

# Vicissitudes in the 1990's

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# 1990

## March 1990

Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Well folks, you saw it here first. I'm gonna scoop my own paper. Blame modern electronic miracles; my computer setup can put out a disk that our printer's typesetter can read. So I can push a tighter deadline than the person assigned a story that you'll see in the next issue of The Times.

The story in question is about the talk Kate Shea of the Heritage and Urban Design Commission gave at the SDCC offices on February 22. Her slide presentation to a crowded meeting room was full of good reasons why you really don't want to mess around with the outside of your house before checking with the HUDC folks. They are as concerned with saving you from mistakes as they are with preserving the appearance of the neighborhood. I wish all of you could have seen the slides on tragic Blunders in Tuck pointing. She certainly convinced me that her office can help you with subtle tricks that will make your job look better and enhance the value of both your property and the neighborhood.

I had always thought that Kate's office was dedicated to protecting you from having any fun with your house. I recently did some exterior modifications to my house and I was delighted to find out that they are really rather reasonable. Or if you don't believe me, ask the St. Louis Sun.

You may remember the Polks of 57XX De Giverville. I mentioned them a few months ago in reference to the big picnic they throw in Forest Park every year for the neighborhood. They have also been very active in SDCC and the Washington Heights neighborhood organization. Please join us in extending our condolences to them over the tragic death of their son last month.

Be sure to drop by St. Roch church on Sunday, April 1 at 7:00 P.M. The Camerata Singers will be returning for another of their free concerts. The featured work this time is "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Theodore Dubois. Several orchestral works will round out this Easter program. There will be a reception following the concert.

The Fina station on Skinker and Westminster opened on February 23 as MW Fina. The new owner is Milt Woods. He is determined to fix the place up and make into a place where children can visit in safety. He even plans to rent videos and Nintendos to make the station more of a family place. It's good to see this establishment in caring hands.

THIS JUST IN: St. Roch had a Jail House Rock dance in the gym (of course!) on February 24. I always applaud people who will throw parties in February as it's the crummiest time of the year. So I am pleased to report that this dance was a resounding success. The gym was packed and Tony Tocco

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was spinning some great records. So many folks fixed themselves up with '50's outfits and hairdos that Brylcream is going to declare a special dividend. Kudos to Mary Wright and the School Association for throwing this affair.

### **Ottie's Corner**

Mea Culpa Department. Alas, I am guilty of editorial and typographical errors regarding Officer Edwards, his employer, and his famous patrol vehicle. Ottie straightened us out with a curt note: This is it; the moment everyone has been waiting for, when I reveal the inside data on the Parkview Pursuit Chevette. I hate to upset the kids after what you guys wrote, but its top speed is 80 mph, not 800. And it needs a good tail wind to go that fast. Just goes to show you that you don't need top end in a good pursuit vehicle. As long as the wheels stay on, the engine doesn't blow and the driver has both more courage and more brains than the guy he's chasing, it works just fine. And nothing, I repeat nothing, can outrun the PPC's radio! Whelan Security owns the PPC, not the old stagecoach outfit that also dabbles in security!

Get it straight, Terry, or I'll have to take over this end of the column!

Ottie

### **May 1990**

Vicissitudes

By Terry Vanicelli

While I was walking down Washington, trying to figure out how I was gonna meet the deadline for this month's column, I chanced to spy one of The Times' former directors. It was certainly a nice surprise to bump into Yvonne Hunter, formerly of 62XX Washington. You may recall that her husband Jerry was nominated to be the top labor relations attorney for the Department of Labor just before we shut down for the summer last year. While we were out of print, Jerry's nomination was confirmed, the Hunters moved, and our paper lost a director. Jerry is lucky; despite the fact that he is employed by the gummint, he is actually doing something worthwhile as opposed to being an IRS auditor or on official of whatever outfit enforces the Paperwork Reduction Act). Double blessed, actually, because Jerry loves labor law and is now thoroughly steeped in it. They even like D.C.!

The most travelled person in the neighborhood this year has to be Bob Horner III of 62XX Westminster. As you read this, he is touring a whole slew of Navy bases in the Pacific with the Pat Holt singers. So he gets to visit Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines, etc. Lest you think that this trip is an unmitigated bed of roses. I should point out that one of the stops on the group's itinerary is Johnston Island. Except for the even more obscure Palmyra Island, Johnston Island is literally a thousand miles from nowhere. Japan occupied the place during the Hitler War to exploit the island's phosphate deposits. Its only other natural resource is gooney birds. I'm rather astounded that we have a facility

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there. Mary Schmit of 61XX McPherson is also doing a bit of travel these days as a fledgling lobbyist. She was in Jefferson City during the week of April 15, helping represent the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools. In May, she tackles Washington D.C., for the same organization.

Pete and Mary Schmit's French guest student, Benoit Lardeau, has been earning some kudos himself. He exhibited at the Monsanto Science Fair competition at Queeny Park a computer program he co-wrote to calculate and graph higher functions from degrees zero to degree five. I would appreciate anyone who would care to let me know what I just said. More importantly, this program won a prize in a district-wide programming contest sponsored by St. Louis Public Schools.

Monte Bordeaux is the only new arrival to the neighborhood we have news of. Monte, who works for Newspace, lives on 61XX Westminster.

Last year we mentioned DeWitt Campbell joining the St. Louis Cardinals as a bat boy. We are Pleased to report that young Mr. Campbell has earned the right to return to the club in the same capacity this year.

George Johannes (60XX Westminster), has formed his own architectural consulting firm.

#### **Ottie's Corner:**

The Good News this month is the lack of trouble we had during Thurtene Carnival. The streets have never been safer than they were for this event. We did have a purse reported as stolen, but it showed up a little later with all of the lady's cash still in it. So be careful, it appears that honest people are beginning to infiltrate the area. The Bad News is the passing—you have no idea how hard it is for me to write this— of the Parkview Pursuit Chevette. After the odometer recorded the same distance that light travels in a second (can you believe this car actually racked up 186,000 miles?), the engine very quietly expired and spewed oil all over the street. Whelan Security was planning to retire the PPC shortly and donate it to the Cancer Society. But it died of heart failure first. What will replace it? Right now we're not sure, but I'm sure glad you can't get Yugos anymore!

Starting April 30, I get a partner. A young gentleman from Crossroads School named Pat Nolan is interested in pursuing a career in Law Enforcement and will be doing a summer internship with me. I'm looking forward very much to working with this young man. We should have some great stories to tell you next month. We are tentatively planning to have a Bicycle Safety Course at Four Corners sometime in June (preferably the early part). Details were not complete at press-time, so watch this space next month. Did you help celebrate Earth Day? I did, by putting in some Plant Guards. Plant Guards? Yep, in this case, thorn bushes underneath the windows. Also cactus on the window ledge. And these are only the obvious type of Plant Guards. Next month's column will be a special on an incredible variety of plants that can help protect your home from intruders.

## June 1990

### Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Cowabunga, is it the last issue of the year already? Well, as one frog said to the other, Time's Fun When You're Having Flies. And I sure hope this past year with the Times has been as much fun for you as it has been for me.

Normally I write mostly about folks that live in the Greater Skinker-DeBaliviere Area. However, there are lots and lots of folks who don't exactly live here that are pulling an oar with the rest of us to keep this area more than just habitable. I'd like to introduce you to a couple of them.

Val Saffron lived for many years on 63XX Washington. She has always been very active in the neighborhood, even after she relocated. Val is now a movie celebrity, after finishing filming in St. Charles for the Disney Studios production of Return to Hannibal. The film relates the lives of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn twenty years after the events that Mr. Clemens immortalized (always wanted to use that word). Val plays the part of Tom's mother. The movie will be released in September or so on the Disney cable network, and I sure hope we'll see a video version, as well.

A newcomer to the area is Con Christeson of 49XX Laclede. She and her son Zachary just moved here from Evansville, IN. Can't say as I blame her; I've been in Evansville lots of times and the truckers don't call it Stoplight City for nothing. Both Con and Zach were in the recent SDCC production of "Promethea" and Con is also involved with other arts endeavors in the area. Among other things, she is a potter and she hopes to be opening a shop soon. Watch this space.

Sometimes you find treasure almost literally in your backyard. I looked out the window at mine the other day and discovered that lo! Mound City Uniform had been replaced by a flower shop. To my chagrin, the place had been there almost a year (1st anniversary is June 10) and I hadn't noticed it. The name of this place is Flaunt and I like it because it is not just a flower shop. They bring a whole batch of related services together.

You want to commit matrimony? They can provide the limo for the event, cater the various preparties and receptions, liven things up with clowns and comedians, and even add spice to the Final Fling parties with Exotic Dancers, etc. They have flowers too, if you need 'em. Mike Alley, John Hyland, Jackie Carosello, and Lisa Oberle started up the business out of a basement in Florissant. Friends suggested they look at the Loop area. The rest is history. They love the area and our neighborhood has been good to them. If you're having an affair, you may want to see these folks at 6252 Delmar about catering it.

Getting back into the neighborhood, I've got to plug the recent SDCC production of "Promethea" at New City School on May 25 and 26. This is the second year that Tom Cleer has put a lot of work

into a good night's entertainment. Again he wrote the script for the play, as well as directing it, accompanying the production on the piano, and playing Master of Ceremonies for the whole evening's entertainment. His writing has been very funny, aimed at local affairs, yet gentle in his humor. This is the first time I've been out in the audience and I was especially impressed with the way in which he gets the audience involved with the whole thing. The SDCC Spring Melodrama—or whatever else you may want to call it—now appears to be an established Event and I been you will all be able to catch it next year.

Catherine and Manuel Ramos of 62XX Washington are expecting a baby on September 10.

Ellen F. Cruickshank, 56XX Waterman, has been named an associate at the law firm of Suelthaus & Kaplan. Ellen moved here from Chicago.

Congratulations to Grace Church members Bill Bueler and Dale Ross who own Burrito Brothers Restaurant and to Joe Edwards, owner of Blueberry Hill. In the Restaurant 1990 magazine Burrito Brothers won the Best Lunch (casual) award and Blueberry Hill won First Place in the Best Decor category.

Steve Vossmeier, past resident of 60XX Westminster, has been named to the U.S. delegation that will monitor the elections in Czechoslovakia this June.

### **OTTIE'S CORNER**

I know I promised you a story on watch plants, but this month I've got to brag about my intern, Patrick Dolan. Patrick has successfully completed his program and is continuing to advance in his chosen career of law practice and enforcement. But before he left, he was involved in a police operation that could only have happened on TV.

Names have been changed to protect the innocent.

My name is Ottie. I'm a cop. It all started at 12:30 PM on Day Watch on 10 May, 1990. Law Enforcement Intern Patrick Dolan and I were patrolling the Parkview beat when it happened.

"One Adam-12, proceed to 63XX Washington. Occupant reports burglary in progress!"

Upon responding, we observed a subject departing the yard on foot. Carrying a pillow case, he proceeded to run east through the alley. We tried to activate our siren and lights. Intern Dolan reported the machine was out of gumballs.

Subject then perceived us despite our malfunctioning bells and whistles and tossed the pillow case into a dumpster. I stopped the vehicle and directed my partner to stay with the pillow case, which clanked suspiciously when it hit the dumpster.

Upon exiting the car, Intern Dolan unlimbered a tennis ball and proceeded to throw it at the fleeing felon, striking him in the back of the head. Suspect then stopped, turned and complained,

"You are not supposed to throw things at me!" His protest was ineffectual; not only was he beamed with the ball, justice hit him equally hard.

