

The Pacer

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

Deadline Nears

Money for education

Applications for the 2026 Parkview Gardens Association Award are due by April 1. This \$5,000 prize is for higher education such as trade school or college. To qualify, you must be a Parkview Gardens resident and a high school senior who has demonstrated the ability to succeed in your studies as well as your commitment to working for the betterment of school and community. Applicants must also show financial need. For more information, consult your high school guidance counselor or call 314-721-5357.

Election Day

Mayoral race

The polls are open 6 am-7 pm Tuesday April 7. For Mayor of University City, Terry Crow, Mayor since 2018, is running against Bwayne Smotherson, Third Ward Councilmember since 2016. Four councilmembers and three school board members are running unopposed.

Spring Break

At local schools

Whether they head for Florida or not, students get vacation time in March. At University of Missouri-St. Louis, spring break is March 21-30.



Terry Crowe

Bwayne Smotherson

At Washington University, it's March 8-16. University City schools are off March 13-23.

U City News

Local Round-up

The spring issue of ROARS, the Voice of University City, says that renovation of the Trinity Building and Annex is complete, and the police will soon begin to move in from their temporary headquarters, which will be taken down. Work on parking lots and walkways will then begin.

U City Farmers Market opens its spring season on the north side of Heman Park April 11. There will be pre-season indoor markets held at Heman Park Community Center on the mornings of Mar. 14 and Mar. 28. Check the Facebook page for updates.

Laughter, Lunch, and Bingo for seniors starts at 11 am March 26 at Heman Park Community Center. The cost is \$5 and pre-registration is mandatory, 314-505-8625

Fall enrollment for new and returning students to U City public schools opens April 1. Info: ucityschools.org/enroll

Council Meets

Maintenance needs

At the City Council meeting Feb. 23, Karen Palmer was appointed to the Arts & Letters Commission, Barbara Santoro to the Library Commission. During citizen participation, Tom Sullivan expressed optimism that the new interim City Manager, Brooke A. Sharpe, would deal with longstanding maintenance problems, including streetlights out at the Olive-



Heavy snow blanketed the neighborhood in early February.

Kingsland intersection, missing covers over electric wires all over town, and dumpsters lacking lids in this part of the city. A Wilson Avenue resident (one of the streets most threatened by River des Peres flooding) said the buyout process on her house was proceeding, but that the house next door appeared to be for sale, even though it is included in the buyout. She urged the council to act to avoid confusion and delay. In the City Manager report, Sharpe said that she is moving money from general funds to the solid waste fund to meet payroll. Bill 202601 was approved. It states that a well-functioning city government is essential. Recent actions of state and federal government have affected city government negatively, undermining this community. U City government will continue to conduct business as it always has.

Library Events

At University City Public Library
Mar. 16-23 Teen Cooking:

Fuel for Life 1-2:30 pm. Advance registration required, 314-727-3150
Mar. 18 Jigsaw Puzzle Race, 6 pm. Advance registration required.
Mar. 24 Online Author Event: Barbara Kingsolver and Shoshana Walter, 1 pm
Mar. 28 Teen Paint-Along, 2 pm

April 1 Computer basics class, 3 pm

MO in the News

Locals on national scene

In February, the St. Louis District Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed a motion in federal court, Eastern District of Missouri, demanding information from Nike, alleging that its DEI policy discriminated against white men in hiring, promotion, mentoring, layoffs, etc.

Two Trump supporters recently begged to differ with the President. In early February, Secretary of State Denny Hoskins told federal authorities that he would not provide them with Missouri's full voter list unless ordered to by a court. Administration officials have said that

they want to see the voter rolls to search them for illegal immigrant voters. Trump has supported "federalizing" elections, which is unconstitutional. Senator Josh Hawley (R-Mo) criticized Administration attempts to criminally charge the six former military or intelligence officers now serving in Congress who urged serving military officers to disobey illegal orders. Hawley also criticized the six members of Congress for "a total loss of sanity."

