



# NEWSLETTER

July 2014

## EDITOR'S NOTE

**The following people contributed to this edition of the Parkview Newsletter: Yolanda Villa, Susan Allen-Warren, Trisha Pflantz, Lee Lawless, Tiphonie Vogel, Rebecca Lobb, Judy Giraud, Jo Stern, Sandy Schenck, and BJ Clutter. Thank you.**

**Fred Giraud, Editor**

## THE ALLEY CAT



The day was unusually hot. We have had a few days like this over the past several weeks. I left the house to go to the garage in our back yard. Just as I rounded the corner of the house where the fan on the big air conditioner was whirring, keeping our house cool, I heard a faint noise coming from a group of very tall flowers my wife is growing in the back yard. So I stopped to listen for the direction of the sound. When I heard it again, I located the direction from which it was coming. I recognized that it was a cat meowing in a just audible sound. That is when I knew it must have been the Alley Cat and he must be thirsty. I called for him to come out as I could not see him in the two foot tall plants. He had found a cool place to avoid the direct sun with its heat. Finally, my friend the Alley Cat came to me. I gave him some water which I knew he needed. "You must be very hot today as the temperature is approaching 90 degrees." "Yes, and thanks for the drink. It will take me a minute before I can remember why I came to your home other than to get a drink of water. My brain is in slow motion on a day like today.... Oh, I now remember. I wanted to thank the residents of Parkview for placing street signs throughout the subdivision. The signs make it easier for me when I talk with the other cats. Instead of saying I'll meet you three blocks south of Delmar, I can just say meet me on McPherson and Limits Walks. Or, instead of saying we'll have a cat meeting on the last street west of Skinker, all I have to say is we'll meet on Westgate. Also there is now a sign for Center street." "Yes, the street signs are something the Agents have been working on for some time. They make it easier for delivery people to find a house and for visitors to locate the street of a friend they are coming to visit." The Cat added, "Plus it will make it easier for the residents, especially the new ones, to locate the Final Friday events as they move from park to park." "Are you coming July 26 to the park at Washington and Westgate?" I asked. "You bet" the Cat responded.

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

### Yolanda Villa



The resident at 6374 Waterman is the pastor at Grace United Methodist Church. She is Reverend Yolanda Villa, and she shares her home with her youngest daughter, Savonna, a dog named Bryton, and a tank of fish as diverse as her congregation.

A little over 50 years ago the Methodist Church first allowed women full rights as clergy in the church. Yolanda was ordained 25 years ago. In the book, *Courageous Past – Bold Future*, author Rev. Patricia Thompson writes about the struggles of women in the Methodist Church gaining full clergy rights. Even after the 1956 official decree she writes, “Many churches were still not open to women and women of color have had an even more difficult time.” (From the article “*Women Clergy*,” originally published in 2005, archives.umc.org.)

Yolanda's interest in the ministry began around the age of ten or eleven. "That's when I began to hear God speaking to me. I never saw women in leadership positions, though. I was raised Baptist and though women were very active in the church, they never spoke from the pulpit... There were women who would preach, but Evangelists preached from the floor, not from that sacred place---known as the pulpit."

"I considered being a nun but I didn't like how they dressed," she said with a chuckle. "It wasn't until years later that I came to a full awareness of my religious calling." Yolanda's road to the ministry was full of challenges. Clergy from other denominations were openly opposed, but her resolve was only strengthened and her success speaks for itself. "We can be introduced to a letter of the law, but it can't trump the spirit of the law!"

Yolanda began her appointment to Grace United Methodist Church a year ago on June 30. Previously she was the Kansas City District Superintendent. In secular terms she was the regional manager for the Kansas City metropolitan area, she explained. She had oversight of over 60 pastors and over 40 churches. That appointment lasted for six years, which is a typical time frame, she said.

"Prior to that I pastored in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. My largest church was in Overland Park with over 15,000 members. I was part of an executive team of six or seven who led the church."

Yolanda is originally from Oakland, California where she graduated from high school before she left for the Midwest. Other than in Costa Rica most of her mission work has been in Missouri.

How long will she be in Parkview? "We are appointed year to year. The pastor before me was here five or six years. It depends on needs and the mission-filled requirements. In choosing an appointment the bishop and the cabinet match the needs of the congregation with the skills and gifts of the pastor."

Yolanda raised three daughters, the oldest one lives in Charleston, West Virginia. That daughter has lived most of her life in Washington, D.C. as an adult. She graduated from Oklahoma City University, and has been interested in politics since high school. She worked on the Gore campaign, and Yolanda learned a lot about environmental issues from her during that time. "The story of Noah and the flood can be a metaphor for a prophet raising concerns about environmental issues," Yolanda said.

