

The Soulard Restorationist

VOLUME V ISSUE V

May 1980

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR -

The staff would like to thank all those who commented on the April 1 issue. It was a lot of fun for us too. However, it may have been the swan song of creativity as far as the staff is concerned. This is due to what might best be described as burnout from overwork.

Our staff of writers consists of four persons writing on a consistent and reliable basis. We do receive much appreciated help from a few people like "Dear Abner" on an occasional basis. But this is not enough to generate sufficient copy for a monthly issue without taxing the staff to the point where they do nothing else.

Besides working on the "Restorationist", many of the staff members also serve other functions within the group. This committee, unlike other committees does not just operate on a one time or once a month basis. It is an ongoing operation working throughout the month, without respite. Once one issue is mailed out to you, the next is already in danger of being late.

The production process (what happens after copy is received) is likewise a long process of many steps in which one, repeat one, delay results in late delivery to you.

Without seeming melodramatic, we would like to say that the continued operation of the "Restorationist" is in jeopardy. The staff is overworked and tired of trying to publish a monthly issue without some help from

the rest of the group. We need you! No one is expected to be a professional writer. That is why we have editors. There are also other vacant positions available whereby you can contribute! Above all we need consistent, reliable people, and we know you are out there. If you want to help, or if you have any suggestions to offer - contact Jim Mazdra at 621-6554.

As an experiment, the next few issues of the "Restorationist" will be published on a bi-monthly basis. At the end of that time we will re-evaluate our situation.

If we have enough people contributing their services and can streamline production, then we will again publish on a monthly basis.

HERITAGE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED

The new Heritage and Urban Design Commission is beginning operations. Last month, Mayor Jim Conway swore in the 11 members he had appointed at the end of March.

Appointed were: Thomas W. Purcell, executive director of the Laclede's Landing Re-development Corp.; Thomas K. Nash, of Nash Realty Co.; Gary Glenn, a Central West End architect; Andrew Catford, with Richard Claybour & Ass.; Eugene Mariani, an engineer; Michael Willis, an architect with the Fleming Corp.; Kenneth Cestreich, an architectural historian with Robert M. Conway & Ass.; John Elsley, a landscape planner with the Missouri Botanical Garden; Oscar Heffner, a North St. Louis real estate broker; Rosalie Buckley, wife of attorney Eugene K. Buckley; and Sheila Mosley, of Urban Consultants.

Serving in an ex-officio capacity are the President of the Board of Public Service; the director of the Community Development Agency; the director of Public Safety, the executive director of the Arts & Humanities Commission and one alderman to be appointed by the president of the board. The commission selects its own chairman, and there is no compensation.

Still to be selected is the new heritage commissioner. Public Safety Director Al Jackson said the commission's first order of business will be to conduct a nationwide search for the commissioner, who Jackson said will earn an annual salary in the \$23,000 to \$24,000 range. In the meantime, Jackson said he will act as commissioner in his capacity as public safety director.

Jackson is viewed in preservation circles as being pro-demolition. That is why the placement of the new commission under the Department of Public Safety was opposed by some neighborhood organizations.

* * *

PTL SPRING ACTIVITIES BEGIN AT TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

With the arrival of spring, fund raising and promotional activities take the spotlight at Trinity Lutheran School. In February, the Parent-Teachers League (PTL) hosted a Tupperware party. The party was successful and enough money was raised to buy jerseys for Trinity's athletic teams.

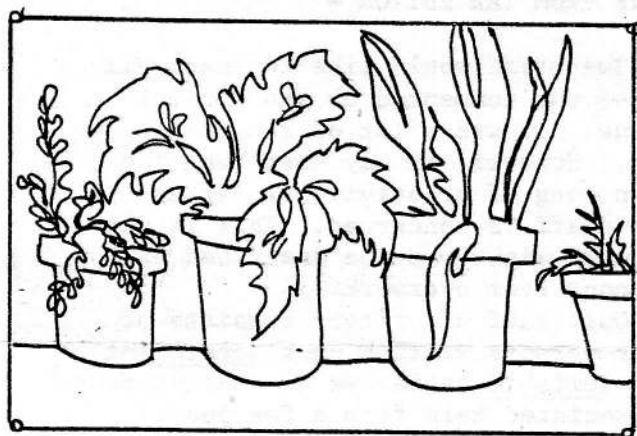
On May 4, the PTL will be sponsoring the Second Annual Kindergarten Dinner/Auction to raise money to continue operation of Trinity's Kindergarten. "Our dinner/auction of last spring was so successful that we decided to make it an annual event," commented Skip Gatermann, PTL President.

