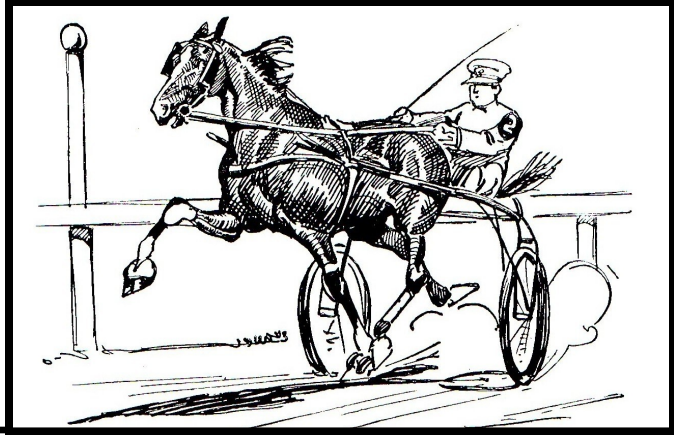


The Pacer



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 8 at University City Public Library, 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.

Garden News

Renovated shed and new beds

The shed at Syracuse Community Garden, which is over 15 years old, is being repaired by Andy Botts. He will fix several things, including age-related deterioration of the doors and water damage following a branch falling on the roof several years ago. Andy is also creating a frame to put under the shed that will raise the sides away from the damp

ground. The gardeners of Syracuse will help him lift the shed so the frame can be positioned beneath it. Andy's regular work is restoring interiors of historic homes, but he enjoys helping out on community projects.

Clemens Community Garden was recently awarded a grant by Gateway Greening to construct two double-raised garden plots. These are table top-type structures that can be gardened without bending or kneeling, a boon to the less flexible. Gateway Greening is providing building materials, soil, and technical help at the installation, which will be in early May. Spring clean-up at Clemens also included long-anticipated removal by "Got Junk?" of accumulated materials that could not be recycled or put in the dumpsters.

Wash U Bridge Gets OK

From City Council

The long-awaited pedestrian/cyclist bridge over the Forest Park Parkway (formerly Millbrook

Boulevard) was the main topic at the City Council meeting March 26. The council also approved Ackert Walkway improvements, in line with the 2011 Parkview Gardens Plan: brighter lighting and ADA-compliant sidewalk repair. During citizen participation, Deb Henderson promoted the Midtown Farmers Market in the Loop, which brings favorable publicity to University City, is the most diverse market in the St. Louis area, and provides youth employment. The auditors, Schowalter & Jabouri, approved the city's June 2017 annual report. An emergency request to hire an outside manager for Herman Park Pool caused controversy. Michael Glickert (Ward Two) said that the outsourcing had been poorly handled last year. Paulette Carr (Ward Two) said that a different firm would manage the pool this coming summer. The request was approved. In discussion of a resolution urging Missouri state legislators to adopt laws to prevent gun violence and promote safe schools, Bwayne Smotherson (Ward Three) said that the resolu-

tion was too broadly written. Terry Crow (Ward One) agreed, but said the state legislature is going to adjourn soon and the resolution must be timely to be effective. It was approved. The agreement between the city and Washington University to build the bridge over the parkway has been in the works for a long time. The bridge will separate pedestrian and bike lanes for improved safety. But Carr said that the ordinance called for transfer of parkland, in violation of the city charter. Crow replied that the ordinance had been thoroughly vetted. Mayor Shelley Welsch agreed. The ordinance was approved. Steve McMahon (Ward One) announced that CALOP is sponsoring video classes at the library this summer.

U City News

From music to robots
University City Symphony Orchestra presents a free concert, *Made in the USA*, at 3 pm April 22 at All Saints Church, featuring the world premiere of "Season of Autocracy" by Kerwin Young and performances by four Schatzkamer Young Artists. The **RoboLions**, University City High School's student robotics team, recently won the regional competition allowing them to advance to the FIRST robotics competition in Houston in April, the St. Louis American reported March 21. Local property owner **Mubeen Mahmood** pitched a \$3 million development proposal for

the Olive-Midland intersection to the City Council at a March 12 study session, the West End Word reported. It would offer 20,000 square feet of commercial space and 15 apartments. The residential would be intended to attract Washington U students and the commercial tenants might be a bakery, restaurant and/or coffee shop. Register for **Youth/Teen Summer Camp**, organized by the Department of Parks and Recreation, April 21 at the Community Center. The program, which is for U City residents aged 5-14, begins June 4



First workday of Spring at Clemens Garden

at Centennial Commons. Parkview Gardens Association provides scholarships for children who live in this neighborhood. Parents pay only \$25 per child. For more information, call (314) 505-8625.

School's Out

Academic year winds up
At **Washington University**, the last day of classes is April 27. Commencement is May 18. At **University of Missouri-St. Louis**, the last day of classes is May 5. Commencement is May 12-13. At the **School District of University City**, May 14 is high

school graduation, and May 21 marks the end of fourth quarter.

Spring Events

Three green fests

Earth Day will be celebrated Saturday-Sunday, April 21 and 22. The 29th annual St. Louis event will be held from 11 am-5 pm, on the Muny Grounds of Forest Park. This year the festival has committed itself to total recycling, generating zero waste, and invites attendees to arrive by bicycle and meet other environmental challenges. Complete info at stlouisearth-day.org. The **St. Louis Climate Summit** will be Sunday through Tuesday, April 22-24. Peter Raven is among the speakers. Hosted by Saint Louis University.

