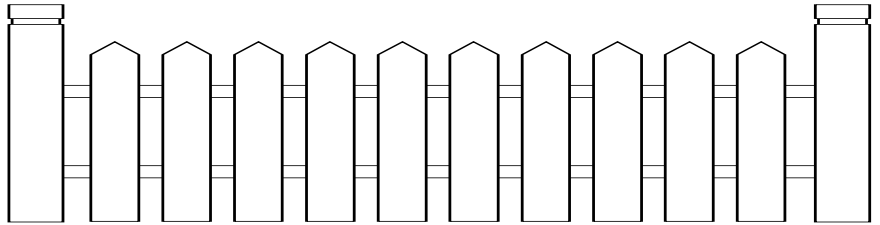


# FENCE TALK

## DECEMBER, 2001



### *Greetings Neighbors-*

*The big news in the subdivision is the amendment of our indenture and subsequent increase in our assessments. I am happy to pay the additional amount, and hope the money is put to good use! We've already got our potholes repaired—it's a much smoother ride down Yale these days. There is some talk of completely revamping the indenture. There is no doubt the indenture is dated and unwieldy to manage, but it certainly would entail a lot of work volunteers who would take it on as a project.*

*My favorite event of the association is the Luminaria, scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>. I'm hoping to see lots of lights this year—we have every reason to believe the weather will cooperate this year. Our kindly neighbor, Marcia LaCour-Little is adding a new twist to the celebration by inviting everyone to her home for cocktails and hors d'ouvres!! Maybe in future years more of us could follow suit! We could adapt some kind of signal or signage so we could all know which neighbors would like to invite us in for refreshments.*

*Another of our talented neighbors, Lee Ann Sandweis has published another book—this one is for children. I bought copies for my nieces and nephews, and they are delighted with it.*

*Best wishes for a very good holiday season to all of you.*

*Janet Schaper, editor*

### **LUMINARIA CELEBRATION**

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual University Heights Luminaria Celebration will be held Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. To welcome winter and brighten one of the longest nights of the year, we line our sidewalks with traditional Mexican luminarias and

invite everyone to take a winter stroll and enjoy our beautiful neighborhood by candlelight.

Luminaria supplies (bags, sand and candles) will be sold by the University Heights Association on Saturday and Sunday at the Trustee's garage on Harvard at Dartmouth. Sets of 5 will be sold for \$3; 5 sets of 5 will be sold for \$9.

Sale Hours: SAT 10am to 4pm; SUN noon to 4pm

Lighting time is 6pm

The neighborhood looks best when there is a continuous line of lights on each street, so please participate and urge your neighbors to participate. If you have a neighbor who is elderly or infirm who would like to participate, please offer them your assistance.

Our luminarias are a tradition borrowed from Mexico. They consist of paper bags illuminated by candles. Sand is used to weight the bag and keep the candle in place. We place them 3' to 5' apart along the sidewalk in front of our homes and light the candles at 6pm. You may also line your driveway, walk or porch if you wish. The candles sold by the association last about 12 hours and burn out in the sand.

### **RAIN DATE FOR LUMINARIA IS DECEMBER 31**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT**

At long last, the necessary signatures were obtained to amend our indenture. The Trustees had a hearing in the St. Louis County Circuit Court on November 5<sup>th</sup>, with the result that the Trust Indenture was amended to allow assessments of up to \$3/front foot and to strike the requirement that the Court approve amendments to Indenture. Thanks to the many residents and board

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members who obtained signatures, and to Jay Kanzler who provided legal assistance to the Trustees with the proceedings. Questions about the indenture should be directed to John Jennings (726-4690 or john.m.Jennings@us.andersen.com). The Trustees are also considering the possibility of completely rewriting the indenture. Comments on that issue should also be addressed to John.

The Trustees immediately increased the assessment to the allowable \$3/front foot. The increase will allow the Trustees to engage many projects of repair that they were previously unable to perform due to lack of funds. The first results of this are the repairs to the potholes (happy days!) and the trimming of trees in the tree lawns.