If anyone named Dan reads this, yes; we did book him and the case will be in court by the time you read this. As my supervisor, Sgt. Preston said, "This case is closed, King!" (He never can get my name right).

Remember, my name is Ottie. This is my job. I carry a badge. My partner carries tennis balls.

## October 1990

Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Let's start this whole thing off with the last barbecue tip you'll get this season. Ever try barbecued pineapple? It's ridiculously easy to make. Slice a fresh pineapple into steaks at least a half-inch thick. Remove skin and core. Grill over a hot fire until they either brown or start to blacken slightly. If the grill isn't set up, try the broiler. Don't add any spices or condiments; the cooking sweetens the fruit up fine all by itself. Goes great with BBQ ribs. Speaking of cooking, Nancy De Bettencourt of 62XX Washington has become a Pampered Chef representative. Pampered Chef is a line of cooking items offered in a home show format. Most of the items are little gadgets that simplify cooking, but the line includes baking stones, woks, etc. as well. I attended Nancy's first show and was impressed with the merchandise and her presentation. If you would like more info, call her at 725-1264.

This spring was really frustrating, because the slow real estate market was depriving us of new neighbors. Well, we got a bunch of them during the summer. Here's a partial list.

Keith and Linda Arnold have moved from Virginia to 63XX Washington. Keith is in charge of the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Leslie and Michael O'Leary will be living for a year at 62XX Washington. Mike, who's in the Navy, is doing a surgery fellowship at Wash U. Med Center.

Other new arrivals:

Tom and Elizabeth Tipton, 61XX Westminster

Kaye Scott, to 62XX Washington

Dan and Mary Cullen, 63XX Pershing Linda, and Stanley Safron, 62XX McPherson

Constance Saville, 62XX Westminster Lynne Rieger, 6306 Pershing

John and Stephanie Garganigno, 63XX Waterman

Lockwell and Madelyn Gray 4XX Westgate

Tim Loyet, 61XX Westminster

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Cecilia Nadal, 61XX Westminster

Monte Bordeau, 61XX Westminster

Paul and Katie Kurtz have moved to 61XX Kingsbury with their two boys. Whatever happened to those wonderful folks who brought you the Masks of the Caribbean exhibit? Well, the Nunleys have not disappeared. They are in Trinidad on a sabbatical for ten months or so.

Norbury Wayman of 57XX Kingsbury has been seriously ill and is now recovering at St. John's Mercy Skilled Nursing Center, 615 South New Ballas Road, 63141. Mr. Wayman is the author of "Life on The River" and "St. Louis Union Station and Its Railroads!" We wish him a speedy recovery.

Steve Brammeier dropped a note to many neighborhood residents that he will be handling his practice alone for a while as he searches for a new associate. Delmar Transmission has moved from the U City loop to the building that used to house the used car department at the late Fox Ford complex on Delmar. I went over there to see him about a safety inspection. Alas, this is one of the few things that he doesn't do for cars anymore. It seems that the gummint, in order to tighten up on vehicle emissions, is requiring inspection stations to install special computerized analysis equipment that hooks up directly to central computers in Jeff City or wherever. These critters cost about 815,000 apiece and have to be in place by October 1. So the chances are that your friendly local garage isn't in the inspection business any more. Inspection stations will be harder to find and the inspection itself will take more time. Fudging the test may become impossible. Eventually, the test will cost a whole bunch more. I suspect that those of us who put off this chore until the end of the month will find ourselves in long lines.

Greg Schweitzer's Camerata Chorus is back in action. The group will present its annual Christmas Concert at Saint Koch and has already been invited by Union Station to carol there. Remember, these concerts are free and open to everybody in the neighborhood. Your neighbors are welcome to join this nondenominational group as well. It rehearses at Bishop DuBourg High School every Tuesday night. For more info and car pooling call me at 727-0839.

A whole bunch of people ganged up on me to remind me to wish Norni (Normyan Rosenthal) a Happy Birthday.

Christine Smith (58XX Pershing) sent this news for us:

Bruce and I went to our almost-annual visit to the Cherokee National Holiday (Bruce's tribe) in Tahlequah, OK. We camped at Lake Tenkiller, where fishing was somewhat down due to 104 degrees temps—but the skipper of the cruise boat Cherokee Princess was feeding multitudes of small perch, 18" carp and a blue heron. We saw cattle egrets, bluebirds (rare in MO) in great numbers, and three young foxes. That's in addition to the usual deer, armadillo, jays and hawks and vultures (who ballet in the air wonderfully over the lake.) The rarest we met: a True Artisan, up but-from-one camp from ours. By 40-hrs. weekly, he is "construction man!" By "hobby," a partly self-taught, partly taught by his "Indian Friend" a cutler (Part smith, part machinist, much artist, he

makes beautiful show knives, handsome hunting knives, and eminently useful kitchen tools that gleam like chrome (but don't peel or print, due to this forge-and-quench artistry).

Besides which, we took the kitten Flyffnyr (Fife). She traveled well, liked the birds and rodeo, and was most pleased to be home again, as were the elder cats to welcome us back.

### **Ottie's Corner**

I gotta run Terry in one of these days. He blew his deadline for the last issue and cut me out, as well. That's mental cruelty and I'll see that he pays for it. Boyoboyoboy, just let me catch him jaywalking!

On October 16, we'll be having a Crime-watch meeting at Grace United Methodist Church. I hope all of you will be able to join me there,

I had some good experiences and some bad experiences with the local children this summer that I thought you'd like to hear about. One of the nicest things that happened was the bicycle safety seminar we had at Four Corners. We checked out a fair number of bikes, discussed both bicycle and skateboard safety, then watched some of the team skaters from Altered Skates do their tricks. We've been trying to set up this event for some time now and I'm glad to see that it finally came off. I would like to thank a tot of people who made it possible. Alan from Delmar Transmission helped check out the bikes and tweak them when they needed it. Milt Woods from MW Fine provided soda and more help on the checkout line. Nancy Farmer from SDCC did publicity, organization, etc., etc., etc., and made everything possible. Finally, I'd like to thank the kids and the parents who came for their time and attention. Let's do it again sometime.

## November 1990

Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

This year (my journalistic year starts in the fall) I'm leading off with a culinary tip every month. This is being written within a week of the Edible Art Exhibit that the West End Arts Council sponsors every year or so. This month's tip stems from that affair.

Those of you that were able to attend may have noticed one of the entrants that featured a giant pretzel in the shape of the Gateway Arch. That was my baby and here's how to make your very own Giant Pretzel, the easy way.

I bought some frozen bread dough at the grocery store. After letting an exposed loaf stand at room temperature for an hour or so, I started rolling it while it was still semi-frozen. That way, I figured it wouldn't rise while I was working with it. Once I had it rolled to about two-thirds of the diameter I wanted, I let it set and rise for an hour or so. In the meantime, I heated the oven to 175 degrees and made up a mixture of one egg white and two tablespoons of sugar. When the oven was ready, I coated the dough with the egg mixture and sprinkled the pretzel with rock salt (you'll want to use kosher salt). Then I popped it in the oven for ten minutes or so and-voila! A custom pretzel, suitable for the centerpiece at any special occasion. I hope Gus will forgive me for printing this.

I was fortunate enough to win a prize or two at the Edible Art Exhibit, one of which consisted of a gift certificate at Charlie Gitto's downtown restaurant. I have lived in St. Louis for nine years now, and this is the first Italian restaurant I could find that serves my favorite pasta, gnocchi. I know that doesn't look like a very appetizing word and the pronunciation is even less, encouraging, but these miniature pasta dumplings are absolutely delicious and I hope you still have a chance to try them. I was walking through the television department of a department store a couple of days ago, when I had a Cosmic Insight that I thought I'd like to share with you. Some Expert on a TV program was declaiming on her particular area of expertise. I never did find out what the subject was, but that's unimportant. She maintained that "We evolved as a species of Hunter-Gatherers. Nature obviously never equipped us to sit in front of a computer console and do 20,000 keystrokes each day:\*

I guess no one ever told this gal about evolution. Think about it: is it impossible to imagine that over the course of ten thousand years or so we could have evolved from a race of Hunter-Gatherers to a race of Hunter-Peckers?

I took the kids down to Forest Park to feed the ducks about three weeks ago. It was fun for about ten minutes; then we noticed that one of the ducks had his head stuck inside of a plastic six-pack retainer. Part of it was jammed inside his bill. Several of us tried to lure the bird into shore where we could help him, but he was too cagy for us and I daresay he's dead by now, The moral's kinda

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obvious, isn't it? Bill and Lisa Horner (of 61XX Westminster) are in Belgium, visiting expatriate West Enders Tom and Ginny Klevorn, who still own a house on 61XX Washington. They'll be back by the time you read this and I hope that Lisa, my predecessor in this column, will have a story for its next issue.

While the Horners are in Europe, we have ten charming guests from Hungary staying in our neighborhood for awhile. Both Lilla Vekerdy and Elizabeth Vasbanyai are here from Budapest, attending the Foreign Language Institute. Lilla, who is staying on Waterman, is a university teacher and researcher. Elizabeth, who lives on Pershing, is an English teacher. This is a fascinating time to have visitors from Eastern Europe of course; I was shocked to learn that Hungarians were forced to study Russian for 12 years under the old regime. One year was plenty for me.

Kudos for the month go to Bob Mahon of 63XX Washington, who was just recognized by Farmers Insurance as the top homeowners' insurance producer in Eastern Missouri. I talked to him after the recent Earthquake preparedness clinic. Getting earthquake insurance is apparently becoming more difficult, as many companies are getting out of the business. Most insurance companies will not take on new business for a period following a moderate shock, on be warned. It also seems the deductible is increasing. A couple of years ago, you could get an earth, quake policy to cover 98% of your loss; today's policies only cover 95%.

# 1991

## February 1991

Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

Watch for the Kiosk Cops Collage to hit the neighborhood during February. Mary Ann Shickman, librarian at the Kingsbury Kiosk, spent several months tracking the police who work our area and collecting action photos of them. She then cut out silhouettes to match the photo profiles and pasted them to a 50-by-24-inch posterboard featuring a street scene for a background. Joe Botz (61XX Kingsbury) helped with the silhouettes and Rose Flynn (59. Pershing) drew the streetscene background. The collage will be on display during the entire month of February at the SDCC headquarters. Mary Ann is following this work up with a similar collage of local firemen.

Another active artist in the Four Corners area is Bill Christman. Many of you remember his Corn Dog Mysticism display at the 1999 Art Exposed affair. Last year Version II of this work was exhibited in a theater lobby back East I think it was Boston, but East sounds so frightfully mainstream), Anyhow, a third incarnation of this Magnum Force Opus has surfaced at the Messing Gallery and if we all meet our press deadlines, you'll be able to see it. But hurry, as the exhibit ends February 8. Hours are Monday to Friday, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. At this rate, it won't be long before they'll have to do a major Corn Dog show at the Art Museum. I can't wait, I think.

Another an exhibit thus closes February 8 is at Union Station. Eight inmates of St. Roch School will be included loan exhibit of student art that opened January 25.

### **Local Boy Makes Good Dept.:**

Joe Edwards of Blueberry Hill fame called the other day. He was happy as a puppy in a meat market, because a local resident was the winner in his Annual Elvis Look Alike Contest. This was none other than Jared Gallamore of 63XX Waterman. Jared is only 13 years old, by far the youngest winner of this event. Gee, I wonder if Joe will enshrine him in the Walk of Fame?

