

The Pacer

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PGA Special Business District

Summer Camp in U City

PGA provides scholarships
Registration is open for Youth/Teen Summer Camp, organized by the University City Department of Parks and Recreation. The programs, which are for U City residents aged 5-14, begin June 1 at Centennial Commons, and continue until July 24. Activities may include swimming, bowling, movies and weekly field trips. 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.

Opportunities for Youth

Students and Poets
Applications for the 2020 Parkview Gardens Association Award are due by April 1. This

\$5,000 award is for higher education such as trade school or college. 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 commit-

the 2020 Beverly Hopkins Memorial Poetry Contest. Winners receive cash prizes and the chance to read their works at the St. Louis Poetry Center awards ceremony. Open to St. Louis area high school students. No entry fee.

Jericho Brown will judge entries. Info: robertlowes1@gmail.com



Delmar Building: doomed?

ment 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

The deadline is March 1 for

Hotel Replaces School

Redevelopment proposal
Delmar Harvard School demolition/redevelopment was discussed by the Historic Preservation Commission Jan. 16 at the Community Center. The school is not officially a historic building, but is included in the Civic Plaza Historic District. The Delmar building, facing Kingsland Ave., was designed by famed architect William B. Ittner and opened in 1913 as U City's first permanent school building. The

Harvard building, facing Sgt. Mike King Dr., was built to Ittner's design in 1920. Representatives of TriStar Companies, which owns the property, described their plans to demolish the Delmar building and replace it with a five-story Tru hotel. The Harvard building would be restored as an office building. The TriStar representatives said they regretted not being able to save Delmar. They said it lacked usable space because the hallways are too wide and the basement is too big. It shows signs of structural deterioration and lacks parking. Windows are badly placed and ceilings are too low. The building has been empty since 2011. The representatives pointed out that vacant buildings attract crime. They characterized the proposed Tru Hotel as an expensive and conservative design in brick that will be pedestrian-oriented to fit in with the Loop.

Commission members said they would like to have a hotel, but criticized this design. One regretted that we cannot preserve the Delmar Building facade, as is often done in Europe. (Not to mention on Delmar, to the east, where the Moonrise Hotel preserves a facade.) An audience member praised the building as a "jewel" that should not be lost. Jen Jensen of the Sutter Meyer Society said if the building is torn down, murals and other architectural features should be

preserved. The Commission voted to authorize demolition, but the decision is not final.

Presidents' Day

Holiday closings

Presidents' Day will be observed Monday, Feb. 17. The public schools, library and City Hall will be closed. Washington University and University of Missouri-St. Louis will be open. Refuse



Proposed new window design for library

collection will be postponed to Tuesday.

Library News

Changes to come

The start of building renovation has been postponed, University City Public Library director Patrick Wall said at a Jan. 14 meeting at the library. The planning process among engineers, architects and library staff is taking longer than expected. The '60s-style picture windows will have to be replaced because the frames are leaking. To replicate what is there now would be prohibitively expensive. At present Wall is seeking to find out how

much the design favored by the Historic Preservation Commission would cost. The timeline calls for designs to be finalized in May and June and work to begin in July. The whole building will have to be closed. The library is seeking a temporary storefront office, where books and other materials can be requested and ready for pickup a few days later.

The renovation plan calls for the main restrooms on the ground floor to be completely updated. The entrance will be moved to the wall where the drinking fountain is now. The new ground floor will also have three study rooms and a quiet reading room. There will be an area where food is allowed. The public computers and reference desk will be moved back. The second floor will have separate spaces for teens and children. There will also be a "one-button studio" with camera and microphone where patrons can make their own videos. The basement will have a compact storage area which will make it possible to expand the collection. The whole building will receive new HVAC and a new electrical and internet access system.

In other news, the library has ceased charging fines on books and most items returned late. Exceptions include hot (meaning new and in-demand) books and DVDs, telescopes and video cameras. Fees for lost items will still be charged.

Feb. 15 Free health screenings, starting at 9 am.

Feb. 19 Professor Bryan Jack gives a talk entitled "From Slave Pen to Spectator Sport: Remembering St. Louis's Buried Past" at 7 pm.

Feb. 25 Celebrate Local Authors runs from 5 to 9 pm.

Spring Forward

Time change impends

Daylight Saving Time will begin at 2 am Sunday March 8.

Prepare to move your clocks forward one hour, get less sleep that night, and enjoy the light longer in the evenings to come. The U City Fire Department wants us to get in the habit of changing batteries in our smoke detectors, too.

U City Events

Top officials speak

The Historical Society of University City presents State of the City at 7 pm March 5. City Manager Gregory Rose and Mayor Terry Crow will report on municipal accomplishments and challenges and take questions from the audience. The event will be held in the City Council Chamber atop City Hall. Free and open to the public. Refreshments.

Cub Care Kids are invited to celebrate Dr. Seuss's 116th birthday with games, crafts, activities and a cake It's at 11:30 March 2, at Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive.

The first annual Family Formal

will be held starting at 6:30 pm March 27 at Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. Dancing and dinner catered by the Pasta House. Tickets \$25 for the first two family members, \$10 for each additional family member (resident rates). Info: sperry@ucitymo.org

Golden Lions Senior Programs take place at the Community Center on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, start-



Spring will come to community gardens. Will you be there?

ing at 9 am. Games, crafts, fitness, educational presentations and lunch. \$4 donation. Transportation available from OATS. Info: (314) 505-8625.

Art and Music

In the area

The exhibition Millet and Modern Art: from Van Gogh to Dali opens Feb. 16 at the St. Louis Art Museum in Forest Park. Adult tickets are \$15. That perennial local favorite event, Art in Bloom, will be held March 6-8.

Winter Opera presents the final production of its 13th season, Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West* March 6 and 8 at Chaminade. Ticket info: (314) 865-0038.

Georgia on My Mind: a Celebration of the Music of Ray Charles starring Take 6, Clint Holmes, Nnenna Freelon and Kirk Whalum will be at 7:30 pm Feb 27 at the Touhill Theater on the UMSL campus. Ticket info: (314) 516-4949.

Car Stats

More teens want to drive

The American Automobile Association reports that the annual cost of new vehicle ownership has risen 5% from last year. The most expensive type of vehicle to own is a pickup truck, at \$10,839. The least expensive is a small sedan, at \$7,114.

AAA also reports that the percentage of teens getting their licenses before they turn 18 has risen 11% since 2012 and is now 60%. Understandably, the AAA is enthusiastic about this. People concerned about the rise in carbon emissions will be dismayed. For a while they were heartened by the fact that fewer teenagers were interested in driving. The fond belief was that they were concerned about the environment. The AAA stats indicate

that it was the 2008 recession that put a temporary damper on driving.

Gardening Begins in March

New plot sign-up

Thinking about eating more organically grown vegetables but can't face the high prices? Imagining how nice a bouquet of fresh flowers would look on your table? Promising yourself to keep a supply of fresh or dried culinary herbs on hand? Consider growing your own! The wait list for community garden plots will be open through the end of February. If you live in Parkview Gardens and want a bed, there's still time to call (314) 727-5836. In March garden leaders will meet to allocate beds, which are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants will then be notified whether they got a bed or not.

Parkview Gardens Association
830 Vanderbilt Avenue
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News of the Neighborhood:
***Sign up for Summer Camp**
***Learn the latest on library**
***Dress up and dance at Family Formal**