

THE Volker News

Nov. — Dec. 2019 • Volker Neighborhood Association • VolkerKCMO.org

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS/EVENTS

Nov. 14 - Thanksgiving Potluck

December - No Meeting
Happy Holidays!

Jan. 9 - Neighborhood Meeting &
Chili Night

Feb. 13 -Neighborhood Meeting



DISCOURAGE THIEVES WITH A NEW NIGHTLY #9PMROUTINE (p. 2)

Thanksgiving Potluck

**Nov. 14, Immanuel Lutheran Church,
1700 Westport Road (enter from Bell Street).**

6:00 pm Set Up and Social; 6:30 pm Potluck

Join us for good food and good neighbors! We always have a good turnout for this event. Volunteers will provide the turkey. Please bring a vegetarian main dish, side or dessert to share. Also, *please bring your own plate and utensils* (to reduce waste) and your own drink. We'll also have neighborhood updates, Volker volunteer recognitions, and a survey from the new Development Awareness Committee. We look forward to seeing you! To help with the potluck, text Amy Cook at 913-306-4334. *If you know someone*



who deserves recognition as a Volker Neighborhood volunteer, please email us at info@volkerna.org.

Neighborhood Meeting & Chili Night

**Jan. 9, Immanuel Lutheran Church,
1700 Westport Road (enter from Bell Street).**

6:30 pm Social, Chili Supper;

7:00-8:00 pm Program

Sample a variety of chilis on what may be our coldest meeting day of the year. If you make a killer chili or just a darn good one, please bring a pot of your best, or

bring a side dish or dessert to share. *Please bring your own drink and tableware.* Text Amy Cook for more information at 913-306-4334.

Meet KCPD's Central Patrol Division Community Interaction Officer Holly Sticken, and discuss neighborhood safety and security issues.

Neighborhood Meeting

Feb. 13, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1700 Westport Road (enter from Bell Street).

6:30 pm Social & Snacks;

7:00-8:00 pm Program Speakers TBD. Please subscribe to our email updates via www.volkerna.org or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/volkerna) to keep informed.

At right, Volker neighbors enjoyed food, socializing and tours at The Loretto during the October neighborhood association meeting. The Loretto, a revitalized neighborhood landmark, offers event space, including a ballroom and bride and groom suites.

Photo: Stephanie Anderson.



Cats, Dogs, Pigs and City Codes

Ever tipped your bartender with a Vietnamese potbelly pig? Better not! It's a violation of city code. You may, however, keep four of the little fellas as pets.

Indeed, Kansas City allows residents to share a home with up to four dogs, cats, and Vietnamese pot-

belly pigs, in any combination, and up to four ferrets. However, these furry friends leash you to a few legal obligations and restrictions. (Disclaimer: this article does not apply to service animals.)

Dogs, cats, and ferrets must be licensed with the city. Licenses are issued for 12 months or three years, and require rabies vaccination certificates valid for the same time period. Dogs that are commonly referred to as “pit bulls” are permitted, but — with some exceptions — are required to be spayed or neutered.

Dogs and pigs may not be “at large.” Generally, they must be leashed or physically confined or restrained on private property. City code also restricts dogs in heat from being outdoors except “briefly for toilet purposes,” defined as a maximum of 15 minutes at a time.

In other water closet talk, failure to dispose of waste is illegal, and it's not very neighborly. No one wants their dog or pig tracking another animal's waste inside.

Don't try to rescue an animal from a vehicle in severe weather; only the police or supervisors from the Animal Health and Public Safety Division have this authority. And, as for tipping your bartender, city code prohibits giving animals as gratuities or prizes. Be sure to enjoy a patio on 39th with your licensed, vaccinated, leashed furry friend, but stick to the traditional 20% for the staff.

For more information on city ordinances, visit https://library.municode.com/mo/kansas_city.

— *Stephanie Anderson*



On Oct. 20, a Volker resident and his dog enjoy fall weather and outdoor dining on West 39th Street. Photo: Susie Cable.

We want to feature your dogs, cats, and potbelly pigs on our Facebook page! Please send a photo and a brief bio to vicepresident@volkerna.org. Be sure to follow the Volker Neighborhood Association on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/volkerkcmo.org/>!

Discourage Criminals with the #9PMRoutine

Kansas City Police Department wants you to help prevent crime by making the #9PMRoutine your new nightly habit. Every night at 9:00 PM:

1. Remove valuables — even loose change — from your vehicle;
2. Lock vehicle doors and close the windows;
3. Check your mail;
4. Make sure your garage door, exterior doors and windows are closed and locked;
5. Turn on exterior lights.

KCPD Central Patrol Division (CPD) Community Interaction Officer Holly Sticken discussed crime prevention at the September Volker neighborhood meeting. She says that locking your vehicle is one of the most important crime-prevention steps. Seems simple enough, but Sticken says that people sometimes leave vehicles unlocked with the keys inside, which makes them easy to steal. If, instead, you make it difficult for thieves, they're likely to pass on by in search of easy targets. Other KCPD tips include parking in well-lit areas, tightening the screws on your license plates, and removing electronics mounting devices and chargers. Follow KCPD on Facebook (www.facebook.com/kcpolice) and Twitter ([@kcpolice](https://twitter.com/kcpolice)) for more tips.

