

MAR-APRIL 2016

THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

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University City Welcomes McArthur's Bakery and Cafe

McArthur's Bakery Café is opening a new location in The Loop this spring, located in the Commerce Bank building at 6630 Delmar. Blvd. The company is nearing its 60th anniversary of serving high-quality baked goods and freshly prepared foods in St. Louis.



McArthur's will bring their traditional bakery products and their new high-end café menu featuring soups, salads and sandwiches to the new Loop location. A Euro-style demonstration bakery is also planned as part of the new Loop store, where customers can watch bakers decorate anything from European pastries to wedding cakes.

The store's theme will build off the warm, modern rustic design McArthur's Kirkwood rolled out last fall. The space will have flexible seating that can accommodate the solo customer to various family, friends, study and meeting groups. McArthur's Loop location will also include a community table in a private area for scheduled or walk-in meetings.

The same traditional McArthur's bakery items everyone in St Louis has grown up with will be available in the Loop store and our customers also can have a great breakfast or lunch experience in a comfortable and convenient place to relax and meet friends."

Shop hours will be Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. and Sundays, 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Ample, free parking is located in the store's adjacent parking lot as well as along Delmar and in the area's public lots. The phone is 314.894.0900. Find McArthur's online at www.McArthurs.com.

Watch for our 2016 Recreation Guide - in homes by or before April 2, 2016. New program/classes for Summer 2016 include:

- Summer Fitness Challenges
- Youth Summer Sports Camps (Basketball, Soccer and Volleyball)
- UMSL Healthy Eating "Summer Challenge"
- Saturday Zumba
- T'ai Chi Fundamentals

Contact Information

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

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City of University City

The University City Citizen Volunteer Corps (CVC) continues to bring together U City volunteers to work on a variety of issues. Below is an update of just one of the CVC groups. See more group updates on page 4.

The Monarch Group has installed a monarch garden on Vernon Avenue, to the west of the Dog Play Area. They will be installing a second monarch garden at the Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse this spring. The group is working towards fulfilling the requirements of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge (<http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Community-Habitats/Mayors-Monarch-Pledge.aspx>) and have already completed most of the requirements. (Plants that attract monarch butterflies will be available at the U City in Bloom plant sale on April 30th and May 1st.) Contact Linda Fried at lindafriedster@gmail.com or 314.369.0530 for more information.



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Councilmember's Corner:

Councilman Stephen Kraft, Ward 1



Councilman Stephen Kraft
314.863.1136
KraftstephenE@gmail.com

The Green Practice Commission Saves Green

While working as the Council liaison to the Green Practices Commission, the Commission has advocated for projects that encourage the use of native plants, expanding recycling, and slowing water runoff. In addition, the Commission has been instrumental in working with City staff to find funding for energy-efficient projects that save energy and dollars.

The Commission identified a Missouri Department of Energy low interest energy program and worked with staff on a proposal that granted a \$509,000 loan to the city for energy saving projects in City Hall and Centennial Commons including cooling and heating systems, parking lot lighting and lighting throughout the buildings. The annual savings of \$65,000 will pay back the loan in less than seven years, while the cash and energy savings will continue indefinitely. The commission is now looking at the financial feasibility of solar panels on City buildings.

The Commission researched and recommended the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program which was recently passed by Council. PACE allows commercial, multi-family, not-for-profit, and public property owners to obtain low-cost, long term financing through private lenders for energy efficiency projects including roof, boiler, lighting, windows, insulation, solar and kitchen equipment. PACE paybacks are linked to the property tax bill.

If you are interested in exploring PACE funding go to Missouri Clean Energy District at <http://www.mced.mo.gov> or PACE Equity at <http://pace-equity.com>. If you have ideas for the Commission or would like to participate in the Commission's activities please contact me at KraftstephenE@gmail.com or the Commission chair Lois Sechrist at lsechrist1@gmail.com.