### **Transitions Dept,**

Bob and Heidi Dowgwillo have finally shipped out. They were last seen headed toward Patuxent River Naval Aviation Test Center, where he will work on the McDonnell-Douglas Hawk trainer. They're going to have a positively rotten time out there with all of that sailing, seafood, and sun, so let's hope Good Ol' M-D's, fortunes improve so they can haul the Dowgwillos back here.

Tom Knoten, 63XX Pershing, has joined the legal auditing and consulting firm of Stuart, Maue, Mitchell, & James, Ltd.

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Annie and Jerome Hamilton have "transferred" from 59XX Pershing to Washington.

Sharon Zackula and Bill Lash have moved into the 61XX block of Washington. Sharon is Susan Gamble's (59XX Waterman) sister. Both are lawyers and Bill is teaching law at St. Louis University.

It is with profound regret that young Adam Hunter, son of former Times board member, Yvonne Hunter and Jerry Hunter (62XX Washington until last summer) died on Jan., 6. Donations in his memory can be made to the Children's Home Society of Missouri.

Ottie's not on his corner these days. It's been too cold for me to go out and look him up. He, also been spending a lot of time in court. Ottie and the U City police caught a three time loser attempting to burgle an innocent burgher. He's now looking at a life sentence. .

The gang that used to hang out on Waterman and DeBaliviere didn't disappear because the weather got too cold. They got two years each after they were caught smashing car windows and breaking into some local businesses.

Our Superdummy Award goes this month to a guy Ottie helped catch. This guy's M.O. was to steal a getaway car, then break into houses by smashing any convenient glass opening with his fist. You can tell this guy wasn't Chuck Norris, because he was captured driving his stolen car to Regional Hospital to have stitches put in his hand. I wonder if the video library at Gumbo includes Bruce Lee movies.

## March 1991

### Vicissitudes

by Terry Vanicelli

By the time you read this, most of the fighting in Kuwait/Iraq could be over. But, even if we “win” very quickly, it will be some time before all of our troops get pulled back. While they're there, we at the Times would like to recognize those neighborhood families who have someone over there.

I'm making the list. If you have someone over there, or you know of someone in the neighborhood with someone over there, please let me know before March 15. Simply call 727.0839 and leave a message on the tape. I need to know the person's name, what street he or she lives on, and what relationship there is to local residents. I could also use information on rank, branch of service, organization, and service specialty. Remember, your neighbor may not see this article, or may forget to call.

Good news from Kingsbury Animal Clinic. Dr. Mary Ann Balser has joined the staff there. Her presence allows the clinic to significantly expand its service offerings.

On May 19, the St. Louis Walk of Fame in the loop will induct more famous St. Louisans.

On The Law Enforcement Front: Lotsa new names. Captain Wayne Brocato is the new 7th District Commander. Lt. John Podolak has just arrived on the scene as a Watch Commander. Lt. Audrey Lee, one of only two female lieutenants in the entire Police Department, is the new Relief Commander. All of this information is courtesy of Sgt. John Harper, the new supervisor of B Platoon, which covers the SDCC area.

Officer Jerald Barnes, who has been in this column before, has been recognized again. He has been chosen—by his peers--as Officer of the Year in the 7th District. He will receive this award at a banquet at the Hyatt Union Station on March 19. Rita Majors [Magyar] 4XX Westgate) is in Japan, visiting her children.

Bob Hinkebein (62XX Washington) is a new grandfather, thanks to his daughter Ann.

Hitch Powell (61XX Westminster) is graduating in March with an MIS degree. Jan Hollenbaugh is the new intern at SDCC headquarters, while she works on her Political Science degree from UMSL.

Stout Hearts And Sweethearts Dept.

Bea Stout (61XX McPherson) was the Homecoming Queen at SLU this year. Condie Hitchcock of 61XX McPherson was a member of the Court. Must be something in the water around here... Mixing beauty with brains, Bea was also elected Academic VP of the SLU student government.

Father Ed Stout has been selected for the third year in a row as National Chairman for Victims Rights Week, April 21-27. In the meantime mother Mary Bea Is in the City Players production of "Woman Without a Name," which opens April 19, at the Coronado Hotel.



# 1992

## March 1992

### Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

With this issue we will do a little catching up with neighborhood news which hasn't been covered during our Vicissitudes hiatus.

Among the babies born in recent months were Nicholas Kurtz, December 27, 1991, 7 lbs., 11 ounces, third son of Katie and Paul Kurtz of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, and Gregory Powell, November 6, 1991, 9 lbs., 4 ounces, strapping second son of Mary and Hitch Powell, who live on 6100 Westminster. In mid-October, Ginny and Tom Klevorn presented their third child, George Philip. They returned to the neighborhood last summer after several years in Belgium. Loyal Beagles (St. Roch's Men's Softball Team) will note with pleasure that Mark Vaughan and his wife Elizabeth will be bringing Stephen, born December 16, 1991, to games this summer. The Vaughans live on Clara in DeBaliviere Place. (If you, too, would like to sign with the Beagles, call Brad Weir, 863-7558.)

Lisa And Bill Horner are reportedly expecting their third sometime soon. Watch this space for further details.

The Springfield, MO-born actress Kathleen Turner was conducted through the caverns of the Missouri State Legislature recently by our own Jill McGuire, director of the Regional Arts Commission Ms. Turner was here to speak on behalf of continued state funding for the arts.

February 17, 1992, marked the 50th wedding anniversary for Vincent and Lucille Schoemehl of the 6100 block of McPherson. They married in St. Louis on a Tuesday at 7:00 o'clock in the morning while Vince, then a supply sergeant, was on a leave from the Army. A big celebration is planned for the weekend of the 21st of February, but since this is after this issue goes to press, we cannot report any details!

In the career change/development/ advancement department we can report that Venita Lake of the 5800 block of Waterman has earned her Master of Liberal Arts degree from Washington University. She is an Assistant Dean of University College at the University. JoAnn Vatcha has taken a position with Operation Impact working in Housing Development

Longtime residents will remember the warm company of Jim and Betty Dunlap of Westminster and Rosedale. Jim passed away recently. We will miss him and we extend our sympathy to Betty.

Our sympathies as well to Willis and Loretta Lloyd of the 6000 block of McPherson and the family on the sudden loss of their son Leslie.

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A positive sign in local real estate is indicated by the fact that three condominium units in DeBaliviere Place West have been resold in recent times.

Peter and Mary Schmit of the 6100 block of McPherson have another foreign exchange student, Marcello Prestamo, from Monterrey, Mexico. He is a senior at CBC where he played strong safety on the football team. Over the long Presidents Day weekend he skied at both Chestnut and Sundown in Galena, Illinois, and Dubuque, Iowa. Later in the spring the Schmits plan to take Marcello to Washington, D.C., for a look at our government at work. Marcello is their third exchange student.

A wholly new problem may be in the making in our neighborhood: Crazy Yuppies. Katie Kurtz reports that an adult male yuppie jogger, while loping past her home, veered into her front yard, pushed over her children's snowman, and barely breaking stride, continued on his way. Jogging must not be good for some people's hearts!

Be warned! Cecil Fielder Stein, feline roamer at Lana Stein's home, so dislikes the ringing of the telephone that he knocks it off the hook. If you should call Lana and someone answers but does not speak, you are in touch with Cecil. He takes very poor messages and you will be better off calling back later. Those with suggestions for curbing this problem are encouraged to write rather than call.

Please call Marj Weir, 863-7558, with your news for Vicissitudes. She has an answering machine that works when her children leave it alone.

## April 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

6100 Pershing neighbors, Jeff and Cynthia Wilkerson, and their infant son, Dylan, made the front page of the Washington Post on January 26, 1992. Their family provided the real-life example of the inadequacies of our health care delivery system in an article entitled "Health Coverage Worries Intruding Into More of Life's Choices." Dylan was born in November of '90 with a defective heart. His father was laid off from a job with excellent medical coverage in the middle of Cynthia's pregnancy. When he found another job, the pregnancy was deemed a pre-existing condition and was therefore uncovered by his new employer's insurance. After Dylan's birth, their insurance rates tripled to \$450 a month. Maintaining that coverage is essential as their medical bills for Dylan's surgeries and other care now reach into six figures. Their situation illustrates the larger problem of working families drained by a medical crisis. There is a bright side to this story. Dylan is happy and energetic and seems to be making good progress. Catherine Forslund reports that he is very cute, too!

Be sure to read the SDCC minutes for news of our neighbor, Nancy Farmer.

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Stalwart Times workers, Venita and Rich Lake, brought home world-class colds from a recent 7-day cruise in the western Caribbean. During stops in Cozumel in Mexico, Grand Cayman, Jamaica, and Cocolay they did a lot of snorkeling and underwater photography. Venita promises pictures for next month's issue if they turn out. The cruise line's regular stop at Haiti was skipped this time for obvious reasons. Debbie Irwin, daughter of Jim and Ruth Irwin of 6100 McPherson, has flown off to Cape Cod to work in "Nature's Classroom," an outdoor nature education camp.

Jack Wright, past president of the SDCC and longtime resident of Pershing, has taken up a new interest after his retirement from the Postal Service. He is interning at The New Theatre in stage management.

Working in front of the footlights at The New Theatre was our local actor/celeb, Dan Shea of the 6100 block of Kingsbury. Thorough reporting of his many appearances in this column has been difficult, but we will try to do better. Those of you who know him will have spotted him in several television commercials.

It's retirement for Bob Stewart, of the 6100 block of Westminster. He will say goodbye to the University City Parks Department in early summer.

Finally, Rose Storey reports that her son, Martin, (he's George's son, too) will be married in August. His bride-to-be is one of eight children as well, so Rose says there'll be no room at the ceremony for anybody except family! The room at home will be expanding, however, as there is only one more at their Waterman home.

Please call Marj Weir, 863-7558, with your news. She has an answering machine that works when her children leave it alone.

## May 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

As it is our purpose in this column to share the personal news of our neighbors and friends, there are times when that news may be predominantly sad. This month we must report the loss of four of our neighbors. All were longtime residents who had served their community in a variety of ways.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Alfred Howard of the 5700 block of Waterman, William McReynolds of the 5000 Block of DeGiverville, Doug Alexander of the 5700 Block of DeGiverville, and Richard C. Hart, Jr., of the 6000 block of Westminster.

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Mr. Howard, a veteran of World War II, and his wife, Angie, were active in the activities of their neighborhood. Mr. McReynolds was one of the founders of the DeGiverville Block Unit, which has been active and effective for many years.

Doug Alexander, a former teacher in the Special School District of St. Louis County, had served for several years as a volunteer coach for neighborhood Little League baseball teams. Richard Hart provided valued leadership and support for many of the projects of the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council and other community organizations.

The impact of their service and achievements, as well as their unique personalities, will be felt for a long time to come.

On a happier note, Barbara Schmidt of the 6100 block of McPherson has been named chairman of the English department at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Our congratulations to Barbara on her well-earned recognition!

There must be some weddings being planned, some new babies who should be welcomed, some honors to be celebrated, some exciting adventures to be shared. Let us know. Feel free to send in a photo with your news. If we can assure a good quality print result, we'll put it in. Black and white copies work best.

Please call Marj Weir, 863-7558, with your news for Vicissitudes. She has an answering machine that works when she remembers to turn it on.

## Summer 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

The month of the rites of passage is upon us and we have congratulations to convey.

