

# The Pacer

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

## Join PGA!

### *Form enclosed*

Join the Parkview Gardens Association and help support this newsletter, the light-pole banners, the extra-bright street-lights, the flower and community vegetable gardens and other amenities PGA sponsors. This neighborhood improvement group, consisting of landlords, businesspeople and residents, was founded in 1980. You'll be welcome at our semi-annual meetings and qualified to vote on officers or become one yourself. If you're already a member, please use the form to pay your annual dues.

In spring 2020, the PGA will again present the **Parkview Gardens Association Award**. This \$5,000 award is for higher education, including college and trade school. The

award is given to Parkview Gardens residents who are high school seniors and have demonstrated the ability to succeed in their studies as well as a commitment to working for the betterment of school and community. Applicants



*Syracuse gardeners on the last workday of the season in November*

must also show financial need. For more information, consult your high school guidance counselor or call (314) 721-5357.

## Chillfest

### *Ice Carnival returns*

The 2020 Loop Ice Carnival will be from 11 am to 5 pm Jan. 18-19. For the latest news, visit the Facebook page. If this celebration is like previous years, it will kick off with the Snow Ball at the Moonrise Hotel on the evening of Jan. 17. (Ticket info at [visittheloop.com](http://visittheloop.com)) Weekend activities may include the Zip Flyte zipline, ice slides, \$1,000 in ice cubes giveaway, temporary tattoo scavenger hunt, ice carving demonstrations, putt-putt pub crawl, ice breaker game, stilt walkers, magicians, jugglers and fire performers.

## Holiday Closings 2019

### *Schools and services*

At Washington University, Dec. 18 is the last day of exams. Spring term begins Jan.

13. At the University of Missouri-St. Louis, classes end Dec. 7 and the semester ends Dec. 14. Fall Commencement is Dec. 14 and Intersession runs Jan. 6-18. Spring semester begins Jan. 21. At U City schools, winter break is Dec. 20-Jan. 7. For Christmas and New Year's Day, City Hall is closed Dec. 25 and Jan 1. The public library closes at noon Dec. 24 and remains closed on the 25th, and closes at noon Dec. 31 and remains closed Jan. 1. Martin Luther King Day is Jan 20. The library and City Hall will be closed. No classes will be held at Washington U., UMSL or U. City schools. A community celebration of Dr. King will be held at 6:30 pm Jan. 16 at the High School, 7401 Balson Avenue. Free and open to the public.

## Loop Holidays

### *Seasonal events*

From 10 am- 2 pm Saturday, Dec. 14, a Holiday Market and Bazaar will take place at the Farmer's Market, 6655 Delmar. A Menorah Lighting will be held there at 6:30 pm Dec. 22. A Kwanzaa celebration will take place 5-7 pm Dec. 14 at St. Louis Artworks, 5959 Delmar.

## Forest Park Events

### *Explore the big river*

A winter celebration will be held Dec. 14-15, 10 am-4 pm at St. Louis Art Museum. It's a

free, family-oriented program of performances and activities. Mighty Mississippi is the new exhibition at the Missouri History Museum. Artifacts, pictures and media tell the story of America's greatest river. Ticket info at [mohistory.org](http://mohistory.org)



*Ackert Walkway on a winter's day*

## Going Away for the Holidays

### *Avoid a flood*

It's a good, money-saving idea to turn your thermostat down before leaving for the holidays. But don't turn the furnace off! Pipes in the walls could freeze and burst, causing expensive water damage. Unfortunately, burglars are well aware that Parkview Gardens is a student neighborhood and students go

away for the holidays. So precautions are in order:

\*A light on a timer (or two) makes an apartment look occupied much more convincingly than leaving a light on.

\*Close the curtains or blinds of windows people can see into from the street.

\*Arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail or newspaper, or suspend delivery.

\*Call the police non-emergency number (314) 725-2211 and ask to make an "out of town notification."

\*Don't pack the back seat of your car the night before you depart and leave it parked on the street.

## Library News

### *Record your tale*

The public library invites members of the U City community to tell their stories, not necessarily focusing on city history. The format used is the one developed by NPR's StoryCorps: you bring in a friend and have a conversation, which is recorded and archived at the library. For more information, call Kara at (314) 727-3150.

