

The Pacer

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PGA Special Business District

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Charge your EV free

Just moved in? The Parkview Gardens Association welcomes you. The PGA is responsible for the Loop North mural, light-pole banners, extra-bright streetlights, flower and vegetable gardens and other amenities. This neighborhood improvement group, consisting of landlords, business people and residents, was founded in 1980. You'll be welcome at our annual meeting in October. Membership is \$25 a year. The EV charging station is located at 746 Leland Ave. Instructions for use are at blinkcharging.com Parkview Gardens residents can use it for free; email the editor, davidlinzee@yahoo.com

Money Troubles Ahead?

City Council meets

Former Mayor Shelley Welsch addressed the council about

University City finances at its July 13 meeting. She advised asking citizens to approve a bond issue to pay for renovations to the police station/Annex. The City paid for the renova-



EV charger sponsored by PGA

tions by issuing Certificates of Participation (COPs). The plan is to pay off the COPs out of the general fund. U City doesn't have a lot of money, and is transferring money between funds in possibly illegal ways to meet its many needs. It is unclear where the city will get the money to pay for street repair or for salary increases and pensions for employees. "I believe we're in trouble," Welsch

said. Also during public comment, Tom Sullivan said he would oppose a bond issue. He also said that streetlights at Olive and Kingsland were

still out, even though a councilmember had reported them to Ameren in June. Streetlights in nearby locations are also out. In Parkview Gardens alleys, dumpsters are missing covers and utility wires are hanging low. The plaque honoring first responders opposite All Saints Church is showing signs of neglect. The council congratulated the U City Summer Band on its 30th anniversary.

Authority and commission members were reappointed: Matt Bellows to EDRST, Rich Sorkin and Mike Giger to Land Clearance Development and Phil Easton to Stormwater. City Manager Brooke Sharp said that in 2023 the City had qualified for a federal grant to build electric vehicle chargers in

the main Loop parking lot, but it was unlikely the money would be forthcoming, considering the current administration's hostility to EVs.

(Fortunately, Parkview Gardens has its own EV charger.) The city's matching funds for the EV project will go to street repair. A bill adjusting compensation for city employees was approved. Joel Pugh, executive director for SHED (Sustainable Housing and Equitable Development) said that he looked forward to partnering with the city on a home repair program.

Summer's End

Holiday closings and events

Labor Day is Sept. 7. City Hall and the library will be closed, as will Washington University, the University of Missouri-St. Louis and U City schools. Heman Park pool closes for the season at the end of the day. Weekend events include the Gateway Cup bicycle races all over town, a drone show at Grant's Farm, the Japanese festival at Missouri Botanical Garden and the Greek Festival at St. Nicholas Church in the Central West End.

Back to School

Match day

The first day of classes at Washington University, the University of Missouri-St. Louis and U City Schools is Aug. 24. The Pacer has reported the beginning of school for

a long time, and this is the first time these educational institutions chose the same date. It's great that Americans can agree on something!

Library Events

All at U City Library, 314 727 3150

Aug 17 Makerspace open hours from 2-8 pm

Aug 19 Computer class: online resources from ucpl at 3 pm

Aug 20 Yoga at the library at 7:30 pm



Decorative flower bed sponsored by PGA

Our Men in Washington

Missourians' July actions

Sen. Eric Schmitt (R) called the recent Supreme Court decision upholding birthright citizenship "dangerously wrong" as he introduced the American Citizenship Act in Congress. It would limit citizenship to the children of citizens and legal permanent residents only. Sen. Josh Hawley (R) announced that he would introduce an act to prevent Postal Service executives

from getting raises until they improve services. He said, "While Missourians don't receive their mail on time, the Postmaster General receives a hefty bonus each year." Rep. Wesley Bell (D) urged House leadership to include disaster relief funding in any supplemental legislation reaching the House floor. He stated that St. Louis was still recovering from the 2025 tornadoes that caused fatalities and damages exceeding \$1.6 billion.

Election Expectations

Nov. 3 and after

In a July 14 speech, President Donald Trump stated:

"[T]he election system we have dangerously exposes and really exposes, like levels never thought possible, to hacking, exploitation, and foreign interference. Just as disturbingly, this vital information has for many years been covered up and hidden from you, the American people — our beautiful, our

great American people." After hearing this, what are the American people expecting to happen in November? One indicator is to be found on Kalshi, the bet-on-anything website. 88% say that the midterms will happen on time. 46% say Trump will invoke the Insurrection Act. 41% say he will declare an election emergency.