Laurel Meinig and Bob Brewster will be married on June 6th. They will make their home in the 5800 block of Nina Place. (Yes, we know that you are reading this after the 6th, but this isn't an invitation to the wedding anyway!)

On the same day Mary Frances Reilly, daughter of John and Joanne Reilly of Parkview, will wed John Daniel. Mary Frances is also the niece of Kathleen and Alan Hamilton. The Hamilton's son Dan will be home from Washington for the nuptials,

We are pleased to be able to announce the birth of Megan Elizabeth Cunningham, 7 pounds 11 ounces, on May 27. She is the first child of Maureen (Green) and Dave Cunningham, the first grandchild of Lu and Sam Green (61XX Westminster), and the first great grandchild of Lucille and

Vincent Schoemehl (61XX McPherson). Megan kept Maureen waiting an extra twelve days past her scheduled arrival date, perhaps just to let her know who is now in charge.

Jill and Dan McGuire have welcomed home their eldest, Danny, from the Army at last. His tour of duty from April, 1989, to this May took him to Kitzegen, Germany, (just south of Frankfurt) where he was in military air defense. He was qualified to use the Vulcan Air Defense gun (15.000 rounds per minute). He returns just in time to enlist in the political battles shaping up here on the home front.

Determined to make the rest of us feel elderly, a number of local young people have graduated from high school and college. The University of Missouri-St. Louis conferred degrees on three of our own recently. Chanaya Vatcha, of the 6100 block of Westminster, received her degree in elementary education, and both Alex Fox, 61XX McPherson, and Peter McCarthy, formerly of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, received degrees in political science.

Laurie Gotway, of the 6300 block of McPherson in Parkview, received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Interior Design from Maryville College this spring as well. Her sister, Katie Gotway, and Chanaya's sister, Dina Vatcha, also commenced to a new level. They were 1992 graduates of Rosati-Kain High School. Katie is bound for Rockhurst College in the fall and Dina is entering the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Ben Breun (61XX McPherson) has graduated from Priory and plans to attend the University of Houston. Danielle Fanson (Parkview) received her diploma from Visitation Academy and Patricia Chavez (60XX Washington) earned hers from Incarnate Word.

Jason Dulick of the 6001) block of Pershing graduated from St. Louis University High School and has earned a scholarship to the University of Illinois. He had a celebrated high school football career; watch for word of his achievements at the U. of I.

To all those who have graduated this year but are not listed above: first, my apologies. Second, why didn't you call us? Third, and most important, tell us now and we'll put you in our September issue. Better late than never!

In other university-related news, Jim McLeod, 61XX McPherson, has been named the new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Washington University—an excellent choice as anyone who knows Jim will attest. He has been a stalwart supporter and leader in the neighborhood, having served on the Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council as a representative and as its president for several years. Congratulations to him and to the University.

There are signs of life in the real estate market again. We on 61XX Westminster have some new neighbors. Jim Ackerson and Ann Jabusch will move into the former home of the Gornetts and Louise Cunane and Lee Brammer will settle in the former home of the McAuleys. We welcome them and offer good wishes to those who are moving on.

As usual, we of The Times will be on hiatus until September. However, you should still pass along your news for inclusion in this column then. Send your items to Marj Weir, 6120 Westminster, 63112, or call 863-7558.

## September 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Although we took our summer hiatus at the Times, life's changes continued at their usual pace (faster than we like), so we have some reporting for you. Some of you reporters out there are more aggressive in ferreting out the news than others. We hope they continue in this style and inspire the rest of you to participate. Our correspondents report the birth of a third child, Emily Louise, to Lisa and Bill Horner of 61XX Westminster. She debuted August 5 weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz. and measuring 19 1/2 inches. Topping her by 6 ounces on July 8 was Marcus Alexander Wright, Jack Wright's newest grandchild. Jack's son John and his wife Verna are the proud first-time parents. Two Nina Place residents had reason to celebrate this summer. Richard Beitler completed his Master's Degree in Educational Administration at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and Wes Gray recently earned a promotion. Joe Geiler of 61XX Washington lost his mother in early August. The Times and his neighbors offer their sympathy. Clare Kerz, also of the 6100 block of Washington, spent a harrowing summer caring for her ailing father. His condition was precarious for several months, but he has rebounded well recently.

The new Elliot Smith Gallery in the Central West End is the site of Bill Christman's new show which opened at the end of August. Maybe next month we'll have a review! Having been scooped by Jerry Berger, I am hesitant to mention that Cal Stuart has taken a new position with the St. Louis Housing Authority. The next time there's news, Cal, we'd better get it first! Peter and Mary Schmit, 61xx McPherson, have a new exchange student this year this must be their 4th or 5th!). Her name is Agnes Lardeau (properly pronounced as on Yes for you Francophiles). She will be attending Metro High School, a St. Louis Magnet, as a junior for this year. Tom Hoerr, who clearly has too touch time on his hands, has been maintaining a running correspondence with the Lands' End Catalog people purportedly in an attempt to wangle ties out of them under the guise of an interest in their "Ugly Necktie" contest. Recently, he got what he really wanted—to have his letter published, not to win some contest. Everyone who knows Tom knows that his taste is impeccable and that donning an unseemly tie would be totally out of character for a person of such reserve. The text of his letter is printed below in recognition of his achievement as a published author.

from "Letters to Lands' End"

Another "Ugly Tie" Fan I read with glee about your UGLY necktie contest. How I envy the judges.

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For all of my "adult" life, the ties I have worn have been considered ugly by just about everyone. Unfortunately, styles have caught up with me; ties are now sold in stores that only I would have worn a decade or two ago. Wearing wild and ugly ties is totally acceptable in my job—I run an elementary school. Today, for example, I had to reverse a decision I had made, so I went to our classrooms to talk with the kids. I said, I've made a mistake. Does anyone know what it is?' In three of the rooms a student responded, "Wearing that tie with that shirt?" I don't plan on entering your contest because I can't bear to part with any of my great ties. I am wondering, however, if I could purchase some of them, or if you prefer, to make a donation to a non-profit in exchange for them. Tom Hoerr St. Louis, Missouri.

Their response: We have quite an astounding collection so far, and frankly, we don't know what to do with them when the contest is over, as many people have asked for them. We'll keep you posted.

Call us with your news. 863-7558 usually works, but if it's busy too much, drop me a line at 6120 Westminster.

## October 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

As the days grow shorter, so does the time between deadlines and here comes another one. The column will be correspondingly brief this month. The Wheelers of the 5900 block of Waterman brought triplets home from the hospital in September. TRIPLETS! As this is worth a feature, we will bring you further information soon.

Congratulations to Bill Chavez, son of Juan and Kiki Chavez, of the 6000 block of Washington, who is the recipient of Churchill School's most prestigious award, the Herb Case award, given to the student who most demonstrates loyalty and dedication to the traditions of the school and concern for and service to others. Bill is now attending Christian Brothers College.

Two students at Crossroads School, Rachael Whitt & Dorothy Cobb, have been recognized by the College Board as AP scholars for Exceptional Achievement.

The Times is always pleased to be able to report the achievements of the young people in our community. Congratulations to all.

We are delighted to report another return to the neighborhood of a former 61XX Kingsbury family. Chris and Joe Lange have returned to the 25th Ward and are living on Southwood. They surprised their old friends by appearing at the Rags to Riches extravaganza on September 19. With them was their grown son, remembered by all here as Joey. Daughter Angela is in the military in Europe. Chris

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is a former editor of The Times, then called The Paper, and Joe served a couple of terms as president of the Rosedale Neighborhood Association. It was probably called Rosedale-Skinker Improvement Association then! They are veterans for sure and we hope they will soon find a home even closer than Southwood.

Please call Marj Weir, 863-7558, with your news for Vicissitudes. She has an answering machine that works when she remembers to turn it on. Or even better, mail it to her at 6120 Westminster, 63112

## November 1992

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

For posterity let us record that 1992 provided not only a uniquely moderate summer but a stupendously beautiful fall. No doubt this has inspired an optimistic and romantic spirit which helps account for the high number of marriages which have taken place recently or are scheduled soon. Kim Thomas, granddaughter of Lucille and Charles Mongo, of the 6100 block of 'Westminster, married Kenneth Easley in October.

Lou Hamilton and Tricia Roland will take their vows on November 21 at St. Roch's. They live on the 6000 block of McPherson. The date is the same one on which Lou's grandparents married many years ago.

By then Danny Hudspeth of the 6000 block of McPherson, son of Sue and Jim Kropp of the 6100 block of Westminster will have wed his bride Elizabeth Laura Riley. Their vows were exchanged on November 14.

In December, Diana Simmons of the Nina Place condominiums will marry Tony Williams. It's worthy to note that many of the young people who grew up in this neighborhood remain here to raise their own families.

Another case in point is Andy Cross and his wife Linda, of the 6000 block of Waterman, who have just had their first child, a daughter. Andy is the son of John and Jane Cross of the 6100 block of Kingsbury. There are many such examples of the enduring attractiveness of life in Skinker-DeBaliviere.

Claudia Perry of the Nina Place Condos gave birth to a second son recently, bringing to three the total number of babies in the development. Richard Rice of the 6100 block of Westminster was



honored with a birthday party at the end of October. He had to turn 40, so his friends helped him over the hurdle.

The Nina Place Condominium Association has chosen its officers for the next year. Lana Stein and Richard Beitler will continue as president and vice-president respectively. Debbie Twellmann will be the new secretary and Wes Gray the treasurer.

Don't forget to call in your news! 863-7558 evenings.

# 1993

## February 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

As I sit down to compose my characteristically tardy column, I am listening to Garrison Keillor and his American Radio Theater, who and which will be broadcasting from Powell Hall in early February. For you devotees who hadn't heard this fact (spent the winter in a cave, did you?) let me dampen your excitement with the news that the show is a sellout and you and I are SOL, which for the family audience means "sadly out of luck." For those of who regularly miss this and the other offerings on KWMU (90.7 FM) may I suggest you try it. But I digress. A word to the wise, however. I am in charge of The Times' Gala Trivia Contest in March and a question might come out of one of the Saturday morning or Sunday evening offerings from PBS. Caveat triviator.

The Times' Gala Trivia Contest in March on a date to be announced will be more fun than you are usually allowed to have at your age enhanced by the exquisite prizes which will be awarded. This will be team event, so be organizing your group of six. You needn't be part of a group to join in as we'll make up tables as necessary. There'll be snack food and a cash bar to support your competitive spirit. There will be no rocket science questions, so don't be intimidated if you usually don't shine at Trivial Pursuit. We're not using their questions. We're making up a whole new group of puzzlers aimed at all kinds of specialized life experience.

Call me at 863-7558, if you want to join the committee. There's a lot of dirty work to be done that I'd like to avoid. If you don't help, Brad will have to do it.

During the holidays there was no doubt no end of exciting news which has largely escaped me. I am delighted to report that Karleen Hoerr is doing well in her usual indomitable fashion after her surgery in November. She is back to work, taking on what is necessary with great aplomb.

JoAnn Vatcha is feeling more steady on her feet after her on-the-job plunge into the basement of a dark, vacant house. She didn't fall down the stairs; she fell through the hole where the stairs had once been. Though she felt quite battered for a couple of months, she escaped with a back strain, a bone chip in her ankle, and a bump on the head. (You'll notice I didn't say "only." There wasn't anything "only" about it, I'm sure.)

