

SEVENTH WARD SPEAKS

DIANE: WE WANTED TO LIVE IN A PLACE THAT WAS different in terms of it being slower and less crazy. We liked the neighborhood sense.

Dan: I love that kind of give and take, where everybody allows for each other and their idiosyncrasies. Your bike tire gets stolen, Mr. Kelly notices it. The old timer, Larry the boxer, patrols the neighborhood every New Year's Eve, looking for firecrackers that land on people's gutters. That isn't gonna happen in a kind of place where people show up four times a year.

Diane: The gentrification process has gone on with perchers, who just come here for the Decadence Festival, Jazz Festival or Mardi Gras. You have short-term rentals, you have B & Bs. The people who come in don't want to pay for education, because they've already educated their kids in Ohio.

Dan: People are being priced out—the artists, students, older people, and disabled people have been really pushed more to Bywater and more across St. Claude. We've lost a lot of really just wonderful people.

Diane Lease

MOVEMENT THERAPIST

POET

TEACHER

Dan Harris

TEACHER, ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE

WRITER

CARTOONIST



THIS POSTER PROJECT IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN
THE PORCH AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD STORY PROJECT.
INTERVIEW CONDUCTED AT DAN AND DIANE'S HOME
IN THE MARIGNY BY HELEN REGIS IN AUGUST OF 2005.

For more information about the Porch call, 504-312-2701 or 713-504-6267.