



First University Heights Scholarship Awarded by Hope Horn (Cornell)

The Neighborhood Association was proud to award its first annual scholarship of \$1,000.00 to Ms. Aniya Foley on Wednesday May 11, 2022 at the University City High School award ceremony. Hope Horn (UHA President) and Claudia Moran (UHA Board Member) represented us at the ceremony and presented the award.

We selected Aniya as our first recipient based on her strong academic record and her persuasive essay that outlined her community service project collecting and distributing food during the pandemic to those in need. Aniya just graduated from University City High School and will study nursing at St. Louis Community College in the fall. We wish her all the best!

As one of the oldest neighborhoods in University City, we are excited to strengthen the bond between our community and that of our high school and city at large. We look forward to continuing this scholarship for many years to come.



Aniya Foley and Hope Horn (left to right).

Thank you so much to Claudia Moran for being our point person on this project, and Louis Lankford for working diligently last year to get this ready! There were several comments about expanding the scholarship in upcoming years, so that will be a topic to consider in our upcoming board meetings.

<i>FenceTalk</i>	
Issue 2022.2 (June)	
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The Trustees Report by Myra Vandersall (Yale), Trustee

University Heights Subdivision No. 1 is a very popular destination for home buyers and developers. Homes in our neighborhood sell immediately, even before they are listed. With the changes come construction and sometimes damage to community property, such as sidewalks, driveway aprons, tree lawns, trees, curbs and streets. All of these are paid for with your assessment dues.

Because we do not believe it is equitable for all of us to fund these repairs, we require the homeowner/contractor to pay for this damage and repairs. The trustees will determine the amount for repairs based on our costs and charge the contractor/homeowner. In some cases, we have worked with contractors to do these repairs according to our specifications, and then repay that amount. In most cases your contractor’s contract will include damage to common property.

Here’s what you need to do if you are remodeling or reconstructing that requires construction equipment.

- If you are planning an outside renovation, you need permits. Contact the trustees to review and sign off on those plans to obtain permits.
- Tell your neighbors you are planning on construction so when trucks show up, there is no surprise. Be sensitive to your neighbors’ parking needs and noise level.
- Constant cleanup is necessary to reduce mud and dirt accumulating on sidewalks and streets.
- Construction equipment cannot be parked on the streets for extensive periods of time.
- Dumpsters are helpful when we are doing construction or moving, but placement on the street can create a hazard. Place the dumpster or pod in your driveway and do not block the sidewalk. If you find it necessary to use the street instead, consult a trustee to get approval. University City requires a permit for a dumpster.
- Porta-potties cannot be placed on the sidewalk, tree lawn, or street.
- If there are legal expenses, those are the responsibility of the contractor/property owner.

Why paying your assessment is important

Your annual assessment makes our neighborhood beautiful and welcoming. We maintain our streets, curbs, sidewalks, tree lawns, and driveway approaches. When everyone pitches in, our budget can handle those expenses and set aside money for future projects. Here are the statistics of outstanding dues as of May 1, 2022. We look at outstanding assessments with two lenses.

1. Outstanding assessments due by category, and
2. Aging of the outstanding assessments due, so we can gauge the likelihood of them being paid. Generally, the longer outstanding, the less likely to be paid or only paid at time of house sale
- 3.

Outstanding Assessments Due by Category - 5.1.2022

Regular Assessment	\$15,211.19
Special Assessment	\$1,136.91
Interest + Late Fees + Legal Fees	\$5,815.07
TOTAL	\$22,163.17

Outstanding Aging Report - 5.1.2022

30 Days Late	\$365.75
60 Days Late	\$1,191.89
90 Days Late	\$20,606.53
TOTAL	\$22,163.17

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Home addresses with more than \$500 in outstanding assessments will be posted on universityheightsonline.com beginning **July 1, 2022**. If you have difficulty paying your annual assessment, please contact a trustee to develop a payment plan.

