

THE Volker News

July-August 2019 • Volker Neighborhood Association • VolkerKCMO.org

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS/EVENTS

July 13-Volker Picnic

Sept. 7 –Dance in the Park

Sept. 12 –Neighborhood Meeting

Sept. 28 –Dumpster Day



Arts Incubator Charlotte Street Foundation Is Moving to Volker (p. 2)

Upcoming Events

Neighborhood Picnic: July 13, 6:00 pm

In Roanoke Park's south meadow (across from Westport Roanoke Community Center).



Hamburgers, hotdogs and veggie burgers grilled by your neighbors. Please bring

sides or desserts to share. Relax and enjoy this time in the park with neighbors. To volunteer, text Amy Cook 913-306-4334.

Dance in the Park: Sept. 7, 7:00-10:00 pm (Rain date Sept. 8)

In Roanoke Park on Karnes, next to the sand volleyball court. FREE performances by local dance groups in an outdoor setting. Set out your blankets and lawn chairs between 6:00 and 7:00 pm. There might be a special pre-show performance during that time, so get there early!

Produced by City in Motion Dance Theater,

Inc., and Volker, Coleman Highlands, Roanoke, Valentine, and West Plaza neighborhoods. Volunteers needed for many tasks, including set-up, tear-down, baking goodies, and stage assisting. Email volunteer coordinator Joe Hall at hall.joe.a@gmail.com.



Neighborhood Meeting: Sept. 12 6:30 pm Social Time; 7:00-8:00 pm Program *Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1700 Westport Road (enter from Bell Street).* Architectural researcher Kelsey Lutz will speak on how to research your own home.

NOTE there is no meeting in July or August.

New VNA Board Elected

The new Volker Neighborhood Association board was elected by acclamation during the June neighborhood meeting. The volunteer board includes both new and experienced members, all of whom are committed to



Some of the 2019-2021 VNA board members pose after being elected at the June meeting. From left: M.J. Poehler; John Meetz; Steve Davis; Nathan Jurey; Erin Dolinich; Patrick Faltico; Jim Peters; Diane Capps; and Stephanie Anderson. Photo: Susie Cable.

working on behalf of Volker residents to maintain and improve our neighborhood.

See page 4 for a list of all members, their positions and their contact information. Board members encourage you to provide input on new ideas, concerns, events and other neighborhood issues.

All Volker residents, whether homeowners or renters, are welcome to attend VNA meetings and become members. See page 4 for a membership application. —*Susie Cable*

Approval Expected on Development Code Amendment

Proposed code amendment Ordinance 88-505-12 moved a step closer to approval on June 18. The City Plan Commission (CPC) voted to recommend approval by City Council. This is good news for neighborhoods. The amendment “provides a framework for the notification and meeting process for applicants and registered neighborhood/civic organizations and/or adjacent property owners to provide an opportunity to inform and answer questions and hear any concerns about a land use development proposal which may impact the adjacent area.”

Notification must take place no later than seven calendar days after the filing of any application for Zoning Map Amendments, Development Plan Approvals, Special Use Permits, or Preliminary Plats. Implementation of this ordinance might be delayed until October 1. Neighborhood and civic organizations must keep their registrations with the city up to date to assure notification.

You can read the amendment text at <http://kcmo.gov/planning/public-engagement-process>.

Arts Organization Charlotte Street Foundation Is Moving to Volker

Art lovers, get ready to take advantage of classes, gallery exhibits and live performances in Charlotte Street Foundation’s new campus right in our neighborhood! The nonprofit organization, which for more than 20 years has supported KC-area artists in multiple ways, in June celebrated its groundbreaking at the site at 3333 Wyoming in the industrial corridor.

The nearly 25,000-square-foot facility will have resident artist studios, performance and event spaces, gallery, offices and greenspace. The foundation hopes to open the new campus in April 2020, and the public will be invited to participate in events and classes, and to visit the campus to walk or picnic in the greenspace, says Mason Kilpatrick, marketing and communications manager.

Until the new campus opens, the foundation continues to offer programming and studio space



in multiple locations throughout the city, as it has for two decades.

Founder David

Hughes expects this “practical, but totally funky” facility will become a “world-class-level incubator for artists.”

