Save the Date

STATE OF THE CITY – MARCH 6

The Historical Society of University City is pleased to introduce our new City Manager, Gregory Rose, at the State of the City Program on Tuesday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall’s 5th Floor Council Chambers (please enter through the lower parking lot door). In addition to Mr. Rose’s introduction, we are honored to have retiring Mayor Shelley Welsch speak. In lieu of a traditional question and answer period, there will be a designated time for attendees to socialize with Mayor Welsch and Mr. Rose. This event is free for the public and will include light refreshments and a cake to celebrate the birthday of E.G. Lewis, University City’s founder and first Mayor.

TASTE OF U CITY – MARCH 22

The seventh annual Taste of U City is coming early this year! On Thursday, March 22, join the Chamber in sampling food and drinks from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Mandarin House Banquet Center, 8004 Olive Blvd. Every year, more than 40 of our community’s fine restaurants offer tastes of cuisines from around the world. From Asian, African and Jamaican to pizza, fried chicken and award-winning barbecue, you can eat it all at Taste of U City! The event will also feature a silent auction, raffles, and face painting for the kids. Tickets are available online at ucitychamber.com. Admission is $20 in advance and $25 at the door, and includes a free drink. Kids aged 5-12 are half price, and under 4 eat free.

U CITY IN BLOOM’S SPRING PLANT SALE – APRIL 28 - 29

U City in Bloom will hold its Spring Plant Sale this April at the Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. A variety of flowering annuals, vegetables, and herbs will be offered for sale, in addition to the thousands of perennial plants prepared by U City in Bloom volunteers.

U City in Bloom’s Preview Party is on Friday, April 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets for the preview party are $25. Guests can browse and purchase plants while enjoying a signature cocktail, light refreshments, and other beverages. The public plant sale begins on Saturday, April 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and continues Sunday, April 29, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All proceeds from the plant sale will help keep University City blooming.

UNIVERSITY CITY’S NATIONAL WALKING DAY – APRIL 4

University City Recreation Division invites you to the American Heart Association’s National Walking Day! On Wednesday, April 4, from 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., spend your day “getting out and walking” in University City. You will receive a route map to walk through Heman Park, located right outside Centennial Commons (park here), 7210 Olive Blvd. Once you have completed the walking route, stop back into Centennial Commons for a special gift!
Next month, after serving eight years as Mayor, I will step down to return to private life and focus my energies on other projects. Before I leave I would like to share my thoughts on the progress we have made in University City over the past eight years.

First and foremost, I am proud that since 2010, City Councils were able to reverse the financial decline that greeted us then by supporting the reorganization of City Hall, approving some very tight budgets, and making other difficult decisions. In 2010, we were facing more than six million in deficits over the following two fiscal years. Under the tough-love management approach of our former City Manager, Lehman Walker, those deficits never materialized and our bond rating increased to AA+ by March of 2014. We set aside $7 million for a new or updated police facility; put an extra $2 million into our employee pension plans; and were able to allocate $3 million for the move of our Police Department to a temporary police facility. Our new City Manager, Gregory Rose, inherited a 37% general fund reserve – not as high as I would like, but one that was unfathomable back in 2010. University City is on a sound financial footing.

Second, I am proud of the economic development that has occurred and is occurring all over our community – economic development that should lead to an increase in our residential population and an expansion of our tax base. With the new Vanguard apartments; expanded Mansions on the Plaza and Gatesworth facilities; new infill housing in all three wards of University City, and much more, the physical landscape of this community is being enhanced. University City homes are selling briskly. We will soon see new development at the University City-owned eastern edge of the Centene development and if all proceeds as hoped, there will soon be a renovated Nathaniel Hawthorne School and new developments along Olive at I-170, North and South and Midland.

It has been my privilege to be able to interact, one-on-one, with hundreds of residents from all over this community, meeting people from all walks of life. It’s been a pleasure working with the volunteers who came together to develop a bike/walk master plan for our community; created Fair U City and a new community foundation; who sponsor conversations on race, class and culture; work to attract Monarch butterflies; clean up the City; help veterans and re-established a thriving Chamber of Commerce.

