

THE Volker News

July-August 2015

www.volkerkcmo.org

Volker General Meetings

July 9 - Ice Cream Social AT
Roanoke Baptist Church, 40th
and Wyoming, 6:30 pm

August - No Meeting!

September 10 - Volker History
AT Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Westport Road and Bell St.
Enter from Bell, 6:30 pm Social
7:00 pm Program

October 8 - TBA

Information and Opportunities for Volker Residents!

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

July 9 - Ice Cream Social

6:30-8 pm - Cool off with an ice cream sundae and meet some of the new faces in KCPD covering the Volker area and other local elected officials. New KCPD field supervisor for nights, 5pm-3am with days off on rotation, Sargent Jake Becchina will be there to meet you and hear your concerns.

NOTE: This meeting is at Roanoke Baptist Church, 40th and Wyoming.

August - No Meeting!

Enjoy the summer!

September 10th - Volker History

Plan to join Volker old-timers and newcomers with your corner of Volker history. Know something interesting about your own house or other buildings /events? Tell us about it!

SPECIAL EVENTS

July 12 - Let's Get Neighborly!

6-8 pm - Organized by Volker Watch Facebook page, this event aims to get people out of their houses to porch sit, meet and socialize with their neighbors. Volker Watch administrator, Kara Joy Werner, notes that it makes a neighborhood safer when neighbors know each other.

Volker Watch is dedicated to minimizing crime by providing as-it-happens info about criminal activity, coordinating with KCPD, and other activities. Consider joining the Volker Watch Facebook page if you have concerns in this area.

August 19th - Volker Happy Hour

5:30-7:30 pm - Enjoy your neighbors in a casual setting at Fric N Frac's, 1700 W. 39th Street

October 10th - Fall Dumpster Day

Missed the last one? Put it on your calendar!

VNA 2015-2017 New Board / New Term / New Ideas

VNA is excited to welcome new board members Angela Lupton - Secretary, Patrick Faltico - Southwest Area Rep, and John Comstock - Southeast Area Rep who starts in August. We are looking forward to their energy and ideas on issues facing Volker residents in the coming two-year term. Patrick has already voiced interest in traffic issues and is ready to jump in. In recent months we've heard some concerns about traffic in various parts of the neighborhood, so this is one of the issues we will focus on. For a full listing of board members and contact information, see the back page of this newsletter.

Among other issues on the table for consideration in the coming term are:

- Volker traffic problems
- Curbs in North Volker
- Garden tour or contests?
- Encouraging block parties
- Finding Tenant Representatives for each area.
- Empowering tenants by making sure they know their rights and responsibilities.
- Encouraging fair treatment of tenants and rental housing that is free of code violations
- Encouraging all property owners to maintain their property free of code violations
- Making sure Volker resident input on KU Hospital expansion is heard at KU
- More happy hours, coffee hours/ice cream hours (encourage each Volker Area to plan their own?)
- Improving the VNA website.
- Design Overlay for Volker - City process for design requirements on new building e.g. front porches, garages set back from front, setbacks from curb, size comparable to neighboring residences, etc..

VNA is a small all-volunteer organization, and we cannot do everything, but WITH YOUR HELP, we can address the issues you care most about. Please contact your area representative or any board member with YOUR thoughts or to help!

-Susan Kysela

Thank You, Clean-up Volunteers!



Kevin Chafin.

Members of Roanoke Baptist Church and youth volunteers from Indiana joined Volker residents on Sunday, June 14th, to pick up trash and remove graffiti around the neighborhood. Afterwards everyone enjoyed ice cream sundaes. Special thanks to pastor Tom Hall and Volker organizers Steve Davis and

GOT TRAFFIC PROBLEMS? Please report Volker traffic problems in as much detail as possible. Proving they exist is the first step in addressing them. Thanks!

<http://kcmo.gov/police/traffic-complaints/>

This simple online traffic complaint form allows residents to report directly to the KCPD traffic problems that are occurring their neighborhood.

Examples of such complaints are speeding vehicles, vehicles running stop signs, making illegal turns, failing to yield at crosswalks and other hazardous violations.

THERE'S NO EXCUSE FOR DUMPING!

