



Architectural Standards: Who Needs Them? We Figure This Out Together by Mark Pope, Editor (Yale)

Over the last few months, you may have noticed that we as a neighborhood have been engaged in a discussion about ... preservation. Those of you who have been around here for awhile know such a discussion as this is not an anomaly. Over the years, we have had similar discussions about speed bumps, assessments, repaving streets, the vacant lot, the burnt house, trees, the lampposts, and others. Such discussions have generally been quite useful in involving neighbors in the process and educating all of us about the complexities of such issues. And by the end of such discussions, we have arrived at a mutually agreed upon and relatively consensual decision. We are now once again engaged in such a process.

This time it's centered around the recent Architectural Standards developed by an esteemed group of architects who have lived in our neighborhood and how these standards are to be approved and applied. That proposal for Architectural Standards was initiated in response to concerns about recent demolitions of existing historic properties and the newly built houses in our neighborhood that replaced them ... and that were not consistent with existing housing.

(continued on p. 2)

News Event Flash

A New Tradition: The 4th of July Bike Parade

You and your children are cordially invited to the **1st annual University Heights 4th of July Bike Parade**. To participate, all you have to do is show up around 9:00am (or even earlier) on Sunday, July 4, and follow the leader. The starting (and eventual ending) place is 6935 Amherst Avenue (the home of Lauren, Michael, Lillian, and Sydney Duff). We simply want the kids of the neighborhood to have 30 or so minutes to ride around the block together. You are welcome to decorate your bikes, trikes, scooters, strollers, mobility scooters, etc.! It's not a race, it's a parade, so the appropriate speed will be "saunter."

This is meant to be the most simple event possible, with zero expectations or planning aside from being fun and safe. There's really no official start or end time. There is no party. There is no contact person. There is no theme (but it is on "Independence Day", so be creative). But you really don't have to do anything except show up (not even brush your teeth, if you don't want to). Just bring your wheels and come join us as we kick off the 4th of July.

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(Sooner or Later) We All Must Pay Our Dues: The UHA is Your Neighborhood Organization

Some of you might have the mistaken impression that the **University Heights Association** (UHA, the publisher of this newsletter) is the "Trustees" who collect and spend your annual assessment. We are not. And while the UHS1 Trustees are quite important to the everyday functioning of our neighborhood, the "we" here is the **University Heights Association (UHA)** and we were **formed in 1948** to provide a voice for the residents of University Heights Subdivision #1. UHA is a voluntary organization dedicated to enhancing the sense of community among our residents. Our mission is to bring us together with regular communications, fun activities, neighborhood beautification, all of these are designed to build community and facilitate interaction between busy families. These activities are led by a group of elected neighbors that form its Board of Directors.

More than 2/3rds of your neighbors in University Heights joined the University Heights Association (UHA) this past year. Have you? It is now 2021 and a new membership year. **Annual dues are only \$20 per household per year** and support *FenceTalk*, Luminaria & Progressive Dinner, Welcome Packets, the Neighborhood Directory, the Annual Fall Picnic, the Annual Meeting, Halloween festivities, Zoom subscription, Beautification Projects (Marker Garden and Lamp Post Flowers), Communications (website, email distribution lists, and Nextdoor), represent your needs to the Trustees, and so much more.

Even during this past year when the coronavirus quarantine has made some of these activities harder to conduct, the Board has been creative:

- o The Board organized a group to help homebound neighbors during the stay-at-home order. Volunteers bought groceries and picked up prescriptions for those neighbors that could not leave their house
- o We used our neighborhood email list and NextDoor to let our neighbors know about porch concerts
- o We are proud of our beautiful tree-lined streets, maintaining the hanging floral baskets, tending to the entrance garden (The Marker Garden), and distributing the luminaria during the winter solstice.
- o The fall picnic or concert (COVID dependent) in Lewis Park and the progressive dinner in December are welcome events with over 125 of our neighbors attending each event.
- o The Association keeps us all connected, publishing *FenceTalk* several times a year and sending emails with pertinent information/safety issues throughout the year.
- o Each spring we host a meeting for the neighborhood at large – a great time to meet your new neighbors, get up to date on what's going on around us, and hear a report from our trustees.
- o Check out our website: www.universityheightsonline.com

But we can't do any of this without your membership. Please send your \$20 for your 2021 dues to Vito Wagner, Membership Chair.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email (if different from or an addition to the neighborhood directory): _____

Annual Membership for March 2021 to Feb. 2022.....\$ 20.00
 Optional contribution to help support neighborhood activities\$ _____
 Total submitted.....\$ _____

Please make your check payable to **University Heights Association, Inc.** If you prefer electronic payments, please use one of the below methods (PayPal or Venmo). **Just be sure to include your name and address:**

PayPal: uhgtsassoc@gmail.com OR Venmo: @University-Heights

Mail or drop off checks to: Vito Wagner, 780 Yale, Ph: [307-920-0356](tel:307-920-0356), email: vito.wagner@gmail.com

Dialogues on Historic Preservation in University Heights by the Trustees of University Heights Subdivision No. 1

Editor's note: This entire section was originally distributed via email to residents of UHS1 on 6/14/2021. The documents are presented here with only formatting edits that were required for FenceTalk and without any text changes to the original documents.

Join your neighbors in a series of dialogues on historic preservation in University Heights. We have contracted with Community Mediation Services of St. Louis County for several online meetings via ZOOM for 45 participants in each, with breakout discussion groups of fifteen. These discussions are for University Heights residents, who have a variety of opinions but all care about the future of this neighborhood. The first discussion is set for **Wednesday, July 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

Registration is limited to 45 for each dialogue. You may participate ONCE ONLY. Additional dialogue sessions will be announced soon.

You must register in advance. Go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvduuqDojGNQyKwoNm9PMl2XsETqpTw1t>

Discussion groups will be 2-2.5 hours long. After you register, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the Zoom meeting. If you are not online, call trustee Mark Harvey at 314-398-7485. He will help you with arrangements to participate.

University Heights Subdivision No.1 is on the National Register of Historic Places, approved by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1979. But no methods were put in place then to preserve the homes and neighborhood character. Our 1904 indenture includes very few restrictions, mainly guarding the community against commercial use and multi-family development.

Is more needed? If so, what? And how?

As housing stock ages, the challenge of preservation increases. Seven of our homes have been demolished since 1979, with the rate accelerating in 2019-2021. We are at a normal and expected crossroads. **When we look back 20 years from now, what will we see? What is our desired future? Do we want more historic preservation guidelines? Do we want them enforced or not?**

These mediated dialogues are funded by your assessments. The results will shape a plan to be developed by a diverse team of neighbors which may be voted on at the 2022 annual meeting.

Editor's note: Two documents prepared by the Trustees follow to aid in your participation in these dialogues:
1) *Becoming a University City Local Historic District, and*
2) *Summary of Architectural Guidelines for University Heights Subdivision Number 1.*

BECOMING A UNIVERSITY CITY LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT?

