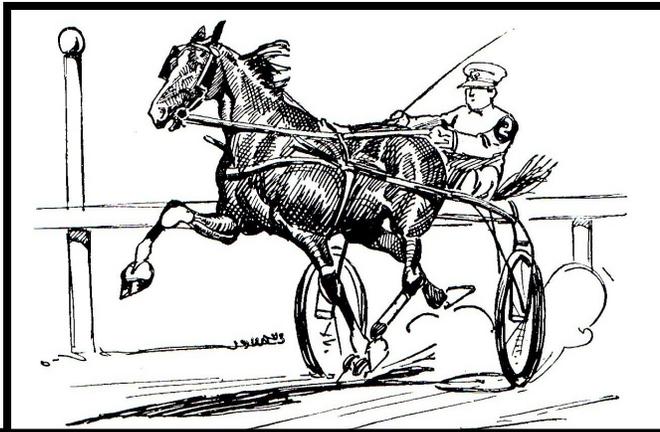


The Pacer



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

Apply Now

For PGA Award

April 1 is the application deadline for the 2018 Parkview Gardens Association Award. This \$5,000 award is for community colleges, trade schools and four-year universities. 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.

Summer Camp in U City

PGA provides scholarships

Summer may seem to be a long way off, but it's almost time to register for Youth/Teen Summer Camp, organized by the University City Department of Parks and Recreation. Registra-

tion dates are March 24 and April 21 at the Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Avenue. The program, which is for U City residents aged 5-14, begins June 4 at Centennial Commons. Activities include swimming, tennis, field trips, arts and crafts. Parkview Gardens Association provides scholarships for children who live in this neighborhood. Parents pay only \$25 per child. For more information, call (314) 505-8625.

Neighborhood Houses provides before and after school enrichment programs for students at Flynn Park School during the school year. The Parkview Gardens Association will provide scholarships to children who live in this neighborhood. For information, contact ghamp-ton@neighborhoodhouses.org. Lolly's Place at Trinity Presbyterian Church (6800 Washington) is offering tutoring to children in kindergarten through sixth grade this spring. The PGA SBD will provide scholarships to children who live in this neighborhood and attend Flynn Park School. Info:

lollysplace.org

Tear Down, Build Up

Recent Parkview Gardens developments

Steve Condrin, assistant vice chancellor for real estate, told the Pacer: "Washington University is renovating the majority of its residential properties in the Parkview Gardens neighborhood. To date, 52 properties have been partially or completely renovated and 10 properties are slated for renovation in the next two to three years.

"Two properties, 804 Eastgate and 6249 Cabanne, were recently demolished. Both properties were in poor condition when they were acquired by the university in 2015 (804) and 2016 (6249), and after a thorough evaluation, were determined not to be suitable candidates for renovation. In both structures, the mechanical, electrical and plumbing system would have required total replacement. More significantly, both buildings had serious structural issues ranging from sagging

and bulging exterior walls and damaged floor joists to rotting support columns and collapsing foundations. The University has no immediate plans for either site. The lots will be seeded and landscaped and maintained as open space. Either site could be available for infill development in the future."

The Shell Station at the corner of Delmar and Skinker has closed. The tanks are being dug out now. Pace Properties owns the site and plans a \$26 million, three-story building with a pharmacy and a restaurant or shop on the ground floor and offices above. Joe Edwards, president of the Loop SBD, told the Pacer that the deal has been in the works for a couple of years and that there is no reason not to expect rapid progress from this point on. The gas station had been something of a trouble spot, and he said the new building "will instantly make the neighborhood safer" by putting storefronts along the sidewalk and eliminating curb cuts.

Gourmet's Delight

Local restaurants show off
Taste of U City will be held from 5 to 8 pm March 22 at Mandarin House Banquet Center, 8004 Olive. Tickets are \$20 at universitycitychamber.com and \$25 at the door. The food comes from 40 U City restaurants, ranging from barbecue to Middle Eastern. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Battle of the Sexes

Free Video

Combing the DVD shelves of the library to help you save money. *Battle of the Sexes* is a fairly entertaining movie about a weird and important event of the early 1970s, the tennis match between Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King. Young people may find certain aspects of the film unbelievable, so let me confirm that we really were able to conduct our business and personal lives using pay phones. And yes, the first sponsor of the women's



Rendering of the new building planned for Delmar and Skinker.

tennis tour really was a cigarette company. Most incredibly, we really did wear those bell-bottom pants. Tennis was more popular then. In the '70s, it was hard to find a public court to play on; today, most courts are empty on even the nicest days. As a spectator sport, the game was also booming as the "open" era began and professionals were allowed to enter major tournaments. Until the late '60s, only amateurs (who were actually paid under the table) could play them. Pros got no respect and very little money. Riggs compensated by becoming a hustler par excellence, pulling attention-getting stunts and gambling for high stakes. By 1973 he was old and forgotten. Women's Lib gave him the idea to challenge

the top women players in the world, Margaret Court and Billie Jean King. He won the first match and lost the second. It wasn't really a defeat though. He was after fame and money, and got plenty of both. During the long buildup and the match itself, we were well aware that we were falling victim to a master con artist. It was a tawdry spectacle. Only after the match, as the nation cheered the valiant Billie Jean, did we realize that this was a significant event in the long battle for women's equality. The movie tells the story of an athlete with heart-tugging personal problems who puts everything on the line to win the big game--and does. Problem is, that's been the story line of every sports movie since *Rocky* (except for those made by Ron Shelton). *Battle of the Sexes* is predictable in the ways it plays on our emotions, and, considering it's billed as a comedy, it isn't very funny.