Annual Pet Vaccination

Saturday, April 2 @ 8:00 - 11:00 AM
HEMAN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
975 Pennsylvania Ave
University City, MO 63130

The City will be hosting its annual pet clinic, where pet owners will be able to receive a one-year rabies vaccination and preliminary health exam for cats and dogs. All pets must be a least three (3) months old; dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers. Fees are as follows:

- Spayed/Neutered Cats: \$19
- Spayed/Neutered Dogs: \$22
- Non-Spayed/Neutered Cats: \$27
- Non-Spayed/Neutered Dogs: \$30

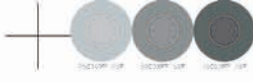
Both residents and non-residents will have the opportunity to apply for membership to the U City Dog Park. Fees for the U City Dog Park are as follows:



- \$40 per year for one (1) dog and \$60 per year for two (2) dogs (Residents)
- \$60 per year for one (1) dog and \$90 per year for two (2) dogs (Non-Residents)

The pet clinic is sponsored by the City of University City, www.ucitymo.org and Dr. Gary Yavitz of the Spode Animal Hospital, (314).569.3111, www.spode-vet.com

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A Six-Month Review of Gateway Ambulance Services in U City

Since September, 2015 residents of University City have been provided ambulance services by Gateway Ambulance. This service was previously provided by the Fire Department. Since contracting with Gateway, the following has been achieved for the residents of University City:

Reduction in Ambulance Response Time

A reduction in ambulance response time from an average of 4 ½ minutes (when the Fire department responded to calls) to 3 ½ minutes.

Increased staffing on Fire Trucks

Fire trucks now are staffed with four firefighters instead of three, which was previously the case. This has been accomplished by putting the firefighters who used to staff the ambulances on the fire trucks. This improves the City's ability to fight fires without increasing taxes to pay for more firefighters. In life-threatening situations a fire truck with the ambulance is dispatched, which brings an additional four paramedics to the scene. This is a staffing change that had been requested for years by the firefighters' union.

Cost Effectiveness

Both ambulance service and fire protection continue to be provided without the City having to hire more firefighters. Hiring more firefighters would result in the City having to increase taxes or reduce services in other areas. The average salary and benefits for a firefighter is over \$80,000 per year. In addition, the average annual pension benefit paid by the City for a firefighter retiree is over \$40,000 and this may continue for 25 years or more after the retirement depending upon the lifespan of the employee, some of whom can retire at 50. This pension benefit alone can amount to \$1,000,000 or more for every firefighter hired by the City who eventually retires. Simply stated, the City cannot afford more firefighters without increasing taxes or reducing services. When the issue of compensation was raised during contract negotiations between the firefighters union and the City, the union responded that the City could just pave fewer streets to pay the firefighters. That choice is not acceptable to the City.



City Manager: Lehman Walker

Mutual Aid

Gateway provides its own mutual aid when needed. They have 23 ambulances in the St. Louis region (compared to ten, for instance, in the City of St. Louis). In the past, when the University City Fire Department needed mutual aid they called other municipalities such as Olivette or Clayton to request assistance. If the ambulance of the other city was in service, other cities had to be called until an available ambulance was found. That took additional precious time. Since Gateway provides its own mutual aid the need to call other cities to request ambulance assistance is no longer necessary. Because Gateway provides an additional ambulance each time another one is dispatched, University City is never without an available ambulance.

Outstanding Bills

For years, the City has been unable to collect hundreds of thousands of dollars in outstanding bills from people who had been provided with ambulance service. In addition, a staff member of the City Finance department was devoted to collecting outstanding accounts for this service. This is no longer an issue for the City.

Additional Information

Gateway Ambulance staff, which includes some of our own firefighters, are represented by the Teamsters Union. Each ambulance is staffed by a paramedic and an emergency medical technician. In University City, they respond to approximately 350-375 calls per month.

University City New Hires!

Ms. Marcia Mermelstein has been appointed the new **Senior Coordinator**. She has B.S. in Education from the University of Kansas and a Masters of Social Work from Washington University. She brings extensive experience in resource and program planning, community building and training, as well as outreach and engagement. She will work with the Senior Commission to develop and support programs for the City's senior population.