University Heights No. 1 is a Registered National Historic District

- In 1978 The Missouri Department of Transportation was planning to widen Big Bend Avenue and extend it through University Heights, Lewis Park, and University Park to our west, then north up the Midland corridor
- Application demonstrating the unique character and architectural significance of the street layout and 40 historic homes identified and described
- Application was approved by a vote of residential lot owners and 98% (263 of 268) signed the application; the US Dept of Interior designated us a Registered National Historic District
- No provisions were made defining limitations to maintain the historic character.
- U. Heights trustees established an Architectural Review Committee (ARC) consisting of four architects who were property owners in the neighborhood in 2019 (Since retired.)
- The ARC authored Architectural Review Guidelines to define the limitations necessary to maintain the historic character of this neighborhood.

A Local Historic District (LHD) is according to Article VI, Division 3 of the University City Code:

- A geographically defined area
- Acknowledged as having historical or architectural significance by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
- Bound by legal regulations and standards approved by the Neighborhood and HPC
- And requiring that the City approve major exterior alterations or repairs

City of University City Local Historic District Ordinance

- A neighborhood of historical significance may apply to involve the City in **enforcement** of the neighborhood's own historic preservation standards.
- The neighborhood creates the standards and a neighborhood- defined process for enforcement is proposed to the City Plan Commission (CPC).
- With approval, the proposal is submitted to the City HPC.
- The HPC holds a public hearing and then decides to approve or disapprove.
- If approved, it is sent to the City Council for disapproval or approval.
- If approved, the Standards and specified process are added to the City's Ordinance (Code) for application to that specific district (UH#1)
- **The LHD (UH#1) may change the standards but it would require going through the process for a new ordinance.**
- **Depending on the process defined in the approved application, the UH#1/LHD may/may not present matters to the HPC for review to approve/disapprove.**
- A property owner, developer or LHD rep (trustees or review committee) may appeal a decision of the HPC to the City Board of Adjustment.
- If dissatisfied with the outcome, either party may appeal to City Council.
- Although the UH#1 trustees met with the Director of Community Development to review a LHD proposal, the proposal was never submitted.
- No proposal to become a Local Historic District will be submitted without an affirmative vote of lot owners.

June 7, 2021

-----Trustees Document #2 -----

SUMMARY OF ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES FOR UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NUMBER 1

The intent of these architectural standards is to provide guidelines for exterior restoration and new construction that preserve the registered historic status, distinctive character, quality of construction, individual architectural integrity and the rich architectural diversity of the Heights. Although based on the University City Building Code <https://ecode360.com/28508428> and a review of the standards for other historic neighborhoods in University City, they are uniquely crafted for this specific Historic Preservation District.

The process

The guidelines are an important first step to infill (new home) and exterior renovation. In planning for new construction or major exterior renovation, homeowners are encouraged to talk with neighbors who might be affected by the project and to consult the trustees. University City will require that two trustees sign off on the plans before a permit can be issued.

Demolition

No building or structure identified as a ‘contributing building’ (i.e., one of the 40 homes ‘defined’ in the application filed in 1978 for registration as a National Historic District) shall be demolished unless structurally unsound, or unless rehabilitation within a reasonable economic return is proven impractical. The trustees require documented proof of the latter.

New construction

When new construction is proposed, the streetscape and the relationship of the new to existing construction should be considered. The guidelines are in no way intended to discourage contemporary design which through careful attention to scale, materials, siting, and landscaping can be harmonious with the historic, existing structures.

Specific guidelines (The complete standards are at: <https://universityheightsonline.com> under *Neighborhood Documents*)

While the standards could potentially become enforceable if the residents decide to use them as the basis for local historic district status, at this point they are not legally authoritative but are strongly recommended. Features to be considered are demolition, construction, additions, substantial alterations of exterior features:

- **Roofs, exterior walls, window and door openings, porches and balconies.**
- **Replacement of doors, door frames, windows or window frames, or storm windows and storm doors** in facades facing a street. Front facing replacement windows should follow U.S. Interior Department guidelines: <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/applying-rehabilitation/successful-rehab/windows-replacement.htm> Wood or factory-finished metal is preferred for exterior storm windows; raw or unfinished aluminum is discouraged.
- **Application of siding or other cladding** to exterior walls and features
- **Painting of previously unpainted masonry surfaces**
- **Changing the grade of any part of the front yard/placement of landscape timbers**
- **Driveways:** should narrow to ten feet on the property side of the front sidewalk.
- **Front-facing garages:** should only be constructed on a block with 51% of homes already having them.
- **Exterior materials:** Should be of the type originally used: brick, stone, stucco, wood, with brick and stone preferred. Primary materials shall cover at least 75% of all building elevations.
- **Elevations, mass, door and window openings, roof shapes and heights:** should be consistent with surrounding buildings. Roof pitch should be between 4:12 and 12:12. Roof materials should be visually compatible with the character of the primary structure. Mechanical equipment should be to the rear or side and screened from visibility from the street.
- **Fences:** None should be constructed on any side of a property closer to the street than the building line.
- **Placement of skylights, solar panels, satellite dishes, free-standing light fixtures**

June 7, 2021

Do We Want New Restrictions on Properties in University Heights? Some Things to Consider by Concerned Homeowners of University Heights Subdivision No. 1

The University Heights Subdivision No. 1 Declaration of Trust and Agreement—what we refer to as our “Indenture”—provides the rules for our shared life in University Heights (available in the “Our Neighborhood” section, at “The Indenture & The Board of Trustees” link at <http://universityheightsonline.com>). It also provides the Trustees with authority over common areas, which include “all curbing, guttering, roadways, sewers, water mains, sidewalks and tree lawns” and more recently the vacant lot. The Indenture states:

The Trustees, in connection with their said duties ... are given certain powers and authority. Hereinafter, the elements to which those duties of ownership, maintenance, repair and improvement pertain are referred to as the ‘**Common Areas**’ or a ‘Common Area’. (emphasis added)

We appreciate all that the Trustees do to care for common areas within University Heights. Over the past year, the Trustees and a now disbanded architectural review committee drafted new restrictions on private properties: the homes within University Heights. The proposed “Architectural Standards” would grant a committee the authority to prohibit the painting of brick, and to determine where solar panels can be placed and what kind of materials can be used to replace roofs, windows, walkways, or freestanding light fixtures.

We believe that those who support such restrictions are concerned with two goals:

- Preserving the **historic character of the neighborhood**, and especially the 40 homes identified as of great historic significance
- Preserving the **beauty of the neighborhood**

While these are good goals, which have been largely met over the past 116 years, we think other values need to be given equal consideration.