I encourage you to consider getting involved in the civic life of our community. Please don’t let the noise and negativity evident on the local, regional, state and national level discourage you from working to make University City, the Neighborhood to the World, one of the most progressive and diverse communities in the State of Missouri, an even better place to live, work and do business.

I wish my successor and future City Councils the best of luck. In addition, I thank the excellent University City staff members for all the work they have done, for years, to provide outstanding service to the residents and taxpayers of this community, and all the support they have given me.

On a dresser in my home I have a quote from Helen Keller. Part of that quote says “…The world is moved along, not by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest person.” My hope for University City is that everyone will push.

Ciao.
Mayor Shelley Welsch
Centennial Commons

CELEBRATING UNIVERSITY CITY’S SENIOR RESIDENTS

University City will host a special program at the Public Library on the afternoon of Sunday, May 6, as part of “National Older Americans Month”. We will be shining the spotlight on our community’s senior residents at this program, and the theme will be “Engage At Any Age!”

This program will offer entertainment, refreshments, and helpful hand-out information, including a summary report of the data collected through the recent University City Older Adult Survey process.

Additionally, the program will display a project created in conjunction with University City High School’s journalism class. This project will feature essays and photographs of sixteen University City senior adults. The community is invited to this unveiling of their final project on Sunday, May 6.

If you are over the age of 65 and would like to be “engaged” as one of the sixteen participants in this unique intergenerational photo display, please call Marcia Mermelstein, University City Senior Services Coordinator, at 314.505.8563 to submit your name. If you would like to suggest the name of a special friend, neighbor, or relative who is over the age of 65 whose photo and essay you would like to see featured at the May 6 program, you can also contact Marcia to share that person’s name with her, and she will follow up to find out if your nominee would like to participate.

NEWS FROM CENTENNIAL COMMONS

• Another Summer of Fun: Youth entering grades 1-6 will have a blast at the city’s Summer Youth Camp and Teen Activities Programs, which includes swimming, tennis, field trips, arts & crafts, and more! The programs run for 8 weeks from Monday, June 4 to Friday, July 27 at Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd. Call 314.505.8525 for fees.

• New for 2018 – Specialized Sports Camps: Hosted by the University City District Athletic Committee, campers enrolled in summer programs can also participate in specialized sports camps. These camps will provide basic “drills and skills” for a variety of sports such as cross country, baseball, and volleyball. Separate registration applies: Minimum #:10; Maximum #:30; Fee per participant, per week, per sport - $25. Sport instruction will be held every day of camp but Wednesday.

• Camp and 2018 Redbird Rookies registration for residents is Saturday, March 24 & Saturday, April 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. Open registration will take place at Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd., starting on Monday, April 23. THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR ANY SESSION OF CAMP WILL BE FRIDAY, JUNE 8.

• Remember – summer camp scholarships are available for qualified University City residents. Call 314.505.8625 for information.

• The 2018 Heman Park Swimming Pool season begins Saturday, May 26. Renew your pass TODAY!

• Now hiring for recreation part-time/summer seasonal positions. Interested? Submit an application to Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd., University City, MO 63130.
**Public Works**

#### Spring Leaf Collection
University City will be collecting leaves from the front curb of residential properties in March. Leaves must be raked to the curb line by the Sunday before collection begins in your area. Trucks will only make one pass on each street during the collection week. The pick-up schedule in your area is listed below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>March 5 - 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>March 12 - 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>March 19 - 23</td>
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</tbody>
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#### Spring Bulk Collection
Need to get rid of old furniture, mattresses, carpet, or broken appliances? All acceptable items must be placed at the front curb by the Sunday night before collection begins in the area. The trucks will make one sweep of each street.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>April 9 - 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>April 16 - 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>April 23 - 27</td>
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</tbody>
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#### Stormwater Task Force
University City’s Stormwater Task Force wants and needs your input. Our challenge is to better understand the extent and nature of stormwater issues in our community. Your input is essential to understanding where and what type of stormwater issue(s) you may have. Complete the survey online by going to surveymonkey.com/r/ucitystormwater.