The **U City in Bloom Plant Sale** takes place 9 am-1 pm Saturday April 28 and 11 am-1 pm Sunday April 29 at the Community Center. 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: ucityinbloom.org

20, 15, 10 & 5 Years Ago

In the Pacer

This issue marks the 21st anniversary of the Parkview Gardens Pacer, which first appeared in April 1997. Editor David Linzee plans improvements. Coming this summer are a redesign of the print edition and an expanded version of the website. Comments and suggestions are welcome. Send them

to davidlinzee@yahoo.com.

April 1998 An apartment renovated as part of the \$5.4 million Parkview Gardens Phase II project was featured on the April 26 U City House Tour. Residents were invited to apply for garden beds at Syracuse and Heman (now Vito's). Clemens didn't exist yet.

April 2003 The city announced a \$4.2 million overhaul of Heman Park pool, the oldest in St. Louis County. Forest Park Parkway closed on June 2, for construction of what we now know as the Metrolink Blue Line.

April 2008 One of the Sculpture Series works, "Safety" by Brian Mita, a Washington U. student, was in Clemens garden. It was described as "a six-foot tall fiberglass nightlight."

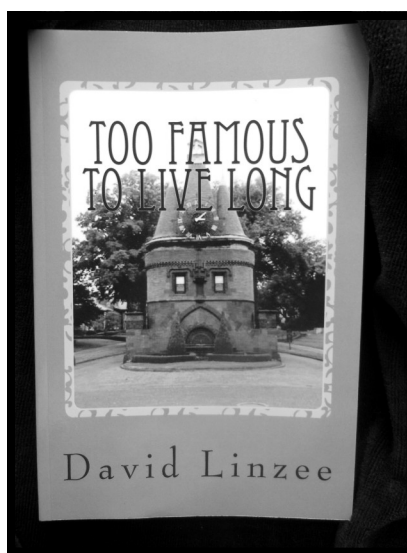
April 2013 The City Council issued a conditional use permit for the Loop Trolley. At State of the City, City Manager Lehman Walker announced that the city had a declining population and flat revenues. To avoid a tax increase, he was consolidating eight city departments into five, hoping to save \$2-4 million.

State of the City

Top officials speak

On March 6, the Historical Society hosted an event at City Hall, in which retiring Mayor Shelley Welsch reviewed her accomplishments and new City Manager Gregory Rose set forth his hopes and plans. Appointed only nine weeks before the event, Rose said "This is a homecoming for me. I returned because there's no place like University City." He was assistant city manager of U City 1997-2001 and has come back from Maricopa, Arizona. He wants to improve services in U

City. His goal is to make it "the safest city in Missouri" through high technology, like robotics and surveillance cameras, and a citizen volunteer program. He also wants to maintain the city's good financial condition and high ratings with lenders by avoiding deficit spending. For successful economic developments, he believes that the two big questions are: What businesses fit U City, and How do we define downtown? The Loop is the traditional answer to the second



Booksigning May 10 at UCPL

question, and the area's traffic and parking problems will have to be addressed. The Loop Trolley has the potential to be a big competitive advantage because no other shopping/entertainment district in the area has one. But we mustn't neglect Olive Boulevard, which offers the opportunity to diversify our economy. The intersection of Delmar and I-170 is another promising site for development; it would be perfect for a hotel. To improve residential stock, he is considering the possibility of creating a housing authority to buy low-value properties, improve them and sell them. We have an urgent

need to invest in street and sidewalk maintenance. U City has a "symbiotic" relationship with Washington University and he will seek opportunities to work with the university to the city's advantage.

Welsch noted that this was her seventh and last appearance at State of the City. She will retire in April after 24 years in public service, including two terms as mayor. She began her talk with a basic description of U. City: an inner-ring suburb six square miles in area, with a population of 35,371, 50% white, 41% African American, 4.3 % Asian. Two point seven-five percent of residents described themselves as biracial. City government has been quieter than usual in 2017, as it lacked a permanent city manager for most of the year. U City made headlines all over the region with the September 2017 rioting after the acquittal of a police officer charged with shooting an unarmed African American. The positive part of the coverage noted the way the whole community pitched in to clean up Delmar the next day. The major issue currently facing the city is that the Missouri Sewer District seeks to build waste-water holding tanks on Olive Boulevard, behind Mandarin House restaurant. The city is negotiating with MSD, which has the same authority to construct on a chosen site as a municipality. The holding tanks will not affect flooding in U City, and will not pollute the River des Peres. Their benefit will be to limit sewer backups. Prop P was approved in 2017 and funds to benefit public safety will be distributed to U City. Much real estate development is going on: COCA, Mansions on the Plaza, and the Gatesworth are expanding.

Expansion is complete at Urban Sprouts and a new Regions bank branch has opened. Car renovation has delayed the beginning of service of the Loop Trolley.

Library Events

More info at ucpl.lib.mo.us

April 21 Free health tests, 9 am.

Apr 23 Friends of the Library hosts a book signing with Elsa Hart, author of *White Mirror*. 7 pm

May 5 Trivia Night

May 10 David Linzee, editor of this newsletter, reads from and discusses the third Renata Radleigh mystery (set like its predecessors in St. Louis) *Too Famous to Live Long*. At 7 pm.

Parkview Gardens Assn.

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News of the Neighborhood

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