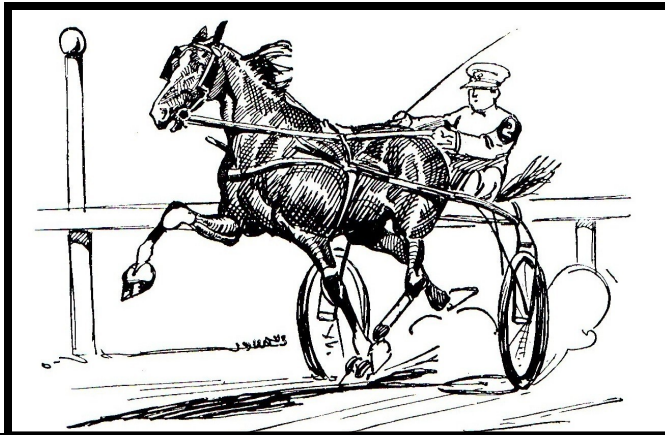


The Pacer



Published by the Parkview Gardens Association
and the Parkview Gardens Special Business District

PGA Meets

Spring get-together

The semi-annual meeting of the Parkview Gardens Association and its Special Business District will be held at 6 pm Tuesday, May 9 at University City Public Library in the small upstairs meeting room. Officers will consider applications for the PGA Award, review the year past and discuss ways to improve the neighborhood in the year to come. Neighborhood residents and business people are welcome to attend.

UCSO Comes Home

Free concert in the neighborhood

The University City Symphony Orchestra has been on a sort of world tour this season, with each concert dedicated to the composers of a particular country. Now it's America's turn. The concert, entitled "The USA Cultural Confluence," will be at 3 pm Sunday, April 30 at All Saints Church on

Westgate. The program features a new work by New York composer Nkeiru Okoye and "On Eagle Mountain" by Todd Mosby. Winners of the Young Artist Competition will perform: Kelly Singer, soprano; April Moon, violin; Cindy Yan, piano. Free and open to the public. Info: ucso.org

Good Start in School

News from Lolly's Place

The Parkview Gardens Association has provided scholarships for four children living in the neighborhood and going to Flynn Park school to attend tutoring and enrichment programs at Lolly's Place, at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Washington. After making progress during the school year, the students are being invited to attend a free two-week summer camp. The camp has an "under the sea" theme and will help students strengthen their reading and math skills. "We would welcome more Flynn Park students next year," said Mary Pat Gallagher, Lolly's Place direc-

tor. Lolly's Place will offer tutoring for the next academic year, starting in the fall. PGA will provide support for resident children.

School's Out

Academic year winds up

At Washington University, the last day of classes is April 28. Commencement is May 19.

At University of Missouri-St. Louis, the last day of classes is May 6. Commencement is May 13 and 14. At the School District of University City, May 15 is high school graduation, and May 17 is the last day of school.

Library Events

All at U City Public

Library

6701 Delmar, ucitylibrary.org
April 15 Free health checks starting at 9 am
April 16 Closed for Easter
April 20 Ed Spevak of the St. Louis Zoo talks about the importance of pollinators (bees, butterflies, etc.) to our gardens and food

supply at 7 pm.

April 26 Computer Class: Job hunting online 2:30 pm

April 26-27 National Days of Remembrance observations.

Two evenings commemorating the victims of the Holocaust with films and discussions, 7 pm.

May 14 Closed for Mother's Day

Spring Events

Three longstanding favorites

It's **Earth Day** all weekend-- Saturday-Sunday, April 22 and 23. The 28th annual St. Louis celebration of the day will be held from 11 am-5 pm, on the Muny Grounds of Forest Park. There will be entertainment on three stages, information and vendor booths. Yoga classes, rock-climbing wall and pet adoptions. Complete info at stlouisearthday.org

The **U City in Bloom Plant Sale** takes place 9 am-1 pm Saturday April 29 and 11 am-1 pm Sunday April 30. Perennials, annuals, herbs and vegetables as well as expert advice from the people who beautify our city's public gardens. A preview party takes place Friday from 5-7:30 pm offering food and drink as well as first crack at the plants. Tickets are \$20. (Free admission Saturday and Sunday) Info: (314) 973-6062

The 2017 University City Public Art Series will open April 22. This partnership with Washington University has taken place every spring for

more than 30 years. Sculpture students design public art for temporary display all over University City. More info at universitycityartsandletters.wordpress.com.

20 Years of the Pacer

Tempus fugit

The **Pacer** marks its 20th birthday with a redesign. The first issue appeared in April 1997. The newsletter has noted many changes on the local scene, departures to be regretted and arrivals to be welcomed. First, the farewells:

The **University City Monitor**, a lively local newspaper published by **Sharon MacCorquodale**, who was a member of the Board of Directors of PGA, ceased publication in 1998.

Teresa Kragnes, longtime Parkview Gardens resident and PGA boardmember, helped get our three community vegetable gardens going. She moved away in 2001.

Fair in the Square, started by local churches and synagogues in 1970, was held on Washington and Kingsland for the last time in 2001.

Paul Schoomer, owner of Paul's Books, represented the Second Ward on the City Council for many years, supporting the PGA and helping its SBD get going. He left the council in 2002.

