

### INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLKER RESIDENTS!

## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS:

### MAY 14TH KU HOSPITAL PROJECT

Jill Chadwick, News Director of the Medical News Network, and Dorothy Hughes, Government Relations Liaison for KU Hospital will bring updates and drawings. The tower under construction at 39th and State Line will be 8-12 stories tall with more to follow. This is a chance to be informed and have a conversation about your concerns.

### JUNE 11 VNA BOARD ELECTION

Elections for all Volker Neighborhood Association board positions and area representatives are held every two years. We encourage your participation! See Page 2. for more information.

### JULY 9 ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Location to be announced.

## VOLKER MEETINGS

MAY 14  
KU HOSPITAL PROJECT

JUNE 11  
VNA ELECTIONS

JULY 9  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
(LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED)

IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
(WESTPORT ROAD & BELL  
ENTER FROM BELL.)

6:30 PM SOCIAL  
7:00 PM PROGRAM



LIKE THE NEW LOOK OF **VOLKER NEWS**? A BIG THANK YOU! GOES TO VOLKER RESIDENT JEREMY LUTHER WHO CAME TO US VOLUNTEERING HIS HELP WITH NEWSLETTER LAYOUT. JEREMY IS THE ART DIRECTOR FOR *THE PITCH*. WE ARE THRILLED!

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### JUNE 6: VOLKER GARAGE SALES AND DUMPSTER DAY ARE ON THE SAME DAY!

Dumpsters for yard waste and trash. Surplus Exchange takes "anything with a plug," plus metal, electronics and batteries. Parking lot of Westport Roanoke Community Center, 8 am to Noon or until the dumpsters are full! To volunteer, email Steve Davis at [treasurer@volkerna.org](mailto:treasurer@volkerna.org) or just show up.

VNA will place Garage Sale signs and run a KC Star ad. To have your address listed on Facebook, email Melissa Martin at [social@volkerna.org](mailto:social@volkerna.org).

### JUNE 27: VOLKERFEST

Looking for family-friendly fun? Volkerfest will be held on Saturday 6/27, from 3pm-9pm. This is Volker's first ever family-friendly festival. Bands will play throughout the day surrounded by art from local artists. KCMO Parks and Westport-Roanoke Community Center are partnering with us on this awesome event. Come stay for the day and enjoy what your neighborhood has to offer. Invite your friends, and most of all have fun!

If you know an artist or band that would like to share their craft with all of Kansas City, or if you would like to volunteer, please email Melissa Martin at [KCVolkerfest@gmail.com](mailto:KCVolkerfest@gmail.com)

# VOLKER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ELECTION INFORMATION

Elections for the VNA board and area representatives will be held on June 11th at the general meeting. A Nominating Committee will be formed at the May 14th meeting. You are welcome to run, and we hope you'll be there on June 11th to vote. To serve on the Nominating Committee or to run for any office, please contact a VNA board member. Candidates can also be nominated from the floor on June 11th. (VNA Bylaws require membership in VNA for two months before the election to run or vote. If your dues have lapsed, you can renew anytime before the election to participate. If membership poses a problem and you wish to run, please contact us, anyway.)

Volker Neighborhood Association is a forum where residents can learn about opportunities and resources, organize around neighborhood and city issues, and meet neighbors with common interests and concerns. We are a channel for communication between residents and between the city and residents. Not only do we provide 10 informational and social meetings annually plus special events, a newsletter, and social media presence, we are also active behind the scenes attending meetings and hearings with city, municipal court, and community organizations, and building relationships with residents and others to support Volker interests. We listen when you bring concerns to us, and when you want to take action, we work with you. Examples from the term now ending include VolkerFest now organizing in response to resident interest in a Volker festival, supporting a community process that ended with significant compromises from the developer at 3616 Bell Street, and down zoning North Volker. Plans are in the works to beef-up our ability to work with you!