Besides Dumpster Day twice a year, city yard waste pick-ups in the spring and fall, and city yard waste drop-off sites, you can compost in your own backyard. You can even hire a yard waste service to pick up from your curb every week. Just Google "Yard Waste Services Kansas City."

Dumping can be reported to 3-1-1.

Let's keep Volker beautiful!

-Diane Capps

🌿🌿🌿 Vintage Volker 🌿🌿🌿



Gardner's Drug Company and Pharmacy as shown in this 1940 tax photo was at 1721 West 39th St. at Bell. The current tenant is Gilhouly's Bar, which may sound like an Irish bar but the owners are Italian!

The storefront pictured at the next door east--1719--is now Room 39.

--Diane Capps

New Destinations for Volker Residents

Andy's Frozen Custard, 1200 Westport Road. Now open!
Simply Grooming by Gia, has moved to 1200 W. 39th Street - Pet grooming and pet sitting
Downbeat Coffee + Tea, 1200 W. 39th St. - Upstairs - Jazz focused coffeehouse, early shows.
LOA Gallery, 1413 W. 39th St. - Dark art and macabre home furnishings
816 Vapor, 809 W. 39th St. Suite 140 - Vapor lounge and shop
Lush Salon, 904 W. 39th St.
Aqueous Vapor, 902 W. 39th St., E-cigs and e-juice

Get out and enjoy your neighborhood!

What's happening in Roanoke Park?

New sidewalks with the proper gradient to make easy access for the less abled are coming to the park area west of the tennis courts. All that dirt is needed for the proper gradient.

Work is also being done around the ball field to improve drainage and make that part of the South Meadow more suitable for a variety of activities. New sidewalks and replacement of existing sidewalks are in the works. Grass will be grown on the infield for more diverse utility and a softer appearance, but the backstop will be replaced so it can still be used for ball games. Dance in the Park can be held here in the future, but not this year in order to allow the grass to grow.

Dance in the Park this year will be held on the hillside above the volleyball area near Roanoke Rd and Karnes.

Meanwhile, Roanoke Park Conservancy volunteers continue to remove invasive honeysuckle and plant native perennials on the west side of the park coming off Wyoming. Please join Bob Ellis to help with this project bobellis@kcapartmentsllc.com. -Curt Watkins

New Face at WRCC

Alan Schmelzle (pronounced smells-lee), new Director at Westport Roanoke Community Center (WRCC), is bringing new energy, ideas, and standards of operation to the job. According to Schmelzle, "A community center has to meet the needs of many, so it does a little bit of everything."

He is already busy hiring a personal trainer for the fitness center, finding a replacement for the retired ceramics teacher, and planning a book club!

Looking for something your kids can do this summer? Day camp is offered by the week including field trips and swimming. The first week of August is puppet camp with Stone Lion's puppets.

Open seven days a week including most holidays, there is something for everyone. Be surprised! Check out it out. <http://kcparks.org/facility/westport-roanoke-community-center/>

Layout is not by Jeremy Luther this month. He is he is on vacation!

Volker Neighborhood Association meets the SECOND THURSDAY of the month except in August and December when we don't meet.

VNA Web Site
www.volkerkcmo.org

Join VNA online, sign up to receive VNA news and notices by email, read the newsletter, and find helpful links.

VNA on Facebook

Friend the VNA Facebook page for the latest info. Just search for "Volker Neighborhood Association"

If you have questions about real estate or personal property taxes, or an issue related to Jackson County gov't, call:

Scott Burnett
 1st District Jackson County Legislator
816-365-6664 (cell)
burnett.scott@gmail.com

The VNA Board

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Printing provided by the Neighborhood & Community Services Department

VNA Membership Application				
We encourage residents and businesses in the community to join <i>in shaping Volker's future.</i>				
Name (s)				Please Check Membership Type
Address				Individual, \$15
				Business, \$25
City		State	Zip	Senior Adult, \$10
Phone				Household \$20
E-mail				Total enclosed: \$
	I would like to receive email notices of VNA events/news.	Yes/No		Make Check payable to: VNA
I am interested in volunteering on Volker projects			Yes/No	
MAIL TO:	Diane Capps, 3535 Genessee Street			