Mr. Sinan Alpaslan, P.E., has been appointed **Director of Public Works and Parks** effective February 16, 2016. He has a Master's degree in Construction Management from Washington University and 15 years of experience as a professional engineer. Mr. Alpaslan has served as the City Engineer and Assistant Director of Public Works and Parks for the past five years.

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Adult Summer Reading Program

At The University City Public Library (UCPL) we're already thinking about summer reading, and we've got a wonderful opportunity to share with you. Our adult Summer Reading program, the Big Book Challenge, will be taking on our first American author Zora Neale Hurston's *Novels and Stories*, published in one volume by Library of America. In addition to great conversations about the book, we will have Washington University Professor Dr. Rafia Zafar as program advisor. The adult Summer Reading program kicks off Wednesday, May 25.

For the first time ever, we are partnering with Library of America for a special opportunity to support our summer reading program. Your \$15 tax-deductible donation to Library of America on our behalf will provide one new hardcover volume for UCPL to offer for checkout to a summer reader. Please stop by UCPL for a donation form, or donate to Library of America directly by contacting Laura Gazlay at lgazlay@loa.org or 212.308.3360 ext. 201.



New Library Card for Kids

UCPL now has a new library card type just for kids! My First Library Card is for our youngest UCPL members: birth through five years of age.

The card can be used to check out: board books, toddler books, beginning readers books, picture books, juvenile chapter books, juvenile nonfiction books, juvenile audiobooks and children's book CD kits, and children's CDs without the fear of late fines. DVDs, videogames, and adult books can't be checked out on these cards; however a parent or guardian is still responsible for lost or damaged items.

This card and all U City library cards can also be used to access TumbleBooks, our new children's online database. Tumblebooks includes animated talking picture books, chapter books, math activities, nonfiction, graphic novels, and more in English, Spanish, and French. Simply visit the UCPL youth services webpage: (www.ucitylibrary.org/kids) and click on the Tumblebooks link!

Spring Bulk Pick-Up Dates

- East April 11 - 15
- Central April 18 - 22
- West April 25 - 29

Place items curbside by the Sunday night before the collection week. The trucks will make one sweep of each street. Be sure that access to the items is not blocked by parked vehicles. Dispose of large furniture and appliances (stoves, refrigerators, water heaters, washers, dryers). Items not accepted: Computers, computer-related products, Televisions, hazardous materials, commercial items, or business equipment, yard waste, tree trunks, logs, building or construction type debris/materials, tires, auto batteries, motors, rail road ties, barrel drums, concrete bricks, landscape stones, boulders, rocks, dirt, roofing materials, siding, fluorescent tubes and/or household trash.

Electronics Pick-Up

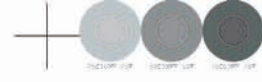
The Public Works and Parks Department will notify the residents when we organize an Electronics Collection Event...watch your mail for details.

Special Bulk Pick-Up

Residents who want to get rid of household junk can now call the Public Works and Parks Department to schedule a special bulk item (waste) pick up for a fee. The fee charge is \$25 per item with a \$200 maximum fee for up to ten (10) pick-up items. Before, residents who needed household junk picked up had to either wait for the regularly scheduled bulk-collection day which occurs twice a year in April and September or call a private hauler. Now residents may call at least seven (7) days in advance and have their bulk items picked up by University City staff right at the front curb. All University City bills must be paid (no outstanding fees) to receive this service.

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University City Public Library Events