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**The Ruth Park Spring Jr Golf Camp**

**April 14 – April 21 – April 28**
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
$40 per student for the 3 lesson class. The program is available to University City residents and surrounding communities.

**Wednesday Golf Clinic – “Get Golf Ready”**

**April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16**
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
$90 including range balls
Great for beginners to learn with our experienced and friendly PGA professionals.

**Is it time to regrip your golf clubs?**
Get your grips sized right at Ruth Park! Special offer now through April 30 - $15% off of 6 clubs or more.

To learn more about these and other golf programs, visit ruthparkgolf.org

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**UNIVERSITY CITY LEAF MULCH PILOT PROJECT**

As a trial project this spring and fall, complimentary mulch will be available for self-delivery to University City residents at the Heman Park mulch site.

Mulch will be delivered to this site on Mondays, March through May, and September through October. Once each delivery of mulch is depleted, no mulch will be delivered until the following Monday. For Home Delivery of mulch, please contact 314.505.8560 (fees apply).
What’s New at the Library!

Lots of new things are taking shape at University City Public Library! In March, a new monthly book group, Orcs & Aliens, kicks off with Binti by Nnedi Okorafor. This group focuses on science fiction and fantasy titles, and will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Library also has a couple of author events on the horizon — on Friday, March 23, poet Michael Castro will read from his new book, We Need to Talk: Selected Poems, 1970-2016, and on Monday, April 23, the Friends of the Library will welcome author Elsa Hart to discuss her books, The White Mirror and Jade Dragon Mountain. Both author events will take place in the library auditorium at 7:00 p.m. and are free and open to all.

But let’s not forget about the youth services department, where robots are on the brain! Thanks to a technology grant, youth services staff members are working hard on learning some new Spheros, Ozobots, and LEGO Mindstorms robotics equipment that will be used for programs this spring and summer. Stay tuned to the Library website, ucitylibrary.org, and Facebook page, facebook.com/UCityLibrary, for updates, or call 314.727.3150 for more information.

STAYING SAFE & SECURE

All University City residents are invited to the monthly Police Focus Group meetings on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. Meetings start at 6:00 p.m. and representatives from the Police Department, Community Development, and Public Works will be there to provide the latest updates and answer your questions. The next meeting is on Tuesday, March 27.

The University City Police K9 unit is now in operation, thanks to many generous donations from residents. Police officials believe this unit will enhance the investigation of crimes, as well as provide safety to citizens and officers.

Our Police Department is starting a Community Camera Program. The growing use of video surveillance cameras by households and businesses can now be utilized by the police to prevent and investigate crimes in the city. If you have a camera that records the exterior of your property, you are encouraged to register in this program by completing a registration form. Forms are available at police headquarters, or by calling the police dispatch line, 314.725.2211. Your camera information will be kept confidential and you will only be contacted if a crime occurs in the vicinity of your camera location.

The community is experiencing an increase in the theft of copper piping and wiring from houses, both vacant and occupied. The increasing value of copper is making these items more attractive to thieves. You are encouraged to make your home or business look lived in, particularly if it is unoccupied. The Police Department has a brochure with tips for avoiding this type of theft.
Transition is in the Air!

As we welcome spring 2018 and all the opportunities that come with the new season, we can look forward to more than just weather transition. Pre-kindergarten, fifth graders, eighth graders, seniors (UCHS Class of 2018) as well as the grades in between are all preparing for their next great adventures!

As you start considering plans for the upcoming school year, please know that your home school district has everything that your child needs to smoothly transition to the next level. You can be assured that we have the educational infrastructure in place to ensure success.

