



NEWSLETTER

January 2014

EDITOR'S NOTE

Susan Allen-Warren, Rodger Jenkins, Sam Sinnett, Christina Dougherty, Tiphonie Voegel, Mary Abkemeier, Rebecca Lobb, Mary Broun, Judy Giraud, Jo Stern, Rebecca Lobb, and BJ Clutter, helped make this edition possible. Thank you.

Fred Giraud, Editor

THE ALLEY CAT



It was the day of the heavy snowfall that the Alley Cat labored through the deep snow to get to my front door. After he had arrived I suggested he help me clear the porch of some of the recent day's bounty. "Not right now because I have a story I want to tell you." "OK, go ahead," I said. The Cat began: "One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!"

"How did you like that story the Cat asked?" "Great!" I said. "Sounds as if this story has a lesson to teach us", I added. "You bet" the Cat said. "Here it is. Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up."

"That sounds like good advice for the New Year", I said. "Let's get the shovels and attack this snow. Be sure you take the big one and give me the small one," offered the Cat as we got to work clearing the porch.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Rodger Jenkins and Sam Sinnett



Rodger Jenkins and Sam Sinnett have decided to stay for a while in their home at 6374 Pershing.

They had first planned to rehab and resell the 100-year-old house, as the first project of a new property development company they formed together.

“We were two months into it and we thought, what are we going to find better than this?” said Rodger. “Now our corporation is working on a project in south St. Louis instead.”

Previously they shared a home in the central west end, rehabbed the kitchen, and successfully sold it.

“When we met I was in a condo I’d had built for myself,” said Sam. “Rodger was a neighbor of friends of mine. They

had wanted us to meet for a while. They finally got us together and we’ve barely been apart since.”

Sam is originally from St. Louis, attending St. Louis University High School. He went to the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts.

He inherited the family business, the Sinnett Lacquer Manufacturing Company. He sold that and became a partner in a retail store in Ellisville in West County. Since retiring he keeps himself busy with several activities. When not doing rehab work with Rodger he does the gardening and has creative plans for the yard. He has also been a world cyclist, traveling across the US and all over Europe, even as far as Bhutan in South Asia. “I’ve put in over 5,000 miles a year.”

Sam is also retired from his service work with the group Dignity USA, a national organization that focuses on LGBT rights and the Catholic Church, where he was on the board of directors for 10 years and National President for four years.

Rodger is a retired optometrist from DuQuoin, Illinois. He moved here and started a real estate brokerage. On Sundays he is the organist at Lafayette Park United Methodist Church, after eight years of practice and studying at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Between the two of them they have three daughters and three grandchildren, whose lives they follow closely, babysitting whenever they can. “We think of them all as both of ours.” Sadly, Sam’s son died right after high school.

Their current home has received the full treatment, including all new electric and plumbing, extensive insulation and improved windows. The sunrooms have been upgraded for year-round use. And the kitchen is top of the line for entertaining or just daily use.

When exploring the basement the couple discovered two pairs of doors, meant for the bookcases flanking one of the fireplaces but apparently discarded after the leaded glass was damaged. Sam said after a trip to have it repaired at a CWE stained glass shop they spotted new art glass window panes exactly the size for the windows above the bookcases, mimicking the same architectural era. He snatched those up, had them installed, and the effect is gorgeous. When working to refurbish another fireplace, their masons found bricks to match those of the 100-year-old foundation. “Except for the new grout they match perfectly.”

Pat Fitzgerald, the previous owner, had raised four kids in this house with her husband. She lived there a total of 50 years. Sam made her acquaintance at a yoga class. Sam became interested in the house when hearing that she wanted to sell to someone who would work on it as a historical redevelopment. Thus began the project Sam and Rodger took on together. Rodger offered it for sale to developers, who had the time and the interest, but financially didn’t want to extend themselves that far. “So we took over as owners,” said Sam, “and now we are partners with them.”

“Pat was concerned when she learned we wanted to flip the house after the rehab. So we had her over at the holidays,” said Rodger.

“We were worried she wouldn’t like what we had done with it. She lived here for half this home’s life after all,” said Sam.

So what did she have to say?

“She loved it,” said Rodger, radiating pride. “It’s now listed as a Century Home in the University City historical society. We’ll be getting a plaque soon.”

Parkview’s charm has a way of enticing terrific people to stay, especially if they devote themselves to care lovingly for the old homes within its boundaries. I don’t think Sam and Rodger will let us down!

