizes a discussion and empowers the group. Putting

in the time and making the hard calls means this person leads by example, through earning the respect of others.

Still another leader I know leads by economy and wisdom. When this person speaks, heads turn and rooms get quiet. This person looks at the big picture, always being selfless in portraying personal contributions. Sometimes this person isn't even present for a discussion, but the thinking of the group is influenced nonetheless.

I know leaders who are able to lead because they've earned the respect of their peers. They're respected because they've demonstrated not just their skills, but also their commitment to move the organization forward. They better themselves while doing it, and others respect them for it. They're the people others trust and follow into uncomfortable situations.

Oddly, I know more leaders than I know of leaders. The leaders I've described are people I know personally. They are people I know who go beyond their own boundaries and try to make the world a better place. I see the fruits of their labor.

When I look at local and national leadership, it gets more depressing. Chief Clarence Harmon's resignation has left a void in our community. I've never really met the man, but from what I can tell, he was decent and honest. Those are qualities that I'd appreciate anywhere, but seem even more important in a chief of police. And he seemed smart, a quality that seems all too rare in government these days. Our community lacks some of the leadership that it had a month ago.

I voted for Bill Clinton, and probably will again. That doesn't mean, though, that I'm satisfied

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