- Preserve **diversity of homes**
 - To ensure economic diversity in our community, our Indenture stipulated that the minimum cost of homes in U Heights would vary, depending on their location.
 - The homes in the Heights reflect an amazing range of architectural styles. Updates and even new construction should reflect the creative diversity of design in the neighborhood.
- Encourage **diversity of homeowners**
 - The messaging surrounding “historic preservation” and the cost burden of complying with new restrictions must support the goal of being home to people of diverse economic means and diverse races. This is particularly important given the explicitly racist past of U Heights, whose Indenture originally stated, “nor shall any lot or part thereof be used or occupied ... by any other person or persons than those of the Caucasian race (except that persons of other race may reside upon any of said lots while employed as servants in the family of the owner...)”
- Minimize the **time burden** on homeowners seeking building permits or approval for any covered activities
 - We estimate that engaging with the University City Historic Preservation Commission requires 1 – 3 months, depending on whether they approve applications in their initial form.
 - Creating our own subdivision process might be quick if things go well, but would be much longer if the homeowner chooses to appeal the decision made.

- Reduce the **cost** of complying with the rules. This can be a social justice issue, as well as a homeowner autonomy issue
 - University City is already locally famous for having strict codes and code enforcement. Adding requirements that renovations adhere to historically appropriate standards can add significant costs to projects.

If new rules increase the time burden and cost of building projects, it becomes more difficult to keep homes in good condition and to replace homes that have become derelict. Poorly kept homes hurt the appearance of a neighborhood and home values even more than homes that are not in keeping with the original design of the neighborhood.

Any new restrictions—whether incorporated into the Indenture or a Local Historic District application—will require a vote with support from 51% of homeowners. After considering these things, we think many homeowners will decide they do not want any new restrictions. However, if a majority of homeowners seek new restrictions, then we ask people to consider the following as well:

- **Be transparent and reduce the amount of discretion** given to review boards.
 - We wish to avoid giving those who review applications too much discretion to interpret the rules. This can lead to difficulty planning renovations, mistrust, bias, and problems when individuals with different values join the review team. So any new rules should be clear and easy to interpret and apply. The current draft Architectural Standards gives tremendous discretion to an “architectural review committee.” The fact that the committee referred to in the standards has disbanded shows that people come and go. So this is not a statement about any individuals, but rather about the need for clear and specific rules.
 - Have a transparent process for appointing committee members and a process for recalling them. Appointments should be made by the homeowners association rather than trustees to enable a greater number of people to vote.
- **Avoid unnecessary conflict** among neighbors
 - The oversight review process proposed by the Trustees involves neighbors telling other neighbors what they can and cannot do to their homes. This will lead to ongoing conflicts. We wish to avoid this unless there is a really serious problem that we need to solve. **If the problem is concern about tear downs and new construction, then new rules should address this problem, not existing homes.**

We believe that when homeowners consider all of the above, they will choose to forego the creation of new rules or will seek a much more modest set of rules than the originally proposed “Architectural Standards,” which impose significant new restrictions and burdens on existing homeowners. At present, University City building permits request that we “consult with private subdivision trustees to ensure the use or activity is consistent with private subdivision indentures” and currently there are no restrictions that apply to existing homes in our Indenture. New rules will radically expand the scope of authority of the Trustees, a committee of neighbors, or University City.

We are deeply grateful that the Trustees have established a process for homeowners to discuss whether they want new oversight and restrictions before any vote is held. We encourage homeowners to participate in the upcoming Zoom dialogue sessions facilitated by Community Mediation Services of St. Louis.

University City Update by Mayor Terry Crow

First, let me thank Mark Pope, your *FenceTalk* editor, for his kind invitation to contribute to this issue of *FenceTalk*. University Heights Subdivision No. 1 is an important cornerstone of University City, as its existence pre-dates the founding of our city. From the inception of your neighborhood, residents have played and continue to play important roles in the life of U. City, our region, and our state. Thank you for your participation and ideas to help make U. City even better.

As we continue to navigate a changing Covid environment, I also want to thank our first responders and medical professionals for their dedication and service in keeping us safe. So many of our neighbors have faced new and unprecedented struggles and, on behalf of our city, I want to thank you for your patience as we start returning to more robust city services.

The *Markets at Olive* continues to move along. With the addition of Bob Clark from CRG/Clayton to the development team, the project is moving full steam ahead. Costco has closed on their property and the city has received the first \$3,000,000 of funds to be used for the betterment of the third ward. Demolition of several sites should begin in the next few weeks. I want to thank everyone for their patience as this development has progressed.

When you have a minute, please take a moment and drive around our community. Drive by Kingsland Avenue and Vernon Avenue to see the new assisted living facility there. A little further south on Kingsland you will see the newly refurbished Lewis Center and the beginnings of the Tru Hotel at the Delmar Harvard school building. New developments will likely be announced along Olive Boulevard at North and South Road and at Midland Boulevard. At Delmar Boulevard and I-170, there are currently plans for nearly 400 apartments to be located on the southeast and the southwest corners of that intersection.

In order to assist our local businesses, especially our restaurants, who bore a substantial burden during the Covid crisis, the city allocated over \$1,000,000 of Economic Development Retail Sales Tax (EDRST) funds in forgivable loans to U. City businesses. This process was guided by our citizen led EDRST board and involved four phases of funding. Due to this resource, we were able to provide a higher level of support directly to our businesses than many other municipalities. We have also dedicated several parking spots in the Loop to expand outdoor dining space and attract more outside diners. The city is working with the Loop Special Business District (LSBD) to determine if this arrangement should be permanent. The Mannequins in the Loop, made of recycled materials, just celebrated its 12th anniversary and provided the right dose of creativity to bring a smile to our faces.

Our community continues to have a meaningful dialogue about the renaming of our streets. Our task force did an excellent job of identifying street names that may cause some of our residents' pain and anguish. We also have heard from many residents that they do not support renaming streets. This is why we continue to have this conversation and search for common ground as an engaged, diverse community. Please feel free to contact your councilmember to share your concerns and ideas.

We are moving forward with plans to gut and rehab the annex to City Hall to provide a state-of-the-art police station for our dedicated force. We believe this is the most economical way to provide an excellent home for our officers and keep true to our desire to preserve the architectural history of our community and civic plaza. The city has set aside \$5,000,000 to begin the design and construction of the facility and will work to determine the best way to finance the remainder of the project.

We continue to have an ongoing dialogue with Washington University regarding their impact on the finances of our community. While the city and the university may disagree on the fiscal impact the university has on our city's finances, we continue to work through it and seek projects where we can work together such as public safety and economic development.

Our community has weathered the pandemic better than most. Our city manager made some extremely tough choices at the beginning of the Covid crisis. Now we are grappling with bringing back employees and hiring new ones. We appreciate your patience as we return to some new sense of normalcy. The pool is now open and so is Centennial Commons. Yes, we had a few hiccups. They were addressed and we responded. Please know that everyone is trying to make the best of a difficult situation. We look forward to having you back in the City Council Chambers for our meetings this summer.

Quality service provision is a priority, and the city has worked hard to improve our parks, code enforcement, public safety, and retail opportunities over the past three years. If approved in the proposed FY22 Budget, the city will conduct a community survey and we hope you will provide feedback on how we have performed. We strive to meet the needs and expectation of our constituents.