Rick Bender (61XX Kingsbury) and Renni Shuter (62XX McPherson) have announced that they will be running for the St. Louis School Board in April. We appreciate their willingness to serve and wish good luck to both of them.

Warmest thanks also to those of you who returned our little envelopes with a contribution to The Times. Without your help we'd be history.

## March 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

This month the news that reached my ears was mostly about the younger generation in our midst. They continue to achieve and bring us reflected glory. Ketti Hoefel, daughter of Dolores and Gene Hoefel of the 6100 block of McPherson, is getting ready to embark on a career in fashion design. She will graduate from Washington University's School of Fashion Design in May and will be scouting for jobs in New York over her Spring break. Our readers who also receive the St. Louis Post-Dispatch will have seen some of Ketti's designs in the Style section of the Sunday paper in early February. She's one of two Wash. U. students selected to present designs as part of a Paris design competition. Last summer Ketti worked in a Chicago fashion house called I.B. Diffusion getting the ever-valuable "experience" to go with her training. We'll all be looking forward to owning an original "Ketti" sometime in the future.

Our Yahoo program participants, led by Bill Christman, helped the Soulard neighborhood celebrate the Lenten season from a float in their Mardi Gras parade on February 20. They designed and made their own costumes in what Christman called an "off-beat theme."

Congratulations are due Catherine Forslund, president of SDCC, on passing her oral exams for her Ph.D. She is a finalist for an Eisenhower fellowship, which will assist her in completing her doctoral thesis on "Anna Chennault and American Foreign Policy."

Lu Green has recently taken a new job as development director for Lutheran Family and Children's Services. Building support and enthusiasm for any project are among Lu's great talents. We congratulate the Lutheran Family and Children's Service on their choice.

Your news probably won't be in The Times unless you call or write! Call Marj Weir, 863-7558, or send your item (and your phone for follow-up) to Marj at 6120 Westminster, 63112.

## April 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Vicissitudes

The news is upbeat this month. We are happy to report that Laura (Green) and Larry Shelburg have added Brandon K. to their family. Brandon was born on March 11, 1993, at 6 lbs. 6 oz. His proud grandparents are Lu and Sam K. Green. Brandon's middle initial is in honor of Sam.

Chanaya Vatcha, elder daughter of Neville and JoAnn Vatcha is engaged to Mark Jacobs of Florissant. They met at a graduation party at UMSL, where he had just earned his M.B.A. and she her B.A. Chanaya is a teaching assistant in the Francis Howell School District and Mark works for McDonnell Douglas They are planning a Fall wedding.

Jennie Fox is returning to the neighborhood this month after a sojourn in Europe.

Alderman Dan McGuire served as the Grand Marshal of the Dogtown St. Patrick's Day Parade this year. A well-deserved honor for the esteemed Irishman.

As I complete this abbreviated column, I realize that with this issue of The Times we begin our 24th year.

Let us hear from YOU 863-7558

## May, 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Our most recent former editor, Sue Rothschild, will earn her Master's degree in Accounting from the University of Missouri—St. Louis on May 16th The degree will be conferred with honors as only one B stood between her and a straight A record!

Earlier this year, Sue was selected for membership in Beta Gamma Sigma, the national honor society in business administration. Only 270 of the 1,200 business schools in the country are eligible and accredited to install people in Beta Gamma Sigma At the same ceremony, where Sue was inducted into the honor society, she was also awarded the Pacioli graduate accounting award. This goes to the student in graduate business who demonstrates the greatest proficiency and understanding of accounting practices. It is named for the 16th century Italian priest who developed the double entry system of bookkeeping.

Our congratulations to Sue and to all our May graduates

Clare Kerz of the 6100 block of Washington has a new position in the Special School district. She is doing educational testing and reports that she really enjoys the change

His friends and neighbors are mourning the death in April of Merlon S. Hines of the 5800 block of Waterman. Mr. Hines was a teacher, editor and charter member of the American Negro Labor

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Council. After his retirement in 1985, he formed HINESIGHTS, which did demographic research. He also wrote a regular column for a St. Louis weekly newspaper and was a regular contributor to several other local newspapers. We extend our condolences to his family.

A last minute addition. We are glad to report that JoAnn Vatcha is doing well despite a vicious attack made on her by a thief on Tuesday, May 11. This occurred in full daylight during the hours which we all take for granted as completely safe. None of us is used to taking extreme precautions at these times and it would be hard to accept the idea that it was necessary to do so in our neighborhood. We can make sure that it won't be necessary if we imitate the model provided by Gwen Berry, JoAnn's neighbor, who came to her immediate aid and whose family all turned out to find the attacker. It is this spirit which has and will make our neighborhood great. JoAnn's many friends wish her a speedy recovery from her traumatic experience.

Please let us know your news! Call 863-7558 or write to Marj Weir, 6120 Westminster, 63112.

## October 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Been wondering where this column's been? Partially because of a plethora of other material and partially because of my own lack of time, Vicissitudes hasn't appeared since May. There is much catching-up to do.

Lucy Griesbach, daughter of Margaret (Peggy) Hermes of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, was Valedictorian of her class at Rosati-Kain. Crossroads School on DeBaliviere reports that Seniors Jeremy Bender and Emily Crowe have been named 1994 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists and that Bevin Fahey-Vornberg, Teresa Mithen, and Jason Pargo were named as Commended Students. Jason Pargo is also a Semi-Finalist in the 1994 National Achievement Scholarship Program, a privately-financed competition for Black Americans.

Earlier in the year The Times reported that the St. Roch's Sixth Grade Girls' Basketball team had taken the City-County CYC Championship in their age group. They went on to compete in the Show Me Games in Columbia. Congratulations to our young achievers.

Last April Marvin Nodiff married Linda Hammond. "They will reside on 61XX Westminster with Linda's daughter, Monica. On September 24, Chanaya Vatcha married Mark Jacobs just as we informed you they would earlier in the year! The bride's mother, JoAnn Vatcha, gets special mention for making both bridesmaids' dresses. Ask her for the special details,

David and Muriel Pan have joined us in the 60XX block of Kingsbury and one block west the Burton Family--Patricia. Kenneth, Brandon and Nichole have moved in. On 6100 Westminster, Elsie

Vicissitudes

Listrom has made her new home and on nearby 60XX Westminster, Jeri Minton has settled in. Welcome to them all.

Charlie Mongo of the 6100 block of Westminster had quadruple bypass surgery which we learned of just as we go to press. Best wishes to him and his family

Thomas R. Hoerr, PhD, was quoted in a July issue of Newsweek in an article on creativity in connection with his collaboration with another writer. (Yes. It's the same Tom Hoerr!) It didn't make Newsweek that he and his first wife Karleen narrowly missed getting towed in the infamous Metrolink parking lot debacle in August. They had just returned to the Forest Park (DeBaliviere and F.P. Expressway) from Union Station on the light rail. As they approached the spot where they had left their car, they found it in the earliest stage of being attached to the tow truck. They were barely able to escape. Five more minutes and they, too, would have been \$188 lighter.

Send your news to Marj Weir, 6120 Westminster, or call 863-7558.

## November 1993

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

It is always hard to report joy and sorrow together, but it seems to be in the nature of things.

We celebrate the arrival on September 25, of Neil Edward, newborn son of Dawn Blobaum and Jim Bartl of 61XX Kingsbury. He weighed 6 lbs. 15 ounces. Our best wishes to them.

We regret having to report the death of Ben Breun, son of Joan and Ray Breun of the 6100 block of McPherson. Ben attended St Roch's school where his mother is also a teacher. A memorial service was held November 1 at St. Roch's. All their many friends and neighbors extend their sympathy.

Catherine Forslund has been awarded a fellowship by the LBJ Library to study there in Austin during the winter. Her research will focus on Anna Chennault's involvement in the Viet Nam War.

# 1994

## February 1994

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

It was a new grandchild for Rosemarie and George Storey of the 5700 Block of Waterman who added to the holiday joy for their large family. Her name is Annie Lynn and she arrived in November, 1993. Her proud parents are Jim and Maggie Storey.

Amanda Gibson of the 5800 block of Waterman passed away in mid-December. Neighbors extend condolences to her husband John and their daughters and grandchildren. In this issue of The Times, Rich and Venita Lake remember Karen Brown who died in October. Karen and George were active neighbors in their years in Skinker-DeBaliviere and never forgot us.

Our Editor, Lana Stein, has been named a Public Policy Fellow for 1994-95 at UMSL which will relieve her of teaching duties and allow her to concentrate on research.

## March 1994

Vicissitudes

by Mari Weir

Monte and Diane Bordeaux of the 6100 block of Westminster brought Lauren into the world on February 15. Their first, she weighed over 7 lbs. Congratulations!

Crossroads senior Jason Pargo has been selected as a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students. He is one of only 1,200 in the nation to attain this distinction.

Sue Rothschild, former editor of The Times, continues to distinguish herself. She passed her CPA examination on the first try. No mean feat! She is also braving radial keratotomy, a laser surgical treatment for near-sightedness, through the Washington University School of Medicine. Her husband, Sandy says she just wants to be able to get out of bed and see where she's going in the morning without having to find her glasses!

Darrell Hartke, of 58xx Waterman, has been named to the certification board for state psychologists. He is the first industrial psychologist to be selected.

Dee Joyce-Hayes, St. Louis Circuit Attorney, and her staff of 48 attorneys and a support staff of 69 had a highly productive year last year. They tried 276 cases, matching the record set in 1983. They

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achieved a conviction rate of over 82%, the highest rate achieved in the last 20 years and 16% higher than the average for large urban areas according to the statistics kept by the U.S. Department of Justice. Their murder conviction rate exceeds the national average by more than 20%. Congratulations to Dee and to her team!

## April 1994

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Jim & Sue Gamble are moving into Barrett Toan & Polly O'Brien's house on Kingsbury. The Gamble's younger daughter, Genevieve, goes to New City School; the older daughter, Corena, attends Crossroads.

Karleen Hoerr is going to Mexico with her sister Jan & brother-in-law Gary Bierman over spring break Our informant reports she's on a shoe-buying mission.

The second generation is taking over Beth Bender is the new SDCC President and Joe Stout, 22, has become block captain for 6100 McPherson. He's in school and interested in a public sector career, according to our informant. Congratulations to State Representative Nancy Farmer who will run for reelection unopposed in both the primary and general elections.

We wish a speedy convalescence to both Vince Schoemehl, Sr. and his daughter, Lu Green. They've both been into the operating room very recently.

## June 1994

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

June is the month of passages and we have a slew of them to report this month. Baby Thomas Charles Hamilton, hereafter to be called "Charlie," joined the world on May 6, too late for our last deadline. His new parents, Tricia and Lou Hamilton of the 6100 block of Kingsbury announced his arrival with a replica of the birth announcement used by his grandfather (Thomas Charles) in announcing the birth of his first son.

Our neighborhood high school and college graduates are numerous this month. I apologize to anyone who has been left out, but you've got to let me know these things! I also regret not having room to print the names of all the parents of our graduates, who deserve congratulations and recognition for their part in these achievements.

Vicissitudes



Graduating from St. Loins U. High this year are David Gioia, 61XX Kingsbury, who is bound for Webster University, and David Gerard, Westgate, treaded for Loyola Marymount in California.

Bishop DuBourg graduated John Breun, 61XX McPherson, Carrie Hinkebein, 62XX Washington. John is bound for Purdue University. Came is going on to St. Louis Community College.

Tony Stewart of 61XX Westminster received his diploma from Clayton High and will be continuing his education at Florissant Valley Community College.