The **U City Residential Service**, founded in the '70s to combat racist real estate practices, helped tenants find apartments in Parkview Gardens and gave seminars on buying a house and other topics. It closed its doors in 2006. The **U City House Tour**, which the UCRS organized, was held that

year for the last time.

Delmar Harvard School, the oldest U City school building still in use, closed in June 2011.

On a more cheerful note, here are some arrivals:

The **Loop Ice Carnival** began in 2006 and has been held every winter since.

The new **U City Fire Department** opened on Vernon Avenue in 2011.

My Sci, Washington University's center for enhancing early childhood science education, opened on Vernon Ave in 2013.

The Lofts on Delmar was completed in August 2014.

Construction of the **Loop Trolley** began in March 2015.

Here's a list of notable local events the Pacer has covered in 20 years:

The **Parkview Garden Special Business District** and the **East Loop Special Business District** were established in 1996. The Parkview Gardens SBD continues to fund improvement programs for the Parkview Gardens Neighborhood. The East Loop SBD was expanded in 2004 and in 2017 was replaced by the new East Loop Community Improvement District. The CID will sponsor improvement programs for that part of the Loop in St. Louis City.

Parkview Gardens Phase II, in which the Association purchased and renovated 21 derelict apartment buildings in 1997 and '98, was probably the key project in the

neighborhood's turnaround. All apartments in these buildings were occupied by the end of 1998.

In 1999 tunneling by the Metropolitan Sewer District caused a large sinkhole in the middle of **Metcalfe Park**. The park rests atop a filled-in stone quarry. For a while, our neighborhood had a pond, complete with waterfowl. But owners of buildings along the park worried about damage to their foundations. After a long legal and engineering ruckus, the subsidence was stopped and reversed.

In 2000 **Washington University** bought 70 buildings, becoming the major landlord of the neighborhood.

The development of the **East Loop** saw the Pageant open in 2000, the Regional Arts Commission in 2003, Pin-Up Bowl in 2004, and the Moonrise Hotel in 2007. Progress has been steady since then. Clayco is constructing a 13-story apartment/retail building now.

University City celebrated its 100th birthday in 2006 with release of a documentary film entitled *The First Century* and a parade on Delmar.

The **Lion Gates** celebrated their 100th birthday in 2009. Nine fiberglass lions painted by local artists were posted in various part of the city. PGA sponsored one called "Reflection of the Arts" by Byron Rogers.

The **Pacer's** editor is David Linzee, who has lived in the neighborhood since 1996. He also

writes a monthly column for the *West End Word*. For the 100th anniversary of the neighborhood in 2013, he wrote *Parkview Gardens: Its Rise and Fall and Rise*, published by the Historical Society of University City. He is a board-member of the HSUC and U City in Bloom. He has written two mystery novels, *One Fell Swoop* and *Spur of the Moment*, published by Coffeetown Press.



Fan tributes to the late Chuck Berry

Free Movies

Star Trek Beyond

The **Pacer** continues to scan the DVD shelves of U City library to help you save money. This latest *Trek* movie (released 2016) is much better than its predecessor. *Star Trek Into Darkness* lived up to its name by being gloomy and portentous. It was also pretentious, attempting to make serious comments about terrorism, as if we wanted to be reminded of contemporary reality during a *Trek* movie. Disastrously, it was packed with references to *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*. These reminders of the best *Star Trek* film moved fans to rate *Into Darkness* the worst. With *Beyond*, the rambunctious spirit of the series' better entries

returns. The script was co-written by Simon Pegg, who plays Scotty, and fans of his British comedies will recognize his touch, especially in the early part, when Kirk's miffing of a diplomatic mission and the crew's boredom and staleness after years in deep space provide plenty of laughs. Soon enough the plot kicks into gear with the usual sudden and mystifying alien attack. Director Justin Lin, veteran of the "Furious" series, keeps the pace fast and the action varied. Like most big-budget movies these days, *Beyond* goes on too long. Computer-generated imagery is marvelous at first, but if you're shown too much of it, it begins to look...well, computer-generated. The costumes and make-up are almost too imaginative. I'm not asking for every alien in the universe to look like a human, but it does seem unfair to deprive a fine actor like Idris Elba of the use of his own face.

These are only minor flaws. The movie-makers and actors have a firm grasp of the main appeal of *Star Trek*. Where *Star Wars* is ultimately based on Camelot, *Trek* has its roots in Sherwood Forest. It's Captain Kirk and His Merry Men and Woman. The raillery and warmth and loyalty of this band of brothers and a sister is what keeps us coming back. Sure it gets sappy at times, but who can resist it? I swore after seeing *Star Trek Into Darkness* that I was done with *Trek*, but I was wrong.

A Welcoming Community

City Council declaration

The *West End Word* reported Mar. 24 that the City Council had recently voted unanimously to de-

clare University City a "welcoming community," in cooperation with the organization Welcoming America, which states: "Migration and rapid demographic shifts can spark tension and create new challenges, both for newcomers and long-time residents...in a 21st century world, the strongest communities will be ones where all people can take part in economic, civic, and social life." St. Louis City and County are members of the organization.



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In the May issue: University City Memorial Day Run

Questions or comments? Contact the editor, davidlinzee@yahoo.com