Date	Event	Description	Time
3/7/2016	Computer Class: Intro to Catalog	This class will be EVERY Monday for the months Mar-April. Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
3/9/2016	Computer Class: Getting E books from Library	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
3/15/2016	Readings in History	<i>Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World</i>	7:00pm
3/16/2016	Computer Class: Intro to Lynda.com	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
3/19/2016	HPES Health Screening	Free health screenings check: heart, liver, kidney, cholesterol, skin, teeth, and more. For more info email info@hpes-stl.org or call 314.727.3150.	9:00am
3/23/2016	Computer Class: 3D Printing	Advanced class: learn how to find, size, format, and print 3D creations. Classes are free and don't require registration	2:30pm-4pm
3/23/2016	U City Book Group	<i>Being Mortal</i>	7:00pm
3/27/2016	LIBRARY CLOSED FOR EASTER		
3/30/2016	Computer Class: Intro to Computers	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
4/6/2016	Computer Class: Intro to the Internet	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
4/7/2016	Friends of the Library Event	Pat Lorraine Simons	7:00pm
4/8/2016	Poetry Event	<i>A Celebration of the Word</i>	7:00pm
4/13/2016	Computer Class: Web Email Accounts	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
4/16/2016	HPES Health Screening	Free health screenings check: heart, liver, kidney, cholesterol, skin, teeth, and more. For more info email info@hpes-stl.org or call 314.727.3150.	9:00am
4/19/2016	Readings in History	<i>The Astronaut Wives Club</i>	7:00pm
4/20/2016	Computer Class: Intro to Word	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
4/20/2016	Author Visit	David Linzee	7:00pm
4/27/2016	Computer Class: Intro to Chrome-books	Classes are free and do not require registration	2:30pm-4pm
4/27/2016	U City Book Group	<i>Between the World and Me</i>	7:00pm

Staying Safe and Secure

Triple S Corner

Welcome to the Triple S Corner of ROARS: a new column about Staying Safe and Secure in your home and around University City. We will provide information about programs and services offered by the University City Police Department (UCPD), tips to stay safe and more.

One of the services the UCPD offers is a Citizens' Police Academy. This is an opportunity for citizens to learn more about police practices, and about services to foster better communication between citizens and police. Previous sessions have been five-week courses held on Saturday mornings. Includes introduction to staff, policies, drug and gang enforcement interview techniques, traffic enforcement and accident investigation, role playing, and more. Currently, the department is taking sign-ups for those interested in another class, but one has not yet been scheduled for 2016. Interested citizens should contact Captain Carol Jackson (314.505.8654).

Another tool that is currently being underutilized is the Crime Hotline. This is an outlet where citizens can report crime or information related to crimes. Anonymous reporting is accepted. (314.863.7333.)

Please visit the library's website, ucitylibrary.org, or call 314.727.3150 for the most up-to-date information, weekly story times, and additional programs and events.

Children's story time is twice a week for kids 2-5-year-olds. Readings for 2-year-olds take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30am, and readings for 3-5-year-olds take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30am. Registration is required.

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Trash Bin Rental Program:

Are you cleaning out the basement or garage, or having a gathering or becoming a first time empty nester? The Public Works and Parks Department offers special services to get rid of your extra built-up trash.

You can rent extra 90-gallon roll-out carts, or a 3-cubic yard dumpster or a 30-cubic yard roll-off.

Select Rental option	Rental Fee	Rental Period	Additional Rental Period	Extra Empty During Rental Period
<input type="checkbox"/> 90-gallon cart – City drop off	\$25.00	5 business days	\$15.00	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Dumpster – City drop off	\$100.00*	10 business days	\$40.00	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Roll-off dumpster	\$300.00*	10 business days	\$200.00	\$250.00

*The cost of the 3-cubic yard dumpster or 30-cubic yard commercial roll-off dumpster rental includes a \$50 right-of-way permit fee. A right-of-way permit is required with these rentals.

All University City bills must be paid (no outstanding fees) to receive this service. Special collection reservations must be made at least five business days in advance of pickup or delivery. No hazardous materials, yard waste, building, landscaping, wood & construction debris, and/or over-sized bulky waste permitted in these dumpsters.

Spring Leaf Collection

University City crews will be collecting leaves from the front curb of residential properties in March. Leaves must be raked to the curb line by Sunday, the day before collection begins in your area. Leaves should not be placed in yard waste bags for collection by leaf collection crews. You can however, still use leaf bags with proper stickers. Trucks will only make one pass on each street during the collection week, so items must be placed at the curb before the scheduled collection week begins. The pick-up schedule in your area listed below:

- West: March 7 - 11
- Central: March 14 - 18
- East: March 21-25

NEW BUSINESSES

PINZPEOPLE
7116 WESTMORELAND DR.
314.863.3350

GRIP RACKS
GRIPRACKS.COM
314.210.4618

GRAFFITI NETWORK
6511 OLIVE BLVD.
314.333.1222

TIME MACHINE CLOTHING
7352 FORSYTH BLVD.
314.537.5553

EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS
8151 DELMAR BLVD.
314.721.5777

U CITY FAMILY CHURCH
6358 DELMAR BLVD. STE 222
314.329.8390

PEDAL PEDAL
7634 GANNON AVE.
314.308.4523

THE RESPLENDENT CROW
6363 OLIVE BLVD.
314.255.3242



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University City Recreation

Another Summer of Fun!

