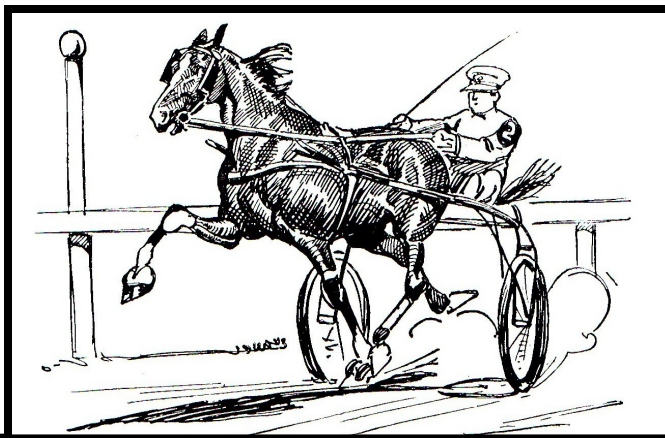


The Pacer



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Holiday Race

PGA co-sponsors run

Registration is open online (ucitymemorialdayrun.com) for the 44th annual **Memorial Day Run**. The Parkview Gardens Association SBD has long been a major sponsor of the event. Individual adult entry is \$30 until May 20. Packet pickup will be at the library Sunday afternoon May 27. The 10 K and 5 K events begin on Delmar at 7:30 am Monday, May 28. The Family Fun Run is at 9:20. Full event information is on the website. Proceeds benefit the Green Center, U City in Bloom and the library.

Also on Memorial Day, the library and City Hall will be closed. Refuse collection will be postponed to Tuesday. Heman Park Pool re-opens May 26. Seasonal swim passes can be purchased at Centennial Commons. Day passes are sold at the pool entrance. The first Swim-in Family movie night is June 1, when

the Disney film *Coco* will be shown at 8 pm.

Last Chance *To attend summer camp*

June 9 is the last day to register for U City's **Summer Camp and Teen Activities Programs**. Call (314) 505-8613. Program activities will include swimming, tennis, field trips, arts and crafts and more. The programs for ages 5-14 will run weekdays for eight weeks (June 4-July 27) at Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd. Scholarships are available for University City residents who meet income guideline requirements. Parkview Gardens Association provides scholarships for children who live in this neighborhood.

Welcome *To our new council- member*

The Parkview Gardens Association congratulates **Tim Cusick**, who was elected April 3 to represent Ward Two, which includes most of Parkview Gardens, on the City Council. The race was close, with opponent Jerrold Tiers winning 547 votes to Cusick's 572. You can reach Councilmember Cusick at (314) 230-3337. PGA also thanks retiring Councilmember Michael Glickert for his many years of service on our behalf.

Forest Park Fun *Summer events abound*

Twilight Tuesdays concerts are held from 6-8 pm outside the Missouri History Museum. May 15: Fat Pocket. May 22: Queens Blvd. May 29: Tribute to Beyoncé by Taynka.

The annual event for dog owners returns to the park. **Bark in the Park** is 8 am-1 pm Saturday, May 19 on the Cricket Field. Registration is \$35, including T-shirt and grab bag and participation in the

5K Run or 1 Mile walk. Info: hsmo.org/bark. The event is a benefit for the Humane Society of Missouri. There will be a royal wedding-themed contest to salute the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, taking place on the same day at Windsor Castle.

Shakespeare Festival St.

Louis runs June 1-24 with *Romeo and Juliet*. Green Show begins at 6:30 PM, the play at 8 in Shakespeare Glen near the art museum. No show on Tuesdays. Free, but they'll make you feel incredibly guilty if you don't make a donation. Info: sfstl.com.

The **African Arts Festival** is May 26-28 at the World's Fair Pavilion. Activities running from the morning into the evening include African marketplace, arts and crafts, cultural demonstrations, children's activities, music and dance performances, and food booths. Admission free. Info: stlafri-canartsfest.com.

Bike to Work

Two-wheel commuting

Bike to Work Day is May 18. Trailnet sponsors this national event locally to encourage bicycle commuting. Refueling stations, supplying free coffee and patisserie to cyclists, will be open during the morning commute at various locations. More info at trailnet.org

This year, you don't even need a bike of your own to participate. In late April a company

called **LimeBike** placed about 1,500 bikes in various places around the city of St. Louis, concentrating on the central corridor (adjacent to U City). I've seen them mostly in Forest Park, though I did spot one at U City library. You use a smart phone app to locate the nearest bike and a credit card to rent it. (\$1 per half-hour.) You pedal to your destination and just leave the bike for the next user. An advantage for the renter is that he doesn't have to return the bike to a docking station. Inevitably, there's a downside to that arrangement, and people have already complained of carelessly abandoned bikes blocking doors and sidewalks, and even of bikes being dumped in the river. Possible future developments: expansion to the suburbs, limitation of drop-offs to assigned spaces, and an alternate way of renting a bike for people who don't have smart phones or credit cards.

