

# The Pacer

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## Back to School And National Night Out

The community-wide National Night Out against Crime and Back to School Rally will be held from 5 to 7 pm Aug. 1 at Jackson Park Elementary School, 7400 Balson. Free haircuts, health checks, music and refreshments.

## U City Roundup

### Swim, shop, keep fit, listen

After three-quarters of a million dollars in repairs and updates, Heman Park pool reopened June 24. The pool is open noon-6 pm daily. Midtown Farmers Market is now open every other Wednesday evening, 4-7 pm. July 19 is the next open date. It continues to operate every Saturday morning with live music, fresh produce from local farms and craft items. Centennial Commons has extended its hours. It is now open 5 am-7 pm Monday-Friday; 8 am-6

pm Saturday, 10 am-6 pm Sunday. The Gateway Festival Orchestra comes to 560 Music Center July 16



*Jump in! Heman Park Pool is open.*

for a free concert starting at 7:30pm with music of Borodin, Rossini and Schubert.

## Parish Merger

### *All Saints and Christ the King*

Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski informed All Saints Church that it will be subsumed into Christ the King Parish (7316 Balson) on Aug. 1. All Saints will share a Pastor,

Msgr. Michael Turek, with Christ the King and St. Joseph's in Clayton. The current

pastor, Msgr. Michael Witt, leaves All Saints but continues on the faculty of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. The number of parishes in the St. Louis area will fall from 178 to 134 under the reorganization plan that the Archdiocese of St. Louis announced in late May.

Rozanski's decree states that "All Saints Church remains a sacred edifice to which the faithful have right

of entry" but all services will be at Christ the King. It also provides the statistics that formed the basis for the decision to close. All Saints has 70 Catholic households, 6 adult parishioners under 50, 55 currently attending Sunday mass, an average of 0 baptisms and 2 funerals annually for the last 5 years. The parish is operating at a financial deficit.

## Liquor License Approved

### *City Council meeting*

The City Council discussed a liquor license for the 7-11 at 8159 Olive Boulevard at the June 26 meeting. Noting that the store was long-established at that location, councilmembers asked how selling liquor would change the store's character and affect its customers. Representatives of 7-11 replied that the store has always sold alcoholic beverages. It had a state license, but the franchisee neglected to apply for a city license. When the franchisee retired and 7-11 corporation took over the store, executives noticed the oversight, for which they apologized. The representatives explained that sales personnel received special training in recognizing fake IDs as well as underage or drunk would-be purchasers. They are fired if they sell alcohol to such persons. The council voted to approve the liquor license.

In other business, the council proclaimed July as Parks and Recreation Month. During citizen comment, Aren Ginsberg announced that the public library had re-opened that day in its refurbished building at 6701 Delmar. Patrons would find many improvements when they visited. Once the elevator (damaged in a broken water

main flood) is repaired, the library will hold a re-opening celebration.

## Free DVD

### *Marlowe*

The Pacer scans the DVD shelves of the public library to help you save money. Since the box-office success of *Tak-*



*All Saints Church, built in 1937*

*en* in 2008, Liam Neeson has been turning out modestly-budgeted action movies at a brisk pace for a 71 year-old. Settings and genres vary, but all the movies give Neeson opportunities to win fights against actors (or stunt men) half his age. *Marlowe*, released earlier this year, is more ambitious and more interesting than its predecessors. The director is Neil Jordan, who gave us (long ago, admittedly) memorable crime tales like *The Crying Game* and *Mona Lisa*. With clean staging of scenes and brisk editing, he moves the hero smoothly up and down the ladder of Los Angeles society, circa 1939. Jessica Lange,

Danny Huston and Alan Cumming, veteran performers who are always good to see, lead the supporting cast. Raymond Chandler's sardonic private eye, Philip Marlowe, is one of Hollywood's most durable heroes. He's been played by James Garner, Robert Mitchum, Elliot Gould, Dick Powell and (most memorably)

Humphrey Bogart.

Neeson can't match Bogart's dry delivery of the character's trademark wisecracks, but he conveys Marlowe's world-weariness, toughness and sense of honor well. There are some missteps, like the scene in which Marlowe follows a mysterious blonde in a cream-colored Packard through the dark streets of LA. The reference to *Chinatown* points up the fact that this movie is nowhere near as good. (To be fair, few movies are.) As for the obliga-

tory senior citizen fisticuffs, they're getting a bit embarrassing. When Neeson mutters, "I'm getting too old for this," you can only agree.

