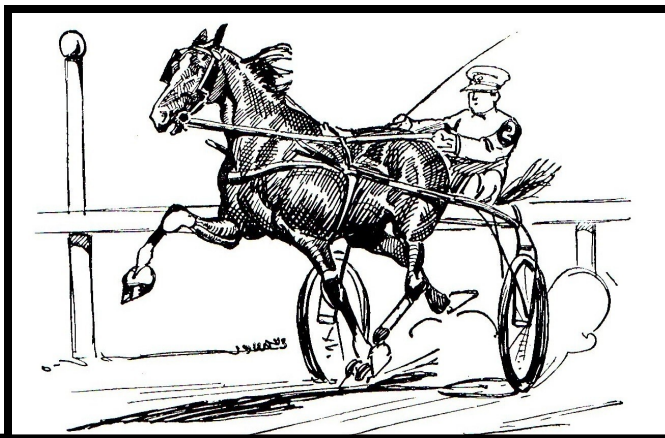


The Pacer



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

Join PGA!

Form enclosed

Join the Parkview Gardens Association and help support this newsletter, the light-pole banners, the extra-bright streetlights, the flower and community vegetable gardens and other amenities PGA sponsors. This neighborhood improvement group, consisting of landlords, businesspeople and residents, was founded in 1980. You'll be welcome at our semi-annual meetings and qualified to vote on officers or become one yourself. If you're already a member, please use the form to pay your annual dues.

Digging Deep

Chancellor's Report to Neighbors

On Nov. 20 at the law school on Washington University's Danforth Campus, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton stated that the university is in excellent shape, academically and financially. Applications for the freshman class be-

ginning in fall 2018 are up. Two seniors have been chosen as Rhodes scholars. The current fundraising campaign, which runs until June 2018, has already raised over \$2 billion. But he added that he's worried about developments in Washington, D.C. His main concerns are the international relations of Wash U and federal support for research. The current tax bill would negatively effect higher education in many ways. On a personal note, Wrighton said that he will retire in a year or two. The search for his successor has begun. Jane Kojima, spokesman for the east end construction project, said that the excavation phase ended in September, having moved 33 thousand cubic yards of earth. There were complaints about truck traffic and dirt. Foundations of buildings are now being constructed. The project will result in three new buildings and an underground garage.

Rose Windmiller, associate vice chancellor for government and community relations, said, "The

university has worked hard to be a good neighbor but understands it has a long way to go." Contributions Wash U makes to the community were described. The medical school operates health centers for the young and underprivileged. The university has implemented a violence prevention program in neighborhoods. It supports public transit by buying passes so students and employees can travel free. In fact, it's the biggest consumer of public transit in the region. A college prep program helps equip local high school students with the skills they need to succeed at college. The College Advisors Corps places Wash U students in guidance counselor offices of local high schools. MySci, which started 15 years ago with field trips, now enhances science education in many ways at 220 schools. The mySci building on Vernon Avenue in Parkview Gardens is a depository for textbooks and other classroom materials, and a resource center. Teachers go there for professional development. The investigation station is a trailer that goes

to schools to serve as an experimental lab. Mary Campbell, associate vice chancellor for real estate, stated that the university does not and has never owned the Church's Chicken lot at Skinker-Delmar. It only owns the fence around the lot. It doesn't know what developments the owners have planned. Olin library construction will be finished by next semester. The university is holding onto most of its houses and duplexes in adjacent neighborhoods for the use of graduate students and young faculty with families.

Chillfest

Ice Carnival returns

The 2018 Loop Ice Carnival will be Jan. 12-14. For the latest news, visit the Facebook page. If this celebration is like previous years, it will kick off Friday evening with the Snow Ball at the Moonrise Hotel. (Ticket info at visit-theloop.com) Saturday's activities will include the Zip Flyte zipline, ice slides, \$1,000 in ice cubes giveaway, temporary tattoo scavenger hunt, ice carving demonstrations, putt-putt pub crawl, cosmonauts on ice, ice breaker game, stilt walkers, magicians, jugglers and fire performers.

Holiday Closings

Schools and services

At Washington University, Dec. 8 is the last day of classes. Finals end Dec. 20. Spring term begins Jan. 16. At the University of Missouri-St. Louis, classes end Dec. 9 and final exams end Dec. 15. Fall

Commencement is Dec. 16 and Intersession runs Jan. 2-13. Spring semester begins Jan. 16. At University City schools, winter break is Dec. 22 -Jan. 3. For Christmas and New Year's Day, City Hall is closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. The public library is closed Dec. 24 and 25, and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Martin Luther King Day is Jan. 15. The library and City Hall will be closed. No classes will be held at Washington U., UMSL or U. City schools.



Mark S. Wrighton, chancellor of Washington University

Holiday Events

In U City & nearby

The Loop Special Business District hosts a Hanukkah Menorah lighting at 7 pm Dec. 12 at Market in the Loop plaza, as well as a Kwanzaa Celebration Dec. 30, time TBA.