Children ages 5-14 will have a blast at the city's Summer Camp and Teen Activities Programs, which include swimming, tennis, field trips, arts and crafts and more! The programs (for ages 5-14) will run for eight weeks (June 6-July 29) at Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

Register now for the following programs:

- Camp B4 and After: A before (7:30-9:00 am) and after (3:00-5:30 pm) camp program is available. Breakfast and afternoon snack provided, an additional fee applies.
- REMINDER: Children may now register for all eight weeks or for ONE-week sessions (restrictions apply).

Scholarships are available for U City residents who meet income guideline requirements and Parkview Gardens Neighborhood Association provides scholarships for those children who live within their residential boundaries. For more information, call 314.505.8625 or Relay Missouri 800.735.2966 (TDD).

Kids ages 5 to 12 are invited to enjoy U City parks on National Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, **May 21** at Heman Park. Watch for more information.



Centennial Commons is a SilverSneakers® participating location

The SilverSneakers® Fitness Program is an innovative health, exercise and wellness program helping older adults live healthy, active lifestyles. Your Centennial Commons SilverSneakers® fitness membership includes:

- Access Centennial Commons, Heman Park Pool, U City Natatorium, and get a discount on programs and resident rates at Ruth Park Golf Course.
- Most important, your Centennial Commons SilverSneakers® membership is available to you at no cost through your health plan.

Regular participation in SilverSneakers can help you build muscular strength, improve joint mobility and increase cardiovascular endurance, leading to improved health and greater independence. For more information, contact Centennial Commons, 314.505.8625 or Relay Missouri, 1.800.735.2966 TDD or go to www.silversneakers.com.

Recreation Opportunities for People of All Abilities

Interested in participating in programs and activities provided by the Department of Community Development-Recreation Division? Inclusive opportunities are available for all U City residents! Our Regional Coordinator of Inclusive Recreation, Mary Furfaro, facilitates the inclusion of people with disabilities in our recreation programs and provides assistance with City services. Work directly with a professional to insure your needs are met!

Activities include:

- Day Camp
- Fitness Class
- Golf Lessons
- Zumba
- Sports Leagues
- Pilates

For more information or to coordinate support, contact Mary by phone: 314.505.8697, email: mfurfaro@ucity-mo.org or through Relay Missouri, 800.735.2966 (TDD).



Heman Park Swimming Pool

Our 2016 Heman Park Swimming Pool season begins Saturday, **May 28**. Stop by Centennial Commons (7210 Olive Blvd.) to renew your season pass TODAY! It's quick and will assure you won't have to miss a minute of swimming throughout the season. While you are visiting Centennial Commons, make sure to register for one of our new swim activities:

- Saturday Aqua Zumba
- Water Polo
- Basic Kayaking Clinics
- Lap Swimming Challenge and more!

Back for 2016 - Toddler Time (adult/toddler swim session) and Adult/Family Swim (Monday-Friday from 5:30-8:00 pm). Questions: Contact Centennial Commons, 314.505.8625 or Relay Missouri 800.735.2966 (TDD)

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Ash Trees In U City

In 2002 scientists trying to discover why ash trees were dying at an alarming rate made a startling discovery. They found that the culprit for the trees demise was an introduced species of insect called the emerald ash borer. Since that time, the highly invasive insect has been responsible for the death of over 50 million ash trees in North America. Recently the pest has been discovered in the St. Louis area, and it is only a matter of time before it arrives in University City.

What do we know about this infestation?