## 5, 10 & 20 Years Ago

### *In the Pacer*

**July 2018** The Market at Olive was then a nameless proposed development under consideration by the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Board. Citizens spoke about it at the City Council meeting. Some complained of lack of transparency, conflicts of interest and forcing businesses and resi-

dents to move. City officials said it would raise property values in the Third Ward and that homeowners in the construction area were willing to sell. The Market at Olive now stands, or sprawls, but whether it will prove to be a boon for the Third Ward is still unknown. The police announced a crosswalk enforcement program called Stop for Me. (It's time for another one, especially on Kingsland Avenue.)

Heman Park Pool held a swim-in Family Movie Night, with *Star Wars: the Last Jedi* shown at poolside.

**July 2013** The city was trying to solve the problem of the dangerous intersection of Trinity and Delmar with a "temporary roundabout." This was judged a success and made permanent. The Gateway Festival Orchestra was celebrating its 50th anniversary season with concerts at the main quadrangle of Washington University's Danforth campus.

**July 2003** The long-awaited transformation of the East Loop was underway. The Regional Arts Commission was putting up a new building. A walkway from Metrolink to The Pageant was complete. Streetscape improvements--narrowing streets and widening sidewalks, adding trees and shrubs to them--were about to begin. Pin-up Bowl and Big Shark (now Delmar Hall) were soon to open. The Forest Park Expressway closed for construction of the Metrolink Blue Line. Clemens Community Garden hosted a neighborhood National Night Out Against Crime.

## Tempest in a Teaspoon

### *Editor jolted in kitchen*

Like most people who cook, I've accumulated several sets of measuring spoons over the years. The other day, I happened to notice that the teaspoon from one set looked

these years, I'd been scrupulously measuring ingredients following recipes, taking for granted that what was a teaspoon to Julia Child and Molly Katzen was a teaspoon to me. Now my faith is shattered. What is the world coming to?

Well, if we read the headlines every day, I suppose we already know what the world is coming to.



*Memorial Day Run, May 29, 2023: Competitors in the 10K head uphill toward the Lion Gates.*

larger than the teaspoon from another set. I thought that was just a variance of shape; the volume would of course be the same. Since I was just waiting for a pot to boil, I tried an experiment. I poured water to fill the spoon that looked larger, then emptied it into the one that looked smaller.

It overflowed.

This surprised and unsettled me. I'd always assumed there was an International Sovereign Authority of Weights and Measurements which enforced uniformity by imposing fines and even prison terms on careless spoon manufacturers. But no. All

## Worsening Flood Risk

### *U City's not alone*

In February, the Stormwater Task Force issued its report on the causes of the July 2022 flood. A major one, in addition to overbuilding in the floodplain, is that the pipes through which the River des Peres flows underground were too small for the volume of rainwater flowing into them from storm drains. This is a nationwide problem, a front-page

story in the June 27 New York Times reported. A study by First Street Foundation suggested that many American communities are "at significant risk of downpours that deliver at least 50% more rain per hour than local pipes, channels and culverts might be designed to drain." Under the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure plan, billions will be spent to improve these systems, but the standards being used may already be out of date. The planet has been warming, and "hotter air can hold more moisture," resulting in heavier rainfalls. University City and the Army Corps of Engineers are con-

sidering a plan to build a detention basin upstream in an Overland park, "but experts warn that the study's 'tentatively selected' strategy, though helpful, will not go far enough to protect area residents," said the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*.

## New Downtown Trail

### *National media take note*

The New York *Times* Travel Section website has an article entitled "7 Great Cities, 7 Great Walks." Included are Paris, Rio, Sydney and...St. Louis! The article lauds the Brickline Greenway, an African American history trail, which goes by a new monument marking the bulldozing of the predominantly Black Mill Creek Valley neighborhood for Highway 40, a Keiner Plaza statue of Frankie Muse Freeman, the first African American on the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and the Old Courthouse where the Dred Scott case was tried. The walk also passes by Union Station and the Arch.

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### News of the Neighborhood:

- \*Back-to-school party
- \*All Saints merger
- \*The Flood: one year later