Gatermann also said that in addition to fund raising activities Trinity was actively working on an enrollment campaign for next year. The campaign began last February when the PTL invited parents from a Lafayette Square parents group to tour the school and learn about Trinity's educational program and its facilities. The meeting was well attended and seemed to generate a lot of interest in the school. Many parents who attended the meeting commented that they had no idea there was a functioning Lutheran School on the near southside.

They were delighted to learn that Trinity was serving the southside community's needs.

Another activity being planned by the PTL is Trinity's booth at the World's Largest Garage Sale to be held this June at the Checkerdome. Garage sale type items such as knickknaks, furniture and household items are being sought. No food or clothing can be accepted. Items can be brought to the school or call Skip Gatermann at 771-4191 for free pick up. Items donated are tax deductible.

Enrollment and tuition information can be obtained by calling the principal, Robert Freymark, at 621-0228 or Skip Gatermann at 771-4191.



ST. AGATHA'S DAY CARE CENTER PLANT SALE

St. Agatha's Day Care Center located at 3220 S. 9th St., in the St. Agatha portion of the Souland Historic District will hold a plant sale on Sunday, May 11. The plant sale will be in conjunction with the Souland Restoration Group's Spring Mother's Day Walking Tour.

Many different types of plants such as geraniums, impatiences, marigolds, tomato plants, green peppers, a couple of different types of ground covers, etc. will be sold.

The exact location of the plant sale had not been decided at the time of this release, but interested persons may find out more about the plant sale by attending the Walking Tour on May 11. The tour will originate at Trinity Lutheran Church at 8th and Souland Streets at 12:00 p.m.

The St. Agatha's Day Care Center is a not for profit, United Way Agency serving approximately 130 children in the Souland area.

MARCH IS GIRL SCOUT MONTH IN SOULARD

March was Girl Scout month in Soulard. Not only did residents receive their annual supply of Girl Scout cookies, but two churches held Girl Scout Sunday Services on March 9 to celebrate the Girl Scouts' 68th birthday.

Brownie troop 3402 and Junior troop 1960 celebrated Girl Scout Sunday by attending services at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Brownie and Junior troops from Scruggs School and Anapolis, Missouri attended a special service in their honor at the Jesus Church United Church of Christ. Their weekend included an overnight stay at the Jesus Church, services, and a reception in their honor after services on Sunday. This special weekend was planned for the girls by Thelma Hemmen, SRG Board Member and grandmother of Kelly Schultheis, a Junior Girl Scout from Scruggs School.

SOULARD WOMAN SAVES LIFE

Deb Manning former SRG House Sales Chairman and presently Treasurer of the SRG saved the life of a Kansas City man who suffered a muscle spasm of the heart while playing racquetball.

Deb and her husband, Gene, were visiting family in Kansas City over the Easter weekend. While there, they decided to play a game of racquetball at a local club. Shortly after arriving, Deb noticed a crowd of people gathered around and she went to investigate. A 31-year old man was on the floor and another person was attempting to administer Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Deb realized that the man administering the CPR was doing it incorrectly so she took over. With the assistance of Gene, they were able to restore breathing in the stricken man. Shortly thereafter the paramedics arrived and took the man to the hospital.

Deb and Gene are both trained in the use of CPR. The next time you see them, tell them thanks. The next life they save may be your own. And while on the subject, why not look into those CPR classes that are always being offered. Call the Red Cross for the location nearest Soulard.

SECOND ANNUAL KINDERGARTEN DINNER AUCTION

To keep its kindergarten in operation, Trinity Lutheran School is holding a dinner and auction on May 4, 1980.

