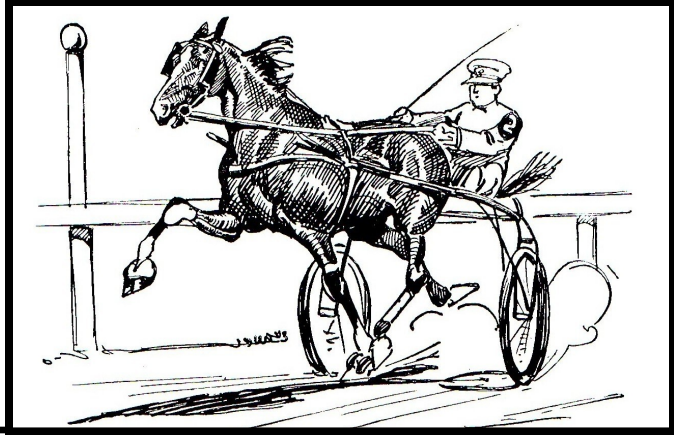


The Pacer



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Of Bikes and Tearooms

City Council meets

It looks as if the end is near for The Gable Tearoom (see following story). At the City Council meeting September 11, city staff asked for permission to demolish the building, which is derelict and attracting squatters. Councilmember Bwayne Smotherson (Ward 3) moved for a final Request for Proposals. His motion passed. Absent a timely response, the building will probably be razed. Smotherson suggested that the adjacent sculpture park should go, too.

In other business, the council addressed reports of falls and injuries to cyclists on the trolley tracks. Kevin Barbeau, Loop Trolley Company executive director, said they tend to happen at points where the sidewalk curves out into the street, narrowing the pavement available to cyclists and making it harder to avoid getting their wheels caught in the slots. He said that he would post warn-

ing signs. Terry Crow (Ward 1) and Paulette Carr (Ward 2) said that this was insufficient.

The council approved \$25,000 for the Chamber of Commerce, mostly to publicize Olive Boulevard development. Carr said that the chamber's previous promotion efforts had not proven effective enough. Resident Jeff Hales criticized the "muddled relationship" between city and chamber. Mayor Shelley Welsch said that the criticism was unfair and that some councilmembers had a double standard, favoring the Loop over businesses in other parts of the city, which were publicized by the chamber. The council may vote later on an additional \$25,000 for the chamber.

An amendment to rezone 6668 Vernon (at Kingsland) so it could be redeveloped as an assisted living and memory care facility was approved. Resident Jan Adams called for transparency and public input in the search for a new city manager. Michael Glickert (Ward 2) read a proclamation responding to

events in Charlottesville VA, stating that University City is a city of tolerance and condemning white nationalism.

The Gable

Down to its last RFP

The Gable Tearoom is probably down to its last RFP (see above story). It has had a long and sometimes lively history. In 1932, U City resident Mary Stiles opened the tearoom in a distinctive building she had constructed at 7315 Olive Boulevard. She and her business were at first welcomed by the neighbors. Then the complaints began. At a meeting of the North University City Improvement Association, a neighbor spoke out against "the Gable employing an orchestra and catering to dance crowds until 2 am." Mrs. Stiles tried to soothe complainers by muting the music, but people continued to say that she that she served beverages a lot stronger than tea.

They had reason to be suspicious. The plan drawn up by architect Harris Armstrong, now in the Washington University archive, shows a room with a counter backed by open shelving, clearly labeled "BAR."

Armstrong (1899-1973) was in the early years of a distinguished career. He had served in World War I, studied at Washington University and worked in landscaping before opening an architect's office in Kirkwood. According to the Washington U. archivist, he was "[h]ighly sought after for his daring designs and known for his flamboyant and engaging disposition." He designed the Ethical Society building on Clayton Road and the Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney department store, as well as houses for such distinguished St. Louisans as Carl and Gerti Cory.

The Gable continued as a restaurant until 1936. After that it served various purposes, as office, chiropractic clinic and daycare center. Now vacant, it was the site of a Better Block event October 2, 2014. But the expense of renovating it was too much for prospective buyers to bear. Anybody who has a vision for the building and a lot of money should apply to City Hall now.



Children Learning

PGA supports early education

Tutoring resumed at Lolly's Place Sept. 19. It is located at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington. Teachers work with students in small groups and one on one. Tutoring includes inculcating study skills and overseeing homework. Tuition for the academic year is \$1,525, but families who



Volunteers from the Life Sciences Community of Saint Louis University spread woodchips in Clemens garden Sept. 9.

live in this neighborhood can apply for scholarships to the Parkview Gardens Association. For information or to enroll, call Mary Pat at (314) 800-4260.

Neighborhood Houses provides before and after school enrichment programs for students at Flynn Park School during the school year. The Parkview Gardens Association will provide scholarships to children who live in this neighborhood. For information, contact Jennifer Vaughn (314) 561-3341.