Another daughter, Nina, age 29, lives in Houston, Texas.

Savonna, age 21, is the youngest, and lived with Yolanda in Kansas City. Currently Savonna attends St. Louis Community College at Meramec, and works at the Tivoli.

Bryton, the four-legged family member is a miniature dachshund/beagle mix who spends time alternately in the house and in the fenced-in back yard, greeting neighbors as they walk by.

"The children's father died four years ago. I got the dog to help cheer up Savonna. He brightened her day so much, Savonna decided to name him 'Bryton'."

One need only spend a few minutes with Yolanda to recognize that she has a poetic soul. And that aspect helps her find inspiration and embellishments for her sermons, she said. "One of my favorite poems is 'Not

like a dove.’ In the Trinitarian the dove is one of the symbols for the Holy Spirit... I love poetry. It’s so much a part of me I don’t even think about it."

Admittedly, both parenting and her vocational calling have their rewards, but can also be demanding at times. In her time alone Yolanda gains a sense of renewal through caring for her 60-gallon fish tank. "These things help us learn to be more mindful about what we so often take for granted."

"I used to scrapbook a lot, but now I do quilting. I like something that can tell a story. I made a quilt for a friend's daughter and included her name and a quote in appliqué. I've taken flower-arranging classes. Scrap booking was convenient when traveling on the road because everything could be contained in a box.

Her vacation travel has included a cruise to the Bahamas with her girls and a pastor friend and her daughter. Road trips are on her list as well. "I love to drive and take in the history of a place."

What else does she do? "I love to eat and cook. Fork and Sticks is one of my favorite places. I could eat there every day. I didn't like Thai food until one of my parishioners told me about it. There are wonderful St. Louis eateries all over the city."

Yolanda was impressed when she first moved to Parkview. "There are families walking, riding bikes, and walking their dogs all through the neighborhood. That is the most delightful to see, especially when it is multi-generations. And I love to see so many students and those of so many different nationalities."

We love having you in our neighborhood, Yolanda! (Written by Susan Allen-Warren)

## STREET SIGNAGE



The agents have been working with Engraphics to replace street signs throughout the neighborhood. There will be 18 street name signs put up within the next few weeks. The one in the picture at the left is at the corner of Limits Walk and Washington.

## CHILL OUT WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS AT FINAL FRIDAY IN THE PARK! by Trisha Pflantz

Cool Delights will be serving up six flavors of shaved ice during July’s Final Friday event, which will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on July 25 at Washington Park. Bring your favorite yard games: horseshoes, croquet, bocce ball, Frisbee or anything else that strikes your fancy!

We are looking for themes and hosts for the season’s last two Final Friday parties, which will be held on Aug. 29 and Sept. 26. Hosts can organize any type of family-friendly activity. To volunteer (or provide suggestions), contact Trisha Pflantz at [tpflantz@gmail.com](mailto:tpflantz@gmail.com).

**51<sup>st</sup> SEASON  
GATEWAY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA**

**Dr. James Richards, Conductor**

**Sunday July 13**

*Water Music*

**Sunday, July 20**

*Music of the Night*

**Sunday, July 27**

*Bright Lights of Broadway*

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

**7:10pm—Notes to Munch On**

**7:30 pm—Concert**

**Bring lawn chairs or blankets for relaxing on the chairs in the Brookings Quadrangle on the campus of Washington University.**

**Parking is free and plentiful. For handicap access, an elevator to the Quadrangle is available at the south end of Brookings.**

**Ted Drewes Frozen Custard is available for purchase. Children receive free attendance prizes.**

## TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

An updated Parkview Telephone Directory will be prepared in the next few weeks. If you have changed your name or your phone number, please contact me at [giraudstl@gmail.com](mailto:giraudstl@gmail.com) to give me the new information. The deadline for submitting changes is July 30.



## NEWS FOR THE NEWSLETTER



Send Parkview news to [giraudstl@gmail.com](mailto:giraudstl@gmail.com) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the Newsletter, which is distributed around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## STREET SWEEPING FOR U. CITY

The second street sweeping of the University City portions of Parkview will be July 29, 2014. Please move your cars as best as possible and please see note below.

Please note: Residential street sweeping is unlike leaf collection; it is performed to remove normal debris which collects along the curb line over the course of time. Do not rake leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into the street for collection.