Serving the historic Soulard neighborhood, the school enjoys considerable neighborhood support and auction items are being donated by a number of local businesses and individuals.

Located at 1809 S. 8th Street, the school is the oldest continuously operating school in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Classes started in 1839.

The school is owned and operated by "Old" Trinity Lutheran Church, founded by people arriving in St. Louis from Saxon Germany. The church building, located next door to the school on the corner of 8th and Soulard, has long been a prominent landmark in a neighborhood renowned for its striking architecture. The church is one block south of the Soulard Market.

A family style roast beef dinner will begin at 11:45 on Sunday, May 4 in the school building. Admission for the dinner is \$3.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children aged 6 - 12. The dinner is by reservation only! Reservations may be made by calling Mr. Freymark or Virginia Stewart at the school (621-0228) or during evenings by calling Darlene or Skip Gatermann at 771-4191 and Mr. Freymark at 352-1042.

Those attending the dinner are admitted to the auction free. General admission to the auction is \$1.00 for those not attending the dinner. The auction will begin at 1 p.m.

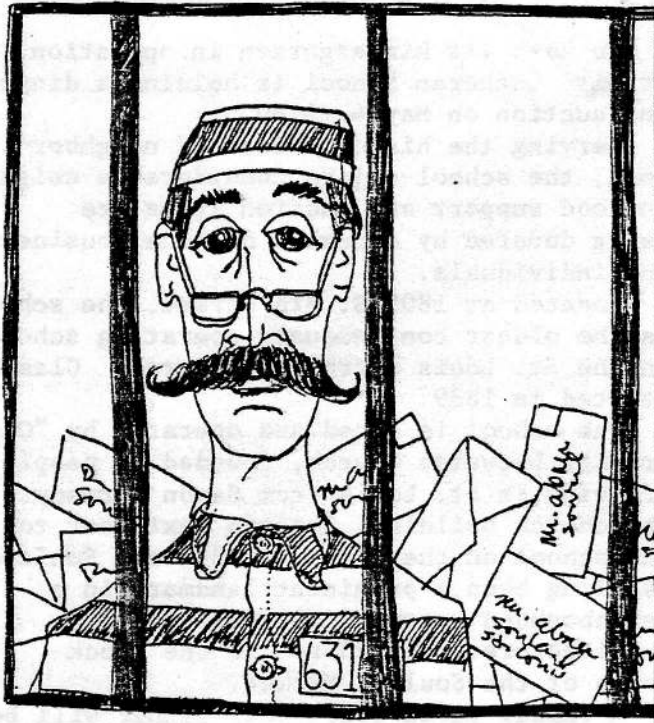
donations to the auction are still being accepted. Auction donations can be arranged by calling the contact people listed above the school telephone number.

VISA and Master Charge are accepted for dinner and auction purchases.

* * *

SELLING SOULARD FOR \$1.89 A POUND

Soulard means fat under the pig. As we all know fat under the pig is bacon. Considering this, Soulard isn't just historic it's downright valuable. Soulard is selling for about \$1.89 a pound at most supermarkets.



Dear Readers of Dear Abner,

Recently Abner was asked to "reveal" himself to the people of Soulard. He did so. He opened his trench coat and "revealed" himself to Soulard. Unfortunately, the only person to see him in Soulard was a third district officer who promptly arrested Abner on charges of indecent exposure. In jail Abner was allowed one phone call to his attorney. As his lawyer, I am not at liberty to divulge my client's identity. However, Abner asked me to explain to you that he is not allowed pen and paper in his cell and will not be able to answer your cards and letters this month. Please be patient, Abner will be released and will be writing to you soon. I'm sure the court will dismiss the charge against Abner when the Judge discovers Abner has nothing to "reveal."

