



NEWSLETTER

June 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE

This begins the 10th yr. of publication for the Parkview Newsletter. Begun in June 2007, the Newsletter has come to you on a monthly basis since then. Many residents have contributed to the endeavor. Your contributions have been greatly appreciated. This publication continues to inform residents of happenings in Parkview and to help us become more familiar with one another as we live in our community.

Contributions this month were made by Ann Carr, Bill Clutter, Mark and Dru Swadener, BJ Clutter, Judy Giraud, Susan Allen-Warren, Karen Godar, Sean Ebeling, Kelly Howard, Jim Warren, and Cindy Knight. Thank you.

Fred Giraud. Editor

THE ALLEY CAT



For days I have been wondering what happened to the Alley Cat. I had not seen him for at least a couple of weeks. He was not trolling the alleys late at night nor early in the morning. I had watched for him on the streets of Parkview but he was nowhere to be found. When I was heading home the other morning I noticed what looked like him crouched behind an alley dumpster. As I got closer I recognized him. “Where have you been?” I asked the Alley Cat. “I enrolled in a class that would teach me how to count” was his response. “I wanted to learn to count to 10.” I told him I was impressed by his interest in learning new things. “Yes, I remembered you are now in your tenth year as editor of the Parkview Newsletter and I wanted to be able to count in order to tell the other cats how long we have been partners in this endeavor. This is a milestone, or to put it another way, ten years is an anniversary of sorts.” “That it is” I said. “I hope you’re not thinking of getting rid of me as I know some businesses want to rid themselves of long term employees as a way of saving costs.” “However, I don’t believe you cost anything do you?” “Well every now and again I enjoy a small piece of salmon or tuna for my dinner. That’s not a lot.” “No, it isn’t. And I think a lot of residents are feeding you from a special dish they place on their porches.” The Cat continued by saying, “I just wanted you to know I enjoy sharing my wisdom with the neighborhood residents and I wouldn’t want to lose my job.” “Don’t worry you are in no jeopardy of that happening. In fact some people in Parkview would march on my home if I ever deleted you from being a regular contributor to the Newsletter.” “That’s nice to hear.... So maybe I could continue my learning numbers and be ready for when this epistle crosses another milestone—maybe eleven or twelve years.” “That’s a great plan”, I said. “Eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen” he recited as we parted company that day.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Mark and Dru Swadener



The house at 6330 Washington has new owners who will give it the final touches of tender loving care that home deserves. Mark and Dru Swadener moved in from Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the beginning of the year. Mark is a real estate investor who also happens to be a gifted carpenter. Dru has a great deal of experience decorating and managing the commercial properties they own, and is pursuing her doctorate in history at St. Louis University. These sensibilities allow the couple to make upgrades to their home with hand tooled woodwork and an eye for preserving, even enhancing, the historical charm.

At the time of this interview Mark was fixing a detailed, hand-pieced wainscoting to the dining room wall. He chose the design to compliment the look of the pocket door frames, and the finished product looks as if it was always meant to be there. He also enlarged the trim around the ceiling to make it fit more proportionally to the size of the room. He chuckled when talking about what a challenge this was since so few of the doorways and walls are actually plumb and level. The room houses furniture Mark made himself, with details and precision that hail from an earlier time.

"I can look at it in a magazine, and for whatever reason I can picture it in my mind, and I can make it," Mark said.

An ornate, nine foot antique armoire resides in the living room, a piece that because of its size limited the couple's house search to homes with 10-foot ceilings. Even the movers remarked that the Swadeners had found the right house to fit the style and size of their antiques, commented Dru.

Their previous home of 15 years in Tulsa was custom built to Dru's design. They had 1.7 acres.

"We came from a huge yard, which we took care of," said Mark. "It took two hours to mow the lawn on a riding mower. I was finished with this one in fifteen minutes." He joked, "I thought, now what do I do. Should I mow it again?"

The couple's dogs are enjoying their new home, in spite of the smaller yard. "There's more trees here and it's cooler," said Dru.

They have two chows. The youngest is a black puppy with a name Star Trek fans may recognize. T'Pring was named after Spock's only love interest in the Original Series, explained Dru. "Yes, we're Trekkies," added Mark. The other dog is red and named Chu Ling, after a medieval Chinese King. Dru and Mark have raised several Chows, a breed which originated in China and is characterized by a thick, furry coat, teddy-bear ears, and a distinctive curly tail. As an historian, Dru has no end to inspiration for pet names.