## RESIDENTS IN THE NEWS

Because a warming planet could impact the cost and the taste of beer, a group of environmentalists and political leaders gathered at Urban Chestnut on Washington Ave. in late June. The co-founder and brewmaster of Urban Chestnut, **Florian Kuplent** (Washington), touted the nearly 10 kilowatt array of solar panels on the roof of the Washington Ave. brewery and the 25 kilowatt array almost finished at its new brew hall in the Grove. Florian said that the brewery has always tried to set an example for sustainable practices.

A photo and an article about **Joe Edwards** (Westminster) were in the latest issue of *Town and Style*. The article listed all Joe has done in the Delmar Loop since he opened Blueberry Hill in 1972. Quite an impressive list of accomplishments!

## NEW RESIDENTS

Elizabeth Mulcahy, 314-603-5960 and Dean Telthorst, 314-402-7710 6331 Pershing Former Residents:  
Ken and Lisa Connor

## **ALLEY REPAIRS**

At the Parkview annual neighborhood meeting in May requests were again made of the Agents for information on alley repair. The following is information which appeared in the Newsletter last September, with a few updates.

The Parkview Agents have been requested to provide information concerning the reconstruction of alleys in Parkview. Alleys have a unique and clearly defined status under the Parkview Indenture. The Indenture is available online at the Residents' Page of the website <http://parkviewneighborhood.org/parkview> Password 1905oasis.

Two portions of Clause E of the Indenture refer to alleys. The first, at page 5, states "...no alley shall be constructed or reconstructed in any block without the written consent of those owning the majority of lots in such block." The second, in Clause E, at page 11, provides "...it is hereby expressly agreed that the cost of constructing and reconstructing any Alley or Alleys in said sub-division including the cost of grading, regrading, preparing the roadway for all of the superstructure, placing foundation and roadway, and the paving of such Alley or Alleys, shall not be included in the annual amount required or permitted to be assessed against the whole sub-division as aforesaid, but whenever said trustees shall decide to construct or reconstruct any private Alley in any Block in the said sub-division, they shall estimate or cause to be estimated the total cost of such construction or reconstruction in such Block, and the owner or owners of each lot in such Block shall be required to pay in advance on account of such lot, such proportional said total cost as the frontage of such lot above stated or assumed bears to the total frontage of all of the lots in said Block..."

Essentially, the Indenture provides that no major repair of an alley in any block can take place without first obtaining the written consent of a majority of property owners whose homes back onto an alley. For example, repair of the alley in the 6200 block between McPherson and Westminster would require a majority of the total number of owners of the 6200 blocks of both McPherson and Westminster. It also provides that the cost of any repairs to an alley are to be borne solely by the property owners whose lots back up to the alley of that block.

Any property owner(s) wishing to investigate the repair of any alley should contact the Agents, who can help you plan any polling or meeting of residents of those lots adjoining the alley in question. Preliminary work should include an examination of any sewer lines running beneath the alley. Residents will have to agree on making repairs, and agree on the type of repairs and materials, which may be set by the Agents to provide uniformity throughout the neighborhood, before more advanced planning and cost estimates can take place.

Lee Lawless      DATE: June 11, 2014

# PARKVIEW BOOK CLUB



Photo by Tiphonie Vogel

Does marriage bring out the best or the worst in a person? For Amy and Nick Dunn, the central characters in Gillian Flynn's, *Gone Girl*, it's both. Young, in love, and living their dreams as writers in New York City, they appear to be the perfect couple. But a few years into their marriage, they are both laid off from their jobs and are forced to leave New York to help care for Nick's ailing parents in his hometown: Hannibal, Missouri.

The couple arrives in Hannibal not quite comfortable with each other or their places in the world. Nick lands a job as an adjunct professor at the local college and opens a bar with his twin sister. Amy drifts through her days, seemingly without purpose.

Then, on the couple's fifth wedding anniversary, Amy disappears. There is little evidence about what happened to her, but the circumstantial evidence convinces local police that Nick is their prime suspect. And Amy's mysterious disappearance is enough to launch them all into the national spotlight. Nick knows that he is innocent and that there is more to the story than anyone realizes, but will he be able to convince anyone of the truth before it is too late for him?

The best-selling thriller, which is narrated by both Nick and Amy in alternating chapters, raised many questions for Parkview readers, chief among them whether either character is sympathetic. Nick lives his life so he can appear unruffled by anything that happens to him – even though he is teeming with insecurities. Amy is a charming and manipulative shape-shifter who can adopt any persona she wants to get whatever it is she wants. Together, they force each other to be their very best at all times – or to show how very depraved they are under the surface.

In July, a blind French girl and a young German soldier are the book club's next pairing in *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at Marta's house, 6339 Waterman Ave.