Hufft, an architecture and interior design firm that is also located in the industrial corridor, was awarded the project. Its website calls the campus an “artist’s village.” Visit <https://www.Hufft.com> and <https://www.CharlotteStreet.org> for more information. —*Susie Cable*

Stay Informed with VNA Social Media

Volker website: <https://www.volkerkcmo.org>
Join VNA online, sign up to receive VNA news and notices by email, read newsletters, and find helpful links.

VNA on Facebook
Friend the VNA for the latest info. Just search for “Volker Neighborhood Association.”

Letter from the New VNA President

Hello neighbors,

I am pleased to represent you as the new Volker Neighborhood Association president. My predecessor, Susan Kysela, worked tirelessly to change the VNA into a transparent and responsive organization, with a primary mission of equitably supporting residents and helping them address neighborhood concerns, especially by educating them about City resources. I will build on her progress, creating an even friendlier, more accessible and more valuable resource for all residents.



Faltico

In 2008, I moved to Volker because I love its walkability, diversity, easy access to Roanoke Park, and vibrant street life. I joined the VNA four years ago and began working on parking and traffic calming projects. With the City's public works department and the 39th Street Community Improvement District (CID), and with grants from the City's Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), we hope to implement several traffic calming solutions soon.

Traffic safety for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles is one of the most pressing issues in Volker and I will continue to work on this effort. There are many other issues I hope we can improve as well, including more practical and effective housing code enforcement, reduced crime, and greater cooperation with surrounding neighborhoods and businesses.

Please join the VNA, attend a meeting, connect with us on social media, or subscribe to our website emails for updates. See for yourself what the VNA is all about. We have much to offer residents who want to get involved, build community, and work together to improve our quality of life.

Patrick M. Faltico

*~ ~ ~ Vintage Volker fans, please do not fret! ~ ~ ~
Vintage Volker is not gone; it is simply on a break. Please email Diane Capps at
rep2-N@volkerna.org with your ideas for future Vintage Volker articles. Thank you!*

Often Forgotten Resident Duties

Here's a reminder of some duties that are easily forgotten, but important for safety and livability. Most are required by city code, but I prefer to think of them as "the neighborly thing to do." Please:

- Remove all stagnant water from your property. Mosquitos breed in stagnant water.
- Don't block the sidewalk when parking in your driveway. Your neighbors, including parents with strollers and people with mobility impairments, are forced into the street when you do.
- Trim bushes and branches that impede sidewalks.
- Pick up litter from your property and around the neighborhood and help beautify Volker.
- Pick up your dog's poop!

Thank you for doing your part to keep Volker a wonderful place to live! — Patrick Faltico

New Editor for The Volker News

I am pleased to announce that Susie Cable has volunteered to take over as editor of The Volker News. The Volker Neighborhood is lucky to have such a capable new editor. Susie has a master's degree in journalism and at one time worked as a writer for the fresh produce industry. She is a welcome addition to the Volker team!



Cable

Susie recently moved to Volker to be closer to her job as a social worker. She switched fields after earning her MSW several years ago, but journalism is still in her blood. Susie will work with the board to ensure The Volker News continues to be a source of information and good community spirit.

Susie looks forward to learning about the neighborhood issues important to you. Please email her at newsletter@volkerna.org with feedback and story ideas. — Susan Kysela

Please turn the page for more news!

Out and About in Volker

Good News for Comfort Food Fans

Vera Marie's Comfort Food restaurant just opened at 1806 W. 39th St., right across the street from the former Anna's Oven. Family-owned and named in honor of their mom, Vera Marie's offers a full menu of comfort food and smoothies in a charming atmosphere. The restaurant does not serve alcohol. Open 11:00 am to 9 pm Monday—Saturday.

Volker Yard of the Month

Check out the July Yard of the Month at 3307 Bell Street! Owner Linda Wellner says it "isn't ready," but we all know that most yards are works in progress. Hers shows a well-cared-for variety of planting in a pleasing arrangement and ambitious efforts at hardscape. Linda is an artist who grew up helping out at her grandmother's plant business. She also worked as a volunteer garden manager at Habitat for Humanity and once was a fulltime gardener at a National Trust castle in the Cotswolds of the English countryside! Stop by to be inspired and chat.



Photo: Susan Kysela.

Is there a yard on your block that deserves recognition? Please send nominations to newsletter@volkerna.org. —Susan Kysela

Volker Neighborhood Association meets the SECOND THURSDAY of the month—except in 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 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.

VNA Board

We're all volunteers!

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