

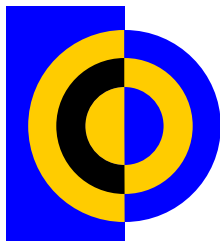
The Pacer

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

Apply Now

For PGA Award

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 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



Join the community gardeners in the spring.

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 (314) 727-5836 after Jan. 20. Being in a commu-

nity 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 work-days (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.



Tribute to Carr *And code enforcement update*

During the public comment part of the City Council meeting Dec. 9, Jerrold Tiers praised Second Ward Councilmember Paulette Carr, who will retire next spring. He thanked her for supporting the Olive I-170 development, bringing forward the storm water issue, keeping focus on the city's relations with Washington University and intervening in the MSD storage tank controversy with positive results. She has always done an outstanding job of keeping citizens informed.

The Council voted to approve funds to hire a new housing inspector. Clifford Cross of Community Development reported about the progress of improvements in code enforcement. He said inspectors had to prioritize occupancy permits, with the result that they haven't had enough time for exterior enforcement, meaning problems like uncut grass and trash in yards. The new inspector will help a lot. Cross also intends to stiffen enforcement on nuisance properties, bringing owners to court more quickly. Bwayne Smotherson (Third Ward) noted that the court system will have to be ready for an increased flow of business. Cross said the city has come to an agreement with the vendor on a four-month implementation process to

bring into use the new software for tracking inspections and violations.

2020 Dates

Big events here and elsewhere

- Feb. 2 Superbowl LIV is played in Miami.
- Feb. 3 The Democratic presidential caucuses are held in Iowa.
- Feb. 5 President Donald Trump delivers the State of the Union Address to Congress.
- Feb. 9 The Academy Awards

- set.
- April 12 Easter Sunday
- April 4 The Saint Louis Blues play their last game of the regular season in Denver.
- April 22 Earth Day
- April 23 Ramadan begins at sunset.
- May 25 U City Memorial Day Run
- July 13 The Democratic Convention begins in Milwaukee.
- Aug. 24 The Republican Convention begins in Charlotte.
- Aug. 23 Festival of Nations begins in Tower Grove Park.
- Sept. 19 The Great Forest Park Balloon Race
- Nov. 3 Election Day



Words to live by in the new year.

- ceremony is telecast from Los Angeles.
- Feb. 11 The first presidential primary is held in New Hampshire.
- Feb. 22 The Bud Light Grand Parade caps the Souldard Mardi Gras.
- March 29 The Go St. Louis Marathon is run downtown.
- April 2 The St. Louis Cardinals play the Minnesota Twins in the home opener.
- April 7 Municipal elections take place in University City.
- April 8 Passover begins at sun-

U City Events

Teapots are back

The 17th Biennial Teapot Exhibition continues until Feb. 23 at Craft Alliance, 6640 Delmar.

Jan. 17 Jean-Yves Thibaudet, pianist, and members of the St. Louis Symphony perform at the E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 560 Trinity Ave.

7:30 pm Tickets: music.wustl.edu

Jan. 18-19 Loop Ice Carnival takes place on Delmar. Info at Visitthelopp.com.

Feb. 7 Go Red for Women Luncheon with education seminar about heart disease at Heman Park Community Center. 11 am. Free to first 75 registrants, call (314) 505-8625.



Stay Warm and Safe

Precautions recommended for space heaters

The cold months are upon us. Some Parkview Gardens residents (including the Pacer editor) use a space heater to augment their apartments' furnace system. Such heaters can help you save energy (and money) by heating only the room you are in, allowing you to set the thermostat lower. They are particularly welcome in heating the sunrooms so common in this neighborhood, which have many windows and are drafty. But the U.S. Department of Energy warns us to be cautious in using them. They play a role in an estimated 25,000 residential fires every year--including one in a Cates Avenue apartment last March. Electric space heaters are the only kind of ventless heaters recommended by the Department for home use. When buying one, look for the type that switches off automatically if the unit tips over. They should be plugged directly into the wall outlet; added extension cords create a hazard. Place them three feet away from curtains, rugs, furniture and other combustibles. Dust them regularly. Unplug them when not in use. Make sure your apartment's smoke detectors are working. Do not drape anything over the front--space heaters are not clothes dryers. Tempting as it might be to use one to make your bathroom cozier, heaters should be kept away from water. If you remember the James

Bond classic *Goldfinger*, you'll know why.

Area Events

Arts & Music

Jan. 24 & 26 Winter Opera presents Donizetti's *La Fille du Regiment* at Chaminade. tickets: (314) 865-0038

Jan. 24 and Feb. 7 The St. Louis Art Museum presents two films about African American Artists, *Colored Frames: A Visual Art Documentary* and *Black Is the Color*. 7 pm. Free.

Feb. 10 Explore Black History in St. Louis, a talk at St. Louis County Library, Indian Trails Branch. 2 pm. Free.

Feb. 21 St. Louis Symphony Orchestra celebrates Black History Month at Powell Hall, 7:30 pm. Ticket Info: slso.org

Free Video

23 Paces to Baker Street

The Pacer continues to peruse the shelves of U City library to help you save on DVD rentals and streaming services. This 1956 movie was undoubtedly inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's 1953 classic, *Rear Window*. The basic idea is the same: a man with a disability and a bad case of boredom happens upon a clue to a crime in progress. Meeting police skepticism, he turns amateur sleuth, aided by his girlfriend and others. It doesn't measure up to *Rear Window*--few movies do--but is highly watchable all the same. Van Johnson plays a successful American playwright liv-

ing in London. He's blind, but stubbornly insists on his independence. Alone at a pub, he overhears two strangers planning a kidnapping. They slip away into the night. Johnson calls Scotland Yard, but the detectives complain, reasonably enough, that he's not giving them enough to work with. He and his helpers investigate, with considerable ingenuity. The criminals identify Johnson before he identifies them, and the hunter becomes the hunted. The climactic scene recalls the final confrontation in *Rear Window* and anticipates the one in *Wait Until Dark* (1967). One of the best things about the movie is that it was shot in color on location, in a London very different from today's, with pea-souper fogs, bomb-damaged buildings, and no skyscrapers. Johnson's enviable apartment has back windows overlooking the Thames, and a front door that's only 23 paces from Baker Street, making it more than a mile long. The picture has another link to Hitchcock, in that Vera Miles is the leading lady. He was planning to make her a superstar in *Vertigo* (1958), but she decided to have a baby instead--unforgivably, in his view. He was still sulking two years later when they worked together on *Psycho*. The edgy relationship is amusingly depicted in *Hitchcock* (2012). Since I'm recommending *23 Paces*, I suppose I'm obliged to provide a Trigger Warning. Late in the film, a Golliwog makes a brief appearance. It's

a rag doll with a black face, unknown in America but popular in Britain and Australia. Golliwogs are rarely seen today but continue to be controversial.

Library Events

At U City Public Library

6701 Delmar

Jan. 20 Closed for Martin Luther King day

Jan. 21 Read the Classics Book Group discusses Patricia Highsmith's *The Talented Mr. Ripley* at 7 pm.

Jan. 22 U City Book Group discusses Kiese Laymon's *Heavy: An American Memoir* at 7 pm.

Feb. 10 Orcs and Aliens Book Group discusses Tade Thompson's *Rosewater* at 7 pm

Feb. 17 Closed for Presidents Day

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Parkview Gardens Association
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News of the Neighborhood:
*2020 PGA Award
*Apply for community gardens
*Space heater safety