Sincerely,
Ima Shyster
Attorney-at-Law

DO YOU REMEMBER

When 12th Street was supposed to get a parkway down the center of it?
The enormous crowds who attended Mary Sudholt's Annual Soulard Night at the Ballpark?
Lesiure Park?
The Pink/Green Hotel?
Before Soulard had decent bars and everyone went to the Last Exit?
The Last Exit?
When Larry Hollenberg used "old fashioned" electric lights?
When a certain Soulard resident considered willing her body to SNIA?
The night that Gatermann, Waters and Derleth "borrowed" a door from La Villita?
When the SRG wanted to reduce our \$35 a month bill and to do it we began paying a phone bill of \$75 a month?
Gene Brunton?
The Box People at Judy Johnson's only annual Halloween Party?
The Landmarks and Urban Design Commission?
Patience Shaner?
When Pigeon displacement was more important than people displacement?

* * *

SURE SIGNS OF SPRING IN SOULARD

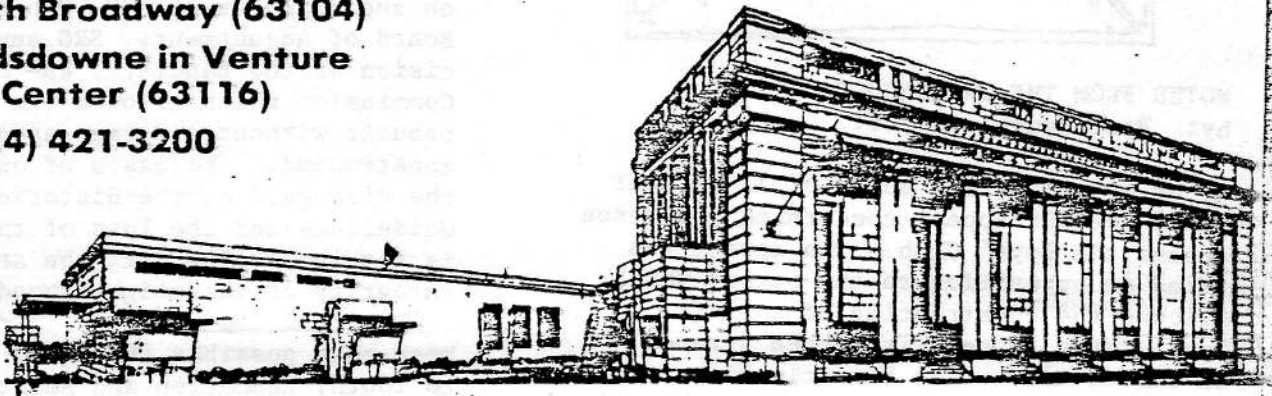
- newly planted trees being denuded by well mannered children of responsible parents.
- same trees being orgnically fertilized by local animal population
- winos popping up like tulips on street-corners
- LRA lots weeding over to cover the winter accumulation of non bio-degradable products
- the cardboard lady reappearing
- West county onslaught of the market on Saturday (designer jeans, John Burroughs bumper stickers)
- streetside auto repairs
- plastic oming off the windows
- Edele and Mertz doing a land office business
- neighbors say "hi" (some)

* * *

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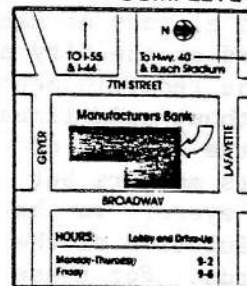
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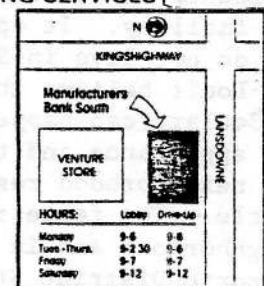
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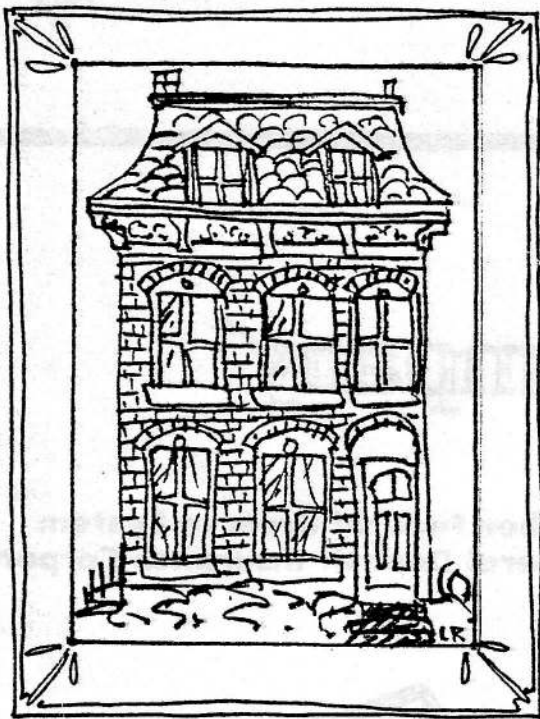
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NOTES FROM THE BRICKHOUSE
by: Paul Houghland, Jr.