In closing, our community has much to offer, and I encourage you to visit the Loop or any of our U. City restaurants for a great meal and to help our businesses get back on their feet. Take a few minutes and escape social media to get out and enjoy our parks. The golf course at Ruth Park is now 90 years old and its long service reflects a community that values recreation and having some fun with friends and neighbors.

If you have concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me at mayor@ucitymo.org.

Interesting Historical Tidbits from our National Register of Historic Places application (1977)

“University Heights Subdivision Number One is a planned residential neighborhood encompassing ten blocks, ten named streets, and 258 houses [, on 85 acres,] with a city park and three additional buildings of significance: two municipal and one institutional. Founded in 1905, it experienced major periods of development in each of the first three decades of the 20th century. It was about 85% complete by 1930 and has not been significantly altered since then. Its appearance is the result of three main factors: its original layout, the regulations set out to govern new construction, and the middle-class fashions of its major period of growth.”

From the June 1, 1977 application of UHS1 for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, prepared by Constance H. Lennahan, Coordinator, University Heights Garden Club, 711 Yale Avenue, University City, Missouri 63130. (That application was approved in 1981.)

“The land on which the subdivision was built has a long history of ownership, going back to the earliest days of St. Louis. It was part of the estate of Marie Therese Chouteau, daughter of Pierre Laclede, the founder of St. Louis, and wife of Joseph Marie Papin, Indian trader and later farmer. The estate of 3,300 arpents or 2,722.22 acres was granted to Papin in his wife's name in 1796. The 85 acres which now comprise the neighborhood were later owned by Eliza Mullanphy Clemens (1812-1853), who was a daughter of St. Louis' first millionaire-and-wife of James Clemens, Jr., who was a distant cousin of Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain).”

(Same citation)

“According to (E. G. Lewis’) account, he employed an expert to make a survey of his property with full computations, measurements, elevations, and other topographical features. Then, with his own hand, he transferred this information to an enormous drawing board. He modeled the topography in wax and reproduced all the characteristics of the property in miniature. By removing a mass of wax from an elevation, he was able to estimate the cubic yards of dirt he wanted moved from one place to another. His instructions to his landscape engineers were based on these experiments. When the engineers had completed the plat of the streets and boulevards under his supervision, he modeled these accurately in wax. By the use of little tubes, he checked the dimensions of proposed sewer pipes. He created miniature rainstorms with a sprinkler and checked out the effect of any possible surplus of rain.”

(Same citation)

The Trustees Report by Myra Vandersall (Yale), Trustee

As the seasons turn, the trustees focus on different projects. For summer, it's concrete.

We do concrete repairs every year. It would be wonderful to do a whole street at once, but that dream is outside our budget capacity. We replace sidewalk slabs which are broken, have differences in elevation between them over 1", or are severely pooling water. Tree roots lift the slabs. We witness a constant war between the trees and the sidewalks, and we want the trees to win. We also want safe sidewalks. So, this results in 'bridges' over tree roots in some places. We also seek to slope the sidewalks toward the tree lawn for proper drainage. That is not always possible.

We had planned for 2020 to replace a few broken Yale slabs and the remaining fourteen asphalted driveway approaches (used to be called aprons) which are all on Yale and Dartmouth. The construction of a home on Amherst required slab and approach replacement in January. We had to do a bit of asphalt work there in the street as well (\$750), which was not budgeted.

A promised concrete job on Cornell had not been completed so we did it in March. Since close by, we also corrected a tree-root-lifted section which was sloping the wrong way, causing pooling in the neighbor's yard. So, we have spent our budget for 2021 on un-anticipated replacements. After July 1 we will receive our annual allotment from The City of \$10,000 for concrete replacement. This is a ten-year commitment (\$100,000) in exchange for the land taken for the Delmar roundabout. The City added another two years (\$20,000) as part of our settlement on the 601 Trinity lawsuit. So, we will proceed with \$10,000 in driveway approach replacement after July 1, completing the rest in 2022.

Historic preservation discussion groups

Join your neighbors in a series of dialogues on historic preservation in University Heights. We have contracted with Community Mediation Services of St. Louis County for several online meetings via ZOOM for 45 participants in each group, with breakout discussion groups of 15. These discussions are for University Heights residents who have a variety of opinions but all care about the future of this neighborhood. The first discussion is set for **Wednesday, July 7 at 6:30 p.m.** You must register in advance. Go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdu-uqDojGNQyKwoNm9PMI2XsETqpTw1t>

And look for more detailed information in *FenceTalk* and through a blast email sent to residents.

Trees

Yes, trees again. We planted 45 new trees in the spring and look forward to them blooming and thriving in our neighborhood. To do that, we remind residents who have new trees to water them regularly this summer. It looks like it will be a hot one. The recommended watering schedule is watering thoroughly at least once a week until the roots are firmly established. We have removed five trees in the last few weeks. The best planting time for most species is January-February.

Assessments

As of May 20, there are \$18,501 of unpaid assessments. If you have not yet paid your 2020 assessment which was billed in October 2020, please do so. There are three convenient ways to pay. Payments can be sent to DNI Properties below or paid via credit card or ACH via the instructions below.

1. Payments should be sent to: University Heights Subdivision No 1, c/o DNI Properties Inc., P. O. Box 105007, Atlanta, GA 30348-5007.
2. Online - visit www.DNIProperties.com and choose "Homeowners/pay my dues/pay my dues".
3. To pay online via Union Bank, please use the following link

<https://www.hoabankservices.com/OnlinePayments/payment.aspx>

You can pay as a guest – one time. If you use a credit or debit card the bank will charge you \$14.99, but if you use your bank routing and account number they don't charge.

Also, if any neighbor is not on the trustee email blast but would like to receive occasional news about the neighborhood, please contact Myra Vandersall at myravandersall@gmail.com.

Getting To Know You (Better): Vito Wagner (Yale)

Editor’s note: Big thank you to Vito for agreeing to be one of the first of our University Heights neighbors to be profiled here in FenceTalk.



Vito Wagner has lived at 780 Yale Avenue for almost nine years (as of this December) with his wife, Karie Wagner. This year he was elected to the UHA Board of Directors and serves as the Membership Chair. **(Editor’s note: Please pay your UHA dues of only \$20/household for this year to him (see p. 3 this issue). Vito made me put this in.)** Their home was built in 1926.

Vito said that what first attracted them to their home was that he “has always liked older homes with stone and brick. Also, I don’t want a big house to clean and maintain.” When asked what keeps him here, he replied that at first “we especially liked the location: easy to Forest Park, Downtown, the Loop, and our offices. The neighbors are what we love now. People are friendly and outgoing. We also live next to the Davenport’s, so I get to meet a lot of interesting people right in my driveway.”

When asked about one thing that he would change about our neighborhood, he replied “I would want to cut down on the speeding (but I also like to yell at cars to slow down).”