Two Area Representatives Are Needed! VNA Area Representatives in North, Southeast and Southwest Volker are on the streets getting to know you and what's happening in the areas they represent. They meet you when they deliver newsletters, they are available by phone, email, and at meetings to hear your concerns, they volunteer on activities and neighborhood improvement projects, and they participate in monthly VNA board and general meetings. New area reps are needed to replace folks moving on, one each in South-east and Southwest Volker.

VNA's longtime hard-working secretary is retiring at the end of this term. Rick Leidig has faithfully written the minutes, carried out administrative tasks such as keeping VNA registrations with the city and state up to date, worked on the newsletter, done the paperwork and attended meetings for the Neighborhood Tourism Development grant that supports Dance in the Park. He will be greatly missed! Another member of the board will be taking on some of these tasks, but we still need a new secretary!

Please consider running for one of the above or any office, or nominate someone who would be a good candidate.

*-Susan Kysela*

## HOW TO HOLD A BLOCK PARTY: IT'S THE SEASON!



I don't know everyone on my block...do you? Block parties are a great way of getting to know your closest neighbors and enjoying summer. Knowing your neighbors also happens to be on every list of ways to make yourself and your neighborhood safer. It's sur-prisingly easy.

You do need a city permit to close your block permit application at KCMO.gov website. (Search "Block Party Permit") Filling it out will get you talking to your neighbors and coming up with ideas.

### **THE FOLLOWING TIPS AND IDEAS COME FROM VOLKER RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN HOLDING BLOCK PARTIES EVERY SUMMER FOR YEARS.**

- Make sure you send out a letter early to all the neighbors on your block so they have it on their calendar.
- Reach out to neighbors about what they can offer. Volker is an eclectic group of residents and you never know what people can provide if you just ask
- Make sure if you have a church/business on your block, that they are invited. One year, a wedding was taking place and it provided difficulty for parking.
- Try to bring entertainment to liven the party! We had a potluck for our block but then after a few hours opened it up to all Volker residents when the band went on. It provided a great sense of community.
- With the permit, allow for set up and take down time. The latest you can reserve your block is 10pm.
- Have receptacles for recycling and trash. Ask neighbors to help with tables, chairs, and tents.
- Have yard games for kids and adults.

Have fun with it! And afterward, please tell us about it, send a photo to share in a future issue (Susan Kysela email on back) or share on Volker Neighborhood Association Facebook page. Thanks,!