Dec. 16 Public meeting on library renovations at 6 pm

Dec. 18 U City Book Group discusses Helen

Oyeyemi's *Gingerbread* at 7 pm

Jan 13 Orcs and Aliens Book Group discusses *Karen Memory* by Elizabeth Bear at 7 pm

## Debate of the Decade

### *When do the '20s begin?*

If you'd rather not argue about politics at the holiday family dinner, here is something less inflammatory to discuss:

Do we celebrate the start of a new decade this Dec. 31? It's a rerun of the debate from two decades ago: Did the new millennium begin in 2000 or 2001? Most picked the former, but the experts at the Naval Observatory in Washington, DC picked the latter. Recently the New York Times explained why: in the year 525, a monk invented a calendar system called *anno domini*, beginning it with the supposed date of Jesus' birth, making that year one--not year zero. The obvious choice will probably win out, with people thinking of next year as the first of the '20s. A less predictable question is what adjective we'll eventually decide to attach to the decade. The 1920s, of course, became the Roaring Twenties. Too soon to tell what the 2020s will be, but I think we can rule out "Serene" and "Uneventful."

## U City News

### *November developments*

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reported Nov. 7 that the Loop Trolley will continue to operate at least through Jan. 1, after the Loop special business district loaned the trolley company \$90,000. The Bi-State Development Agency is considering taking over the trolley.

U City seeks to find out how

much room its various departments need. The *West End Word* reported that at the City Council meeting Nov. 25, the council voted to pay consultants Trivers Associates more than \$140,000 to analyze the city's space requirements. The initiative grew out of an evaluation earlier of the Police Department's needs. The department is currently in a temporary building. For decades it was housed in the City Hall Annex, built by founding



*Martin Luther King Day is Jan. 20.*

mayor E.G. Lewis in 1903. Some would like to see the annex renovated so that the police could return to it. The new needs analysis is expected to take four to eight months.

There will be candidates running for one City Council seat from the Second Ward, which includes most of Parkview Gardens. Filing opens Dec. 17 and closes January 21. Candidates must present a supporting petition with at least 50 signatures and pay a \$50 fee. The election is April

7. For more information, call City Clerk Larette Reese at (314) 505-8605.

## Running Red Lights

### *Cameras may return*

The problem of drivers blowing through red signals is getting worse across the nation, and there's a local debate about what to do. The American Automobile Association reported that 939 people were killed in America in 2017 in crashes caused by running red lights--a 28% increase since 2012. Nearly half of them were in other vehicles than the one that ran the light, and 5% weren't in a vehicle at all. They were pedestrians or cyclists. Driver attitude tracks cell phone use and other dangerous habits: 85% of drivers say that running red lights is dangerous, but one in three admits to doing it anyway in the last month.

St. Louis Public Radio reported on Nov. 29 that accident rates have risen since St. Louis closed down its cameras at intersections in 2015. The closure was the result of a ruling that the cameras were unconstitutional because they showed only the car, not the driver. Some officials want to improve the technology to eliminate that shortcoming and bring the cameras (and tickets) back. But opponents maintain that the cameras actually cause an increase in accidents, as drivers trying to run the light rear-end drivers who are slowing down.

## 100 Years Ago

*December 1919 in U City*

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* was entertaining its readers with the scandalous trial of a bigamist who lived in Parkview Gardens...part of the time. On Dec. 29, 1919, Mrs. Jennie A. Brady of 721 Westgate Avenue was granted a divorce and alimony by a St. Louis county judge. She presented persuasive evidence that her husband Hugh J. Brady, a prominent politician, maintained another home in St. Louis with his secretary and their two children. He denied the charges. But six of the nine children he had with Jennie Brady testified against him. The Post also reported that a new bus service would start on Delmar and other thoroughfares early in the new year. The buses, double-deckers with an open top deck, were manufactured by a local firm, Missouri Motorbus Company, but bus service was a novelty in St. Louis at the time, when streetcars ruled. The fare would be ten cents.

Contact the editor: [davidlinzee@yahoo.com](mailto:davidlinzee@yahoo.com)

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News of the Neighborhood:

\*2020 PGA Award

\*Loop Ice Carnival

\*Dues Notice

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