Dru came to St. Louis first to get settled in. "We moved New Year's Eve. I had been here since August because I'm going to SLU. I had an apartment in U-city. It was mid January before we actually were both living here. My doctoral research is in late medieval and early-modern Mediterranean economic history, particularly looking at cross-cultural exchange and trade networks." Dru is looking forward to teaching, publishing, and doing research in her field.

"That's why we're here," said Mark.

Moving into a century old home in need of upgrades was an easy choice for the Swadeners.

"We renovate for ourselves," Dru said. "We wanted a project. We enjoy doing this stuff."

Dru explained that they hope to be finished with most of the renovations by August. "I'm in school so we have to make the most of the summer break. When school starts this fall I'll be in my office six to seven hours a day. So the major demo needs to be done."

They had hoped the house would be 99 percent finished when they moved in, but it was more like 80 percent, said Mark. This summer they plan to tackle adding a deck off the back and extending the kitchen. They'll start as soon as plans from the architect come in and are approved.

Although her family moved around during her childhood, Dru considers herself a native St. Louisan, and grew up in her adolescent years in South County. "I am a crazy fanatical Cardinals fan." She attended South County Christian School, which has since closed. Dru's father worked for the Veterans Administration Regional Office located downtown and was transferred to Tulsa in 1986. Her parents collected antiques. Growing up she spent time accompanying them on their antiquing jaunts. "It wasn't until I was a young adult that I began to appreciate it." Her decorating style, which includes many choice pieces, is evidence of this.

She moved to Tulsa with her parents while in college in 1986. Living in Tulsa is where the couple would eventually meet and marry.

Mark grew up in Mishawaka, Indiana, not far from South Bend, and a couple of miles from Notre Dame University. He earned his business degree from Indiana University. Mark worked as a certified public accountant with Coopers & Lybrand, now Price-Waterhouse Coopers. His expertise was in health care and education. As a CPA he transferred to Tulsa in 1981. He became Chief Financial Officer of Oral Roberts University in '84. "That's where we met. Dru worked for me."

In '93 Mark began to pursue commercial real-estate investments. Dru handled the managing, leasing, and decorating. Her undergraduate degree is in accounting and finance. "When we decided to move to St Louis we started selling our properties. We have someone managing the remaining properties. We're real hands-on managers, but it's nice to be down to one commercial property and a few condos."

Mark has enjoyed completing woodworking projects and renovating the houses, condos, and office buildings they have owned. He is currently considering a new challenge: pursuing a graduate degree in economics from University of Missouri in St. Louis.

In the meantime they have plenty of options to keep them busy. They have season tickets to the Muni. Mark is an avid road cyclist. "In Tulsa, along the Arkansas River there is a dedicated bike path 35 miles long." He has enjoyed becoming acquainted with St. Louis area biking opportunities. He also plays guitar, and Dru surprised him for his birthday one year by arranging a trip to Europe to hear his favorite jazz fusion guitarist. "We love to travel in Europe, especially France and Italy," Dru said.

Dru is interested in learning more about agritourismo, a growing trend among travelers who vacation in Europe, staying at farms to observe and participate in farming or ranching activities.

Mark has three children from a previous marriage. They are: Mark, Jr., age 35, married to LaShawn, and they have two children, Cade and Kenlea. He is a mechanical engineer, living in Dallas. The other two live in Kansas City, Missouri, and work for Cerner, a company that produces medical record keeping software systems for hospitals. His daughter Hilary, age 30, and her husband Curtis recently married and purchased their first home. Mark's youngest is Patrick, age 25.

If you spot the Swadeners walking their two Chows in the neighborhood, say hi and welcome them to Parkview!

(Written by Susan Allen-Warren)

VISITORS by Jim and Susan Warren



touring Wash U's Fox School of Art.

Last month Randy Morgan & Natalie, the grandson & great-granddaughter of Carl & Catherine (Kitty) Gissler, dropped by 6352 Washington Ave. The Gisslers owned the house from 1941-1996, longest of the 7 owners (so far). Randy's mother Judy grew up in the house, and Randy remembers visiting his grandparents fondly.

Judy & her husband Jerry Adair live in Maryland now, and also stopped by the house for a visit several years ago. Randy is the CEO of Morgan Languages, a language services company for translation and interpreting in over 120 languages. He & his wife Lynn have 3 children; Natalie is the eldest. She is interested in graphic design, and was

These visits always remind us that we are merely temporary caretakers of our Parkview homes!

