

# The Pacer

Newsletter of the Parkview Gardens Association and the Parkview Gardens Special Business District

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**Januray, 2017**

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## 2017 PGA Award

### Apply now

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 Parkview Gardens Association Award. This \$5,000 award is for higher education, including college and trade school. 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.

## Grow Your Own

### Get a bed in community gardens

Neighborhood residents interested in growing their own vegetables, herbs

and flowers organically are invited to sign up for a plot in a Parkview Gardens community garden. The gardens are co-sponsored by Parkview Gardens Association and Gateway Greening/For the Health of St. Louis. The season starts in March, with available plots assigned at the end of February on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about Syracuse or Clemens gardens, or to get on the wait list, you may call Loop community garden supervisor Claire Linzee at (314) 727-5836 after Jan. 18. Being in a community garden is a great way to meet your neighbors and have fun "digging in the dirt." Leaders and advanced gardeners help novices, so no experience is needed. Requirements for having a plot include residency in Parkview Gardens, participation in a set number of workdays (to maintain the common

areas), keeping your plot weed-free and harvested in a timely manner, and an annual fee of \$10. Perks range from free seeds and compost to Gateway Greening's complimentary Urban Gardening e-newsletter.



Gardeners at work in Syracuse Community Garden.

## From SBD to CID Area Events

### Funding neighborhood improvement

On January 1, 2017, a Community Improvement District came into being in the East Loop. It will have \$150,000 to spend on neighborhood upgrades in 2017, rising by increments over the next three years to \$400,000. The money is raised by self-imposed taxes on property owners and businesses in the area and contributions from Washington University, BiState and AT&T. The CID is taking over from the East Loop Special Business District, which will fade away, though for the moment boardmembers continue to serve. Cooperation will continue with the West Loop Special Business District. The CID seeks to develop and promote the entertainment, dining and other businesses of the East Loop, particularly east of the old Wabash station, and to market the area to the region and beyond. It is exploring possibilities for additional parking at Delmar and Hamilton.

### Trolley Time

#### Streetcars soon to reappear

2017 will be the year of the trolley. In January, tests of the track bed will be conducted, with the trolley car being towed by a pickup truck to ensure the tracks are aligned. Two additional streetcars will be delivered. Hiring, training, and certification are ongoing. A new trolley barn and maintenance shop has been established in the old Delmar school at Delmar and Hamilton. The system will then be electrified and service will begin in the spring.

### Mostly musical

Webster University Opera Studio presents its annual program of opera scenes at Heagney Theatre at Nerinx Hall in Webster Groves, at 7 pm Jan. 20 and 21 and 2 pm Jan 22. The program includes scenes from *Orphée* and *Eurydice* by Gluck (1762) and *The Rake's Progress* by Stravinsky (1951). \$10 general admission. Info: [webster.edu/music](http://webster.edu/music)

Chamber Music Society of St. Louis holds the concert Just for Fun featuring composers from Mozart to Dudley Moore. Jan 23-24 at the Sheldon in Grand Center. Ticket info: (314) 941-6309.

Clayton Restaurant Week is Jan. 23-29. Participating restaurants offer a prix fixe dinner at \$25 or \$35. No coupons or other paperwork required. Dominic's, Morton's and Crushed Red are among the restaurants. Menus of all restaurants and complete info are at [claytonrestaurantweek.net](http://claytonrestaurantweek.net)

Winter Opera presents Rossini's *La Cenerentola* (Cinderella) Jan. 27 and 29 at Chaminade. Ticket info: (314) 865-0038.

Cocadance and the Coca Hip-Hop Crew present Momentum Jan 28-29. Ticket info (314) 725-6555.

Go Red for Women Day is Feb. 1 at CentComm. The event is to fight heart disease, the number-one killer of women. Wear red. Health checks, vendors, information, lunch. Free but register at (314) 505-8625.

The Vienna Boys Choir performs Feb. 10 at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica. Ticket info at [cathedralconcerts.org](http://cathedralconcerts.org).

U City Symphony presents the William Schatzkamer Young Artist Competition at 3 pm

Feb. 19 at Steinway Piano Gallery, 12033 Dorsett Rd. in Maryland Heights. Info: [ucso.org](http://ucso.org).

Third Degree Glass Factory holds its next First Friday events Jan. 20 and Feb. 17 at 5200 Delmar. Free, starting at 6 pm. Watch artists pull molten glass out of the furnace and mold it into shape. Food trucks, cash bar, gallery shop. Info: [stlglass.com](http://stlglass.com)

## Renter's Insurance

### Should you consider it?

Do tenants need renter's insurance? It depends on how much your stuff is worth, and how accident-prone/litigious your guests are. The landlord's insurance covers only the building. Renter's insurance covers your personal property against theft, fire and other hazards. It also covers liability, in case someone slips, falls and sues in your apartment. It may also cover you if you damage the building. An example: you turn off the heat, go away for the holidays, and the pipes freeze and burst, causing extensive water damage in the apartment, for which the landlord holds you responsible. Insurance can also cover your living expenses if, say, your furnace breaks down and you have to move to a hotel while it's fixed. Go to [iii.org](http://iii.org) for more information.