Here’s some more responses to my interview questions. We call it “The Lightning Round.”

Living and Traveling:

- 10. Where did you grow up? **I grew up in Grand Island, Nebraska.**
- 11. Where did you live before? (city+state or neighborhood+city+state, not exact address) **Ohio, New Jersey, Nebraska, Iowa, Kentucky, Wyoming, Maryland, and here.**
- 13. What countries/states have you visited? **I have been to every state in the US except Alaska, but I’ve seen Alaska out of the plane window.**

Education & Work:

- 15. What high school did you attend/graduate? (classic St. Louis question) **Grand Island (Nebraska) Senior High.**
- 16. What colleges did you attend/graduate? Majors? **I attended the University of the Cumberlands (formerly Cumberland College) in Williamsburg, KY. It’s famously located near the original KFC in Corbin, KY and the Cumberland Falls which has one of the only moonbows in the world: a large rainbow off the falls that is best seen during a full moon.**
- 17. What kind of work do/did you do? **I’m a statistician/computer programmer for the federal government. Being in agriculture, there are some natural jokes that come from my job. I have been in charge of some bean acreage and production estimates, so I could be called a "Government Bean Counter". I also collected and summarized sheep numbers, so I "counted sheep" and got paid for it. (Editor: note dry Midwestern sense of humor.) Now I’m more specifically writing data collection and editing software, so the humorous descriptions are harder to find.**
- 24. What awards/honors have you received? **I am a Boy Scout Venturing Ranger and earned my Venturing Gold and Silver Awards (now the Summit Rank similar to Eagle Scouts). I also once held my college’s record in the 1000m Freestyle (Editor: swimming, for the uninitiated). I was really excited when it was broken, and the current school record is considerably faster than I was, so I’m proud of their improvements.**

Especially interesting:

28. What are your favorite books? *The Chet and Bernie Mysteries* - It's a mystery series narrated by the dog.
30. What are your hobbies and leisure activities? I enjoy spending summer afternoons relaxing in the pool that we recently had built. My biggest hobbies are Biking, Hiking, and Triathlons. I should be skinnier with these activities, but I like to eat, drink, and be merry as well. I plan to "complete" in the Ohio Half Ironman later in July.
36. What is your favorite music? My musical tastes (which don't match Karie's) tend to classical with a splash of "folk rock comedy", funk, and jazz. I'm also a huge fan of musicals. We had Muny tickets before even figuring out where to live in St Louis. When I used to lifeguard, we'd have musical theme nights, partially because it was what I liked, and partially to keep some kids away. Opera night would have an odd following with the teenagers, even when it was performed in Latin. I like what I like for reasons I can't explain.
22. What are some important life events/peak experiences that you have had? Growing up, I worked for the Boy Scouts and a few different camps in Nebraska, California, Iowa, and Michigan. It taught me not only important woodsman, outdoor, and handyman type skills (including "any tool can be the right tool"), but also a sense of adventure and most importantly, a desire to help others. That sense of purpose is what led me to work for the government to help make the world a better place for us all. One of the important outcomes of the work I do is providing a foundation for more fair treatment and access to markets, so large interests are not in control of the information thus leveling the playing field.

Favorites:

32. What were your most and least favorite high school subjects? I have always loved Math. It comes naturally to me and is something I see as the basis for problem solving. I never liked English classes. I am glad someone cares about grammar, spelling, and punctuation, but that someone is not me!
33. What sports do you like most? Least? I'm a fan of swimming and soccer. We're on the list for St Louis City SC tickets coming up in 2023 and have previously had tickets for St Louis FC in Fenton. I'm excited for the new downtown stadium and easier access to games. I don't really like American Football or Basketball.
38. What is your favorite kind of food and your favorite place to get it? I'm a huge fan of burritos. California Tortilla (based in Maryland, so take that as you will) is by far my favorite burrito chain. They have a Wall of Flame with 100 hot sauces to spice up your meal. If someone wants to franchise one around here, let me know.

Close To Final Thoughts:

34. Is there anything you've always wanted to do but haven't? Why not? I have always wanted to fly planes. Some might point out I have other expensive hobbies, so this one has never made the cut to spend money on.

Personally Speaking:

37. What do you do for fun? My job is very sedentary at a desk, so I try to counteract that by being especially active outside of work. Saying that, I love to attend musical theatre, travel, and lounge in the water in our back yard or the ocean.
39. Even if you already have pets, what pets do you wish you had? My beloved Tiger Cat passed away last year. He was grey, looked nothing like a tiger, was afraid of outside, had a loud enough purr to disrupt phone calls, and was generally very cuddly. Eventually, I'd like another cat companion.

Upcoming FenceTalks (2021-2022)

- 9/1/2021 (Annual Picnic & Halloween issue)
12/1/2021 (Luminaria & Progressive Dinner issue)
2/1/2022 (Annual Meeting issue)
5/1/2022 (Summer Activities issue)
9/1/2022 (Annual Picnic & Halloween issue)
12/1/2022 (Luminaria & Progressive Dinner issue)

Culture Quad: Arts, Gardens/Parks, Historical Interest, Dining by Mark Pope

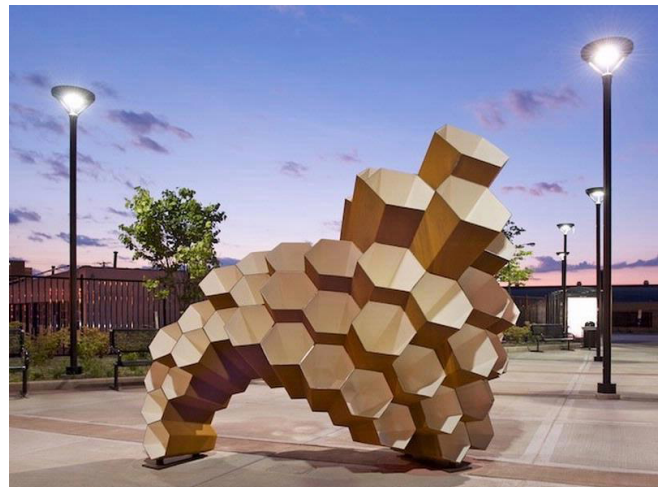
Editor’s note: In each installment of “Culture Quad”, we’ll highlight four aspects of our community: Arts, Gardens & Parks, Historical Interest, and Dining Out (i.e. “out” hopefully). We hope to describe and review some of the various pieces that make up the many-faceted culture of University City and our neighborhood.

Arts: Hive (sculpture)

First up, **the Arts**, we continue to examine outdoor sculpture in University City. *Hive* by Janet Lofquist is a 7.5’ x 10’ x 7’ metal sculpture at the Delmar Loop Transit Station, just east of Skinker. Using COR-TEN Weathering Steel, Lofquist uses a beehive and its honeycomb structure as the basis for the overall form of the sculpture *Hive*. The beehive has a cultural, political, and religious history as an understood symbol for the collective spirit of the community. Lofquist has described it as “starting out as a beehive shape, the hexagonal geometry transitions into a spiral of growth and ends in an abstracted question mark.” These multifaceted hexagonal “lenses” project outward to create a compound, rather than singular, vision of the community.