IN MEMORIAM

Emily Louise Richard

Emily Louise Richard, long time educator and director of The Learning Center, died Wednesday, March 30, 2016. She was born on June 7, 1932 in Philadelphia, the daughter of William J. and Margaret L. Richard. She graduated from Northfield School, Northfield, M.S. and Wellesley College. Emily did her work with Monarch butterflies studying under Prof. E.O. Wilson, receiving degrees from The Harvard Graduate Schools of Education, and Arts & Sciences. She designed and taught science programs at Niskayuna High School, Schenectady, N.Y.; the Kent School in Colorado; and in St. Louis at Webster College and University City High School. In 1972, Emily founded The Learning Center in St. Louis which brought together students, teachers and scholars from around the country. Emily truly delighted in spreading the word of experiential learning. In later years she taught English and math to Afghan refugees. Emily is survived by her brother, William J. Richard, Jr. and his wife Anne Marie, Addison, Vt.; her niece, Anne Loseff, Guernsey, England and her children Rachael Nordby, Christian Nordby and wife Camille Watts; her nephew Christopher Richard and his wife Susan Narduli and their son Samuel Richard, Los Angeles.

Emily had been a Parkview resident since 1977.

A memorial service was held at the Christ Church Cathedral on Wednesday, May 18th. Memorial gifts may be sent to Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481, Attn: Office for Resources, in memory of Emily L. Richard.

Published in St. Louis Post-Dispatch on May 1, 2016

ROTHSCHILD PARK BEFORE MAY 11, 2016

Photos by Bill Clutter



ROTHSCHILD PARK AFTER MAY 11, 2016



PARKVIEW AGENTS

THESE FOUR AGENTS CONTINUE SERVING THROUGH MAY, 2019



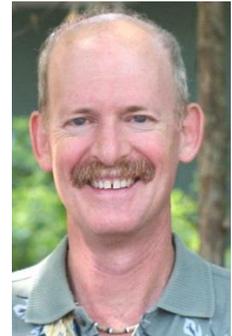
Jessica Angelette



Randall Markarian



Sandy Schenck



Jim Warren

THESE AGENTS ARE SERVING THROUGH MAY, 2018



Beth Fagan



Mark Jacobs



Cindy Knight



Sean Ebeling

THESE FOUR AGENTS CONTINUE SERVING THROUGH MAY, 2017



Mary Pat O'Gorman



Trisha Pflantz



Lara Fuchs



Tim Swanson

Please remember that the alleys in Parkview are for access--NOT for parking or lengthy service provision. Many of your neighbors utilize their adjacent alley for access to/from home or garage, as do service providers for delivery. PLEASE do not park vehicles in the alleys so as to block passage except momentarily!

PARKVIEW BOOK CLUB



Clockwise starting in front (all members present are pictured - it was our first book club selfie): Kelly Howard, Susan Stang, Susan Warren, Nancy Johnson, Mary Ann Nielsen, Theresa Fiala, Debby Rosenthal, and Rosalyn Schultz.

The relationship between Lila and Elena, which is the heart of Elena Ferrante's *My Brilliant Friend*, begins on rocky terms. Lila drops Elena's beloved doll through a grate into a dark cellar in their poverty-stricken Naples neighborhood. In return, Elena drops Lila's doll through the grate. The mission to retrieve the dolls is the beginning of a turbulent and often fiery friendship. Throughout their youth and adolescence, the two girls drift in and out of each other's lives but never lose sight of one another.

The Parkview Book Club discussed "My Brilliant Friend" – and the mysterious life of its author – at its May 31 meeting. Ferrante's novels are critically acclaimed, but the author herself is considered Italy's best-known least-known author. It is assumed that "Elena Ferrante" is a pseudonym, and Ferrante has never made a public appearance. The intrigue of her anonymity was a primary focus of the discussion.

Members discussed whether the novel, the first of four in Ferrante's Neapolitan series, might be an autobiographical account of the author's own childhood experiences in Naples. They also discussed whether the two main characters might be different versions of Ferrante herself: Lila, the scrappy, ambitious neighborhood girl who longs for more; and Elena, the well-educated and hard-working neighborhood girl who struggles to let go of the only life she's ever known as the world beyond becomes more and more accessible.

Although both girls are undoubtedly the brightest students in their class, only Elena has the opportunity to continue her education past primary school. Lila's abusive father demands that she begins helping in the family's shoe repair business. Lila borrows books from the library and studies Elena's subjects on her own, which both delights and incites Elena. But as they reach adolescence, Lila's attention increasingly turns away from studying – and Elena – as she fights to find a way to increase her family's financial and social standing.