Tanya Webber, 57XX Pershing, and Lynn Weir, 61XX Westminster were graduated front Metro High School. Lynn will attend Washington University and Tanya will attend the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Christine Burke, 61XX McPherson, and Renee Ducker, 61XX Kingsbury, graduated from Rosati-Kain. Christine is heading for UMSL, and Renee for Northeast Missouri State. May May Dorris, 62XX Westminster is bound for an AFS adventure in the Netherlands after tier graduation from Visitation Academy.

Laura Horner, 62XX Westminster, and Molly Fleener, 63XX Waterman, will take diplomas from St. Joseph's Academy. Laura will be a voice major at Southern Methodist University and Molly will be in the Pre-Law Scholars program at St. Louis University.

The University of San Diego is the destination of Amy Knoten, 63XX Pershing, after her graduation from Villa Duchesne. Mary Wiltenberg, 61XX Kingsbury, will attend Swarthmore College after her graduation from John Burroughs.

Crossroads graduated Borja "Bo" Mestre de la Rosa, an exchange student from Seville, whose local family are Karen and Gerry McClure of 61XX McPherson.

Among those who completed post-secondary work this season are Crystal 'Wilson, 61XX McPherson, who graduated from Northwest Missouri State in 3 years. Two other 61XX McPherson residents completed college work, Roell Schmidt, who received her AB at Washington University and Joe Stout who earned an Associate of Arts degree from Forest Park Community College.

Ginny Hinkebein, 62XX Washington, completed work at the Missouri School for Doctors' Assistants and will begin a 4-month internship.

Christina Fleener, 63XX Waterman, currently a Junior in Nursing at Georgetown University, will spend the summer in the Dominican Republic with the Institute for Latin American Concerns' Rural Healthcare team. We will expect a first-person account for The Times when she returns!

After many years and innumerable trips to Forest Park and Flo Valley Community College, Sylvia Stahl is finally getting her Associate's Degree in Child Care her husband Mike reports.

At the recent Crossroads School Awards Night, New City School alum Sarah Reading (daughter of New City School teacher, Sally Boggeman, they both live on 61XX Washington), an 11th grader, received a College Book Award from Wellesley College. Sarah also received an Upper School Math Award and Senator Danforth's "I Dare You" Leadership Award

Sally Boggeman and Carla Mash (60XX McPherson, another NCS teacher) presented, along with Dr. Thomas R. Hoerr, the New City implementation of the theory of Multiple Intelligences at Harvard Project Zero in February. Project Zero is the "think-tank" in which Howard Gardner and our own Tom Hoerr and others work.

Also in May, Crossroads had a benefit at the Black Repertory Theatre which netted them almost 515,000!

## September 1994

Vicissitudes

On August 28, A Central West End Community Picnic was held in Forest Park. Shirley Polk, 57xx DeGiverville, organizes this yearly event with many activities for the neighborhood children.

Janel Thomas graduated from .Cleveland—the ROTC--high school. He lives on 59xx Pershing. Kenyon NI. Ward graduated front North City Tech High School on June 7. He lives on 60xx Washington. His brother Kael is the class president at UMSL.

St. Roch's will hold its Christmas bazaar on Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13. For those who wish to make items for the Women's Booth, there will be workshops on 9/13; 9/26, 10/8, and 10/24. If you'd like more information, call Ann Frawley at 889-2905 (work).

The Missouri Historical Society is looking for people who have family memories relating to the 1904 World's Fair. An exhibit on the Fair is scheduled to open in 1996. If you have family stories or artifacts to share, contact the History Museum's Interpretation Department at 4543185.

## October 1994

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Mrs. George Walker of 61XX Washington reports that her husband had been convalescing recently. On September 6, she left him sitting comfortably on the front porch to go and do errands. He suddenly became very ill. Luckily, the regular letter carrier, Fred, was just coming up the walk. Fred assisted Mr. Walker and summoned medical help. The Walkers are very grateful to him.

Meredith Lynne Littlejohn was born on September 2. She is the daughter of Stefanie London and Steve Littlejohn and new sister of Charles and Madeline, all of the 6100 block of Kingsbury.

Vicissitudes

Meredith has a full head of beautiful dark hair which she showed off on her 1 week birthday at a hack yard farewell party for Gee and Cal Stuart.

At that gathering Gee tooled around in her wheelchair, a temporary conveyance necessitated by leg surgery she had in August. She cleverly scheduled this emergency to get out of the heavy work of moving, it is reported. The Stuarts, virtually an institution in this neighborhood, have moved to a new and more compact home on the Hill. By City ordinance this is as far as the Stuarts are allowed to move from Skinker-DeBaliviere. (See feature on Cal and Gee on page 5)

Lucille Schoemehl of 61XX McPherson underwent surgery in early September. Her family report that she is doing fine.

Marty Storey, son of George and Rosemarie Storey, earned his MBA last May. Sorry we missed this in our June report.

For the second year in a row, Andy Cross and his friends received a richly-deserved award from Operation BrightSide for their dumpster beautification program.

Catherine Forslund recently returned from Washington, DC, where she conducted research for her dissertation. She interviewed a variety of officials and bureaucrats, including Strom Thurmond.

The Skinker DeBaliviere Housing Corporation has hired Jeffrey Lodermeier to be the resident manager at Rosedale Square. Lodermeier plans to begin graduate studies in January.

Archway Communities, located at 56xx Pershing, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Rodney Jackson of 53XX Pershing is developing a business designed to assist those of us who do not have the time to do the necessary tasks of everyday life. He is a personal executive concierge and will take cars to be serviced, chauffeur children to activities, and take people to and from the airport. He still has a full-time job but hopes eventually to make this venture his principal occupation. He has references and is at 361-5692.

## **November 1994**

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Nancy Farmer, 61XX Waterman, and Darrell Hartke, 58XX Waterman, quietly celebrated their marriage with family at Darrell's home on October 16. Nancy is the State Representative for the 64th District and Darrell is a psychologist. Cal Stuart officiated at the ceremony and asked that his honorific be a donation to The Times. This is not the first time he has done this and we are most grateful. It proves that you can take the boy out of Skinker DeBaliviere, but you can't take the Skinker DeBaliviere out of the boy.

Vicissitudes

Maureen and Dave Cunningham have a new baby boy, David Michael, born October 25 at St. Mary's Hospital. He weighed a hearty 8 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 20 inches. Maureen is the daughter of Sam and i.11 Green, 61XX Westminster, for whom this makes three grandchildren.

Kim Koenig, Director of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council, and her husband, Joe, added 8 lb. Jacob Gerard to their family on October 28 with the help of the staff at St. John's Mercy.

Best wishes to all starting new phases in life.

Our condolences to the large Hamilton family on the death of Margaret, known to all as Peggy. She lived in the 6000 block of Waterman.

Jack Wright was elated when Police Chief Clarence Harmon accepted his invitation to be the featured speaker at the next Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Commemoration. Jack chairs the event scheduled for January 15, 1995, at 3:00 p.m. at Grace and Peace Church.

This year at the Central West End Community picnic, five softball coaches were honored for their service to the youth of the community. They are Willie Haymore, Sr., Bernard Jackson, Eric McNeal, Wesley Falker, and Leroy Miller. They coached twice each week throughout the summer. Members of our softball team presented them with a framed certificate and a coupon booklet for AMC theaters.

Send your news to Marj Weir at 6120 Westminster, 63112, or call 863-7558. It is much better if you provide full detail in writing. Photos are welcome and will be returned if an address is provided.

*photo of Kim Koenig was included here:*

New Mom, SDCC Director Kim Koenig holds "baby Santa" outfit received a baby shower at the home of Georgi Fox.

# 1995

## February 1995

### VICISSITUDES

by Marj Weir

Neighbor and Times Board member Marcia Kerz is joining the Missouri Historical Society as Vice President Of Institutional Development, effective March, 1995. She has been the Director of Development at the Missouri Botanical Garden since 1987.

Daniel and Ingrid Keleti of 61xx Westminster welcomed a baby girl, Isabelle, this fall.

Nathan Carl Kohl Wyatt was born on December 23, a big boy at 8 lbs. 10 oz. and 21 inches, His Mom and Dad are Martha Kohl and Geoffrey Wyatt of 60XX McPherson.

Dan and Jill McGuire celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in January.

Sandy Rothschild's firm has won a third unanimous decision in the Missouri Supreme Court. His case established that condominiums will be taxed as residential property even when owners rent or lease them. In some situations condo owners who did so had faced paying at the higher commercial rate.

Dan Schesch of 60XX McPherson has taken a position in Human Resources at Maritz.

Bill Christman, whose studio is at the Four Corners and who has long worked with neighborhood young people M the YAHOO program, made a big hit at First Night with his "Guilt-0-Rama." He received rave reviews in two places in the Post-Dispatch. Joe Pollack was "overcome by the whimsical joy of the creative genius of Bill Christman." He described the youngsters in the roles, some of whom are from our area, as "beautifully poised and impeccably straight-faced."

Send your news to us at 6120 Westminster, 63112.

## March 1995

### Vicissitudes

by Mari Weir

Georgi Fox reports that her son Alex is now living in Springfield, Massachusetts, and is working for Massachusetts Mutual. Daughter Genni has recently been promoted to assistant manager at Library Ltd., one of two.

Jan Waits, who was our ConServ officer, has now been made the Environmental Court Coordinator. Congratulations to Jan. We'll hopefully still be seeing her she lives at 60xx Waterman.

Vicissitudes

Lt. Col. Fran Flynn, ASAF, eldest daughter of Jack and Gerry Flynn of 61XX McPherson, is retiring March 31, 1995, after 20 years of duty. Col. Flynn served in the Philippines, Germany, and the Azores, as well as several places in the States, her latest post being Scott Air Force Base.

Vince and Lu Schoemehl have joined their daughter, Lu Green, and her husband, Sam, at their home on 61XX Westminster. They're getting their home on McPherson ready to sell. Their newest great grandchild, Loring Marie (daughter of Laura (Green) and Steve Shelburg) arrived on February 10 weighing 7 lbs., 2 oz.

The news is good about Gee Stuart. She's mending at home and is eager to get back to work.

Roy Bell of 61XX Kingsbury is hobbling around on crutches, but making good progress, after hip surgery in late February. When he heals up, he's going to have the other hip done!

That block lost a favorite longtime resident in early February when Margaret Muellerleile died. She and her family moved into their house in 1959. There were five children and one, Elaine, remains in the neighborhood. She had lived a long life, well into her eighties, and leaves many with fond memories of her.

## April 1995

Vicissitudes

(off and on since 1972)

by Marj Weir

Delores Nagel, who is retiring as Director of Grace Pre-School after eleven years in that position and 20 total years of service, will be honored by the many people whose lives she has touched at a reception in Grace United Methodist Church's Fellowship Hall on April 23, at 12:15 p.m. After the reception we suggest you join us at the Central West End Bank for our 25th Anniversary party.

Amy and Amrit Gill have a new baby, born March 22 and named Wyatt Duncan Singh. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. which is big enough to carry his name. Amy says he is cute, happy and hairy!

Celestine Cunningham, longtime resident of 61XX Kingsbury, has moved to a nursing care facility where her sister also resides. Their niece, Charlotte, who took care of Celestine so faithfully for many years, now lives at the Dorchester. I knew Celestine when we were both teachers in the 1960's and was pleased to find her across the alley when we moved into our house in 1971. Her neighbors will miss her cheery greetings and her kind heart.