COR-TEN special weathering steel is manufactured by US Steel and suggests an industrial past while incorporating the technology of the future represented by the attributes of this specially made steel. The inside of each hexagonal cell is painted white, its purity contrasting with the aging/aged patina of weathering steel. In a formal dialogue with the site, the dynamic form changes and evolves as one walks around or drives by the piece. The color and texture of the work is intended to create a relationship with the turn-of-the-century architecture in the neighborhood.

The unique look and naturally oxidizing finish for this special steel make it especially desirable for architectural projects. Weathering steel is a group of steel alloys which were developed to obviate the need for painting, and form a stable rust-like appearance if exposed to the



weather for several years. Weathering steel has increased resistance to atmospheric corrosion when compared to other steels. It resists the corrosive effects of rain, snow, ice, fog, and other meteorological conditions by forming a coating of dark brown oxidation over the metal, which inhibits deeper penetration and negates the need for painting and costly rust-prevention maintenance over the years. In simple terms the steel is allowed to rust and that rust forms a protective coating that slows the rate of future corrosion.

The orange-brown finished color comes mainly from the copper content. With 5% copper in the alloy mix, the copper immediately comes to the top as the patina process begins. Additionally, the copper along with manganese, silicon, and nickel content creates that protective layer as the material continues to patina. Standard carbon steel will rust but it will not have the beautiful colors that come from this special steel.

Janet Lofquist says, “In the past twelve years I have been involved in numerous public art projects, both as a commissioned artist and as a finalist. I have developed designs for universities, city and state agencies, and private businesses. I have worked on design teams with architects, landscape architects and community groups for entryway and town square projects. In developing a public art project, I work with the site and its context to provide a foundation for the conceptualization of the artwork. The nature of each context is unique; either for its inherent meaning, public dynamics, or site configuration. By examining the context of each project, I hope to create a meaningful relationship between the work and the site.”

Gardens & Parks: Joseph W. Mooney Park

Next, **Gardens & Parks**, we take a look at **Joseph W. Mooney Park** (btw the “W” is for “Wrigley”) in the Jackson Park neighborhood of University City. **Mooney Park** lies just to the west of our neighborhood, bounded by Vanderbilt on the east, Jackson on the west, and touching Amherst on the north and Delmar on the south. **Mooney Park** was named in 1988 after former University City Mayor Joseph W. Mooney who served in the position from 1978 to 1986. Mario and I “discovered” this park when we were first looking for a home 15 years ago. A couple of houses were for sale that faced this gem of a park



and, as we looked at those, one of the factors that made these homes so attractive to us was that they overlooked this special little park. It's a little green paramecium-shaped park surrounded by lovely homes circa 1930s. This 5.2 acre park is just a little larger than Lewis Park (4 acres), but it does not have the accoutrements of Lewis Park, but it's not that kind of park. It's a park where residents play basketball at the court there, or walk their dogs, or lay out on a blanket getting some sun or reading a book or watching their children play on the playground. It has a couple of picnic tables, a park bench, even a water fountain. It's another special neighborhood green space in the University City system of parks. The next time you want to take a little walk to another place that's not so very far away, that's been described by neighbors there as both "fun" and "peaceful", think about exploring **Mooney Park**.

Historical Interests: The Church of Scientology Building (6901 Delmar Blvd)



And, for the **History** piece for this issue, I thought you all might have some interest in the beautiful Church of Scientology Building at the southern-most section of our neighborhood, just to the west of the Lion Gates. This striking Egyptian-style architectural gem was designed by architect Tom P. Barnett (who also designed the domed building across Delmar which originally housed the First Church of Christ, Scientist). The Church of Scientology Building was erected in 1924-1925 by the University Temple Association, a Masonic organization. Then from 1935-1977, the structure was owned by Anchor Temple, another Masonic organization. In 1977 it was purchased by Childgrove School. The Church of Scientology is its current owner. The building has approximately 15,000 sq. ft. on three floors with parking for about 50 cars.

This important building “is in the style of the late Egyptian Revival, with polychrome lotus capitals and a pyramidal roof. In addition to its architectural interest as a fine example of rare style, the building plays an important role in the composition of the civic center. Located just to the north and west of the University City gates, the building is complemented in mass and form by the domed former First Church of Christ Scientist across Delmar. The two buildings reinforce the monumental character of the gates and the whole civic center while providing a transition to the residential areas beyond” (C. H. Lennahan, *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Application, University Heights Subdivision Number 1, 1977*, p. 11).

(Editor’s note: Please note that this is an architectural review and not an ideological one. Full disclosure: as part of my “Foundations of Multicultural Counseling” class which I taught at the University of Missouri – Saint Louis for 20+ years, I had my students do a “cultural plunge” and a few of them did go to the Church of Scientology here in University City to experience the culture of Scientology. I have not yet been inside the building myself. From discussions with our University Heights neighbors, they report that the organization has been a good neighbor.)

Dining Out (if you can): Burrito Wars with Mission Taco, Mi Ranchito, and Seoul Taco

Editor’s note: Dining Out is a favorite past time of University Heights neighbors and University City is the home of a mélange of cultural dining delights from all over the world, and at all price points. We’ll try to review a different venue (or so) each issue and help move you into the adventures of eating whether it’s food from China (even various kinds of this), Thailand, India, Vietnam, Japan, Korea to Mexico and fusions of all these; a variety of Middle Eastern cuisines, to homemade root beer (and its accompanying floats), to Italy and Greece, to Ethiopia and local soul food, BBQ, seafood, and pure American diner. It’s all here. We’ll take them one (or so) at

Dining Out (if you can): Burrito Wars with Mission Taco, Mi Ranchito, and Seoul Taco (continued)

a time. The Covid pandemic has made it very rough for local eateries, so please go out and dine in. They need you and we need them.

In this issue we address a mainstay of the American dining experience for well over 60 years ... Mexican food especially the humble burrito.

First, the personal side. I lived in San Francisco in the late 1970s, then New York City for a couple of years, then back to San Francisco from early 1980s to 1996. I am a simple person with simple needs. Upon my move to St. Louis, I looked for Mexican street tacos and a Mission burrito. Simple. Staples in San Francisco, where in fact the Mission burrito was born (“The” Mission is THE Latin American district there and my burrito virginity was utterly destroyed at **La Cumbre**, still there btw).