Meanwhile, Elena, whose educational attainment has created a more natural escape from her humble beginnings, struggles to let go of the neighborhood, its people, and its way of life. And as she feels less and less connected to Lila, she also struggles to find a sense of identity. She wonders whether or not she can truly be anything more without the fire that Lila lights within her.

In June, the book club turns its attention to *My Year of Meats* by Ruth Ozeki, which has been described as a modern-day take on Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*. The novel explores the connection between two women: an American who produces a Japanese television show that is sponsored by an American meat-exporting business, and a Japanese housewife who is married to one of the show's executives. The June book club meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 28th at 7 PM, and will be hosted by Judith Giraud at her home at 6306 Washington.

Any Parkview resident who loves to read is welcome to join the book club. The club typically meets on the final Tuesday of each month. To receive email invitations to future book club meetings, contact Tiphannie Vogel at tiphannievogel@aol.com. (Selfie and article by Kelly Howard)

CORRECTION

In the section of Spring Graduates last month, there was an error in the paragraph about Daniel Hudson. The paragraph should have read as follows:



Daniel Hudson, son of Stacy and Repps Hudson, 6353 Washington, will graduate from Crossroads College Prep. He will be attending Ball State majoring in physical therapy.

RESIDENTS IN THE NEWS

Eleanor Withers (McPherson) is celebrating the birth of identical twin grandchildren, born April 25 in Washington, DC. John Lyons Kalish, 5:40pm, 6lbs, 3oz. 48 cm (18 57/64") and Ralph Sharp Kalish, 5:38pm, 6lbs, 5oz. 49 cm (19 19/64"). John is on the left; Ralph on the right. The picture was taken May 12. The parents are Mary Elliott McKetta and Manning Kalish.



Joe Keaveny (Westminster) the top Democrat in the Missouri Senate, is expected to be named to a vacant administrative law judge post at the Department of Labor by Gov. Jay Nixon. Congratulations Joe!

Mary Broun (Washington), **Annette Markarian** (Waterman), and **Mary Pat O’Gorman** (Pershing), attended the recent ceremony for the Epworth Children and Family Services at the Scotttrade Center. This agency is committed to recruiting, employing and promoting qualified individuals who can help fulfill their mission of helping youth and families find strengths, break through obstacles, and build brighter futures.

John Inazu (Westgate) a professor at Washington University, has written a book titled *Confident Pluralism: Surviving and Thriving Through Deep Difference*. In his book John proposes a national cleanup effort to make our public life more pleasant and productive.

Amy and Amrit Gill (Waterman) have opened their company’s new headquarters on Manchester Ave. in the Grove entertainment district. The Gills have a variety of St. Louis commercial and residential real estate projects underway.

PARKVIEW PUZZLER by Susan Allen-Warren

Last month’s puzzler picture of the little house under the Japanese Maple can be found in the front yard at 6315 Pershing. Here’s the photo to prove it. The Parkview Puzzler is taking a summer hiatus, but returning to the Newsletter in September. Till then keep your eyes open for future puzzlers and stay cool!

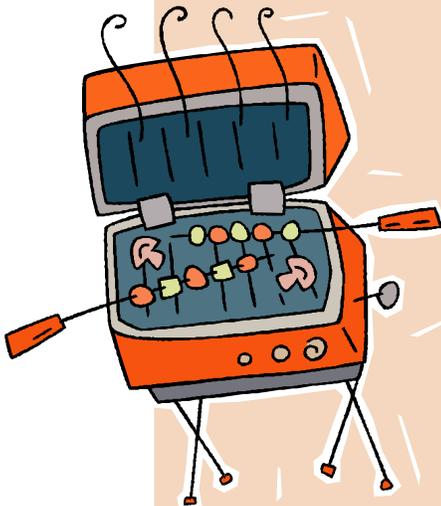


Join us in the park for

Parkview's Summer Picnic

Enjoy an evening with your neighbors celebrating summer! Hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages and shaved ice will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

**Sunday, June 26
4 to 7 p.m.
Washington Park**



Are you available to help with set-up? Would you be willing to manage a grill?

If so, contact Trisha:
tpflantz@gmail.com

53rd SEASON

GATEWAY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Dr. James Richards, Conductor

Sunday July 10

Tutto Italiano!

Sunday, July 17

Let the Show Begin

Sunday, July 24

Music for the Royals

Sunday, July 31

Triumph or Tragedy?

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.

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Next month's Newsletter will contain a list of the agents with their responsibilities.