You should have received a statement from the Trustees for your current assessment, along with a statement of all transactions from the previous twelve months. Questions pertaining to repairs assessments and expenditures should be addressed to Ron Scott (725-0893).

### BOARD REPORT

The Board discussed the neighborhood Halloween festivities. Barriers were not put up as they were not made available by City Hall this year. Next year the Board will try again to have barriers. Neighbors reported lots of trick-or-treaters. Many houses were decorated and received awards from the Great Pumpkin.

The Board also discussed the upcoming Luminaria. Hopes are that many neighbors will again participate and put on a great neighborhood 'show'.

The Board is considering adopting some new activities: A neighborhood House Tour, perhaps in conjunction with upcoming City centennial activities (Zareena Koch is in charge); some show of neighborliness and appreciation to the police, fire and city departments (maybe homemade cookies, maybe a pizza night); and signs or some type of commemoration when houses in the neighborhood turn 100 years old.

The next board meeting is January 8<sup>th</sup> at Linda Strassburger's (#4 Princeton).

### BIG TRASH DAY

University City's bulky item collection will be **Thursday, December 20**. Here are the rules:

Following is a letter found with the Trustees Archives, written by E.G. Lewis to Conrad Budke in March of 1920. He was apparently somewhat incensed about a pending lawsuit.... If anyone has any information about the circumstances of this suit, or other events referred to in the letter, please share them (janetschaper@planetstl.com).

1. Place no more than three large items or seven small bulky items within one to three feet of curb or street pavement for collection.
2. Put items out after 4pm on the evening before (September 15) and before 6:30 am on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Bulky items placed out at any other time will not be collected.
3. Place only household items out for collection, including appliances and furniture. The following items will not be collected: regular bagged or boxed refuse, construction waste, building debris, business or commercial items, railroad ties, tree logs, tree stumps, tires, batteries, drum containers, chemicals.
4. Be sure that access to the items is not blocked by parked cars, trees or poles.
5. Wrap glass doors, windows, mirrors and glass tables with cardboard for mechanical pickup. Remove freon from refrigerators and air conditioners.

For more information, call 863-3208 ext 302

**The next Big Trash Day is March 21, 2002.**

### CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

City crews will pick up Christmas Trees from the curb sometime during the weeks of January 7 and 14.

Diana Blanchard wrote in response to the insert in last month's FenceTalk: I wanted to get this message to Esley Hamilton who wrote the article in illuminations November issue. I live across the street from the Coyle's home. Eleanor Coyle passed on about two years or so ago, but her son and others are keeping the house up. She is famous for restoration of old homes in St. Louis and had lectured all over the city. I asked him about some relatives (my great, great uncle's paintings are on display at the MHS right now) and he ended up telling me about the gum ball trees. Evidently, Eleanor had them select these trees to plant some time ago (she was in that house since the 1930's) and was embarrassed to tell anyone afterward. Esley should contact her son and leave a message at their home on Radcliffe. Her son could tell us when she had them planted for the Heights area.

### THERE ARE NO MORE CURBSIDE LEAF PICKUPS UNTIL SPRING OF 2002 (MARCH 25-29)

In the meantime, please bag your leaves for curbside pickup (don't forget to put on the sticker required by the city). Please DO NOT rake leaves into the street! They are unsightly and cause drainage problems.

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**Don't forget about the paper recycling bin at Delmar-Harvard school. You can recycle Magazines, Junk Mail, Cardboard, Most Paper items. Proceeds go to support Delmar-Harvard School.**

**CALENDAR**

December 16	University Heights Luminaria
December 20	Bulky Item Pickup in University Heights
December 31	Rain Date for Luminaria
January 8	January Board Meeting at Strassburger's #4 Princeton
February 12	February Board Meeting at Jennings' 789 Yale
March 12	March Board Meeting at Blueberry Hill
April TBD	Annual Meeting at U City Library