On March 26, the Board of Adjustment heard the SRG appeal concerning the fence around the Boys' Club. The appeal was filed in opposition to the permit which allowed the construction of a 12 ft. chain fence topped with three strands of barbed wire. The Historic District Standards do not approve such construction. In addition, fence materials are to be compatible with the character of the neighborhood.

Rather than allow the Board an opportunity to consider the merits of the issue, the Boys' Club filed a five-page motion to dismiss the appeal. The appeal was not denied, but rather SRG was directed to file an amended appeal -- which has been done.

It is the contention of the Boys' Club Board of Directors that our appeal is "harassment". That is an absurdity at best. The Boys' Club performs a needed service to the Souard neighborhood and to residents of other neighborhoods who visit the facility. It appears a group of men who do not live in Souard or the City of St. Louis believe that the redevelopment of Souard can happen without guidelines for appearance and that the opinion of the neighborhood residents matters but little. The fence is an eyesore to the neighborhood and is in violation of the Historic District Standards. For these reasons, the appeal was filed.

Ken Wild, a Boys' Club official has been quoted as saying "that the twelve foot high chain link fence topped with three strands of barbed wire is" ... a safety fence. It provides safety for our boys and for neighborhood pedestrians." I do not believe the boys who attend the Boys' Club need to be confined by a fence the same height and construction as that which contains residents at the City Jail and at Gumbo. Or is Wild saying the residents need protection?

* * *

DORMER DECISION

On January 9, 1980, we presented our objections concerning the structural changes on the house at 1815 S. 8th St., to the Board of Adjustment. SRG appealed a decision of the Landmarks and Urban Design Commission which allowed the roof to be rebuilt without a dormer as originally constructed. The basis of our appeal was the disregard of the Historic District Guidelines and the loss of the dormer which is not in keeping with the architectural integrity of the neighborhood.

Physical improvements to the building have been made possible through a grant from CDA to Youth, Education and Health in Souard. The house will contain four Section 8 units. Alderman Leisure appeared at the hearing in behalf of YEHS and spoke in favor of leaving the dormer off the building. Economic reasons were given as the reason for not replacing the dormer. CDA would not allocate the funds necessary to construct the dormer and YEHS stated that the organization had no funds for such improvements. The estimated cost for the dormer is \$850.

The Board of Adjustment decided that the lack of funds was sufficient reason not to replace the dormer. It is unfortunate that public officials who supported the Historic District legislation as a vehicle to attract new residents to the city and as a means to improve the neighborhood do not support the application of the guidelines.

* * *

BAKE SALE ***** May 31st, 9:00 a.m.
Jesus Church, 12th & Victor Streets --
TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE REPAIR OF THE ORGAN.

NOTES FROM A SOGGY BASEMENT IV

Contrary to what was printed in the April "Restorationist." "The" soggy basement is jointly owned by Edgar & Edna Pendergast. However, it must be noted that the basement is not presently soggy - it's flooded. This is because my former neighbors, of the well-known economic mix, moved out of their building over the winter turning the gas off and leaving the water on.

As surely as night follows day, gas off, water on, is immediately followed by water pipes burst, soggy basement flooded. It has gotten so bad I am thinking of buying stock in the "Little Giant" sump pump corporation incorporated, amalgamated, limited quarterly dividend guaranteed.

Most frustrating, however, was my conversation with the City Water Division Emergency Department which is herewith reported to the best of my recollection and exaggerated only when necessary to show my total lack of fairness.