Learning Reimagined, our approach for delivering a modern learning experience, is in full swing. The program is attracting partners who are showing their confidence through financial and human resources to help us reach educational goals for every student.

Across all grade levels, there are exciting new experiences waiting. Check out our transitional opportunities online at:

- www.ucityschools.org/Welcome (for kindergarten and other prospective families)
- www.ucityschools.org/SixthGrade (for rising fifth graders planning to attend Brittany Woods Middle School)
- www.ucityschools.org/Freshmen (for incoming ninth graders planning to attend University City High School)

The synergy of Learning Reimagined and complementary initiatives and programs are strengthening all District offerings. We invite you to come and visit your neighborhood U. City Schools and bring your friends and family! Across the District, we are making transitions fun! And, the best is yet to come!

ACLU Supports Discipline in U. City

Recently, the ACLU of Missouri (ACLU-MO) and The School District of University City hosted a Town Hall meeting on school discipline. Educators, parents, community and civic leaders engaged in discussion with ACLU-MO staff about the present state of school discipline and how it can be retooled in ways that help keep students in school.

Please stay tuned to District communications for more information including future dates as this important dialogue continues.
Spring Student Performances
This year’s calendar features a stellar line-up of student performances that you won’t want to miss!

Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m., in UCHS Auditorium, 7401 Balson Ave. (63130) and are free and open to the public (unless otherwise specified). Events are subject to change, so please visit www.ucityschools.org for the most current calendar information.

- Tues., March 27 ..... District Music in Our Schools Concert
- Tues., April 3 ............................District All Strings Concert in UCHS Gym (use Balson Entrance)
- Sun., April 8 (3 p.m.) .........................UCHS Women Choir at St. Louis Chamber Chorus Concert ($30 advanced at www.chamberchorus.org.)
- Fri., April 13 (6 – 8 p.m.) ............... Districtwide Arts Night in UCHS Old Library (use Balson Ave. entrance)
- Fri., April 20 (7 p.m.) ...UCHS Spring Musical “Sister Act” Sat., April 21 (1:30 & 7 p.m.) ...................($10 advanced at www.ucityschools.org/SisterActTickets)
- Tues., April 24 ...UCHS Band & Orchestra Spring Concert
- Tues., May 1 ............UCHS Choir and Jazz Spring Concert
- Sat., May 5 ...... UCHS Kinesis Dance Concert ($5 at door)
- Wed, May 16 ................... Brittany Woods Spring Concerts (6 p.m. Choir & Orchestra; 7:30 p.m. Bands)

Also, please mark your calendars for:
- March 1 & 2 ..................................................Schools Closed
- March 12-16, 2018 ..........................................Spring Break (Schools & Offices closed March 16)
- March 9, April 11 & May 18 ..................Early Release Days

How to Volunteer in the District
The School District of University City greatly benefits from the support of parents, organizations and individuals who volunteer countless hours in service to our students. From tutoring in high-need academic areas to coaching robotics and sports teams, volunteers enrich our students’ school experience every day. Begin your application process at www.ucityschools.org/Volunteer or call (314) 290-4003.

New App 2.0 Roll-out
The School District of University City proudly announces the roll out of our NEW app for Android and iOS users available through Google Play or the App Store by searching for “University City.” It features news from District and school websites, calendar, Facebook, Twitter, Peachjar and includes links to staff directory, menus, transportation, athletics, Tyler Parent Portal and much more. For more details about the new app, visit www.ucityschools.org/APP.

Stay informed on what is happening @UCitySchools #UCLearningReimagined, #UCLionPride & #UCLearns
Like us on Facebook • Follow us on Twitter
Visit the District website at www.ucityschools.org

This winter, local adults had their turn to “Come & Play” with new technology tools and software (and much more) that students use in today’s classroom, much of which was funded by grants from the University City Education Foundation. Learn how you can support UCEF efforts in U. City Schools at www.ucityeducationfoundation.org or call (314) 290-4037.
ROARS
THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

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University City, MO 63130