Truck Tunes

Ice cream vendors need new repertoire

Summer is coming. The days are growing warmer and longer, and soon the tunes of the ice-cream truck will be heard in Parkview Gardens once again. Odds are good they will be the same tunes as last summer. Dare I suggest a change of repertoire? Surely we're entitled to ask for a leavening of the familiar fare. We've heard "Turkey in the Straw" and "Home on the Range" often enough. Come on, ice cream vendors. Time to make a change, build good will in the neighborhood and--who knows--perhaps increase sales with some new tunes. Or rather, some very old tunes. I recommend to you a



The pool at the beginning of May

perusal of opera scores. These arias are in the public domain and you won't have to pay royalties. Have I got your attention? Good. Then let me make a few specific suggestions: "The Brindisi" from Verdi's *La Traviata*. As sprightly as "Turkey in the Straw," this paean to gaiety, good fellowship and love would be an excellent addition to any truck's soundtrack. Granted, it's originally music to drink champagne to, but can easily be repurposed as music to eat ice cream by.

"*Notte e giorno faticar*," the curtain-raiser of Don Giovanni, in which the downtrodden servant Leoprello sings, "Night and day I work and slave." Haven't we all felt that way sometimes, and doesn't the thought lead naturally to "I deserve some ice cream?"

"*La chi darem la mana*," a duet whose title is usually translated as "Give me your hand, sweet lady," but could equally well be rendered as "Give me a popsicle, baby." It too comes from Don Giovanni, and has an equally memorable tune. Mozart's potential as an ice cream salesman has scarcely been tapped.



The pool at the end of May

Library Events

All at U City Public Library, 6701 Delmar, (314) 727-3150

May 15 Classics Book Group discusses *To The Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf at 2 pm.

May 19 Free health screenings, beginning at 9 am.

May 23 The annual adult summer reading program kicks off. This year's selection is *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison.

St. Louis in Decline

And the livin' is easy

Last month brought us bad news. The latest estimates from the Census Bureau show that the city of St. Louis is continuing to lose population, and so is the metropolitan area overall, slipping out of the top 20. It's a dark cloud on St. Louis's future, but there is a silver lining. Living in an under populated area is mighty convenient. I've just returned from southern England, which is chock-full of people, and can report on some problems there that we don't have.

*Subway and commuter trains

have to carry more people, so more cars are added, but there's no room to lengthen station platforms, so passengers must remain alert for announcements and move to a car whose doors will open if they want to get out at the right station.

*Parking is so tight in country towns that govern-

ment and employers pressure workers to use Park & Ride, so central parking spaces will be available for shoppers and customers.

*London's East End, where Jack the Ripper once lurked, has become almost completely gentrified. Only one slummy neighborhood remains. But everybody knows it's going to gentrify too, so even a fixer-upper on a dirty, dangerous street already costs a million and a half pounds.

*The paths of parks in central London are so crowded with pedestrians that bicycles are either completely banned, or only allowed on certain paths. These laws are enforced, and fines are heavy.

Comparative Risk

In city and suburb

So your Aunt May won't come in from Ballwin to visit you because she's afraid of the "dangerous" U City Loop? Turns out you're in less danger from a mugger than she is from the SUV in the next lane on I-270. Scientists at the University of Virginia studied the homicide and

traffic fatality statistics in eight metropolitan areas and concluded that outer suburban counties were more dangerous than core cities or inner suburbs. You're slightly more likely to be murdered by a stranger in the center city than the ex-urbs, but you're far more likely to be killed in a car accident in the 'burbs than in the city. And, of course, you can be murdered by a family member or acquaintance anywhere. So, while Parkview Gardens may look a bit grittier than Ballwin, appearances can be deceiving. As Sherlock Holmes said, "It is my belief, Watson, founded on my experience, that the lowest and vilest alleys in London do not present a more dreadful record of sin than does the smiling and beautiful countryside."

U City Events

Popular music series return

University City **Summer Band** concerts begin June 12 at 7 pm and continue on Tuesdays until July 24, skipping July 3. The band plays mostly light classics, marches, jazz and show tunes. Go to ucsummerband.org for programs. Free. The concerts take



City Hall in Spring

place in Heman Park, near the Midland-Shaftsbury entrance. The **Starlight Concert Series** begins Monday, June 4, in Heman Park.

Fair U City is June 8-10 in Heman Park. The fair opens Friday evening and runs all day Saturday and Sunday. The event features carnival rides, community info booths, food, music. Info: fairucity.com. Admission is free, and rides cost \$1.

Summer classes in music, dance, theatre and other arts begin June 11 at COCA on Trinity Avenue. Registration is open at cocastl.org.

A public hearing to discuss how to spend over \$100,000 in Community Development Block Grants will be held at 6:30 pm June 11 in the City Council chambers of City Hall, 6801 Delmar.

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News of the Neighborhood

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