Street tacos are quite simple: some type of meat especially carne asada (steak, marinated and grilled beef) rough chopped and fresh onions and cilantro (chopped), put in a steamed or grilled doubled soft corn tortilla. Simple. Mission burritos are: some type of meat especially carne asada (steak, marinated and grilled beef) or carnitas (roast pork) or lengua (beef tongue, Mario’s favorite) or whatever-meat-you-want rough chopped, beans (whole pinto or black beans or refried beans), Mexican rice, fresh onions and cilantro (chopped), wrapped in a big 12” steamed or grilled soft flour tortilla and traditionally finally wrapped in aluminum foil. Simple. But in 1996, neither of those existed here in the St. Louis metropolitan region (or at least where I went).

Sure, you could get a smothered burrito (smaller, deep fried, with a red sauce poured all over it, and cheese (usually melted cheddar) on top. You ate that kind of burrito with a knife and fork, not with your hands. Or you could get something called a “burrito” at either Taco Bell (bad) or Del Taco (my favorite breakfast place, but sadly, now moved away), but neither were the classic Mission burrito that I craved. So I waited ... impatiently. And anytime that we would go back to San Francisco to visit family or drive to Chicago, we would find a way to get a Mission burrito and a street taco (and copious amounts of Filipino food, another review at another time).

Now, a quick bit of history on the burrito and the 13 different types of burritos that currently exist. This will be short but worth the read, I promise.

The origins of the burrito date back to the creation of flour tortillas, possibly as early as the 16th century in Mexico. Tortillas have historically been made with corn, but the Spanish conquistadores attempted to convert the maize-based (corn) Indigenous cuisine of Mexico to one based on wheat. Although most of Mexico’s climate resisted wheat cultivation, especially in the south, wheat adapted well to the northernmost areas colonized by Spaniards (i.e. present-day Chihuahua, Sonora, Guanajuato, Nuevo Leon, Arizona, New Mexico, California, and Texas).

Here’s a few versions of burrito folklorico:

First, a commonly accepted story is that a man from Chihuahua, Mexico named Juan Mendez would sell food in cart pulled by a donkey (a burro) (hence, a burrito is a “little donkey”). It is said that he kept the food warm by wrapping it with flour tortillas. His food quickly became popular because of the convenience of holding and eating it, especially during the Mexican Revolution.

Second, an entry in the *Diccionario de Mexicanismos* from 1895 describes the burrito as we know it today and also compares it to a taco. This food was extremely popular in Guanajuato, so many assume this is where it originated.

Third, some also think that the rolled tortilla resembles donkey ears, or rolled packs carried by burros, and so accept this as the origin of the word burrito.

Dining Out (if you can): Burrito Wars with Mission Taco, Mi Ranchito, and Seoul Taco (continued)

No matter which is true, burritos have long existed in the borderlands north and south of the Rio Grande. Countless home cooks, vaqueros (cowboys), and braceros (workers) spread the burritos throughout the US and we will never know their names.

Today, the burrito has crossed cultures within the United States. You can now find Thai, Chinese, and Korean dishes melding with this classic food. You can also get burritos for breakfast with eggs, potatoes, bacon, and a host of other options. In Mexico, the burrito is mostly popular in northern areas rather than the country as a whole. They are also more like tacos than what Americans know as burritos. In the US, the innovation that has caught on was the Mission burrito, invented by a taqueria called **La Cumbre** on Valencia Street (some say it's **El Faro**, but not me) in San Francisco. (There's a great review of San Francisco Mission burritos in *bon appetit* from 2016 <https://www.bonappetit.com/restaurants-travel/article/burrito-october-feature>)

In St. Louis in general and in U-City in particular, we are blessed with at least three distinct versions of the burrito (**Mission Taco**, **Mi Ranchito**, and **Seoul Taco**), and another with only tacos (**Taco Buddha**) (and no I am not counting the Taco Bell on Skinker), but this review is about burritos. This is a collection of burrito styles designed to meet almost everyone's gustatory needs.

Mission Taco (note the word "Mission" in the name) is a very special place in The Loop, just west of Skinker (6235 Delmar). Not only do they have the classic San Francisco Mission burrito, but they also have Mexican street tacos (love the little taco holder they use to serve them) and a de-cobbed Mexican street corn (because have you ever tried to eat the classic version on the cob, very very messy, but so good). This is a trifecta of oh so delicious Mexican street foods. The menu here is not all-encompassing, but the foundations of carnitas, carne asada, guacamole, salsas are all solid and keep you coming back. This is simply delicious food done right.

Mi Ranchito (887 Kingsland @ Vernon) on the other hand is everything that Mission Taco is not. For the uninitiated, it lies at the northeast corner of University Heights. Sure you have to go through the locked gate if you're walking (don't forget the push-button code), but it's still there. And I've grown to respect this Mexican restaurant, not necessarily for its burritos (smothered type) or even tacos, but for just about everything else that we have come to expect at a classic Mexican sit-down restaurant, both in décor as well as aromas. Almost before you are seated, your provisions of warm fried tortilla chips (corn, of course) and a delicious red roasted tomato salsa arrive while you begin to glance over the pages and pages of menu options. All of the classics exist here: enchiladas, quesadillas, chimichangas, fajitas, flautas, nachos (especially the Nachos Texanos), tostadas, rellenas, chalupas, and even huevos rancheros. I love when they come out with that arm-length pot holder with the 4-6 HOT plates of food on that one arm. It's a throw-back, both popular and delicious in its own way. Oh, and they have tasty margaritas too.

Seoul Taco (6665 Delmar) takes the burrito to the next unexpected historical and cultural level. This Korean-Mexican fusion fast casual restaurant features dishes such as the Kimchi Fried Rice burrito, along with a Korean approach to tacos, nachos, and quesadillas, and even "Gogi Bowls", a take on the classic bibimbap dish (the classic dish you can get around the corner at **UCity Grill**). But there is a respect here for both the Korean and the Mexican cuisines that transcends both. There's a sit-down side and a take-out side.

Enjoy!! And (again) remember to support our local restaurants all the time, but especially during the pandemic. Please do call to be sure that they are open and how they are handling all this.

We'll have another "Culture Quad" section in the next issue of FenceTalk with four new cultural finds. Thank you for reading.

**Been vaccinated (yet)? Tomorrow is a good day.
Our local Walgreens and CVS can do it quickly and safely.**

Greetings from The University Heights Task Force on Pesticide.

We are reaching out to our neighbors, old and new.

Here are tips for non-chemical weed control:

- Mulching helps with moisture retention and reduction of erosion and soil compaction.
- Organic mulch is best and includes cedar chips, hardwood bark, and short leaf or long leaf pine needles. Mulch should be applied 4-6 inches. Landscape mulches provide better weed control. (Mulch may be free at Heman Park.)
- Inorganic mulch (rock, stone, gravel and landscape fabric) does not break down over time and does not help build up the soil.
- Plant selection: there are no weed resistant plants. The use of ground covers or densely growing plants can shade out weeds and reduce their growth. This reduces overall maintenance.
- Hand weeding and cultivation can be time consuming but it is less expensive and can be reduced with proper plantings.