More sidewalks and driveway approaches being replaced

We are now replacing sidewalks and asphalt driveway approaches on Yale. This will continue for the next month or so. As soon as possible we will move the crew to Dartmouth. The plan is to replace all of the asphalted driveway approaches (aprons) there, as well as some deteriorated sidewalk slabs. Accelerating this project has been made possible by the decision of University City to pay us \$70,000 for the balance owed us per our court settlement in 2019. Please be courteous to the workers and let Mark Harvey know if you experience any difficulties. Yes, we know this causes some inconvenience. We will distribute flyers a day or two ahead when work begins

Improvements coming on Dartmouth

We now expect the Metropolitan Sewer District will begin construction on Dartmouth, half of Yale, and half of Trinity to separate sanitary and storm sewers and place a large storm water containment and overflow culvert beneath Dartmouth. Yes, this construction will inconvenience us all. MSD must replace any street, tree lawn, sidewalk, and/or driveway approach damage, bringing it back to the condition in which they found it. Since this project is 5-6 years off, we are going ahead with currently needed concrete replacements on Dartmouth. If you want the construction start to be accelerated, call your senator or congressmperson, as they are waiting on Congressional allocation for infrastructure improvements: your tax dollars at work for YOU!

City staff changes

John Wagner, Ph.D, has been officially named as Community Development Director. City Engineer Sinan Alpaslan has left us. A replacement has not yet been named. Meanwhile concrete improvements, vehicle repair management, and other public works projects are being directed by a consulting engineering firm from whom we are experiencing excellent support and communication. Newly hired Deputy City Manager Brooke Smith is running point on property violations, demolition, and code enforcement with our own Debbie Gould, lead inspector. Brooke also wears the economic development hat, so will oversee Olive Business and 3rd Ward Housing Improvements.

Short-term rentals

Short-term rentals, including Airbnb are a very popular way to find housing and reduce the cost of hotel rental. Those rentals are not allowed in University City, according to Community Development Director John Wagner or in University Heights Subdivision No. 1 by our Indenture.

Land use restrictions were made in the original indenture and have been further specified by amendments over the years. As it stands from the Indenture

- No “**livery stable**” may exist in the subdivision. The trustees interpret this restriction to exclude commercial parking from being allowed at any place, though not free public parking.
- No “inn or hotel, flat, apartment-house, boarding house, or lodging house” may exist on a residential lot. The trustees interpret this to restrict use of a private home, whether occupied or unoccupied, for **Airbnb** or any other temporary or ongoing rental for commercial purposes to persons who are not part of the primarily occupying family unit. Again, University City codes apply.

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

A Gentle Reminder: Your 2022 Dues Are Now Officially Due: The UHA is Your Neighborhood Organization

Dear Neighbor:

The University Heights Association (UHA) is a voluntary organization dedicated to enhancing the sense of community among our residents of University Heights Subdivision #1. Our mission is to bring us together with regular communication, fun activities, neighborhood beautification, and to facilitate interaction between busy families. These activities are led by a group of elected neighbors that form its all-volunteer Board. Covid-19 made some of these activities harder to conduct in the past two years, but we are happy to announce that many of the regular activities will be back up and running in 2022!

- We publish Fence Talk quarterly, edited by Dr. Mark Pope, chock full on information and general interest to the neighborhood. Look for it in your email inbox.
- We distribute and maintain the neighborhood directory for all who wish to share their contact information - please see attached document in this email if you are new to the neighborhood and wish to be included in the email list (used only sparingly to publicize events) and the street directory.
- We are proud of our beautiful tree-lined streets and maintain the hanging floral baskets and entrance marker garden at the corner of Yale and Delmar.
- The October fall picnic and concert in Lewis Park is a fun family event, with live music, tables to linger at, grills to cook on, and free beer and ice cream for all.
- During the winter solstice, we distribute luminaria kits to all, and hope to reprise the progressive dinner this December - a perennial favorite event in the neighborhood, which was paused during Covid.
- Each spring (March) we host an annual 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.
- Check out our website: www.universityheightsonline.com

All this activity comes with a nominal annual membership fee of **\$20.00 per household**. We hope that you will use this opportunity to join! Thanks for supporting our great community in the 2022-2023 fiscal year!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email, if different from or in addition to the listing in the neighborhood directory: _____

Annual Membership for March 2021 to Feb. 2022	\$ 20.00
<i>Optional Contribution to help support neighborhood activities</i>	\$ _____
<i>Optional Contribution for the University Heights Scholarship**</i>	\$ _____

Total Submitted	\$ _____

Please print and complete this form, make your check payable to **University Heights Association, Inc.**, and include both of these pieces in an envelope. You can then mail or drop off that envelope to:

Peter Burgis, UHA Treasurer, 755 Radcliffe Avenue.

