

THE Volker News

November-December 2015

Volker General Meetings

Nov. 12 - Thanksgiving Potluck
(Starts at 6:30 pm)

December - No Meeting
Happy Holidays!

Jan. 14 - Neighborhood Safety

Feb. 11 - Traffic and Parking

Meetings and Potluck at::

*Immanuel Lutheran Church
1700 Westport Road
(Enter from Bell Street)
6:30 pm Social; 7 pm Program*

Information and Opportunities for Volker Residents



Volker Neighborhood *Thanksgiving Potluck*

Thursday, November 12

Immanuel Lutheran Church (*Starts at 6:30 pm*)

Good food! Good neighbors! Join us for one of Volker's most popular annual events.

** Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.**

Meet your local elected officials. Hear from Energy Works KC (See p. 2 for more info.)

NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

November 12 - Neighborhood
Thanksgiving Potluck, 6:30 pm

See announcement above. Energy Works KC helps residents and businesses become more energy efficient by providing zero and low interest loans. (See p. 2 for more info.)

November 14 - Volker Coffee Hour
10 am Downbeat Coffee and Tea, 1200 W. 39th Street, Up the Stairs on the west side of the building. Cool place!

November 16 & December 14

Curbside Brush and Leaf Pickup in Volker Please use paper bags for leaves and bundle brush no more than 4 feet long.

January 14 - Neighborhood Safety,
6:30/7:00 pm KCPD report on Volker community safety and tips for keeping safe.

February 11 - Traffic and Parking
6:30/7:00 pm Bring your concerns about traffic issues all over Volker and the permit parking process.

VNA HOUSING COMMITTEE

Note from new Housing Chair Kathleen Brock

As a long time active resident, I have had many experiences in different housing developments, from codes, zoning and landlord disputes to clean ups and dangerous building removal.

Volker has, I feel, always had many buffers to keep it strong, some good commercial neighbors, but most importantly, invested residents whose families have had several generations thrive here and others who are new to the neighborhood and equally invested.

The newly resurrected Housing Committee has Volker at heart, of course. It should protect new residents who don't understand the codes process, attend housing court cases when necessary, work with the codes inspector to help clarify neighborhood positions on cases, and be a "go-between" for tenants and landlords, if necessary.

It would also be nice to incorporate a garden, or landscape piece to the committee, especially with all of the climate involvement and "eat local" initiatives, primarily as an informational piece of the committee to promote beautification and understanding of home gardens.

This is a very broad goal, but I know Volkerites are up to the challenge. *If you have interest in serving on this committee, please contact me at 816-853-3277 or housing@volkerna.org.*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Being a Good Neighbor

Around us there are many who are elderly or have fallen on hard times that are in need of neighborly assistance. We at Roanoke Baptist Church would like to connect people with needs with those who are able to help. Especially with winter approaching, we know this can be a difficult time.

If you are in need of help (a ride to buy your groceries or to a doctors appointment, taking trash out, or something else), or if you live alone and would just like someone to stop by every now and then to visit, please let us know.

If you are a neighborhood resident interested in volunteering in one of these areas, please let us know. As a church we just want to serve as the connection point for those with needs and those willing to help make Volker the most neighborly neighborhood in KC.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Pastor Tom Hall at thall@roanokebaptist.org or call the church at 816-561-4392. *-Tom Hall*

LOANS FOR ENERGY UPDATES

Volker Homeowners are Eligible

Who wouldn't want to save on their gas and electric bills? EnergyWorks KC and NHS (Neighborhoods, Homes, Solutions) offer affordable loans to bring energy efficiency home improvement within reach. Incentives are available for improvements that achieve at least 15% projected energy savings, based on a professional energy analysis. Actions that qualify include Lighting, Insulation, Air Sealing, HVAC, Appliances, Energy Audits and more.

