#### THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY













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#### **Municipal Election**

Don't forget, the closing date to file for candidacy is

January 21. The municipal election for the positions of Mayor and three councilmembers will be held April 8. Contact the City Clerk's office at 314.505.8605 for more information.

#### Contact Information:

Main Phone: 314.862.6767 ROARS: 314.505.8631 www.ucitymo.org

#### Follow us:



# Announcing the 2014 Returning Artist



The Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters for University City (MCALUC) has named renowned musician Sandy Weltman as its 2014 Returning Artist.

This year will be the 20th anniversary of the Returning Artist Program, that brings artistically renowned University City High School (UCHS) graduates back to work with current students. The Commission's two goals with the program are to encourage students to investigate careers in the arts and to enrich the school's art programs.

Weltman graduated from UCHS in 1974. His award-winning musical prowess usually centers on his jazz harmonica, but he's also been noted for his skills with a variety of styles

including Blues, Celtic, and Klezmer, as well as a variety of instruments, including the banjo and the mandolin.

Past returning artists have included visual artists, glassblowers, photographers, writers, filmmakers, graphic designers, videographers, animators, instrumental musicians, composers, actors, singers, and dancers.

Workshops with students will take place during the week of **February 3-7**, at several of the city's schools. A public reception in celebration of this year's program is scheduled for **February 6**, at 7 pm, in the UCHS library.

More information on the program and its history is available at the MCALUC website: http://ucityartsandletters.org. Questions on the program can be sent to the commission by email, to ucityartsandletters@gmail.com.

# RainScape Rebates Update!

The deadline to submit applications for round three of the RainScape Rebates Program is **February 12**. The RainScape Rebates program is a voluntary program that financially assists landowners who live in the Deer Creek Watershed and wish to landscape their yards to improve storm water management.

Landowners of University City can apply to get up to \$2,000 in rebates to rainscape their yards. Rainscaping can improve the water quality in Deer Creek and its tributaries. It can also be employed to solve drainage problems, increase aesthetic appeal and improve property values for landowners. Rainscaping can include installing rain gardens, rain barrels and French drains to reduce rainwater from running off-site.



Applications are available for download at **www.deercreekalliance.org** or for pickup at the University City Library or City Hall (1st & 3rd floors).

Visit **www.ucitymo.org** and click on the "RainScape Rebate" link for more details.

### Councilmember's Corner

#### From Councilmember Stephen E Kraft

University City has been very good to me and my family. We have enjoyed a beautiful home in a safe neighborhood. The University City parks provided a wonderful neighborhood playground for my



Stephen Kraft 314.863.1136

children when they were young, and soccer, baseball and swimming at Heman Park as they got older. It is Council's responsibility to make sure future generations can enjoy these same wonderful facilities.

It is important that University City continues on a financial path that allows for regular maintenance of City parks, streets, and recreation facilities while supporting quality Fire and Police Departments. This has

been a challenge during the economic downturn. Tax revenue has been flat.

University City has met the challenge. With savings from management reorganization, University City has a budget that maintains City services and fixes streets that are long overdue for repair. There are no cuts in City services; in fact, the City budgeted for four more police officers.

University City ended Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, which ended June 30, 2013, with revenues and expenditures of about \$27 million. The operating budget for FY 2014 projects revenues and operating expenditures to be at about the same level as FY 2013.

Council decided to use \$3.5 million from reserve funds for additional repair and maintenance of streets, sidewalks, curbs and additional tree trimming. Even with this extra spending, at the end of FY 2014 the City should still have an unassigned reserve fund of about \$13 million or 48% of expected revenue. This is significantly better than the 15% level for most of 2003 through 2007.

It is important that we maintain our infrastructure of parks and streets so that University City continues to be a desirable place for a diverse population of singles, young families and retirees.

# **Comprehensive Plan Update Process to Kick** Off in Early 2014: We Need Your Help!

A new comprehensive planning effort will soon be underway and we need your assistance! The City will be preparing an update to its comprehensive plan, and robust community engagement is central to the process.