(Written by Susan Allen-Warren)

RESIDENTS IN THE NEWS

Florian Kuplent (Washington) was pictured on the front page of the December 28 edition of *St. Louis Post Dispatch* along with a lengthy article about the new Urban Chestnut Brewery under construction in the Grove neighborhood of St. Louis. Florian is an owner and the brew master of this craft beer brewery.

PARKVIEW PUZZLER, January 2014 by Susan Allen-Warren



How well do you know our neighborhood? This photo was taken in Parkview. The photographer was standing in the street or on the sidewalk within our neighborhood. Can you identify the address? Send your answer to parkviewpuzzler@gmail.com to win bragging rights. The answer and name of the first person to send in the correct answer will be published in the next newsletter. By the way, the resident of this house is not eligible!



No one replied with the correct answer to the December 2013 puzzler. This intriguing sculpture is located at 6211 Westminster. That means I get bragging rights this month for stumping you! Perhaps you had the answer but didn’t email. Good Luck with the January puzzler. Hint: The photo was taken in the spring and not in the midst of the ten inches of snowfall we had the week of January 10, at the time of this writing.

THANKS

To: The mysterious “Advent Angels”. From: The grateful residents



INTERESTING TID BITS OF HISTORY ABOUT PARKVIEW by Trisha Pflantz

The house at 6326 Waterman was once home to a very special Tooth Fairy.

Starting in 1959, Parkview resident Louise Reiss coordinated a nationwide campaign to convince children to donate their baby teeth to science. And it worked. Between 1959 and 1970, more than 300,000 children sent their teeth to the St. Louis Baby Tooth Study instead of placing them under their pillows for the Tooth Fairy. In the early days of the study, volunteers met at the Reiss family home to sort the teeth that had been donated. Each child who participated got a special button: “I gave my tooth to science.”



The Baby Tooth Study aimed to find out whether children had higher traces of radiation after above-ground nuclear testing began in 1945.

The study started the year after the Reiss family moved to Parkview. Both Louise and her husband, Eric, were physicians. Eric worked at the Washington University School of Medicine, and Louise worked in the St. Louis city health department, inoculating children with the polio vaccine. In 1959, the Reisses, environmental scientist Barry Commoner and other prominent Washington University scientists formed the Greater St. Louis Citizens’ Committee for Nuclear Information. The scientists had a question: Had above-ground nuclear testing in the United States and the Soviet Union exposed people to radioactive fallout?

The scientists intended to find out by examining the baby teeth for strontium-90, a key indicator of radiation exposure. Because of its chemical similarity to calcium, strontium can be easily absorbed from water and dairy products into the bones and teeth of children.

The study’s analysis found massive build-ups of radioactive elements in the teeth that were initially collected.

Louise Reiss published her landmark study about the results of the Baby Tooth Survey in a 1961 issue of the journal “Science.” Soon after, President John F. Kennedy called the Reiss home personally to talk with Louise Reiss about her findings. Eric Reiss later testified before the U.S. Senate during its hearings on the Partial Nuclear Test Ban.

President Kennedy used the Reisses’ work to stop above-ground nuclear testing in the United States, and he persuaded the Soviet Union to do the same.

The study got a new life in 2001, when Washington University discovered that 85,000 of the teeth from the study had been stored in one of its research centers. In 2010, the Radiation and Public Health Project in New York published a study suggesting a link between the radioactive residue found in those baby teeth and a high incidence of cancer among the children – now adults – who donated them.

Louise and Eric Reiss moved from Parkview in 1964. They lived in Chicago and then Florida, where Eric died in 1988 and Louise, in 2011.

Do any of you Parkview residents remember donating your teeth or your children’s teeth to the cause?



Wednesday, January 15, 2014

7:00 PHS Update

7:30 Program

** with discussion and refreshments to follow!*



Composting: Promoting Ecologically Sustainable Urban Gardening

Nathan Brandt, Horticultural Specialist at the UMSL extension center is also a master gardener and consultant in a variety of St. Louis metropolitan efforts focused upon the development and maintenance of gardens that use and reuse our resources to promote ecologically sound and sustainable gardens. He will help us understand how composting will enhance our garden; dispel the myths about, or avoid the real problems that can arise in, composting; and generally inform us on the ease and efficacy of composting to feed our gardens.

Please join us for this important discussion. Your garden will thank you!