CITY TELEPHONE: Ring

CITY: "City Water Division Emergency Dept."

ME: "I have an emergency!"

CITY: "Yes?"

ME: "The house next door is vacant and the water pipes have burst. Said water is pouring under my foundation and is flooding my basement."

CITY: "Yes?"

ME: "Can you come turn the water off?"

CITY: "Where is the owner?"

ME: "I don't know. The x?ygbw house is vacant!"

CITY: "Is it privately owned?"

ME: "Yes!"

CITY: "I'm sorry our responsibility only extends to the main."

ME: "(expletive deleted) the main! My house will collapse."

CITY: "I'm sorry, but our responsibility does not extend blah, blah, blah."

ME: "Please turn the water off."

CITY: "I'm sorry our responsibility blah, blah, blah."

ME: "(Numerous expletives deleted) your responsibility!"

CITY TELEPHONE: "Click"

HOUSE SALES COMMITTEE

We are still trying to complete the outside of the new house sales office. A schedule for those chosen to man the office on weekends will be given out at the May meeting. Please feel free to volunteer.

While interest in buying in Soulard is not as strong as we had anticipated, we are averaging three calls per day at the office. Our best turnover has been in multi-family buildings, a number of them having been bought by developers.

Hopefully, the recent action taken to increase available mortgage money will rekindle individual's interest in Soulard.

Whether you are purchasing or restoring, contact The Boatmen's National Bank of St. Louis. They will help credit worthy customers fulfill their restoration or purchase plans.



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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

May 23rd - Businessmen's Open House - An introduction of SRG to local businessmen.

June 14 - Covered dish barbeque - meat supplied by SRG - everyone to bring a covered dish. The only thing missing is a back yard. Call Amy at 241-6704 or Nancy at 771-5087.

July 4 - Softball game and Picnic at Lafayette Square. Details to be announced.

August - Street fair. Watch for upcoming announcements !!

Next meeting May 12th. Call Amy or Nancy for what time and where.

* * *

BUY A LITTLE HISTORY

There are a few desks and chairs left for sale in the SRG office. These are solid oak desks and leather chairs which were donated by Manufacturers Bank to be used by SRG to raise funds for our operations. The furniture dates back approximately 60-75 years and will be an attractive addition to your Soulard home. Reasonably priced.

SOULARD VISITS CHANNEL 9

If you noticed some familiar faces manning the phones during the Channel 9 Auction, give credit to Sandra and Ralph Allen who organized Soulard Night. Over 22 restorationists answered phones and took bids on everything from a deluxe "hangover cure" to a date with Soulard's own Mary Johnson. The best part of the evening was appropriately saved for last. An impromptu after auction dinner party, catered by the Allens, was held at the Poster Art Gallery until closing time.

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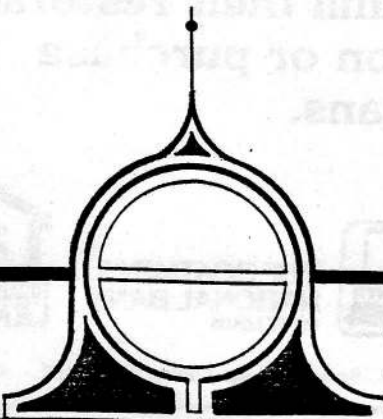
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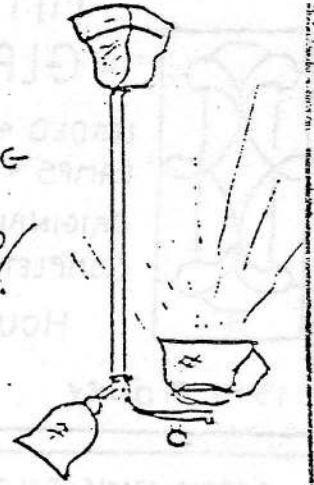
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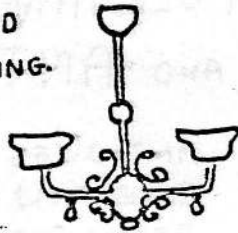