These are some troubling facts about health effects of pesticides:

- Chronic low-dose exposure to many pesticides could pose a hazard to the health and development of children.
- The probability of an effect such as cancer, which requires a period of time to develop after exposure, is enhanced if exposure occurs early in life.
- The National Academy of Sciences reports that children are more susceptible to chemicals than adults and scientists concur that children take in more pesticides relative to body weight than adults and have increased risk of cancer.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) documents that over 30% of the global burden of disease in children can be attributed to environmental factors such as pesticides.
- The Harvard University School of Public Health found that children's exposure to pesticides in and around the home results in an increased risk of developing specified childhood cancers.
- The International Agency for Research on Cancer (part of WHO) and several recent court decisions have established a clear link between glyphosate (the active ingredient in the herbicide Roundup), non-Hodgkins lymphoma and other cancers.
- Unintended consequences to non-targeted plants and animals are of great concern.
- The EPA, as well as many state and local regulatory agencies, are not doing enough to protect communities from pesticide exposure. It's important that cities and states act quickly to protect themselves, as has been done in at least 15 localities.

The above facts are from the following sources:

* <https://www.beyondpesticides.org/resources/pesticide-induced-diseases-database/cancer>

* <http://www.nontoxiccommunities.com/cities.html>

* [content/uploads/2020/01/TBI_Poison_Parks_Report._010820_FINAL.pdf](#)

Please contact the U Heights Pesticide Task Force if you would like more information about nonchemical landscaping methods or if you are interested in helping us minimize pesticides used on University City property. uhgtsassoc@gmail.com or Barbara Chicherio 314-727-8554, Mary Ann Gaston <magaston780@aol.com>.



Pesticides can be breathed in more easily by a person whose face is closer to the ground, whether a crawling baby or a frolicking youngster.

Info You Can't Live (Here) Without: Calendar 2021-2022

- * highlights a UHA-sponsored event.
- ** highlights a UHS1 event.

Recurring

Saturdays - UCity Farmers Market 8:30a-12:30p, The Loop, 6655 Delmar Blvd.

3rd Saturday (May-Sept) – The Loop Roadshow, Leland Ave next to Vintage Vinyl, a street market featuring local vintage businesses and artisans

July 2021

- *7/1 - *FenceTalk* Newsletter (2021, Issue 2, Summer Activities issue)
- *7/4 – **First Annual University Heights Bike Parade.** Bring your bikes (or trikes for the smaller set). Kicks off at **9:00am promptly** starting at 6935 Amherst Avenue.
- No UHA Board of Directors meeting

August

- *8/10 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- TBD - UCity National Night Out Against Crime

September

- 9/1-30 – Loop in Motion + Style in the Loop, a month-long event highlighting avant garde St. Louis fashion, independent designers, music, and models. Perfect!
- *9/1 - *FenceTalk* Newsletter (2021, Issue 3, Annual Picnic & Halloween issue)
- 9/12 – UCity Bulk Items Pickup (East Zone, for the week of)
- *9/14 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- 9/18 – 49th Annual Great Forest Park Balloon Race (The Glow on 9/17)
- 9/26 – U City in Bloom Garden Tour and Plein Air Event
- TBD - UCity Outdoor Yard Sale/Resource Fair
- TBC - UCity National Make A Difference Day

October

- *10/10 - **University Heights Annual Picnic (bring a dish to share and come join us on this Sunday afternoon)**
- *10/12 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- *10/31 - **Halloween (6-8p) (Great Pumpkin Awards for decorations) (it's on a Sunday night this year)**
- TBD - UCity in Bloom, Bulb Sale

November

- *11/8 - UHA Board of Directors meeting

December

- *12/1 – *FenceTalk* Newsletter (2021, Issue 4, Luminaria & Progressive Dinner issue)
- **12/1 – UHS1 Assessments due (late fee assessed after 12/31)
- *12/12 - **Luminaria & Progressive Dinner**
- *12/14 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- 12/21 – Winter Solstice (9:59a)
- ***** **Happy New Year 2022** *****

January 2022

- *1/11 - UHA Board of Directors meeting (7-9p) (2nd Tuesday)
- TBD – Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
- TBD - The Loop Ice Carnival

February

- *2/1 – *FenceTalk* Newsletter (2022, Issue 1, Welcome Issue)
- **2/6 - **Annual Meeting (2-4p) (pay UHA dues \$20/year)**
- *2/8 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- TBD – UCity Go Red For Women

March

No UHA Board of Directors meeting

April

- 4/12 – UCity Bulk Items Pickup (East Zone, for the week of)
- *4/12 - UHA Board of Directors meeting

May

- *5/1 – *FenceTalk* Newsletter (2022, Issue 2, Summer Activities Issue)
- 5/1-2 – U City in Bloom Annual Plant Sale
- 5/5 – Cinco De Maio Celebrations
- *5/10 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- 5/31 – UCity Memorial Day Run
- TBD – 13th Annual Mannequins on the Loop
- TBD - Taste of UCity
- TBD - UCity National Kids to Park Day

June

- *6/14 - UHA Board of Directors meeting
- 6/19 – Juneteenth Celebration
- TBD - Fair UCity, Heman Park
- TBD - UCity Jazz Festival, Heman Park
- UCity Starlight Concert Series, Heman Park (thru August)
- UCity Summer Band Concert Series, Heman Park (thru August)
- UCity Movies in the Park, Heman Park (thru August)

Info You Can't Live (Here) Without: Contact Us

University Heights Subdivision #1 (UHS1) Trustees (have the legal responsibility for UHS1)

Frank Castiglione (Cornell) Myra Vandersall (Yale)
312.578.6852 f.castiglione@liftxl.com 314.518.1451 myravandersall@gmail.com
Mark Harvey (Harvard) Anil Pillai (Dartmouth), trustee intern
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University Heights Association (UHA) Board of Directors (the neighborhood association representing our community)

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314.727.8554 chicherio@aol.com 917.664.2161 francojr86@icloud.com
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Thomas Hardy (Harvard), Luminaria organizer Heather Zimmerman (Yale)
314.482.9328 tmoobear@aol.com 240.682.2094 runyon.heatherm@gmail.com

Important Numbers (Government (City/County), Board of Elections, Utilities)

Emergency 911

UCity City Hall 314.862.6767
UCity Police (non-emergency) 314.725.2211
UCity Fire Department (non-emergency) 314.505.8768
UCity Public Library 314.727.3150
St. Louis County Government 314.615.5000
St. Louis County Board of Elections 314.615.1800

Utilities

Ameren Missouri (electricity) (report an outage)
800.552.7583/314.342.1111
Metropolitan Sewer District 866.281.5737
Missouri American Water 866.430.0820
Spire (natural gas) 800.887.4173
UCity Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste, & Leaf
Collection 314.505.8560

Missouri Public Utilities Commission **800.DIG.RITE** (Call before you dig on your property and someone will come and mark where there are utility lines on your property – free service – “dig safely, it’s the law”) 800.344.7483 (800.DIG.RITE) (or 811 on your cellphone)