*Please join us at the home of
our host:*

Lisa Oltz

6315 Washington Avenue

PLEASE RSVP:

(314) 725-2580

Or

lisaoltz@gmail.com

THE LOOP

FRIDAY
SNOW BALL*

SATURDAY
ICE SLIDES

PUTT PUTT PUB CRAWL

\$1000 IN ICE CUBES GIVEAWAY
+9000 CHOCOLATE COINS IN ICE CUBES

5-K + 10-K FROZEN BUNS RUNS

ICE SCULPTURES * GAME BOOTHS

TEMPORARY TATTOO SCAVENGER HUNT

ICE CARVING DEMONSTRATIONS BY ICE VISIONS

PRICE SPECIALS AT DOZENS OF UNIQUE STORES

"PENGUINS," STILT WALKERS, JUGGLERS

SYNCHRONIZED HOOP PERFORMANCES

ICE PENGUIN AND POLAR BEAR FOR PHOTOS

S'MORES ROAST * ICE BREAKER

18 NEW UNIQUE EVENTS

HUMAN DOG SLED RACES

HOT CHOCOLATE

SKY DIVERS

ICE CARNIVAL

JANUARY 17-18, 2014



* \$30 includes 2 drinks, full hors d'oeuvre buffet and music - icy white attire - crowning of ice king and queen
* "VIP Take The Elevator Home package" includes all of the above plus 1-night room stay for \$199/couple

stl250.org

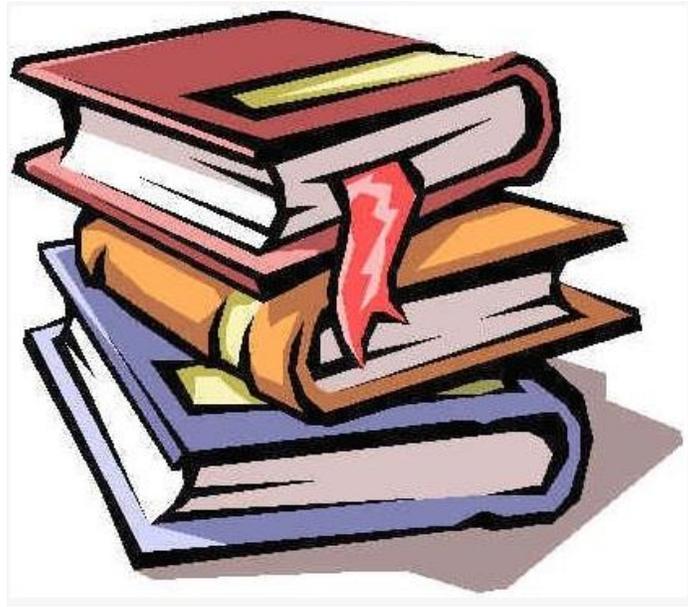
ICE VISIONS



MOONRISE
Hotel

KIKU OBATA

Join us for the monthly Parkview Book Club!



<http://galileo.d11.org/Drama%20Club%20Slideshow/Forms/DispForm.aspx?ID=3>

When: January 28th @ 7PM

Where: Hosted by Tiphonie Voegel @ 6347 Waterman

What: *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini

Those with last names A to M, please bring a drink, snack or dessert to share!

New members, please RSVP to get added to the E-vite: Tiphonie Vogel (tiphanievoegel@aol.com).

Parkview Potluck-Progressive Dinner, March 8

We need Parkview residents to host either a cocktail party or dinner in your home. We hope this will be a non-stress hosting opportunity for anyone generous enough to volunteer. The plan is for the attendees to provide the food for the dinners and cocktail parties. For example, if you volunteer to host a dinner and indicate you can seat 8-10 guests, then you will be given the names of those who will come to your home for the dinner and you will assign them dishes to bring. You might decide on a Mexican theme and ask one guest to bring a main dish, another a salad, another a warm vegetable - all that fit into the Mexican theme. You, as hosts, are asked to provide the beverages only. Our plan is to have no money exchange hands.

Since this is our first attempt to offer this kind of dinner, we are sure you will have lots of questions, so please send them our way.

Shortly we will be asking for reservations, but NOW we need volunteers to host either a cocktail party or dinner. We already have 7 volunteers but would like more.

If you are willing to host a cocktail party or dinner or just want more info, please let Maggie Hart-Mahon know at mhartmahon@stlouisco.com or Mary Abkemeier (mary.abkemeier@fontbonne.edu). If you plan to volunteer please let us know by February 1.