## Library Events

All at U City Public Library, 6701 Delmar

Jan 21 Free Health Screenings at 9 am

Jan. 25 U. City Book Group discusses LaRose by Louise Erdrich at 7:30 pm

Feb. 1 Computer Class: intro to internet at 2:30 pm

## Indoors in the Park

### What's on at museums

Forest Park? It's not just for summer. Here's what's going on at our great institutions, which are usually, but not always, free. The show Degas, Impressionism and the Millinery Trade runs Feb. 12-May 17 at the Art Museum. It will feature 60 works by Degas, Renoir, Cassat and others. Ticket info: [slam.org](http://slam.org). Toys of the 50s, 60s & 70s closes Jan. 22 at the History Museum. ([mohist.org](http://mohist.org)) It features Gumby, Barby, Slinky and other favorites of the Baby Boom generation. The Zoo presents an International Children's Film Festival running all day Jan. 28 at The Living World. Entry: \$10. Info: [stlzoo.org](http://stlzoo.org)

St. Louis Astronomical Society holds a Star Party Feb. 5 at the Planetarium with telescope viewings and indoor events. It starts at 6:30 pm. Info: [slsc.org](http://slsc.org)

## Tweeter in Chief

### His Excellency Trump

On Jan. 20, Donald Trump will be inaugurated President of the United

States. For help in grasping the multitudinous aspects of this momentous event, the Pacer turns to American history and English literature. On Dec. 15, the president-elect released a letter from Vladimir Putin which was addressed to Trump as "His Excellency." The title is a

significant one in American history. George Washington, as general of the continental army, was addresses as "His Excellency." During his presidency, Congress considered titles for the president, since the Constitution didn't give him one. Excellency was a candidate, along with Protector and Majesty. Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin thought all of these pretentious titles were ridiculous. Their view prevailed, and "Mr. President" became the standard. As far as we know, Trump has not corrected Putin's mistake. No doubt he was bending over backwards to be polite.

At the beginning of Shakespeare's Richard II, the King exiles troublesome noble Bolingbroke for ten years. A relative puts in a good word for Bolingbroke that softens the King's attitude, and on the spot he reduces the sentence to six years. Bolingbroke's reaction is awe rather than relief. He says: "How long a time lies in one little word!/Four lagging winters and four wanton springs/End in a word: such is the breath of kings." Even though exercised in his favor, this casual use of power undermines King Richard's legitimacy in Bolingbroke's mind, and he returns early from exile to seize the throne. Richard is murdered. Of course, Shakespeare was talking about the breath of kings, not the tweets of presidents.

## 5, 10 & 15 Years Ago

### In the Pacer

Jan. 2012: In one of its series of reviews of DVDs at the library, the Pacer reviewed I Spy, noting that the TV series, debuting in 1965, was the

first drama series to have a black star: Bill Cosby. The review praised his acting, noting that he won the Emmy for all three years of the show's run, and adding that he "went on to great fame in sitcoms and movie comedies." Here is a salutary reminder that the past remains subject to change. For Americans of the editor's generation, it is terribly sad that this once beloved and admired star has by his own actions destroyed his reputation.

Jan. 2007: The Parkview Gardens Association partnered with the public library, the school district and Washington University in The Big Read. It was a national program to encourage reading by helping communities come together to read and discuss one book. That year, the choice was Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451. The Big Read still exists as an NEA program but has fallen into desuetude locally in recent years. The Pacer noted that the current trend in Europe among traffic safety experts was to think there were too many road signs and traffic signals. Reducing the number would actually enhance safety. The Pacer noted that the western third of Parkview Gardens is one of the few areas of St. Louis not to have stop signs on every corner, and that car accidents are rare there.

Jan. 2002: PGA announced the winner of its holiday decorating contest. The contest was discontinued as the proportion of students among neighborhood residents increased. Students tend to go away for the holidays rather than decorate their apartments. Maybe some day the contest will be revived. Two community organizations that are still missed were active that month. The U City Residential Service held a Home Buyers Workshop and U-City East held a workshop for women seeking to enter politics.

# U City News

## From schools and C of C

This year's Returning Artist is Stan Ford, a 1975 graduate of U City High School. He is a pianist who has won a Fulbright scholarship, served on the faculty of the Mozarteum in Austria, and been honored by the Missouri House of Representatives. He will visit classrooms and give seminars at schools across the district. Filing for the April 4 election for three open seats on the Board of Education is open through Jan. 17. Info: (314) 290-4003

The U City Chamber of Commerce holds a small business workshop entitled Client as King: What to Expect from Any Lawyer Who's Working for You with litigation attorney Tim Sansone. 11:30 am Jan. 25 at the library. Register online at [universitycitychamber.org](http://universitycitychamber.org)

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