

South Plaza Neighborhood Association 2022 Winter Newsletter

[South Plaza Neighborhood Association Website](http://SouthPlazaNeighborhoodAssociationWebsite.com)

SPNA Wishes You a Happy New Year!

To all our amazing neighbors in South Plaza Kansas City, we want to wish you all the best in the New Year.



President's Message:

In the midst of this pandemic filled with challenges, we South Plaza residents can still find much to be thankful for. Our greatest strength of our neighborhood lies in our diversity - with regards to age, income, cultural background & various lifestyles - truly a wonderful melting pot! We all gain from the wisdom of our more experienced neighbors & also relish in the joyous sounds of our young people.

We are thankful for our very supportive neighborhood restaurants & other businesses. Please continue to support them. I am also grateful for our library & museums.

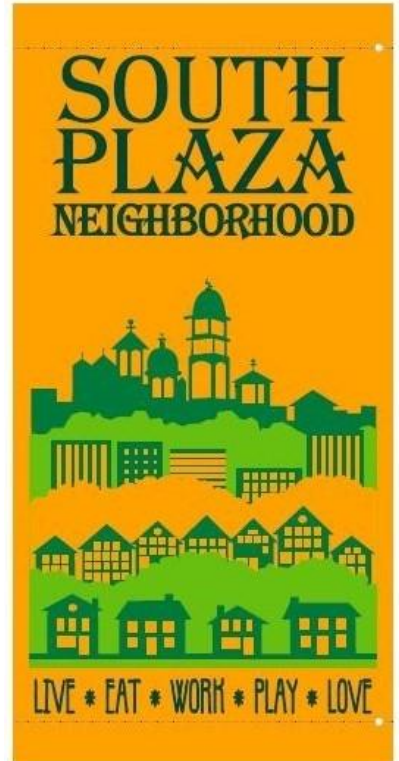
May we all appreciate the walkability of our neighborhood - including neighboring Parks, Trails, & the Country Club Plaza. I am grateful we continue to be the gathering place for events including the Plaza Art Fair, Plaza Lights, Dragon Boats, Water Fire, Pride Festival & Marathons.

We should all be excited for the Light Rail extension all the way to our South Plaza neighborhood. The construction detours are only temporary & are a small price for progress.

I appreciate the partnership with Developers & their exciting streetscape & development plans.

I am especially thankful for the enthusiasm of our SPNA Board & SPNA members. Let us all continue to give thanks & get excited about what the future may bring to our beloved neighborhood!

**LET'S GO
CHIEFS!**



**Next SPNA
General
Meeting third**

**Sunday of
January**

01/16/2022

6PM at

Il Centro

**Featured
Guest:**

**Ben Cascio of
Café Europa**

KEEP SOUTH PLAZA BEAUTIFUL

Litter in our neighborhood is more visible this time of year. If residents would take a small bag and pick up trash when walking in the neighborhood, we would all benefit. We encourage the businesses along Main Street and 51st Street to make sure their frontage and parking lots are kept clean of debris. We currently have no organized volunteer effort for this, but we do have “Adopt-a-Street” signs on 51st and on Main Street in our neighborhood that show South Plaza NA is taking responsibility for trash.

BIKE LANES

The City of Kansas City Missouri has recently adopted a new ordinance, No. 210966, which now requires community engagement prior to the implementation of bike lanes in a neighborhood. Apparently bike lanes were implemented without engagement in a Westside neighborhood and the residents pushed for removal. Bike lanes were going to be implemented in a 3rd Council District neighborhood and there was concern about a lack of notice. This led to an ordinance that now calls for an implementation plan that consults with the City Council and the public. It calls for a five-year conceptual bicycle network, a one-year work plan for lane design, methodology for data collection before and after implementation, and the documentation of all community engagement related to the plan. Further, the City Manager must present the bicycle implementation plan to the City Council within 120 days and no bike lane or trail shall be constructed until that time unless both City Council members representing the affected district provide written consent. Also, 90 days prior to the installation of a proposed bike lane, the City Manager’s office must notify all affected registered neighborhood groups, provide information and the opportunity for feedback.

The “Complete Streets” ordinance from 12/2017 and the “Vision Zero” Initiative from May 2020 both call for multi-modal safe access to roads and sidewalks and bicycles are a part of that.