- 1) The insect is species specific meaning it will only attack ash trees.
- 2) The history of the insect shows that there is a five-to-seven year window from the time of first discovery to when the full effects of the tree decline becomes apparent.
- 3) The mortality of the trees is 100%.

As the owner of an ash tree what can you do?

- 1) Do nothing and wait for the tree to die, removing it at that time.
- 2) Proactively remove the tree now and plant a replacement tree of another species in its place.
- 3) Plant a replacement tree of another species and stage the removal of the ash tree within three-to-five years.
- 4) Apply one of the chemical treatments to the ash tree for the remainder of its life.

Currently there are three insecticide treatments available and all are effective against the Emerald ash Borer. Imidacloprid is used as a soil drench and is applied around the base of the tree once per year. Emamectin benzoate is an insecticide injected into the ash tree at various points at the root flare every other year. Dinotefuran is an insecticide sprayed onto the trunk area of the tree yearly. These insecticides come not only with a monetary cost but an environmental one as well. Due to the systemic nature of these insecticides, the active ingredient spreads throughout the tissues of the tree. All of the aforementioned chemicals have been shown to kill honeybees and other beneficial insects.



What is University City's response?

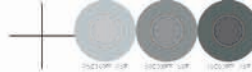
There are approximately 35,000 trees planted on City streets and in parks, of this number it is estimated that 800 to 1,000 of those trees are ash. No ash trees have been planted by the forestry division since the year 2002, and the division has been selectively removing Ash trees since this time. Because of the high man power, monetary cost, and environmental hazards, the City does not view chemical treatment as a practical option. Increasing the removals of Ash trees over the next three to five years is the viable alternative. Residents, who have the City street tree in front of their houses removed, do have the option of a replacement tree planted at City expense and they may request a new tree at any time.

Ash trees make up a important part of the urban tree canopy and the loss of this species is devastating to the urban forest, especially given the growing threat of global warming. If you have ash trees as part of your residential landscape it is vital that you make plans now for either their preservation or replacement.

U City Conversations on Race, Class & Culture (UCCRCC):

The UCCRCC group is holding monthly meetings and inviting anyone who is interested to come to talk with friends and neighbors about a range of issues involving race, class and culture. The group has been meeting in members' homes, but as the group has grown, members have reserved an almost-permanent meeting place at the University City Public Library on the fourth Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m.. If you would like to get on the mailing list for this group, contact Rick Aurbach at rlaurb@icloud.com or 314.721.7987. Check out U City Conversations on Race, Class & Culture on Facebook.

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Fair U City 2016 will be held on June 10th-12th in Heman Park. Fair U City is organized and staged by community volunteers. Fair U City is the fund-raising arm of the new University City Community Foundation (UCCF). UCCF will be providing small grants to individuals and organizations working for the betterment of our community.

If you would like to volunteer for Fair U City please contact the fair at volunteer@fairucity.com or call Fair U City at 314.505.8696. This is a great way to meet your friends and neighbors, and to help create a greater sense of community in University City.

There are still a few vendor spots available at the fair. Check out the website at www.fairucity.com for more information.

New Retailers in The Loop

Did you know that the City of University City owns a retail storefront in the Delmar Loop, the building that housed the former Good Works store? We are excited to announce that after six months of construction, the large space is now divided into three retail storefronts bringing more diverse shopping opportunities to the Loop. Here's an introduction to each.

Create Space Generator (6325 Delmar) is an entrepreneurship incubator dedicated to empowering, growing, and sustaining creative businesses with the potential of national growth. Twenty-two Makers will each have a business license and will sell products in Create Space's innovative modular merchandising scenarios.

Three Dogs Bakery (6323 Delmar) will offer your furry family members the best all natural food for a healthy lifestyle, including oven-baked treats, pastries, and other special goodies daily. They only use premium all natural ingredients and then oven bake them to perfection. And yes, pets are welcome in the store!

OSO: a style lab (6321 Delmar) is a new boutique concept focused on bringing together a diverse vision of style and will offer an array of merchandise at a mixed-price level from various walks of life. Offering both local and international brands - with each piece carefully selected to bring more style to your life, OSO invites you, to shop their unique blend of women's, men's, unisex, home/personal goods, and gifts.