Visit with representatives of this program at the November Thanksgiving Potluck on Nov. 12th. For more information email: ewkc@nhsofkcmo.org or check the website: www.nhsofkcmo.org

HOMEOWNER/TENANT AWARENESS

Trees, Shrubs and Snow

You may not be aware but all homeowners and tenants living in Kansas City have a responsibility to maintain the trees and bushes in their yards. This includes keeping branches trimmed back from the city streets and sidewalks, leaving a minimum of 7-½ feet of vertical clearance above the surface of the street or sidewalk and not encroaching the pedestrian or vehicle traffic. For your reference, this responsibility is described in the Kansas City Municipal Code of Ordinances Sections 64-416 and 64-417 available online at the following web address: <https://www.municode.com/library/mo/kansas-city/codes/code-of-ordinances>

In the event you fail to remove such branches, the city has the authority to remove them at your expense. *If you are unable to maintain your trees and bushes due to physical limitations or other hardship, please reach out to us at the VNA and we will try our best to obtain volunteers to assist you.* (Continued on p. 3)

🌿🌿🌿 Vintage Volker 🌿🌿🌿



This 1940 tax photo shows a neighborhood Kroger grocery store --in the days before they became super-markets in the fifties! In the last issue a Conoco station was showcased--where Aladdin's Cafe currently stands. This Kroger store was where Vinyl Renaissance & Audio now resides--right next door to the east of Aladdin. Note the words "GROCERIES" AND "MEATS" on either side of the Kroger sign.

According to the Missouri Valley Room's librarian there was a shoe repair shop next door east to Kroger. We'll examine other storefronts along this block in future issues. --Diane Capps

New Destinations for Volker Residents

Bob Wasabi Kitchen, 1720 W. 39th, Sushi and Asian Cuisine, soon to be serving saki!

Hoarder's Treasures, 1607 W. 39th, from vintage to new, classic to quirky.

Get out and enjoy your neighborhood!

Snow removal from sidewalks along the street is covered by City Code Section 64-246. Property owners, residents (including tenants), and businesses are required to clear snow within a reasonable time.

Although these responsibilities are a legal requirement, it's also a very neighborly thing to do. Encroaching shrubs and trees or snow on the sidewalk reduce walk-ability for everyone. It can even force people to walk in the street.

With this in mind, we call on all residents to do their part to keep Volker one of the most friendly and walkable neighborhoods in Kansas City. --Patrick Faltico

CURBSIDE GLASS RECYCLING

Two Options for Volker Residents

Tired of schlepping your glass to the Ripple dumpster yourself? There's at least one service already operating in Volker and another looking to get started if there is enough interest. Both services

supply a bin and pickup on Volker's trash day, Monday. Rates and details differ. Check out their websites.

Atlas Glass is already operating in Volker: www.atlasglasskc.com or phone at 913.735.6116.

Glass Bandit is looking to start service in Volker: www.glassbandit.com/volker. For questions or more information refer to www.glassbandit.com or email directly at info@glassbandit.com.

Are you a VNA Member?

Joining or renewing VNA members can pay dues now for membership good to the end of 2016. Members are eligible for gift certificate drawings at VNA meetings.

Mail the membership application on the back of this newsletter, join at a meeting, or join online.

We appreciate your support!

Please turn the page for more news!

VOLKER WATCH NEWS

Thanks to Kara Werner and Amanda McGee, "Community Watch" signs have been posted around the neighborhood to encourage residents to call the police. KCPD recommends using 911 for all reports of suspicious or criminal activity underway even if it is not "an emergency." The 911 call center prioritizes calls.

"Volker Watch" stickers are now available at Prosperos for your front door or car. Please take only one. For as-it-happens information about crime in the area, join Volker Watch Facebook page. KCPD Officer Andrew Hamil's email list, Andrew.Hamil@kcpd.org, is another source of safety-related community information.

*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

VNA'S NEW WEBSITE IS UP! We apologize for any inconvenience while it was down.

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

**Printing provided by the
Neighborhood & Community
Services Department**

VNA Membership Application

⇒ Membership is based on the calendar year ⇐

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

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

*EMAIL _____

*PLEASE ADD ME TO THE VNA E-BLAST LIST

I AM INTERESTED IN WORKING ON VOLKER PROJECTS

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

**PLEASE SELECT
MEMBERSHIP TYPE**

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

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
\$ _____

**PLEASE MAKE
CHECKS PAYABLE TO
V. N. A.**

VNA Board

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All are volunteers!