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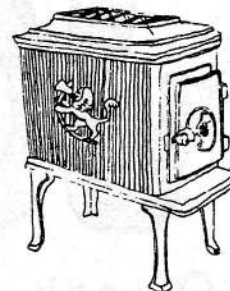
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1980 NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

April 26 & 27	LaPlace Saint Louis House Tour
May 3 & 4	Shaw Neighborhood Spring House Tour
May 3 & 4	Home Restoration & Remodeling Show (Checkerdome)
May 10 & 11	Central West End Assoc. House Tour
May 11	Soulard Mother's Day Walking Tour
May 11	13th Annual Skinker-Debaliviere House Tour & Art Fair
May 17	Murphy Blair 14th Street Mall Day
May 18	5th Annual DeSales T.G. East House Tour
May 17 & 18	Historic Hyde Park 4th Annual House Tour
May 24 & 25	14th Annual International Festival Annie Malone Children's Home Parade
June 6	Lafayette Square Friday Night Pre-House Tour
June 7 & 8	11th Annual Lafayette Square House Tour
June 9 - 15	16th Annual National Ragtime Festival
June 14 & 15	11th Annual Lafayette Square House Tour
June 20 - 22	Grand Oak Hill Festival
July 4	4th of July Celebration, St. Louis Riverfront
July 18 - 20	St. Louis Strassenfest
July*	Neighborhood Marketing Services, Inc "Neighborhood Fair
Aug. 16 & 17	United Midtown Community Parade & Festival
Aug. 18 & 19	St. Louis Cathedral Annual Fete
Aug. 24	Historic Hyde Park Antique Street Market

Aug.*	Downtown Block Party
Aug. 30 - Sept. 1st	St. Louis Ice Cream Festival, Laclede's Landing
Sept. 13 & 14	Soulard Fall House Tour
Sept. 14	Badenfest
Sept. 20	8th Annual Great Forest Park Balloon Race
Sept. 21	Bevo Day
Sept.*	Benton Park Art Exhibit
Oct. 5	Oktoberfest, Marquette Park
Oct. 25 & 26	Shaw Haunted House
Dec. 7	Soulard Christmas Parlor Tour
Dec. 13 & 14	Shaw Neighborhood Christmas Parlor Tour
Dec. 14	Lafayette Square Christmas Parlor Tour

* These dates are approximate. For information , call NSMI.

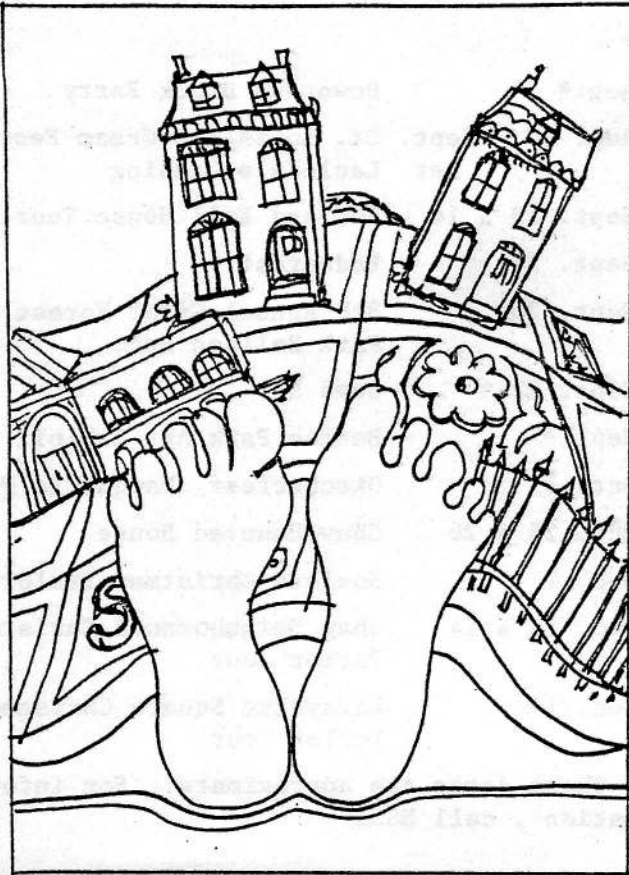
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SPECIAL EVENT

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These are words everyone will think of about our newest project-The Soulard Neighborhood Friendship Quilt. We are positive it will be a fun-making and money-making event for our group; we are going to raffle off a lovely quilt which will be a cumulation of everyone's efforts. Here is a chance for all of us to get involved.