If you prefer to make your payment online, please be sure to include your name and address as part of the Venmo or PayPal process.

Venmo: @University-Heights

PayPal: uhgtsassoc@gmail.com

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At our annual meeting on March 9, 2021, we passed, and the Neighborhood Association approved a resolution entitled: *Apology for Racism in University Heights*, documenting our apology for historic racism in our neighborhood, especially regarding housing restrictions. We began to explore ways to repair the damage caused by previous generations. **The University Heights Neighborhood Association Scholarship is a direct outcome of that document. It is a \$1,000.00 scholarship awarded to a University City High School graduating senior who is continuing their education past high school.

Juneteenth: What It Is And Why We Celebrate It

Juneteenth honors the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. The name "Juneteenth" is a **blend of two words: "June" and "nineteenth."** It's believed to be the oldest African-American holiday, with annual celebrations on June 19th in different parts of the country dating back to 1866.

On January 1, 1863, during the American Civil War, Pres. Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which declared more than three million slaves living in the Confederate states to be free. The Emancipation Proclamation had little impact, however, on the Texans due to the minimal number of Union troops available to enforce the new Executive Order. More than two years would pass, however, before the news reached African Americans living in Texas. It was not until Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, led by Major General Gordon Granger that the state's residents finally learned that slavery had been abolished. With the surrender of General Lee in April of 1865, and the arrival of General Granger's regiment, the forces were, however, finally strong enough to influence and overcome the resistance.

One of General Granger's first orders of business was to read to the people of Texas, General Order Number 3 which began most significantly with:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

The celebrations that followed the reading of the proclamation by General Gordon Granger began a tradition that has lasted for over 155 years, and today is hosted in cities across America and beyond.

The following year, on June 19, 1866, the first official Juneteenth celebrations took place in Texas. The original observances included prayer meetings and the singing of spirituals, and celebrants wore new clothes as a way of representing their newfound freedom. Within a few years, African Americans in other states were celebrating the day as well, making it an annual tradition. Celebrations have continued across the United States into the 21st century and typically include prayer and religious services, speeches, educational events, family gatherings and picnics, and festivals with music, food, and dancing.

Juneteenth became a state holiday in Texas in 1980, and a number of other states subsequently followed suit. In 2021 Juneteenth was made a federal holiday. The day is also celebrated outside the United States, being used by organizations in a number of countries to recognize the end of slavery and to honor the culture and achievements of African Americans.

University City News

U-City Yard Waste Stickers Required (Again) Beginning July 1, 2022

Awhile ago, the necessity of “yard waste stickers” was suspended. It is now being reinstated beginning 7/1/2022.

“Yard waste” is defined as “gumballs, trash, small tree branches/limbs, brush, and grass clippings”

Yard waste should be placed in the biodegradable bags to be picked up by U-City on your regular trash and recycling collection day. **Yard waste bags, however, do NOT need stickers from October 15 to December 31.**

The Yard Waste Program

In 1992, the State of Missouri banned all yard waste from entering area landfills. To provide an environmentally sound, yet convenient and cost-effective alternative, U-City offers curbside collection of yard waste to all of its residents. Under the **Yard Waste Program**, residents must place leaves, twigs, plants, or small brush in 30-gallon biodegradable bags, and each bag must have a yard waste sticker attached.

Residents must follow these guidelines for yard waste disposal:

- Leaves and grass must be placed in brown, biodegradable paper bags with a U-City yard waste sticker attached.
- No dirt, wood chips, or logs are accepted in the yard bags.
- All brush must be tied in bundles no larger than 4' by 2' wide, with branches no thicker than 3 inches in diameter.
- Yard waste is picked up on the same day as trash and recycling.
- Curbside pickup of holiday trees occurs during the first two weeks of January on your regular collection day - please remove all lights, decorations and other items.

Contact U-City Public Works and Parks at 314-505-8560 with questions.

U-City Summer Band Seeks Music Director/Conductor Starting 2023

The University City Summer Band seeks a new Music Director/Conductor starting 2023. The U-City Summer Band consists of over 90 volunteer instrumentalists from all walks of life. While primarily adults, some college age students and select high school students are included in the makeup of the band. Many of our members participate in other community bands and orchestras in the St. Louis region. The band performs six concerts on Tuesdays in June and July, with a rehearsal on the prior Monday. The University City Band is overseen by a Board of Directors.