A Comprehensive Plan is a collaborative effort that defines a long-term community vision. It is an expression of community values, needs, and resources that provide a framework and guidance for planning and policy decisions. Periodically, it must be updated to reflect changing demographic, social, physical, and economic conditions. University City adopted its first Comprehensive Plan in 1922 and since then, it has been updated five times. The last plan was adopted in 2006. This year's update will review the previous document and identify additional current and anticipated important neighborhood and development issues in the community. It will

coordinate public and private development with present and future policies as may be reflected through zoning, capital improvement programs, code enforcement and other means. The Plan Update's outlook is anticipated to be a twenty (20) year timeframe.

A professional planning consultant and a community engagement consultant will be hired to assist the Plan Commission and City staff with the effort. The process is expected to begin early this year. The community will be engaged in a number of ways - such as public forums and meetings, print materials, a project website and more - all to be developed. Please be on the lookout for more information or contact Raymond Lai, Deputy Director of Economic and Community Development at rlai@ucitymo.org or 314.505.8500 to learn more or be placed on a mailing/e-mail list.

# **Chamber Sponsors Free Small Business Success Seminar**

If you're a new or small business owner, be sure to come to the "Legal and Accounting Issues Facing Small Businesses" seminar. It's a free, one-time event hosted by the University City Chamber of Commerce, Public Library and City of University City on Tuesday, February 25 from 9 am - noon at the University City Library.

To help you succeed, this program will feature presentations from chamber member lawyers and accountants. Presenters include lawyers Marc Jacob and George Lenard and certified public accountants Karen McCollum and

Jeffery Yount. They'll cover topics such as systems for incorporating your business, confidentiality and non-compete agreements, legal pitfalls, how to choose the right accounting software, payroll and tax concerns, and how to prepare a first-year budget.

Remember, this is a free program, and Charter Business will provide breakfast! Reserve your space today by signing up on UniversityCityChamber.com, by calling **314.337.2489** or by visiting the front desk of the University City Library.

# **University City Photo Show**

Ready...? Aim...! Focus...! It's almost time again for the annual University City Photo Show, sponsored by the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters. The show is open to amateur adult and youth (12th grade and younger) photographers in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

This year's show is titled "Stop Me In My Tracks," which, according to the Photo Show committee, asks photographers to consider "what they're trying to express and when to press the button" to awaken their "vision to create stunning images." They ask that photographers look

for the unexpected, "be it in the city streets, local parks or their own front lawn."

Entries for this year's show will be accepted March 25-29. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at a special reception on Sunday, April 13, **2014**, at University City Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

Complete rules and registration information, including the entry form, may be found on the commission's website:

http://ucityartsandletters.org. Questions may be sent to ucityartsandletters@gmail.com.

# **Spring Leaf Collection**

The first citywide leaf collection for 2014 begins in March. All leaves must be placed curbside by the Sunday night before the collection week begins. Only leaves will be collected, no gum balls, limbs, or other yard debris. Yard waste is picked up on the regular trash and recycling collection day if it is placed in a Kraft paper bag with a yard waste sticker attached (yard waste stickers are required from

January 1 to October 14). Leaf collection trucks only make one pass on each street.

# Pick-up schedule

Central Area: March 17-21 East Area: March 24-28 West Area: March 31-April 4

For assistance in determining your area, please contact the Public Works and Parks Department at 314.505.8560.

# Compost in **Heman Park**

The screened compost is now available in Heman Park for free. The Public Work and Parks Department recycles the yard waste and leaves collected from residents throughout the year by turning it into mulch/ compost. The compost can be used as a mulch, incorporated into soil for better gardens, or used as a topdressing on turf. This organic soil amendment is full of nutrients, and is often referred to as "Black Gold" by gardeners.

Residents can pick up and load mulch at no cost or have the mulch delivered to their homes for a fee. Pick-up is available Monday through Friday during daylight business hours.

For more information, contact the Public Works and Parks Department at 314.505.8560 or to schedule a delivery call 314.505-8573.

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# University City Solid Waste Collection Guidelines

#### **Solid Waste Services**

The City collects trash, recyclables and yard waste every week. Bulk items are picked up twice per year and leaves are collected once during the spring (March) and twice during the fall (November and December). All of these services are included in your solid waste (trash or refuse) bill.