You make the squares, and we'll put them together. For the ultimate in togetherness, stand up and stitch up !!

THEME: Each quilt square will express a unique aspect of our neighborhood, and the entire quilt will demonstrate the diversity of appeal Soulard has. For inspiration, walk around the neighborhood.

OVERALL SIZE: We will make a double-size quilt (72"x86") or larger. The double-size can be made of thirty 12" squares (5"x6"). So, we will need more than thirty squares.

MATERIAL: Use 100% cotton or cotton blend.

TO CREATE YOUR PATTERN: Draw with in a 12" square. Leave square unturned. Depending on the design, select a craft technique that is suitable; for example, applique, cross-stitch, fabric crayon or liquid embroidery, patchwork, or crewel embroidery.

We could also use help from non-voting members.

Choose your best image of Soulard and square it up. We think the result will show us at our best.

Interested? Call Sandra (days) at 367-4444 or Nancy (nights) at 771-5087.

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FOR SALE

Front exterior doors about 36 x 80.
Beveled glass wood in between small windows.
Handles and locks in tack.
Call Marlene Tillman - 383-7328, after
5 o'clock.

Light purple porcelain - art nouveau -
dressing table, large sink and hand sink
with 2 mirrors - \$250. Call during the
day 367-4444.

WANTED --- Beginner violin teacher.
Please call during the day - 367-4444

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JESUS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

12th and Victor

Invites you to worship with
them on Sunday morning at
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

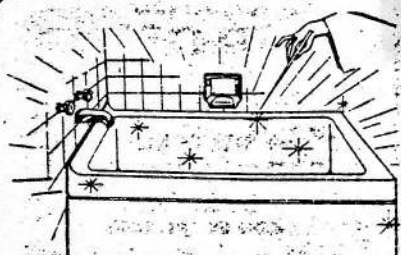
Communion is served the last
Sunday of the month.

Piano Lessons

Classical or Popular(chords). Your
home or mine(near 12th & Geyer). 13
years experience, including 5 years
at CASA.

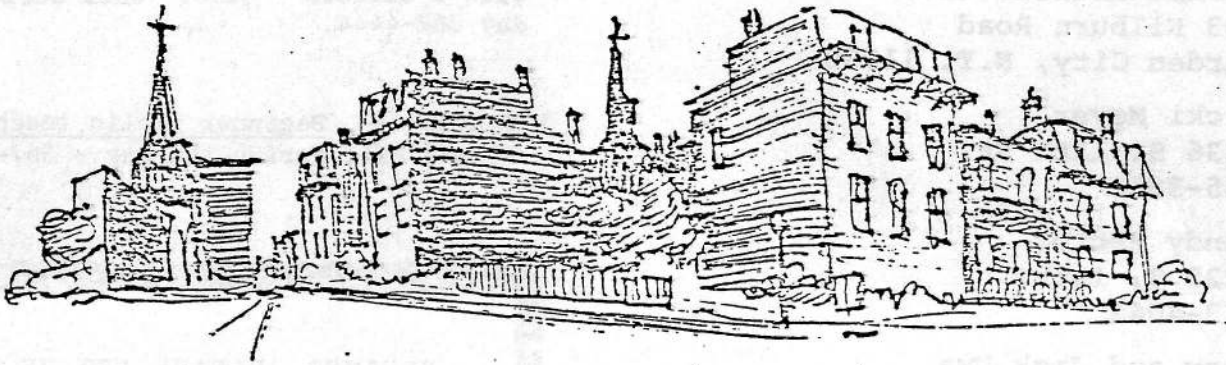
I prefer students(children or adult)
who want 1)to have some choice in the
music they learn 2)to learn how to
figure things out for themselves 3)to
express themselves through music, and
4)to really enjoy music.

HERB RIFFIN 241-1989



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