All three new retailers will have grand openings in April. Let's welcome them to the Loop!



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Update: City's Comprehensive Planning Process

The updating process of the City's Comprehensive Plan is moving along with its final phase anticipated for spring of this year. In recent months, the 16-member Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) held group review sessions to thoroughly review the many chapters of the planning consultant's preliminary draft and provide feedback for revisions. CPAC is comprised of City residents and property owners from a cross-section of backgrounds and interests.

The planning consultant (Houseal Lavigne Associates - HLA) will provide revisions once review of all the draft chapters is completed by the committee. Subsequently, public meetings will be scheduled to provide additional opportunities for public input. Of course, written comments will continue to be accepted! In the meantime, please visit the City's website at <http://www.ucitymo.org/173/Comprehensive-Planning> for more information about this Comprehensive Plan Update project.

As you may know by now, a comprehensive plan establishes an overall vision for the community and strategies to achieve that vision. It is a policy document that will help guide future growth and decisions about land use, infrastructure, parks, community services, and economic development in the City.



Did you know? I-170 carries the majority of north-south traffic, with an average daily traffic (ADT) just above 120,000. Traffic along the east-west arterials of University City range from 13,000 to 21,000 ADT. Also, as University City is virtually landlocked and built-out, its growth and development opportunities will be focused on infill redevelopment projects and sustained reinvestment in existing properties. These represent only some of the data collected and preliminary observations made by the consultant. The Comprehensive Plan Update document, when completed and adopted, will have implications on future policies to be set for multiple facets of the City for many years to come.



Mayor Shelley Welsch

City Council working to protect local control

At its first meeting in February, the City Council passed a resolution approving participation in a Friend of the Court (Amicus) Brief on the authority of municipalities and against unconstitutional restrictions on local control. The case in question is before the Missouri Supreme Court on behalf of the City of Saint Louis and some residents in Kansas City, Missouri. We were the first municipality in St. Louis County to commit to joining the Amicus Brief.

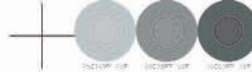
University City is a charter city. A charter city "is a city in which the governing system is defined by the city's own charter document rather than by state, provincial, regional or national laws." (Our City Charter can be found on the City's website at www.ucitymo.org under the Government tab.) We have more authority than many other smaller cities, towns and villages in the State of Missouri. However, in recent years, legislators in Jefferson City have increasingly passed legislation that limits that authority on any number of issues. By participating in this lawsuit, at no cost to the City of University City, we are making clear our concern with these actions.

Efforts to limit local control include proposed/considered legislation relating to the distribution of sales taxes in St. Louis County; gun control; the minimum wage and other issues.

Tip O'Neill, the former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives said that all politics are local. That is true. Local government is the closest to the people, and deals with those issues that most affect people's lives. Here in University City, voters chose a form of government that allows for the most local control.

We need to be vigilant in protecting our ability to govern as our Charter gives us the authority to do.

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Citizen Volunteer Corps UPDATE!

Building a better University City, one volunteer at a time.

The University City Citizen Volunteer Corps (CVC) organized in October of 2014, continues to bring together University City volunteers to work on a variety of issues. Mayor Shelley Welsch organized the CVC, but the group is volunteer-directed and led. Each working group sets its own goals and plans and executes its own activities.

Here's an update on some of what is happening in the CVC.

V.O.I.C.E.S. for Veterans:

The Veterans outreach group has taken part in Veterans' Day events in the region. It is working to develop a database of U City vets. Members have been volunteering at Arbor Health in University City, a facility that works with Veterans. They will be staffing a table at Fair U City 2016. They may work toward University City becoming part of the Commemorative Partner Program to honor Vietnam Vets. Interested? Contact Rufus Shannon at rdshannon1@gmail.com or 314.437.4969. Check out University City V.O.I.C.E.S. for Veterans on Facebook.