BUILD KC STREETCAR

The official website for the construction of the KC Streetcar Main Street Extension is www.buildkcstreetcar.com. The website is managed by the lead contractor, KC Streetcar Constructors and will be updated regularly once the Streetcar construction starts (sometime in 2022). You can go to their contact page and request periodic general updates on the project

In the meantime, KC Water Services Department is keeping people informed about the relocation of utilities, water and sewer systems currently ongoing along the Main Street Extension route. Go to kcwater.us/upgradesonmain/ to subscribe to weekly emails about the construction and detours.

AVOID SCAMS

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) published a blog post in January on how to avoid buying fake COVID tests online. According to the US Federal Drug Administration, fake and unauthorized at-home testing kits are showing up online. Make sure the test you buy is authorized by the FDA by checking their lists of antigen and molecular diagnostic tests.

The FTC also posted a blog in December about how to donate wisely after a disaster and avoiding charity scams. They listed several tips. Research an organization to support before sending funds. Check for mention of the charity with the Better Business Bureau’s (BBB) Wise Giving Alliance, and websites Charity Navigator, Charity Watch, or Guidestar. Go to ftc.gov/charity for more information. Also, go to consumer.ftc.gov for many more blog posts of interest to consumers.

LINDA HALL LIBRARY

The nearby Linda Hall Library, located within the campus of UMKC, is a privately endowed, independent library housing science, engineering and technology texts and materials. It is not part of UMKC. It is open to the public free of charge. Its collection is oriented toward basic science, technology and engineering. It excludes subject matter on clinical medicine, dentistry and business since other local libraries collect these subjects. It opened in 1946. The collection emphasizes journals and monographs but includes books, including some rare books.

The library's grounds are also an arboretum, with trees and shrubs labeled for education, and is open to the public. The library offers selected services currently, including curbside pickup and return of items from the circulating collection to patrons, and visits for research purposes only at this time. They have at least 21 online exhibitions on their website currently, with subjects running from the history of mapping the moon to excerpts from rare books on the history of civil engineering to the history of dinosaur discovery since 1824.

The library website also publishes a "Scientist of the Day" blog, featuring the biography and achievements of various men and women in science, manufacturing, engineering and technology. The January 4 posting is about an American ornithologist named James Bond, who wrote Field Guide to Birds of the West Indies, which author Ian Fleming, an amateur bird watcher, treasured at his Jamaican residence. Mr Fleming decided use the ornithologist's plain sounding name for his novel's secret agent character. They did not know each other but eventually met after Fleming's books were published.

There is a wealth of interesting information on the Linda Hall Library website and vast resources for STEM educators and high-achieving high school students in STEM areas. The public programs include lectures and symposia that are currently accessed via Zoom over the internet. Videos of past speakers are also available online. Take the STEM Quiz, high school edition on the website, and see how you do. Go to www.lindahall.org and explore.

Business Spotlight: Environmental Mechanical Contractors, Inc.



We are delighted to introduce Yesenia & Tom LoScalzo of Environmental Mechanical Contractors, Inc. (EMC) as our Business Spotlight speakers at the October SPNA Membership Meeting, as well as good neighbors interested in supporting SPNA as Business Sponsors. EMC has a proud history since 1945, providing LEED-certified professionals to design & build large government HVAC systems, small single-family residential services, & everything in between.

Can't wait? Need your furnace checked sooner? Call EMC at [913/829-0100](tel:913-829-0100). Tell them you are a South Plaza Neighbor!

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

[Take the SPNA Member Survey Today!](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8W2BPC6)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8W2BPC6>

Not a SPNA Member?

SPNA annual membership runs from July through June of each year, with most members paying at the July quarterly meeting. If you'd like to join SPNA or renew your membership, feel free to mail your check to our SPNA Treasurer: Martha Hogarty, 311 West 51st Terrace, KCMO 64112. Thanks!

SPNA Board Director Highlight: Francie Hall

I moved to a condo in South Plaza in 2012 when visual impairment made it impractical to stay in my old Brookside home. I have not had a single moment's regret. Since I don't drive, I must walk; even Covid couldn't keep me at home all the time! I regularly enjoy the Trolley Track Trail & the wonderful Brush Creek walking paths. Beautiful Loose Park is nearby, as is Kauffman Gardens. Over a dozen restaurants within walking distance stand ready to satisfy my appetite. The Nelson Atkins and all the wonders of the Plaza are at my feet. And for longer trips, the Main Max bus comes through our neighborhood twice an hour.