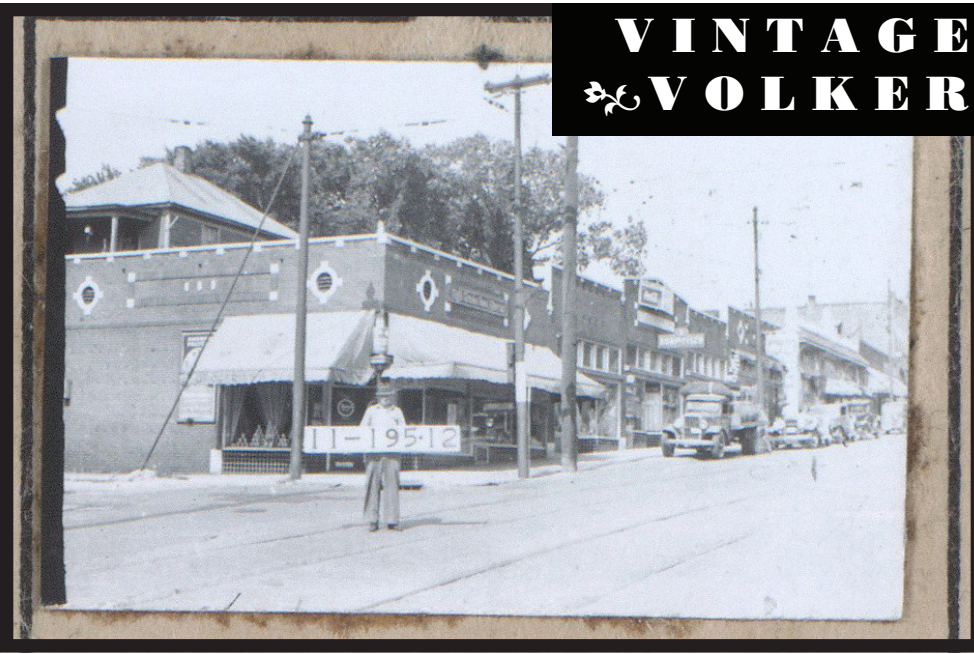
*Tips and photo by Melissa Martin*

## VINTAGE VOLKER

BY DIANE CAPPS

This 1940 tax photo is of Renner's Market at 1818 West 39th St. near the northeast corner of 39th and State Line. That corner lot address was most likely 1820--which probably served as the parking lot for the market. Note the trolley tracks!

The new 39th Street West Apartments now occupy the space of both of those addresses -- and more! However, they have a State Line address: 3895. The 39th Street Market on the ground floor below the apartments claims 1850 West 39th Street as its address.



## DESTINATIONS FOR VOLKER RESIDENTS

Sosa's 39th Street Diner, 3906 Waddell Avenue. Now open.

Andy's Frozen Custard, 1200 Westport Road. Opening soon!

GET OUT AND ENJOY YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

## HELP BEAUTIFY VOLKER, ONE YARD AT A TIME

Spring is the time to clean up and revive yards and gardens, and many residents have been doing just that. Look around and get inspired! Like everything else in Volker, there's variety from all grass to no grass, and everything in between. If you've got grass, throw out some weed-and-feed and keep the lawn mowed. If you have other landscaping or ivy, pulling the weeds and digging out small trees that come up on their own makes a world of difference. Yard work is a chance to be creative, chat with neighbors, get some exercise, and be out-doors. It's fun! Make yourself and your neighbors proud. And yes, it's good for property values.

*-Jim Peters*

## COMMUNITY GARDEN SPACE NEEDED

We are in search of another plot for Volker gardeners. If you have a vacant lot and would be willing to open it up to your neighbors, please email Amanda Lindahl at [volkergarden@gmail.com](mailto:volkergarden@gmail.com). Please remember it would need to have a water source. Thank you!

## NEIGHBORHOODS BRAINSTORM SAFETY ACTION

Volker, Roanoke, Valentine, and Coleman High-lands neighborhoods have worked together for years to improve Roanoke Park, so exploring collaboration on safety and security issues raised by recent incidents made sense. On April 11, about 50 people, including two VNA board members, gathered to come up with ideas for improving neighborhood safety and security in a meeting conducted by Mary Jo Draper.

After breaking into small groups and then reconvening as a whole, attendees agreed to pursue strategies in the following areas:

1. Education, Awareness and Branding. Educating ourselves about best practices to minimize risk, and "branding" our neighborhoods as "watch and call," with signage and by doing it!
2. Website/Communication Channels to create joint crime awareness among neighborhoods.
3. Know your neighbors. Get to know, communicate with, and look out for your neighbors.
4. Surveillance Systems.

If you are interested in helping develop any of these ideas, please contact Charlie Becker at [Charlie.Becker@outlook.com](mailto:Charlie.Becker@outlook.com).

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:

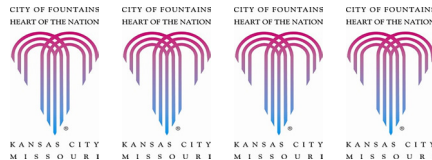
# SCOTT BURNETT

1ST DISTRICT JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATOR

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 & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
 DEPARTMENT**



## VNA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY STATE ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in working on volker projects Y N \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** DIANE CAPPS  
 3535 GENESSEE ST

**PLEASE SELECT  
 MEMBERSHIP TYPE**

- INDIVIDUAL \$15
- BUSINESS \$25
- SENIOR ADULT \$10
- HOUSEHOLD \$20

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:**

Make checks payable to:  
 VNA

# YOUR VNA VOLUNTEER BOARD

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