Any Parkview resident who loves to read and discuss books is welcome to attend book club meetings. The club meets at a member's house on the last Tuesday of each month, and each month's hostess or host chooses the book. If you would like to receive email invitations to book club meetings, contact Tiphonie Vogel at [tiphanievogel@aol.com](mailto:tiphanievogel@aol.com). (Written by Trisha Pflantz)

## PARKVIEW PUZZLER, July 2014



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](mailto:parkviewpuzzler@gmail.com) to win bragging rights. The answer and names of the first people to send in the correct answer will be published in the next newsletter. By the way, the resident of this house is not eligible!

This month my neighbors made me smile. We had eight responses to the June Puzzler. Here's the photo. All responses were correct

that the found art wall is located on the fence of the apartments next to Blueberry Hill. It still counts as a Puzzler because the photo was taken in the boundaries of our neighborhood, at the entrance gate on the sidewalk in front of 515 Westgate.

I've been told this "installation" was started by a found-objects artist, and the woman who lives here and tends the garden out front finds new objects added from time to time, presumably by strangers. Some she removes, and some she likes enough to leave as is. I think the term "Brainstorming Art" describes it best.



Here are the responders in the order their e-mail was received: Christine Knoten, Bob Smith, Brian Fiedler, Sarah Anne Patz, Mathias Malewicz, Jan Scott, Rob Wasserman, and Cheri Hoffman. Thanks all for playing the game and for your kind words. I hope I can stump you this month!

## FREE FAMILY EVENT

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Louis International Children's Film Festival (SLIFF/Kids) is August 1-10, 2014. SLIFF / Kids features 19 film programs on the fest's two weekends (Aug. 1-3 and Aug. 8-10). Film programs are **FREE** to all attendees, both children and adults. No tickets required. Seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Location/Times – varies. Venues include COCA, Lindenwood University's Young Hall Auditorium, Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis Public Library's Central Library Auditorium, Webster University's Winifred Moore Auditorium, Wildey Theatre. Full details of the SLIFF/Kids program, including descriptions of the films, can be found at <http://cinemastlouis.org/sliffkids-childrens-film-festival> 314-289-4150.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**Tuesday, August 5 from 6:00-9:00 pm is the date. The place: Greg Freeman Park, 6000 Kingsbury Ave.** Miss Jubilee plays an exciting blend of authentic Hot Jazz, Swing, Rhythm & Blues and R'n'R spanning the 1920's-1950's. Fronted by a high energy female vocalist and backed up by a swingin' horn fueled rhythm section, Miss Jubilee is a favorite among fans of all ages who enjoy energetic music! **Our famous Skinker DeBaliviere BBQ and beverages will be for sale.** This is a **FREE** event and fun for the whole family! You don't want to miss one of the best National Night Outs in the city!

As a community concert series, this annual tradition couldn't happen without the help of our volunteers. Each concert is largely funded through food & beverage sales. It takes residents like you to serve food during the event, as well as help set up and tear down. If you are able and willing to volunteer, you will help ensure that these concerts can continue to happen. Contact Kelcy Siddall at [sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com](mailto:sdcc@skinker-debaliviere.com) or [\(314\) 862-5122](tel:3148625122). Thank you!

[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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month to Rebecca Lobb at [lobbrebecca@gmail.com](mailto:lobbrebecca@gmail.com) for inclusion in the Newsletter for that month. It is distributed around the 15<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### **Donations Wanted**

Donate good condition, all seasons children's clothing, birth-5 year (e.g. coats, bathing suits, shoes, hats, etc.) for teaching creative reading and literacy at Community Colleges for preschool teachers. Drop off, all summer, 6370 Pershing.

Contact: Annette [netharbar@aol.com](mailto:netharbar@aol.com)

### **Wanted to Rent:**

Garage bay for storage of classic sports car. Needs minor electric power available for battery maintainer/trickle charger. Car is insured; no risk to owner. Gary Carr, 6253 Westminster.  
Email: [gtc10485@aol.com](mailto:gtc10485@aol.com) or 725-6464

### **A GOOD RESOURCE FOR RESIDENTS** by Sandy Schenck

Parkview is using a private online network called Nextdoor. On our [Nextdoor site](#), neighbors can share contractor recommendations, post items for sale, make new connections, discuss Parkview events and more. Almost 60 Parkview residents have already joined and if you haven't yet, I hope you will consider it. If so, **BE SURE TO JOIN THE PRIVATE PARKVIEW GROUP** under Skinker DeBaliviere, where only verified Parkview neighbors can post/view messages. Click here for more information:  
<https://nextdoor.com/invite/dgnzvzrcpzabxjmjapvx>

# 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](mailto: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](mailto:parkviewweb@gmail.com)**