On Dec. 31 Joe Dirt and the Dirty Boys perform at the Pageant in the KSHE New Year's Celebration. (Tickets: thepageant.com) A Kwanzaa celebration will be held Dec. 30, noon-4 pm at St. Louis Art Museum

Spring Vote

Want to run for office?

April 3, 2018 will be municipal election day in U City. Candidates are running for mayor and for one city council seat in each of the three wards. If you want to run, you'll need between 50 and 75 supporters to sign a petition and a \$50 fee. Candidate packets can be downloaded from ucitymo.org. You must file by January 16.

Library Events

At the public library

At 6701 Delmar, Job Corps information session are being held on Thursdays, 4-6 pm in meeting room 1. Job Corps is a free youth employment training program. On Dec 20 is Computer class: safe web surfing at 2:30 pm. The U City Book Group discusses Yaa Gayasi's *Homecoming* at 7 that evening.

5, 10 & 15 Years Ago

In the Pacer

December 2012: The chancellor's report to neighbors announced that construction was about to begin on a retail/student apartment complex on Delmar. The buildings were named The Lofts and now stand, west of the Eastgate intersection. Further construction is planned near the site in the future.

Dec. 2007: St. Louis was bracing for the imminent closing of U.S. 40/I-64 between Ballas and I-70 for a thorough renovation. Predictions of massive traffic jams and economic downturn were being made, but they turned out to be exaggerated. The project was com-



Syracuse community gardeners put up the birdfeeder on the last workday of the season..

pleted on time.

Dec. 2002: U City People for Dogs had just opened a play area at the corner of Vernon and Pennsylvania, where canines still gambol.

Free Video

Anastasia

Combing the DVD shelves of the library to help you save on rentals and streaming. In 1917, the Tsar of Russia was forced to abdicate. The next year, the Communist government executed him and his entire family. Thus the Romanov dynasty and imperial Russia vanished from history--except for one dubious survivor. Rumors circulated that the Tsar's youngest daughter, Anastasia, had escaped. In subsequent decades, at least ten women claimed to be her. The most successful imposter, Anna Anderson, attracted many supporters. Not until the 1990s did DNA evidence disprove her claim. But Anastasia continues to inspire fiction, and a musical bearing her name is running on Broadway. It's based on a 1997 Disney animated film, which

was partially based on this 1956 movie. The set-up is irresistible. In 1920s, Paris, Cosack conman Yul Brynner picks a suicidal vagrant (Ingrid Bergman) off the street. His plan is to convince the Russian exile community that she is Anastasia, and cash in on her inheritance. She responds well to his training for the role...too well, in

fact. He begins to wonder if she really is Anastasia. The movie cleverly keeps us guessing, even if it is talky (it's based on a play) and slow-paced. It was filmed partly on European locations, in color and wide-screen, and dates from an era when producers assumed audiences would be content to gaze upon postcard views for quite a long time. Fortunately, the stars deliver. Brynner was enjoying one of the hottest streaks an actor ever had, having just made *The King and I* and *The Ten Commandments*. Bergman was returning to Hollywood after being exiled for several years for what in the '50s was considered immoral behavior. Her performance was so terrific that Tinseltown didn't just accept her back but gave her an Academy Award. The veteran Helen Hayes revels in a juicy supporting role as a stern aristocrat who's too shrewd to be fooled by the imposter...until they come face to face.

Going Away for the Holidays

Avoid a flood

It's a good, money-saving idea to turn your thermostat down before leaving for the holidays. But don't turn the furnace off! Pipes in the walls could freeze and burst, causing expensive water damage.

Unfortunately, burglars are well aware that Parkview Gardens is a student neighborhood and students go away for the holidays. So precautions are in order:

*A light on a timer (or two) makes an apartment look occupied much more convincingly than leaving a light on.

*Close the curtains or blinds of windows people can see into from the street.

*Arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail or newspaper, or suspend delivery.

*Call the police non-emergency number (314) 725-2211 and ask to make an "out of town notification."

*Don't pack the back seat of your car the night before you depart and leave it parked on the street.



Window display at Craft Alliance

Titanic Revisited

Why Jack must die

Twenty years after *Titanic* opened, people are still complaining to its writer-director James Cameron that he should have found a way to save the picture's beloved hero, Jack. Cameron insists that Jack has to die. And rightly so. The *Titanic* myth has always been a celebration of male gallantry and self-sacrifice. Back in 1912, to help the public cope with the shock of the disaster, the media (which was called the press then) promoted the myth that the captain declared "Women and children first," and all the men, except for a couple of despicable cowards, helped the women and children into the lifeboats, stood back, and went down with the ship. The 1997 movie debunked the myth, showing that, for the most part, the rich saved themselves and the poor drowned. But if Cameron had no use for an idealized version of capitalist society, he gave audiences instead an idealized hero, who unhesitatingly gives his own life to save the woman he loves. It's even more important now than in 1997 for Jack to die, because men are badly in need of a bit of good press at the moment.

Parkview Gardens Assn.

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News of the Neighborhood

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