Crime Awareness & Prevention:

This group has conducted a community survey on crime awareness, and awareness in our community of programs offered by our Police Department. They will be conducting a follow-up survey. They are producing the *Triple S Corner* column in *ROARS*. They will continue to work to spread the word on all the anti-crime efforts in the City and programs available to University City residents. Want to be involved? Contact Mike Margherio at mmargherio@rssclaw.com or 314.753.9038.

Outreach to the unbanked and underbanked in the community:

Members of this group have held a number of meetings in locations around the City, sharing information on programs and services available to residents of University City. The goal of their work is to keep people from getting trapped in a payday loan cycle. Members have also worked one-on-one with residents to help them get out of the payday loan trap. The group is now part of the St. Louis Regional Unbanked Task Force. Look for information from this CVC group related to Money Smart Week in April. Interested in helping? Contact Bob Baglan at baglrj@sbcglobal.net or 314.726.5248.

Food in University City:

This CVC group, which started out to organize Food Day events in U City, has changed course. They no longer favor a Food Day program, but rather a program that yields benefit to our community every day of the year. One of the concepts that is school-centered would engage with the U City In Bloom community. Their next action is to find a time to meet with the team-members who are working at/in the school system. To be involved contact Kathy McGinnis at kathyppjn@aol.com or 314.726.5367.



Anti-Litter Effort:

The newest group is attempting to bring residents together for a focused effort to combat the litter problem in University City. This effort was kicked off in early February. If you want to be part of the solution to the litter problem, contact Louise King at lmkingwall1251@att.net or 314.863.1113.

Boulevard Tree Survey:

The Boulevard Tree group has surveyed the number of trees missing in the tree walk of Delmar Boulevard and found that we are missing almost 200 trees. Members are making plans on how to proceed with St. Louis County, which owns Delmar Boulevard. If you would like to be on the list to do further surveys of our boulevard trees, contact Nancy Baglan at baglrj@sbcglobal.net or 314.726.5248.

A few other groups are looking for more volunteers to expand on their efforts, or to start the process. If you would like to be involved in any of the following, contact Mayor Shelley Welsch at mayor@ucitymo.org or 314.505.8606.

- U City Art Volunteers
- Trap, Neuter & Release / Feral Cat Program
- Rebuilding a Sports League system in University City - for young and old
- Building a community theater program in University City - for young and old

Check out the University City Citizen Volunteer Corps on Facebook.

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University City Administration			
<i>Main Phone:</i>	_____	314.862.6767	
<i>City Manager :</i>	Lehman Walker _____	314.505.8534	
<i>City Clerk:</i>	Joyce Pumm _____	314.505.8605	
<i>Director of Finance:</i>	Tina Charumilind _____	314.505.8547	
<i>Director of Community Development:</i>	Andrea Riganti _____	314.505.8516	
<i>Director of Public Works/Parks:</i>	Sinan Alpaslan _____	314.505.8572	
<i>Police Chief:</i>	Charles Adams _____	314.505.8650	
<i>Fire Chief:</i>	Adam Long _____	314.505.8563	
Mayor and Councilmembers			
<i>Mayor</i>	Shelley Welsch _____	314.505.8606	
<i>First Ward</i>	Terry Crow _____	314.918.0045	
	Stephen Kraft _____	314.863.1136	
<i>Second Ward</i>	Paulette Carr _____	314.727.0919	
	L. Michael Glickert _____	314.882.6432	
<i>Third Ward</i>	Rod Jennings _____	314.480.2221	
	Arthur Sharpe, Jr. _____	314.721.5954	
Selected City Services			
<i>Emergency Hotline</i>	_____	314.505.8550	
<i>(Severe Weather, Natural Disaster)</i>			
<i>Finance/Refuse Billing</i>	_____	314.505.8544	
<i>Library</i>	_____	314.727.3150	
<i>Recreation</i>	_____	314.505.8625	
<i>Permits/Inspections</i>	_____	314.505.8500	
<i>Public Works/Parks</i>	_____	314.505.8560	
Fire and Police Departments			
<i>Emergency</i>	_____	911	
<i>Fire Department</i>	_____	314.505.8592	
<i>Police Department</i>	_____	314.725.2211	