Of course, nothing is perfect: treacherous sidewalks, crumbling curbs, scary intersections and scattered scooters, not to mention dog waste, are hazards I encounter every day. And trash discarded by visitors (surely not residents) or blown from carelessly packed recycle bins, contaminates the environment.

Solutions abound, whether it is picking up trash as you see it or calling 3-1-1 repeatedly to request "no parking" signs at the top of our wonderful new stairs at 50th & Grand. Improving our neighborhood, making it even better, is up to all of us. Please consider your own actions and perhaps getting involved with South Plaza Neighborhood Association to work on longer-term solutions to the bigger problems; we will have openings on the SPNA board in July. It takes time and effort to improve our world. Consider what you can do to be part of the solution.

SPNA Board Director Highlight: Martha Hogerty

I am a 3rd generation Kansas Citian. I grew up in this general neighborhood and lived in Brookside when my children were young. I spent 22 years in Mid Mo. acting as the Public Counsel for the State of Mo. representing public utility consumers, but Kansas City has always been my home. When I retired I was delighted to return. I am committed to this wonderful neighborhood and am looking forward to working with our neighbors and preserving this great community.

SPNA Board Director Highlight: Kelly Hollowell

Fostering a great community has always been a high priority for me. I believe our neighborhood is so wonderful and vibrant thanks to the diverse neighbors and businesses who call South Plaza home. As a board member, I'm happy to provide the website administration for www.southplazakc.org. I hope to help our community thrive through information sharing and advocacy. If you have additional information that would be helpful to see on the website, please let me know. We're always working to improve the site. Hope to see you around the neighborhood!

SPNA Board Director Highlight: Kate Marshall

I'm so pleased to be a newly elected member of the SPNA. I have been living in the neighborhood for 4 years now after a 30 year stint in Johnson County. I was born and raised in New York City and actually relocated to KC from Europe back in 1985. When I first moved here I lived on the Plaza and I couldn't wait to get back to this beautiful area. I was drawn to this opportunity because I am passionate about community. I feel that by getting to know each other, and staying informed about what is happening locally, we can create effective partnerships, build bridges and keep growing and changing in positive ways. I look forward to getting to know you all!

Want to Volunteer?

SPNA is always looking for new volunteers to support our operations on the board. Elections take place each July. Please reach out to Cliff Couty with any questions.

[Save the Date: 01/14/22 thru 01/23/22 is KC Restaurant Week!](#)



Participating South Plaza Restaurants in 2022

[Blu Hwy](#)

[Chaz on the Plaza](#)

[Eggtc.](#)

[Fiorella's Jack Stack BBQ](#)

[Grand Street Café](#)

[Minsky's Pizza](#)

[Osteria Il Centro](#)

[Stock Hill](#)

[Third St. Social](#)

**SOUTH PLAZA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN. INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS (July 2020)**

Name and address of director:	Term of Director:	Officer term, current year:
Cliff Couty , President 5050 Main Apt 233 Kansas City, Mo. 64112 Mobile phone: 816-686-2547 E-mail: cliffcouty@live.com	07/2020-07/2022	President, 07/2021-07/2022
Francie Hall , Vice President E-mail: francie416@gmail.com	07/2020-07/2022	Vice President, 07/21-07/22
Martha Hogerty , Treasurer E-mail: mhogerty47@gmail.com	07/2020-07/2022	Treasurer, 07/2021-07/2022
Sean Tucker , Secretary E-mail: smtucker@cmh.edu	07/2021-07/2023	Secretary, 07/2021-07/2022
Kelly Hollowell , Member E-mail: khollowell@gmail.com	07/2021-07/2023	
Kate Marshall , Member E-mail: katemarshall430@gmail.com	07/2020-07/2022	
Jeannie Moore , Member E-mail: beanwoman33@yahoo.com	07/2021-07/2023	Vacancy Appointee
Ex-officio: Keith Spare , President E-mail: keithspare@aol.com	Ex-officio: Donna Kerr E-mail: dmkkc210@gmail.com	

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN SOUTH PLAZA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

- Please indicate:
- Tenant \$15
 - Homeowner \$20
 - Small business/organization \$75 - \$100
 - Large business/organization \$100 - \$150 or more

Make check payable to: South Plaza Neighborhood Association
311 West 51st Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64112

Complete document and mail with payment