If you see someone acting suspiciously, Sticken says you should call the police to report a “suspicious party prowling.” The KCPD website says to call 911 immediately, instead of waiting until a crime is committed. You can see where crimes have been reported by visiting <https://www.kcpd.org/> and clicking on “Crime Mapping.”

If you would like personalized tips on beefing up your home security, call the CPD at 816-234-5510 to ask about home security surveys. Sticken and others are available by appointment to assess your home environment and teach you how to improve security. Some easy environmental changes, such as painting your house a lighter color or adding motion-detector lights, can discourage potential criminals. Your insurance company might even offer a discount if you upgrade security.

For more prevention and safety tips, visit <https://www.kcpd.org/crime/prevention-and-safety-tips/crime-prevention-tips-and-brochures/> or contact the CPD at 816-234-5510. If all Volker residents practice the #9PMRoutine and other KCPD tips, the whole neighborhood will become less attractive to thieves. And we'll enjoy an even better place to live! — *Susie Cable*



This issue's 1940 tax photo features Gordon Parks Elementary School at 3715 Wyoming in Volker neighborhood. Built in 1913, the school was originally named Van Horn School in honor of Col. Robert Van Horn, who served as mayor, state senator, U.S. Congressman and publisher of The Kansas City Journal. Charles Smith was the architect for the building.

After World War II, when a new Van Horn High School was built at Winner and Van Horn Roads, this school was renamed the William Volker School. The four acres donated for the school were donated by the Volker and Whitehead estates. The two families were neighbors here in Volker.

Due to declining enrollment, Volker School was closed in June of 2000. Two months later, a public charter school group bought the building and renamed it Gordon Parks Charter Elementary School, in honor of the legendary author, composer,

filmmaker, photographer and raconteur. He passed away at the age of 106 on March 7, 2006.

— Diane Capps

Please email Diane at rep2-N@volkerna.org with your ideas for future Vintage Volker articles.

Development Awareness Committee News

Kevin Klinkenberg is the new chairman of Volker Neighborhood Association's Development Awareness Committee. Klinkenberg is an architect and urban planner with 25 years of professional experience. He currently leads his own practice, K2 Urban Design. This is his second stint living in Volker after eight years in Savannah, Ga. He also served as president of Valentine Neighborhood Association in the past.



Photo courtesy Kevin Klinkenberg.

The committee hopes to facilitate a discussion about development activities in the neighborhood and navigating our competing interests productively. "We won't all agree, but we hope to have a series of conversations about what positive change can look like in Volker," Klinkenberg says. The Committee will seek to apprise the neighborhood of new projects as information becomes available.

The committee will run a survey to assess residents' priorities at the VNA Thanksgiving potluck on Nov. 14. Also, a link to the survey will

be available through the VNA website at <https://www.volkerkcmo.org/>.

For more information on the survey and other VNA issues, sign up for email blasts on the website, and follow VNA on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/volkerkcmo.org/>. To join the committee or learn more about its work, email Klinkenberg at development@volkerna.org.

City to Collect Yard Waste Only Once this Fall

The City of Kansas City usually has two leaf and brush collection dates in the fall, but this year there will be only one. Curbside collection will occur on **Dec. 2.**, Volker's regularly scheduled trash day.

To review the City's curbside leaf and brush collection rules, visit <https://www.kcwater.us/programs/leaf-brush/>. Call the City's call center at 311 if you have questions or need to report service issues.





Leon Harden (left) and Tom Milteer love Volker's walkability, cool neighbors and gay-friendly environment.

Volker Folks
Neighbors enjoying a beautiful autumn day on Oct. 27.
Photos by Susie Cable.



Don Taylor rakes leaves from the street to prevent them from clogging the storm drains.



Angela and Manuel Reyes decorate for all holidays. Christmas is their favorite for decorating, but Halloween is a close second!



A Volker neighbor enjoys a walk with her canine pal.

Rosalinda Aviles doing yardwork and saving seeds to plant next year.



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

If you have questions about real estate or personal property taxes, or an issue related to Jackson County government, contact
Scott Burnett
1st District Jackson County Legislator
816-365-6664 (cell)
burnett.scott@gmail.com

VNA Board
We're all volunteers!

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Susie Cable
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VNA Membership Application

Membership is based on the calendar year.

We encourage residents and businesses to join in shaping Volker's future.

NAME: _____

Household _____

2nd Member: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

*EMAIL _____

*SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NOTICES AT: www.VolkerKCMO.org

I AM INTERESTED IN WORKING ON VOLKER PROJECTS

MAIL TO: DIANE CAPPS, 3535 GENESSEE ST.
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

JOIN ONLINE: www.VolkerKCMO.org

PLEASE SELECT MEMBERSHIP TYPE

- INDIVIDUAL \$15
- SENIOR 60+ \$10
- HOUSEHOLD \$20
- BUSINESS \$25

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
\$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO V. N. A.