#### **Roll-out Carts**



The City provides roll-out carts for trash and recyclable items. Black roll-out carts are for trash items and blue roll-out carts are for recyclable items. Acceptable recyclable items include paper, cardboard, plastic containers, glass, aluminum, tin cans, etc. These do not include yard waste, construction or hazardoustype materials.

#### **Alley Dumpsters**



The City provides large metal dumpsters for residents along alley lines or in multi-family properties. Place household trash in bags for alley service. Do not place yard waste, furniture, rocks, wood or appliances in the dumpster or in the alley for collection. Dumpsters

are emptied twice during the week. Recycling is collected at the front curb every Monday from the blue recycling roll-out carts from homes with alley dumpster trash service.

#### Trash and Recycling Collection Dos and Don'ts:

#### Do:

- Do place household trash in plastic bags, and then drop the bags in the trash roll-out cart or dumpster. The plastic bag helps to reduce odors.
- Do place only household trash in the rollout trash cart - no yard waste, dirt or construction materials.
- Do place roll-out carts (trash and recycling) at the curb no later than 7 am on the collection day. Roll-out carts can also be placed at the curb after 5 pm on the day before the scheduled collection.

- Do place the roll-out carts back behind the front building line after collection by no later than 9 pm.
- Do make sure there are no obstructions within four feet of the roll-out carts (i.e., another cart, streetlight, parked vehicles, or trees).
- Do check the City calendar or www.ucitymo.org for pick-up schedules when trash and recycling collections fall on a holiday.
- Do take cardboard that does not fit inside the recycling roll-out cart to the Recycling Drop-off Center in the rear parking lot at 975 Pennsylvania. The center is open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- Do request a recycling roll-cart if you don't have one.

#### Don't:

- Don't set items outside of the roll-out cart or dumpster. All acceptable trash and recyclable items should be deposited into the roll-out cart or dumpster.
- Don't overload the roll-out cart or dumpster.
   Trash may spill out as the cart is being
   serviced and litter the street. An overloaded
   trash or recycle roll-out cart will not be
   emptied and the resident may be ticketed.
- Don't place recyclable items in plastic shopping or trash bags before putting them inside the recycling roll-out cart. Items can be placed in the paper shopping bags.
   Plastic shopping bags should be returned to local grocery or retail stores for recycling.
- Don't place yard waste, hazardous waste, rocks, wood or construction debris in roll-out carts or dumpsters.

# Holiday Tree Pick-up Guidelines

City staff will collect Christmas trees when placed at the front curb during the first two weeks of January. Trees (without decorations or lights) at the front curb will be removed during the weeks of January 6 and January 13, 2014. Please do not place Christmas trees in trash or recycle carts or in City alleys.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works and Parks Department at **314.505.8560**.

# **University City Public Library Events**

#### **Events for Adults are Free**

All events for adults are free and open to the public. Residents can reserve copies of our discussion books through our online catalog, by calling us at **314.727.3150**, or in person. Many of our youth services events require advance registration.

# **Events and Programs** for Adults:

#### **January**

- Urban Thought Book Group:
  Your Blues Ain't Like Mine
  by Bebe Moore Campbell;
  3:30 pm
- 14 Classic Jewish Folktales with Howard Schwartz; 7 pm
- 16 Let's Talk About It: Muslim Journeys; 7 pm
- 21 Readings in History Book Group: On the Map by Simon Garfield; 7 pm
- 22 UCPL Book Group: Bitter Brew: the Rise and Fall of Anheuser-Busch and America's King of Beers by William Knoedelseder; 7 pm

#### February

Friends of the Library Event:
Mark Glenshaw, an awardwinning amateur naturalist will
speak about his Great Horned
Owl observation; 7 pm

- Urban Thought Book Group: Cane River by Lalita Tademy; 3:30 pm
- 26 UCPL Book Group: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford; 7 pm
- 27 Let's Talk About It: Muslim Journeys; 7 pm

# **Events and Programs** for Youth:

#### January

- <u>9</u> Teen Spot Gaming: Grades 7+; 7 pm
- Teen Spot Gaming: Grades 7+; 7 pm

#### February

- Treehouse Book Club:
  Chomp by Car Hiaasen.
  Advanced registration is required with a \$4 fee.
  Grades 4,5 & 6; 7 pm
- 12 Show-Me Reader Book Club: Two books will be read aloud and discussed. Advance registration is required with a \$4 fee. Grades 2 & 3; 7 pm
- Teen Spot Gaming: Grades 7+; 7 pm
- **Teen Spot Gaming:** Grades 7+; 7 pm

# **Holiday Trash and Recycling Collection**

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works and Parks Department at **314.505.8560**.