Send your news to The Times. We'd be pleased to run some engagement and wedding photos. We don't often get them. Alert! Get us your news of graduates for our June issue. I hate to find out I missed somebody, but I don't have time to do much basic data gathering. I rely on you!

Vicissitudes

## May 1995

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

In recounting his experience in Oklahoma City (See page 3), Ed Stout modestly omitted the fact that he was recently awarded the Judith Compere Award for his commitment to the improvement of treatment of crime victims. We congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.

Tins Schoemehl, Times correspondent and resident of 61XX Westminster, was one of only 30 high school seniors selected to receive an Archbishop John L. May Service Award in April. The award honors seniors "who have shown extraordinary volunteer achievement in their school, community and beyond." Great job, Tim!

It's a month full of awards to report. Mary Vincent Seager of 61XX Waterman, a professor in the Reading Department at Florissant Valley Community College, was presented the David L. Underwood Memorial Lecture Award. She is the 20th recipient of the Award.

Nancy Epp and Paul Hohman have moved to the 6100 block of Westminster. Welcome!

One of my favorite neighbors has been at the Barnes Extended Care facility on Brentwood in Clayton for several months. Betty Klinefelter, longtime resident of 61XX Kingsbury, has been residing there since she was injured in a fall last summer. I understand she may be moving to New Mexico permanently in the near future.

Marty Cross, son of John and Jane Cross, of 61XX Kingsbury, who now lives in a carriage house on Portland Place, is celebrating with other St. Roch's "Bird Dogs" and their coach, Tom McPherson. They just won a basketball championship in the Catholic Senior League. St. Roch's brings out the sport in us, I guess. Notice the stories on St. Roch's girls elsewhere in this issue.

Thanks to Frank and Flossie Driscole whose donation of a waxer has greatly smoothed our layout efforts!

Next month: GRADUATES! Let me know your news!

## June 1995

Vicissitudes

by Mari Weir

Vicissitudes

The year has gone quickly since we reported on our local graduates and the time has come again. There was a gratifying number of people who called to report their news, and Tim Schoemehl once again came through with key information. As a St. Louis University High grad this year himself, he was indeed well-informed. This year's SLUH grads also include John McGuire of 61XX Westminster and John Gotway of the 63XX block of McPherson. Tim is bound for Trinity University in San Antonio, John Gotway to Loyola University, and John McGuire to the University of Missouri.

Mary Shaughnessy of 55XX Lindell has graduated from St. Joseph's Academy and will attend St. Louis University.

Colleen Sullivan of 61XX Westminster also graduated from St. Joseph's.

Katie Mahon graduated from Incarnate Word and plans to attend the University of Missouri where she will study journalism.

Two of the 39 1995 National Merit Scholarship winners from this area are from Parkview! Jared Rapfogel (63XX Washington) and Hope Edwards (63XX McPherson) each attained this distinction this year. Both have just graduated from John Burroughs and both will attend New York University. Jared plans to study film-making.

Sandra Nicole Busch of 60XX Washington graduated this year from Soldan International Studies High School. She has earned a full scholarship to Alabama A. & M. She is interested in computer science.

Monica Vanicelli graduated from Rosati-Kain on May 22.

Janelle Thompson of 59XX Pershing graduated from Cardinal Ritter Prep.

Teraesa Vinson graduated from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia on May 22 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. She will be entering graduate school this summer at the University of Florida in Gainesville to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology. Her sister Rachel Vinson of 61XX Westminster graduated from Metro High School on May 26 and will attend Hampton University in Virginia. Her current interest is in elementary education with a special interest in education for deaf children.

Graduating from Georgetown University this year with a B.S. in Nursing is Christina Fleener of Parkview. Her specialty is pediatric nursing and she is seeking a position in Washington, D.C., or St. Louis.

John Rice of 61XX Westminster started off the summer with an appendectomy. He's home and recovering well.

Rick Bender of 61XX Kingsbury had a heart attack playing racquetball recently, but is doing just fine and is trying to take it easy. We wish him a speedy recovery.



Art Santen, collector extraordinaire and longtime resident of 61XX McPherson, was featured in late May on FIX, a cable channel, on a show devoted to collectors. In connection with that appearance, the Riverfront Times ran a story and a picture about his extensive bottle opener and corkscrew collections. Art has committed his basement, or we should probably say rathskeller, to the display of his "keys to refreshment," which range from the comical to the priceless.

Thanks to Sandy Rothschild for keeping this column in mind so often when he spies a good bit of information.

## September 1995

Vicissitudes

By Marj Weir

Betty Klinefelter, a neighbor who has provided an exceptional example of achievement and dedication to her church and community, is moving to Santa Fe, New Mexico, on September 1. She will be living with her daughter, Karen. A reception in her honor was held at Grace Methodist Church on Sunday, August 27. Many of her friends and colleagues were there to say how much she has done and has meant to so many generations of people. Betty has been in Scouting, both with Cub Pack 31 and with Senior Girl Scouts, for decades, providing leadership and inspiration to many who are no longer young in our community and beyond. Her work at the Grace Pre-School has endeared her to children and parents alike.

In addition to her many activities in our little community, she was active across the city. When she ran for the School Board in 1977, she won a seat easily. She is known throughout the City to a person of integrity and commitment.

Early in her life, Betty learned to fly airplanes and she has been flying in everything she has tackled ever since. We wish her the happiest of times in the future.

Her new address will be:  
1882 C Calle Quedo  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Roy Roncal, past president of Rosedale, is serving as co-chair of the Arts Commandos. The Commandos were organized by the Regional Arts Commission and serve as volunteers at many cultural events and provide assistance to arts institutions. By the way, it's also time to congratulate the Regional Arts Commission and executive director Jill McGuire on their 10th anniversary of supporting the arts in the St. Louis area.

Librarian Charles Lamkin reports that our Charing Cross branch on Skinker has greatly increased its fiction holdings, including many best-sellers! Two participants in the summer reading club at

Vicissitudes

Charing Cross won prizes in the grand drawing this summer. Maddelyn Vanicelli and Hillary Clampett became owners of portable AM/FM cassette players.

## October 1995

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Dan Shea, a local actor of both amateur and professional renown, professor of English at Washington University, and longtime resident of 61XX Kingsbury, is recovering at some from heart bypass surgery. His legions of fans wish him a speedy recovery entirely without further drama.

Arline Webb reports that her daughter Erika, 15, accompanied classmates at St. Elizabeth's on a cruise around the Caribbean this summer. So as not to be left out, Arline took her other daughter Alicia to Memphis to see the exhibit from the tombs of Egypt. All enjoyed themselves.

Jeremy Schoenfeld, Theresa Schlafly, and Brian Perrin, all former St. Roch's students, are National Merit Scholarship semifinalists this year. Jeremy lives in Skinker-DeBaliviere; Brian and Theresa reside in the Central West End. We have a lot of talent in our environs. We wish them well as they make their college decisions.

Georgi Fox of 61XX McPherson reportedly got her copy of Newt Gingrich's book signed by the great man himself and has reserved the opportunity to do the same with Colin Powell's when he comes to town soon.

Next month we'll be listing those who are new neighbors. We have a long list which we used for our party invitations, but if you know of anyone, send the information along to me at 6120 Westminster.

## November 1995

Vicissitudes

Sarah Stuart, Cal and Gee's oldest, married Brian Earl on October 21. Her father walked her down the aisle and then officiated at the service. Sarah and Brian will live in the Great Northwest where she is a ceramic engineer and he is an attorney.

Congratulations to neighbor banker Kathleen Hamilton who received her Master's in Business Administration from Fontbonne College last month.

Marvin Nodiff of 61XX Westminster was inducted into the Charter Class of the College of Community Association Lawyers by the Community Associations Institute (CAI) at CAI's 37th National Conference. Nodiff was selected for membership by a six-person Board of Governors. The

Vicissitudes

Board made its selections based on the candidate's published writings, teaching, and speaking in the field of community association law and community and public service leadership relating to consumer education and professional development. CAI represents the residential community association industry including condominium and homeowner associations and cooperatives.

## **December 1995**

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.

# 1996

## February 1996

Vicissitudes

by Mad Weir

We have a short, but gratifying recitation this month. Alicia Webb of the 6100 block of Pershing has won the St. Roch's spelling bee and will be going to the District competition at the St. Louis Art Museum on March 2. We wish her the best of luck

DeWitt Campbell of the same block has graduated from the University of Missouri at St. Louis with a degree in sociology. He has taken a position with the Monsanto YMCA. He has worked there in recent years and so impressed them that they created a position especially for him! Faithful readers will remember a story on DeWitt several years ago when he was a batboy for the Cardinals.

## June 1996

Vicissitudes

by Lana Stein and Marj Weir

Lynn Woolfolk, resident manager of Rosedale Square apartments on Washington was one of the Olympic torch bearers when the torch passed through St. Louis on Tuesday, May 28.

Our Neighborhood Stabilization Officer (NSO) for the last year and a half has been Jackie Wellington. Many of us have profited from her able assistance and her calm and mature manner. Jackie has resigned taking a job with the planning office of St. Louis County. Her talents will be greatly missed. The SDCC Board and its Director, and Alderman Dan McGuire honored her at the June 10 council meeting.

Mary Schmit reports that her garage has been infested by carpenter bees who are slowly but methodically eating away her storage shed. Hers is not the first sighting of these very destructive insects. Exterminators are on the way.

Jill McGuire recently hosted two major conventions of organizations which fund the arts at the local level. The conferences were held at the Adams Mark and speakers included Jane Alexander of the N. E. A., former Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, and actor Avery Brooks. Guests enjoyed a visit to Circus Flora and City Hall.

Here's a big Well Done! to neighborhood graduates we learned about. (Did you call?)

First our high school grads:

Kara Schnaible, 62XX Pershing, will attend Southeast Missouri State. Ed Knoten of 63XX Pershing will enter Loyola University in New Orleans, Emily Gerard, 4XX Westgate, will major in psychology at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Brian Perrin, of 51XX Washington, heads for MIT. Jeremy Schoenfeld of 61XX Westminster will prepare for a career in architecture at the University of Cincinnati. George Heifers, 62XX Waterman will go to Webster University. Ben Fanson of 62XX McPherson will attend Truman State (formerly known as Northeast Missouri State).

Graduating from the US Naval Academy is John Duckett, son of Phil and Cathy Duckett of 62XX McPherson. Conrad Knoten takes his degree in Criminal Justice from St. Louis University at this year's exercises. He is the son of Tom and Christine Knoten (and Ed's brother), who live on 63XX Pershing.

Special thanks go to Tina Gerard, Lois Schoemehl and Tim Schoemehl for valuable research!

## September 1996

Vicissitudes

by Marj Weir

Sue Rothschild of 62XX Washington provides a dinner party's worth of names of new Parkview residents. Starting at the north end on Washington are Melissa and Brian Hurt, Michael and Elizabeth Miller, Thomas and Gwendolyn Schlesinger. New on Westgate are Edward F. Pryzycki, Amos Curlee, and Joshua and Delores Calhoun. On McPherson George Johannes has moved west from Westminster and Taulby and Theresa Roach have bought the Walshes' house. (Taulby spent his formative years on 61XX Kingsbury.) Finally, Pershing is home now to Dennis and Ann O'Brien and James Robert Grady.