Household Hint

More on clogged drains

Last issue, the Pacer provided a way to clear clogged drains. Now we have more detailed step by step instructions from our domestic correspondent.

- 1/Pour 1/2 to 1 cup baking soda down the problem drain.
2. Follow immediately with 1/2 to 1 cup white vinegar.
3. Allow to fizz for 5-10 minutes.
4. Run water, which should drain rapidly.

Insect Infiltrators

Stink bugs awaken

Have you noticed little gray-brown bugs crawling sluggishly around your apartment? I have, and my

response is to capture them, which isn't difficult, and return them to the wild. Partly because I'm a humane guy, partly because I've read that they emit an unpleasant odor when crushed. That's why they're called stink bugs.

Brown marmorated stink bugs, to be exact. They are an invasive species from Asia that arrived in Pennsylvania in 1996. They snuck into your apartment last fall and found cozy hiding places. February's warmer temperatures and longer days have awakened them, and they're fumbling around in search of fruit and leaves. They can fly, and sound nasty when they're buzzing around, but they don't sting or bite.

The time to prevent infiltration is late summer. Seal cracks around windows, doors, and baseboards and replace damaged screens. For the present, all you can do is eject them as they reappear. Stink bugs have little to recommend them, but I've noticed that when I dump them outside and they land on their backs, they extend their long rear legs and perform a flip as graceful as an Olympic gymnast's.

Spring Break

School & library closings

Washington University Mar. 11-17

University of Missouri-St. Louis
Mar. 24-Apr. 2

University City Schools Mar. 10-18

Easter Sunday is April 1. The library will be closed.

Re-openings

Harbingers of summer

Good news for family fun. Spring

begins officially March 20. Six Flags opens March 24. Grant's Farm opens April 14. The Cardinals' home opener is April 5. Baseball fans can warm up for the season at the free lecture, "Opening Day 1890: Parades, Bands and 'War to the Knife'" by Professor Scott Peterson at UMSL, 12:15 April 2. (314-516-5698)

Library Events

*All at U City Public Library,
6701 Delmar*

March 17 Free Health tests at 9 am



On behalf of the Delmar Loop, Joe Edwards accepts the Missouri Arts Award for a Creative Community from Sharon Beshore, Missouri Arts Council chair, and Rob Dixon, Director, Missouri Department of Economic Development Feb. 7 at the Capitol in Jefferson City.

March 20 Classics Book group discusses *The Collected Short Stories of Katherine Anne Porter* at 2 pm.

March 23 Former poet laureate of St. Louis Michael Castro reads from his book *We Need to Talk: selected and new poems 1970-2016* at 7:30 pm.

March 28 Computer Class: safe web surfing at 2:30 pm

Mid-County Library in Clayton is now a hole in the ground, and the nearest county library branch is the pleasant Indian Trails, just over the U City line in Vinita Terrace. The address is 8400 Delpert Drive, easily reached

by driving up Midland. They offer AARP Tax-Aide volunteers to help people cope with their tax returns. Appointment required, call (314) 994-3300. Their classics book club discusses *North and South* by Mrs. Gaskell at 10 am Mar 27. They're showing last summer's epic movie *Dunkirk* at 2 pm Mar. 29, and serving refreshments. Mid-County's new building is supposed to be open by the end of 2018.

Jeff City Blues

Advice for politicians

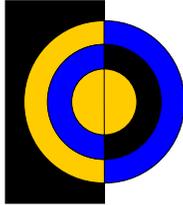
The governor of Missouri, Eric Greitens, has made the national news, though not in the way he hoped to. A sex scandal and a felony indictment have put his job and future in jeopardy. Greitens, a Rhodes scholar, decorated Navy SEAL and bestselling author, won election in 2016 as an outsider who was going to clean up Jefferson City corruption. In his personal life, he claimed to be Mr. Clean. The *Atlantic Monthly* commented, "Greitens's decision to run on family values was audacious, since he was still conducting an extramarital affair after announcing his candidacy." Perhaps he should have heeded the warning of Nathaniel Hawthorne in *The Scarlet Letter*: "Be true! Be true! Show freely to the world, if not your worst, yet some trait whereby the worst may be inferred!"

Vote!

In local election

Election day is April 3. Terry Crow is the unopposed candidate for mayor. Ward Two, which includes most of Parkview Gardens, has the only contested council-

member election, between Tim Cusick and Jerrold Tiers. Both have Facebook pages providing complete information on their backgrounds and positions on the issues. Joanne Soudah, Kristine Hendrix, Matt Bellows, Romero Sumpter and Patricia Washington are running for two seats on the School Board. Also on the ballot will be Prop P, a St. Louis County measure similar to the one that passed in the city last fall. It's a county-wide one-half of one percent tax to support law enforcement that would be shared among the municipalities.



Parkview Gardens Assn.
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University City MO 63130

News of the Neighborhood

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- *PGA Award application deadline nears
- *Scholarships for summer program
- *Local real estate developments