[Click here for Skinker DeBaliviere News](#)

CLASSIFIED SECTION OF THE NEWSLETTER

This section is open to all Parkview residents. You may list items you wish to sell, give away, or want. **ADS FOR REAL ESTATE ARE PROHIBITED.** There is a 35 word limit including the resident's name and telephone number (or e-mail). The ad must be submitted by the 10th of the month to Rebecca Lobb at lobbrebecca@gmail.com for inclusion in the Newsletter for that month. It is distributed around the 15th of the month. Items listed may be repeated only once in the next edition. The Newsletter editor reserves the right to edit or deny material submitted, and neither the editor nor the Parkview Agents take any responsibility for the accuracy of ads.

Items Available

Free! Wool rug with non-slip pad 5'7" by 7'10". Colors are brown, cream and rust.
Contact: Judith Giraud 314-721-0158 judith.stl@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE EVENTS

Sunday, January 19, 3:00PM-- Martin Luther King Celebration at theNew Cote Brilliante Church of God, 6195 Washington Blvd.

The SDCC Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee invites neighbors and friends to its 21st annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Join us for a day of music, reflection, and remembrance. Rev. Yolanda Villa, a Parkview resident and the new minister at Grace United Methodist Church, will be the keynote speaker. Refreshments will be served following the service.

Monday, January 20--12noon-3:00pm Martin Luther King Bowling for Skinker deBaliviere at Pin-Up Bowl, 6191 Delmar Blvd. For more info or to purchase tickets in advance contact the SDCC office at 862-5122 or sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com

Friday, February 14, 11:00AM--Police and Firefighter Appreciation Lunch at the SDCC Office, 6008 Kingsbury Ave. at Des Peres Ave. This annual luncheon is to thank the Police and Firefighters who take care of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood. Please stop by the SDCC office to say hello and thank the police and firefighters personally for their hard work.

Minutes of Meeting of Parkview Agents

Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 7:00 PM

Agents Present - Mary Broun, Lee Lawless, Beth Fagan, Randall Markarian, Chris Mutrux, Mary Pat O’Gorman, Eli Shuter, Sandy Schenck, Jessica Angelette, Jim Warren, Amrit Gill and Lynn Huson

Treasury Report – Treasurer reported that expenses on the Parks were a little over budget due to the aeration done in the fall. There are a total of 14 street signs missing in Parkview. A motion was made and seconded to budget an additional \$10,000 for signage in 2014 making a total of \$20,000 with the rollover of \$10,000 from the 2013 budget. The motion was approved. Annual assessments will be mailed to Parkview homeowners December 15th and are due January 31, 2014.

Trees – Omni Tree Service, Inc. will begin tree removal and trimming December 30th. Homeowners where trees will be removed will be notified. The agents will ask Omni if they can cut the trunks of the trees to firewood lengths.

Leaf Pick-Up – The final leaf pick up for University City streets was done the week of December 2nd. Residents can put yard waste in paper bags without stickers to be picked up throughout December. The private contractor for leaf pick-up on the streets of Parkview in the city will take place the week of December 15th weather permitting.

Gates – The lock on Westgate is still being investigated.

Hospitality - The Holiday Carriage Rides are scheduled for December 15 in Pershing Park from 5:30 to 7:30. A Parkview progressive dinner, pot luck style, is scheduled March 8th, more information to follow.

Infrastructure – 25 slabs of sidewalks were replaced throughout the neighborhood and 30 were leveled along Westgate & Waterman. Thanks to all the residents for their cooperation during this process. The agents have determined there are approximately 220 slabs of sidewalk throughout Parkview that need replacing or leveling. Agents discussed whether it was feasible to budget for these repairs in the future. The last time any sidewalks were repaired in Parkview was over ten years ago.

Security – A garage along Washington was broken into around 8:30 a.m. U. City police apprehended the intruder. There have been a few cars rifled through as well.

Washington University Neighbors Meeting – President Mary Broun attended this meeting and reported that although the new apartment complex on Delmar and Eastgate was billed as graduate housing it will actually house about 600 undergraduate students in the fall of 2014. Further development to Wash U will be focused on the 11 acres on the North Campus at Vernon and Enright.

Meeting Adjourned: Lynn Huson, Secretary

PARKVIEW AGENTS

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***The signatures of two agents are required for building/fence plan approvals.**

**You may e-mail any of the agents directly or the agents, as a group, may be reached by e-mailing
parkview12agents@gmail.com**

Parkview Information

Security: A-1 Security (pager) 314-726-1717

Emergency: 911

Address: P.O. Box 300518 U. City, Mo. 63130

Web Site: <http://parkviewneighborhood.org/parkview/>

Password: 1905oasis

E-mail: parkviewweb@gmail.com