This spring and summer have brought loss to several longtime neighbors. Earlier this year, Rebecca Roach Frasure, who grew up in Skinker DeBaliviere, died suddenly. John Newsham, son of Robert and Betty Newsham of the 6100 block of Kingsbury, passed away in August. John was the eldest of the Newsham children and also was raised in the neighborhood. Both their families have deep roots in Skinker DeBaliviere and hundreds of friends share their sorrow.

With some regret, Fred Raines, Nina Place resident and Washington University economics professor, has returned from a year-long sabbatical in England.

Robert Wiltenberg of the 6100 block of Kingsbury has been appointed dean of University College in Arts and Sciences. He has been director of the Summer School in addition to serving as a professor of English.

Marvin Nodiff, 61xx Westminster, published an article about the governance of community associations in the May-June 1996 issue of the Journal of the Missouri Bar.

Vicissitudes

Jesse Brown, 59xx DeGiverville, is the new president of the Hamilton Community Education Center Council.

At a recent SDCC gathering, praise was heaped on Dave Schmidt, 61XX McPherson, for his hard work on National Night Out.

## December 1996

Vicissitudes

by Lana Stein

*photo of Genny Fox and James Malcolm was included here.*

Margaret Genevieve Fox, better known as Genny, daughter of Georgi Fox of 61xx McPherson, married James David Malcolm on September 27 at St. Johns Church, West Wickham, Kent, in the United Kingdom. Genny's brother Alex gave the bride away. Genny and her husband are residing in Tokyo where her husband is finishing doctoral studies. Alex lives in Chicago and has enjoyed working on various campaigns around the country this fall. On December 1, Georgi gave a surprise birthday party for her mother on her 90<sup>b</sup> natal day. Bette Botz, a former neighbor, attended and is doing well after hip replacement surgery.

The Times expresses its condolences to Mrs. Joyce Barnard of 59xx DeGiverville on the recent passing of her husband, Carl. They both had been very active in the community and with the 59xx block unit.

Congratulations to Cecilia A. Nadal of 61xx Westminster. She just had an original poem entitled "Nature's Love Affair" published in a treasury compiled by The National Library of Poetry. Nadal has been writing poems for 10 years.

*photo of Shirley Polk and children was included here.*

Each year in August, Shirley Polk of 57XX DeGiverville sponsors the Central West Picnic for area children and adults in Forest Park. Polk is pictured here with some of the participants.

# 1997

## February 1997

Vicissitudes

by Lana Stein

Two Crossroads students have received special recognition recently. Tavia Evans, a senior, was accepted to the United States Senate Youth Program and also was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to the university of her choice. Tanis is a member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Board and organizes programs for youth at Vashon, Beaumont, and the Darst-Webbe housing projects. She also is Crossroads' representative to the Metropolitan Model United Nations. Fellow Crossroads student Erika Williams has been selected to receive the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Leadership and Legacy Award.

John H. Thomas Jr., resident of 57xx Waterman with his wife and two children, has been hired as the new Youth and Community Coordinator for Grace Methodist Church. Thomas has lived in Skinker DeBaliviere for over 20 years. Thomas will assume responsibility for implementing Breitmayer 96 at Grace. Thomas wants to add something to the fabric of the community, to the lives of our youth, to family stability, to personal development." He may be reached at 863-1992.

Dee Joyce-Hayes, neighborhood resident and St. Louis's Circuit Attorney, has added another dimension to her career: She's teaching a course at the Washington University School of Law on courtroom practices. Also in the academic mode, Greg Freeman, our resident Post columnist, is teaching classes at Webster and Washington Universities. At the latter, his seminar addresses how the media influence public policy.

*photo of John Thomas with Ron and Nel Hertel was shown here.*

Caption: John Thomas, left, new Director of Youth and Community ministry at Grace United Methodist Church, with Ron and Nel Hertel.

## June 1997

Vicissitudes

Wilson Gets Silver Medal

Maverine Wilson, competing for the first time in the St Louis Senior Olympics at Strike 'n Spare Lanes, Lindbergh and Schuetz, received a Silver medal for her efforts.

Wilson, of the 60XX block of Washington, recently retired from her home-based day care service to devote more of her time and energy to bowling.

Vicissitudes

### **Former Resident Terri Robinson Performs Well in Georgia**

Terri Robinson left Skinker-DeBaliviere for DeKalb County, Georgia in 1993. She began running after she moved to Georgia and made the track team. The togetherness of the team made her adjustment to a new home an easier one.

Robinson placed in the state meet in her freshman season, and, as a sophomore, was fourth at state in the long jump. As a junior, she won a state championship in the 200 meters and in the long jump. She was second in the 100 meters. As a senior now, her sights are on becoming the top girl performer in the state. Her grandparents, William and Clara Robinson of 58xx DeGiverville are extremely proud of her and the 58xx DeGiverville block unit shares in that pride.

### **Neighborhood Attorney Elected to National Board**

Marvin Nodiff of 61xx Westminster has been elected to a 3-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Community Associations Institute and has received CAI's top honor for meritorious service in 1996. CAI is the country's only national nonprofit organization that provides education services for leaders of community associations such as condominiums, planned communities and cooperatives. Nodiff is a charter member of CAI's College of Community Association Lawyers and a founding member of the St. Louis Chapter. He will serve this year as chair of CAI's public policy committee. He also has been selected as editor of a new legal publication, the Journal of Community Association Law.

### **Forslund Becomes Professor**

Catherine Forslund, past president of the Skinker DeBativiere Community Council and longtime beautification committee member, received a Ph D in history at the May commencement of Washington University. She wrote her dissertation on Anna Chennault, a practitioner of informal diplomacy and a key participant in the October 1968 attempts to have the South Vietnamese join the Paris peace talks. Forslund spent time conducting research in Washington, D.C. and Taiwan and also visited the Ford and Johnson presidential libraries. During the course of her research, she became acquainted with William Bundy and Jules Witcover, other authors writing about the same period.

Forslund has been heavily involved in neighborhood activities for over a decade as has her husband, Roy Roncal. However, her presence will soon be missed because she has accepted a teaching position at Misericordia College in Dallas, Pennsylvania. However, she leaves us with many memories of shared activities and a record of improvements to Skinker DeBaliviere.

### **Longtime Resident Raymond Shields, Jr. Passes Away**

On April 30, 1997, Ray Shields, Jr., a resident of the 6100 block of Westminster for approximately three decades, died. Ray was well known as an auto mechanic who loved racing cars and restoring vintage cars. He and his wife, Gwendolyn Berry, raised their family here and have seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. We extend our sympathy to the Shields family.



# 1998

## June 1998

### Vicissitudes

photo of Virgil "Jack" Wright was included here

Neighbors have lost a dear friend and tireless worker for the Skinker DeBaliviere community. Longtime SDCC Board Member and Past President and King Commemoration Chair Jack Wright passed away on June 14 after a long illness. His service and spirit will long be remembered by those with whom he worked in our community.

St. Roch 5th Grader, Megan Manary, composed a 2 minute piece of music for the flute as part of a class assignment from her teacher, Regina Morris, and won an all-expense paid trip for two to Pittsburgh where her composition was performed at the Pittsburgh Philharmonic. The contest was sponsored by the PBS program, Oscar's Orchestra, and the National Music Educators Association. As part of the event, Megan, her mother and brother, all participated in setting a new record for the largest orchestra performance for submission to the Guinness Book of World's Records. Although Megan has played the recorder for four years and also plays the flute and harmonic dulcimer, she wants to be a scientist, perhaps a marine biologist, when she grows up.

Folks on 57xx DeGiverville are sending best wishes to resident Tiffany Michelle Bryant. On June 7, she graduated from Ladue High School. She plans to join the U.S. Air Force in September and pursue studies in computer science. Tiffany is the daughter of Denise C Bryant and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Coneal

## November-December 1998

### Vicissitudes

It is painful to report the loss of John Rice, son of Richard and Nancy Rice, and brother of Robert Rice, all of the 6100 block of Westminster. A tragic accident ended John's life on November 3. John was 16 and a sophomore at Christian Brothers College.

St. Roch's Church overflowed with family, friends, and John's CBC high school classmates at the funeral mass celebrated by Monsignor Sal E. Polizzi, with the participation of teachers and administrators from St. Roch as well as CBC. Those wishing to send a memorial gift are asked to make such a donation to St. Roch Church, 6052 Waterman. We at the Times express our heartfelt sympathy to the Rices.

Neville and JoAnn Vatcha of the 6100 block of Westminster have a reason to be glowing these days. Their first grandchild, William Ingram Jacobs, was born to their daughter, Chanaya, and her husband, Mark Jacobs on October 29. At 7 pounds and measuring 20 inches, he fit the perfect ideal.

### Vicissitudes

A full head of black hair makes him quite the handsome prince. Chanaya and Mark moved to Washington Avenue in Parkview earlier this year, another source of gratification for Neville and JoAnn. Here's another example of the appeal of the neighborhood to generations of families.

George Storey, 57xx Waterman, has always loved to golf. He's very happy that he has been able to pursue this sport in his retirement and to enjoy a good bit of success. Any day he can he plays in Forest Park with a group of gentlemen like himself, one of whom is 85 years of age. In early 1998, George hit his 4th hole in one! He has hit two on #6 and 2 on #9. He and his son, Jim, have played at the Dogwood Country Club Tournament at Lake of the Ozarks the past couple years. They placed 2nd and 4th. George is particularly proud of being invited to play at the National Seniors Tournament in Orlando. He qualified in Columbia this summer.

# 1999

## February 1999

### Vicissitudes

Lucille Miller Schoemehl's life ended on December 20, 1998, but she will live on in the hearts of the many people who came to know and love her as a gracious and charming person and the very model of what a mother ought to be. She was known to many even beyond her exceptionally large family as "Mom Schoemehl," a title she earned through years of warmth and generosity of spirit shared with all around her. Lou, as she was also known, lived for many years with her late husband, Vince, on the 6100 block of McPherson. In recent years she lived with her daughter and son-in-law, Lu and Sam Green, on the 6100 Block of Westminster. The root meaning of her name, "Light; Shining," reflects her personality and her legacy.

## April-May 1999

### Vicissitudes

Again, It is our sad duty to report the passing of another longtime neighbor and friend—Mary Bea Stout. She passed away on March 26 after a long battle with cancer. It will be hard to replace her energy and her effervescence. Mary Bea leaves her husband Ed and four children. The Stouts have resided on 61xx McPherson for almost three decades. Mary Bea was active in her church, St. Roch, and performed with several different theatrical companies in the St. Louis area. She loved acting and appeared as Promethea in a Skinker DeBaliviere dinner theater. She shared her husband's concerns for the victims of crime and also worked for other progressive causes. Even while fighting her last fight, she remained active and participated in neighborhood activities.

Times columnist Billy Handmaker and his wife Betul Ozmat have welcomed their second child, another boy. Simon's new brother is Lev, named for his grandmother who was born in 1899 and able to visit the hospital and hold her namesake.

George and Rose Storey enjoy eight children and sixteen grandchildren. Their youngest son, Matthew, a recent immigrant to southern California, will marry Denise Foley in mid-summer. One of their daughters-in-law, Pam Storey, a nurse-practitioner, is now director of health services at St. Patrick Center.

Between April, 1999, and September, 2002, there were no Vicissitudes columns in The Times. Subsequent years have not been captured, but can be viewed online through the SDCC website at [http://stlouis.missouri.org/skinkerdebaliviere/sd\\_times.html](http://stlouis.missouri.org/skinkerdebaliviere/sd_times.html)