#### **Dr. Martin Luther King Day**

No trash/recycling collection on Monday, January 20, 2014.

**Monday** routes will be collected on Tuesday, 1/21/14.

**Tuesday** routes will be collected on Wednesday, 1/22/14.

Wednesday routes will be collected on Thursday, 1/23/14.

**Thursday** routes will be collected on Friday, 1/24/14.

**Friday** routes will be collected on Saturday, 1/25/14.

#### **Presidents' Day**

on Friday, 2/21/14.

No trash/recycling collection on Monday, February 17, 2014.

Monday routes will be collected on Tuesday, 2/18/14.

**Tuesday** routes will be collected on Wednesday, 2/19/14.

Wednesday routes will be collected on Thursday, 2/20/14.
Thursday routes will be collected

**Friday** routes will be collected on Saturday, 2/22/14.

# for women



# Celebrate Go Red for Women Day

celebrates Go Red for Women Day. On Friday, **February 7**, ladies (and guys, too!) wear red on the 11th Annual National Wear Red Day to stand with women in the fight against their number-one killer, heart disease. When we Go Red, all of us (women and men) join together to support swifter action for women's health, increased funding, and more research. This is all for the ultimate goal of saving women's lives. Come to Centennial Commons "decked out" in red. This event includes heart disease awareness information, blood pressure/heart rate checks, healthy red snacks and more.

For more information, contact Centennial Commons at 314.505.8625.

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# U City in Bloom Needs You

U City in Bloom is a volunteer-based nonprofit that designs, plants, and maintains 325 public garden locations throughout University City. Founded in 1985 by three concerned citizens, U City in Bloom has a small staff of professional gardeners and administrative support. U City in Bloom relies on the



assistance of more than 200 volunteers to fulfill its mission to enhance and beautify our city through public gardens, community partnerships, citizen involvement, and environmental education. Help from residents is needed all year long in gardens and with the many other tasks that keep U City in Bloom strong and vibrant.

University City's public gardens are important to the City's economic and civic life. Plantings in urban neighborhoods are a symbol of care for the community. Gardens are located in every area of University City, around the Civic Plaza, along the business and entertainment area of the Delmar Loop, at all University City public schools, in parks, along major streets, and tucked into quiet neighborhoods throughout the City.

Volunteers are critical to U City in Bloom's ongoing public/private partnerships with the City of University City, its public schools, and neighborhood associations as it begins to broaden its work in areas of the City which are particularly challenging, such as the Olive Boulevard corridor.

For more information on volunteering with U City in Bloom, please contact Betsey Sweeny at sweenerd@sbcglobal.net or visit our website at www.ucityinbloom.org. No previous gardening experience is required.

After 28 years of service to U City in Bloom, Mary Ann Shaw is retiring! A city-wide party honoring Mary Ann will be held on Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 7 pm at City Hall, 6801 Delmar Boulevard. The event begins with a reception and beverages in the rotunda, followed by dessert, drinks, music and a program on the 5th floor. All are welcome, but space is limited. Please contact 314.973.6062 or infor@ucityinbloom.org for reservations or more information. Donations are appreciated.