Fall Back

Evenings darken

Daylight Saving Time ends 2 am Sunday, Nov. 5. Traditionalists, set your clocks and watches back an hour. Cell phones and computers will probably figure it out on their own. Darkness will come earlier in the evenings, so this is a good time to check on the lights in public areas of your building. Doors, stairwells, rear areas--if you notice burned out bulbs, notify the building owner. (If it's Quadrangle Housing, call (314) 935-9511. If a streetlight has gone out, call Ameren Missouri at (314) 224-1199 and give them the location or pole number. Bicycle commuters, you may be riding home in the dark, so check if you need new batteries for your lights

U City Roundup

News & events

The St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* reported that "late-night vandalism followed hours of peaceful protests against the acquittal of former police officer Jason Stockley the night of Sept. 16" in the Loop. Twenty-three businesses and five police cars were vandalized. Ten people were arrested.

The United States Conference of Mayors, Mayors Climate Protection Center awarded Mayor Shelley Welsch Honorable Mention for sustainability initiatives in the Delmar Loop, including permeable pavers, LED lighting, recycling containers and becoming a green dining district.

Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse, the oldest building in University

City, holds a free open house on the following Sundays, 2-4 pm: Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Nov. 19. 6826 Chamberlain Ct.

Make a Difference Day is Saturday, Oct. 28. The national community volunteerism event is strongly supported in U City. Past projects include River des Peres and alley cleanup. Volunteers gather at Heman Park Community Center, starting at 8 am. Go to ucitymo.org for more information.

Library Events

All at U City Public Library

Oct. 19 UMSL Professor John McGinnis talks about Emil Frei's stained glass windows at All Saints Church at the annual dinner of the Historical Society of University City. 6:30 pm. Ticket info: ucityhistory.org
Oct. 21 Free Health screenings, starting at 9 am.

Oct. 25 U City Book Group discusses *A Man called Ove* by Fredrik Backman at 7 pm.

Oct. 26 Missouri CLAIM Open House at 10 am. Information on Medicare.

Nov. 1 Computer class: intro to social media at 2:30 pm.

Fall Holidays

What's scarier than a pun?

Halloween is Wednesday, Oct. 31. U City holds Trunk or Treat, a family event, at 5 pm Oct. 27 in the Centennial Commons parking lot. The St. Louis Brewers Guild

holds a party Oct. 28 at Lafayette Square featuring local beers, food, and costumed performers. See their Facebook page for details. Missouri Botanical Garden holds Ghouls in the Garden Oct. 29, a daytime family event. Info: mobot.org. Delmar Hall hosts the first annual St. Louis Halloween Punderdome Oct. 28. The word-playfest comes to us from New York City. Info: delmarhall.com. "Wizards of the Weird: Spooky Films at the Library" is free at the Schlafly Branch, 225 N. Euclid,

place Nov. 2-12 at the Tivoli Theatre and other venues. More info at cinemastlouis.org.

Five, Ten & Fifteen Years Ago In the Pacer

Oct. 2012

A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Firehouse No. 1, which now stands at 863 Westgate Ave. The community gardens held a garden tour and potluck supper Oct. 20.

Oct. 2007

Fifty of the participants in the summer recreation program operated by the U City Parks Dept. were local residents with scholarships from the Parkview Gardens Association Special Business District.

Oct 2002

Two community gardeners won special recognition from Gateway Greening for their contributions to the neighborhood's gardens. The University City Residential Service held a bike tour Sept. 22. The movie *The Truth about Charlie* was showing in local theatres. It was a remake of the 1963 classic *Charade*, starring Mark

Wahlberg in the role created by Cary Grant. The Pacer opined that it was forgettable, and indeed it has been forgotten. The original is available at U City library.



On Sept. 17 artists came to the Loop to paint boarded-up windows broken by rioters the night before. These are by Andy Cross of the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood.

12:15 pm Oct. 30.

Veterans Day is Saturday, Nov. 11. The public library will be closed Nov. 10-11.

Arts Events

Music & film

Winter Opera opens its eleventh season with Romberg's *The Student Prince* Nov. 10 and 12 at Chaminade. Ticket info: (314) 865-0038. The Whitaker St. Louis International Film Festival takes

PGA Meets

What's next for neighborhood?

The semi-annual meeting of the Parkview Gardens Association and its associated special business dis-

trict will begin at 6 pm Tuesday Oct. 17, upstairs at University City Library, 6701 Delmar. After a review of last year, activities will be planned for the coming year.

Election of officers will be held. Property owner representatives Mike Giger (President) and Dennis Lutsky (Treasurer) are up for re-election. If you live, work, or own property in Parkview Gardens or the East Loop, you're invited to attend, meet the officers of the association, and take part in a lively discussion of the area's present and future. The PGA is responsible for the light pole banners, extra-bright streetlights, flower and vegetable gardens, and other amenities. The neighborhood improvement group, consisting of landlords, businesspeople and residents, was founded in 1980. Membership is \$25 a year. You don't have to be a member to attend the annual meeting.

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News of the Neighborhood

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