Odd Crime

U City, 100 years ago

On Feb. 13, 1926, U City police responded to an apartment at 6632 Kingsbury, the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* reported. The tenant, Herman Gibstine, said that he was the victim of a burglary. The apartment had



Stilt walkers at Ice Carnival Jan. 24



U City Public Library holds Jigsaw Puzzle Race Mar. 18

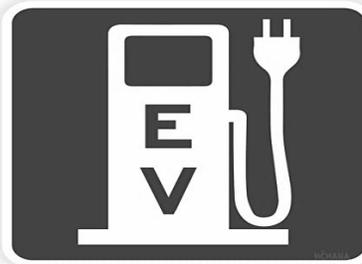
been broken into and ransacked, the bed torn up to reveal the springs. Investigation revealed an unusual tale. What had been hidden in the springs and stolen was \$1,500 (\$27,500 in today's dollars) in cash. It had been raised by the sale of 166 ½ dozen hats made by the American Millinery Company, just before it went bankrupt. The money was supposed to go to the firm's creditors. Gibstine, a partner in the firm, and another partner named Ziebol each claimed that he was trying to prevent the other from embezzling it. They got into a fight in the firm's downtown office. Gibstine won. He took the money home to U City and hid it, an action inconsistent with the worthy motives he claimed in court. Alas, the article does not tell us if the thief was Ziebol, or a burglar who got lucky...or Gibstine himself. Bankruptcy court seemed to suspect the latter.

Penny Dreadful

A dying denomination

The more important you are as a President of the United States, the lower denomination of money your portrait will be on. Thus, our greatest and most beloved president, Abraham Lin-

coln, is on the penny. Now, alas, inflation is doing the penny in. It costs more than four cents to make one penny, and the Treasury has stopped minting them. There are plenty in circulation, but already merchants are experiencing occasional shortages. Their solution is to round the change they give customers up or down to the nearest nickel. This seems to be a workable arrangement, but some of our neighbors across the river in the Land of Lincoln are getting emotional about the loss of the coin with the 16th President's profile on it. The penny's problems don't seem to be endangering Lincoln's status, though. He easily topped a YouGov poll of U.S. voters in February.



EV

No charge for charge

The electric vehicle charging station sponsored by Parkview Gardens Association SBD is located at 746 Leland Avenue. Residents can use it for free; contact the editor, davidlinzee@yahoo.com. Non-residents pay a modest fee.

St. Louis Impostors

Movie location confusion

A new television show called *DTF St. Louis* was actually filmed in Atlanta, Fox 2 News reports. The same was true of the 2017-2022 series *Ozark*. Even if a movie has "Missouri" in the title, they film it in Georgia, as was the case with the Oscar-winning *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* (2017). How come? Experts say Georgia offers more attractive tax credits to movie and television producers than Missouri does. But the practice of setting pictures here and shooting them elsewhere goes way back. In the Steve Martin hit *Parenthood* (1989), the characters keep saying they're in St. Louis, but really they're in Hollywood. The reverse is also true: a movie can be shot here, but set elsewhere. In *Up in the Air* (2009), George Clooney is filmed in various St. Louis locations that are said to be Omaha, Chicago, etc. In John Carpenter's *Escape from New York* (1981), Union Station is passed off as Grand Central Station. Fortunately, there is a St. Louis-set film that was actually shot on location: *The Great St. Louis Bank Robbery* (1958), starring Steve McQueen and directed by Charles Guggenheim, who also made the documentary about the Arch, *Monument to the Dream*.

Preparedness

In dangerous times

U City's Emergency CodeRED alerts program sends text messages and telep

News of the Neighborhood:

***Last chance to apply for PGA Award**

***Charge Your EV for free**

***Local elections**

phone alerts to warn of weather and other emergencies. To register, text UCITY to 99411. The University City Fire Dept holds a training session on basic emergency preparedness and first aid at 7 PM April 16 at Firehouse #1, 863 Westgate Avenue in Parkview Gardens. U Citians are also recruiting Neighborhood Response Leaders to serve as coordinators and liaison between first responders and neighborhood residents. Email christopherblumenhorst@yahoo.com