**Blue Bird Boutique** 6635 Delmar Blvd.

314.651.3555

314.643.6722

**New Businesses** 

**Little Caesars Pizza** 6953 Olive Blvd. 314.642.5255

**Naturally Perfect** Candle Co.

P.Y.G.O. Ed-U-Tainment **Group Consultant** 6826 Olive Blvd. Unit A 314.721.0025

**STAR Karaoke & Cafe** 1179 N. McKnight Rd. 314.567.7827

## **Recreational News**

#### **Centennial Commons** "Fitness and Fun"

Centennial Commons annual winter "Fitness and Fun" Buffet will kick off the week of January 6-11, 2014. The "Buffet" provides participants a chance to "sample" our new and popular fitness/leisure education classes for FREE before signing up. Classes include: 6 am Boot Camp, Total Body Conditioning, Slide and Line Dancing, Core Fusion Fitness, Golden Lions Low Impact Strengthening Exercise, Senior Stretcherize, Cardio Kickboxing, Evening Yoga, Beginner and Intermediate Pilates, "Butts & Gutts," Little Tumblers, Little Choppers, Little Dancers, "Zumba," and more. For more information, call **314.505.8625** or Relay Missouri 800.735.2966 (TDD).

#### **No Cost Memberships for Seniors**

Centennial Commons is both a Silver&Fit® and SilverSneakers® participating fitness facility! Both programs are designed specifically to help seniors achieve better health through regular exercise and health education. Please contact your health plan to see if you qualify. For information about Centennial Commons, please visit 7210 Olive Blvd., or call **314.505.8625** or Relay Missouri 800.735.2966 (TDD).

#### **Scholarship Program Available** for University City Residents

Everyone should have the opportunity to improve their quality of life through recreation facilities and programs. To help meet this goal, the Department of Community Development - Recreation Division offers a recreation scholarship to income-qualified University City residents.

The scholarship award amount will be based on all household income sources, including related and unrelated people residing in a household. Individual and family scholarships are available. Scholarships are provided at a sliding scale, dependent on income, at a discounted rate of 25%, 50%, or 75% of the program's adopted fee. Funding is limited.

Scholarships are available for the following:

- Youth before and after school programs, and city operated full-day recreation programs (i.e., Summer Youth Recreation Program, etc.)
- Fitness and/or Leisure education classes. Lessons and senior social activities will be limited to two (2) per person per fiscal quarter (July 1-Sept. 30, Oct. 1-Dec. 31, Jan. 1-March 31, April 1-June 30)
- Centennial Commons memberships and Heman Park Pool/Natatorium Swim Passes
- University City Sports Association or University City Soccer Club youth sports player fees.

Scholarship applications are accepted year round.

For more information, please contact Leslie Eutz at **314.505.8617** or Relay Missouri at 800.735.2966 (TDD).

# We want to hear from you!

If you have story ideas or would like to share your opinion on this edition of ROARS, let us know by calling **314.505.8631** or emailing ucityroars@ucitymo.org.

# Indoor **Swimming During Winter Months**

Remember, indoor swimming is available during the winter City Natatorium.

The Natatorium is located on the University City High School campus, 7420 Shaftesbury, and is available for swimming sessions throughout the school year - until May 23, 2014.

#### **Hours:**

**Morning Lap Swim:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 6 am - 8 am

Tuesday and Thursday, 7 am - 9 am

**Public Swim:** Monday through Friday, 7 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, Noon - 3 pm

For more information, contact **Centennial Commons** at 314.505.8625 or Relay Missouri at 800.735.2966 (TDD)

# COME IN WE ARE OPEN

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#### **University City Administration**

314.862.6767 Main Phone: .... City Manager: Lehman Walker 314.505.8534 Director of Finance: Tina Charumilind 314.505.8547 Director of Public Works/Parks: Richard Wilson 314.505.8566 

#### **University City Councilmembers**

Mayor Shelley Welsch ......314.505.8606 First Ward Terry Crow ......314.918.0045 Stephen Kraft ......314.863.1136 Second Ward Paulette Carr .......314.727.0919 L. Michael Glickert ......314.882.6432 Third Ward Byron Price......314.853.2165

Arthur Sharpe, Jr. ......314.721.5954

#### **City Services**

Emergency Hotline(Severe Weather, Natural Disaster)	314.505.8550
Finance/Refuse Billing	314.505.8544
Library	314.727.3150
Recreation	314.505.8625
Permits/Inspections	314.505.8500
Public Works/Parks	314.505.8560

#### **Fire and Police Departments**

	Emergency		91	1
Fire	Department	314.505.85	92	
Police	Department	314.725.22	1	1