5, 10, 15, 20 & 25 Years Ago

In the Pacer

Aug. 2021 For the first time since the Covid lockdown, an audience was admitted to the City Council meeting. Library Director Patrick Wall provided a progress report on building renovation. (The library reopened on time in May 2022.) City Manager Gregory Rose reported on a July 10 storm that downed trees and caused power outages.

Aug. 2016 Prefab parts of the temporary police station arrived and were assembled in the parking lot. (This summer the police moved into their renovated station and the temporary one was disassembled and removed.) The East Loop Special Business District transitioned to a Community Improvement District.

Aug. 2011 The Chuck Berry statue by Harry Weber was unveiled July 29, in a ceremony attended by Berry. (He died in 2017.)

Aug. 2006 U City celebrated 100 years since its founding with a parade on Delmar, a gala at City Hall and the unveiling of a plaque to founder E.G. Lewis.

Aug. 2001 Captain Bob Fischer of the U City Police retired, after receiving a "Supercop of the Year" plaque from the Parkview Gardens Association for his help in bringing the neighborhood back. He said the improvement of Parkview Gardens was "one of the most rewarding facets of my career."

Lively Streets

A thing of the past?

In 2011, Washington University and the East and West Loop SBDs had researchers interview

273 people, most of whom came from other parts of the St. Louis Metropolitan area, on the sidewalks of Delmar. The main reason most of them came to the Loop was to "walk around and soak up the atmosphere." At the State of the City address last spring, Mayor Terry Crow suggested that the Covid-19 epidemic and lockdown had killed off this urban pleasure. Pedestri-



Community garden sponsored by PGA

ans are fewer and business is down in the Loop these days. Crow has announced a re-imagining process.

Ticket to Ride

Changes at MetroLink

New security infrastructure has brought a new ticketing procedure to Delmar MetroLink station. You can download the Transit app to your phone to buy tickets and

plan trips online. Or you can buy a ticket or multi-trip pass at vending machines located at the station entrances. Validation is still required to enter.

100 Years Ago

In U City

A front page story in the St Louis *Post-Dispatch* on Aug. 18, 1926 reported the accidental death of Warren C.

Flynn, a former mayor of U City. He drowned while swimming in Lake Michigan. Flynn, 42, had served from 1920-25. Being mayor of U City was considered unlucky in the early years. Three mayors in a row, August Heman, Flynn and A.O. Cunningham, suffered early deaths. The Flynn administration is remembered today for two major accomplishments. When Flynn came into office, the city had no parks. He started the parks system, and now it has 21. The park named for Flynn is on Pershing Boulevard. He also started the Plan Commission, which still meets, at a time when city planning was a novel concept in America.

Late Summer Music

Varied offerings

Union Avenue Opera closes its season with Saint-Saën's *Sampson et Dalila* Aug. 14 and 15, 21 and 22. Ticket info: 314-361-2881. Todd Rundgren performs at The Pageant Aug. 29. Tickets at thepageant.com. The Festival of Nations will be held Aug. 29-30 in Tower Grove Park, featuring music, refreshments, arts and crafts from around the world. Info: festof-nations.com.

News of the Neighborhood:
*Welcome to Parkview Gardens
*City Council meets

Clean Veg

Recommended procedures

As the Pacer goes to press, alarm about contaminated iceberg lettuce was spreading around the country. The Pacer editor poked around websites to see how we should wash fruit and vegetables before eating them, according to health experts. Most recommend rinsing produce in running water. Some said that wouldn't remove all dirt, bacteria, fungi and chemical residues. But they did not suggest using soap, simply because it makes people sick to ingest it, even after rinsing. Instead, soak your vegetables in plain water for a few minutes. Tools can be helpful. Salad spinners are recommended for leafy greens, paper towels for mushrooms, scrubbing brushes for potatoes and other root vegetables or to remove the wax coatings commonly applied to apples and other fruits, The most fastidious propose soaking vegetables in a solution of water and white vinegar, then rinsing in plain water to get rid of the vinegar taste.

Free Screenings

For prostate cancer

From 11 am-2 pm on Aug. 22, U City will hold an event at Centennial Commons with faith leaders from all over St. Louis and the Siteman Cancer Center to promote prostate cancer awareness. Free PSA screening blood tests will be available.