Preferred qualifications include:

- Experience directing a high school/college band.
- Prior Community Band experience.
- Conducting and organizing skills to manage and conduct a large concert band.
- Ability to organize structured and efficient rehearsal schedule.
- Ability to establish a good personal/working relationship with the members of the band and the Board of Directors.

This position pays \$2,500/season and the duties include, but may not be limited to:

- Responsible for the overall artistic needs of the band.
- Select a yearly theme (optional) and music for all 6 concerts.
- Procure the music and in conjunction with the librarian (who organizes folders).

(The majority of music has been borrowed each summer from Kirkwood and Ladue high schools, UMSL and Lindenwood Universities, Meramec Community College, Chatfield Lending Library and other sources as needed.)

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- Provide input/content in creating a printed program.
- Formulate program notes for each concert.
- Set the calendar for June and July.
- Reserve 560 building for all rehearsals and Heman Park for all concerts in consultation with the board president.
- Arrange for any soloists. (A fund is available for paying soloists.)
- Apply for and submit a Missouri Arts Council Grant Application/other relevant grants.

Application process:

- Persons interested in applying for this position should send a resume and cover letter to the attention of the UCity Summer Band Board, ucsummerband.personnel@gmail.com. For more information or questions, use this email as well.
- Application materials should be submitted by May 15, 2022. However, applications will be considered until the position is filled.

Sign Up For CodeRed Alerts in U-City

Remember to sign up for **CodeRed** alerts. Alerts are issued with severe weather, power outages, flooding and storm damage. Sign up for **CodeRed** to get up to the minute information on what is happening in our area. Sign up for the CodeRed notification system to receive alerts and updates during emergency events. All University City citizens and businesses are encouraged to register.

Register online at <https://www.ucitymo.org/914/CodeRED> or <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BFB77207BF2C>

Register on your smartphone by texting “UCITY” to 99411.

Register in person by completing a one page application available at City Hall.

Ways We Communicate in University Heights

Face-to-Face (preferred)	universityheightsonline.com (website)
Telephone (in the directory)	UniversityHeights1.Nextdoor.com (online community)
Email (in the directory)	universityheightsonline.com/FenceTalk (newsletter)

Common Abbreviations We Use In FenceTalk

UHS1 = University Heights Subdivision No. 1
 UHA = University Heights Association, Inc.

Dining Out (if you can) by Mark Pope

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 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.

Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera Namesake Restaurants Joined At The Bonito Bar

George Mahe, the intrepid dining guru at *St. Louis Magazine*, reported recently that the **Bonito Bar**, named after artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera's pet parrot, will soon fill the space between Natasha Kwan and Rick Roloff's two University City restaurants, **Frida's** and **Diego's Cantina**, which previously housed a clothing alterations business. Bonito (the parrot) is depicted in many of Kahlo's paintings and was known to perform tricks at the table for rewards of pats of butter. "Rick and I have a 25-year-old parrot ourselves, Buster," Kwan says, "so naming a bar after a parrot feels doubly right."

Slated to open this summer, the new bar will include a 10- to 12-seat bar made from white Carrera marble—the same material used at **Diego's**—and a moveable, open-air front wall that parallels **Diego's**. A 14-foot arched ceiling will be lined in gold leaf, with clear birds hanging from the ceiling—and one colored bird, Bonito." It'll still be **Frida's**, open for lunch and dinner, but **Bonito Bar** has its own identity and its own social media presence" says Kwan, "and might keep longer hours than **Frida's**."

Along with wine and beer, the menu will include an abundance of craft cocktails, from classics to seasonals made with fresh juices, a program spearheaded by general manager Jackson Crowder. "**Frida's** has a robust drink menu that many people still don't know about," Kwan says. "Now they will."

Frida's Going 'Flexitarian'

While construction is already underway on the space, **Frida's** will also temporarily close in three to five weeks to "completely revamp" the kitchen. Kwan anticipates a one- to two-month closure, with **Frida's** reopening alongside Bonito Bar this summer.

"We started off in a tiny little space, expanded twice, added a patio, but never expanded the kitchen," she says of Frida's. "You never know you're going to be successful until you are. After 10 years, **Frida's** is finally getting a big-girl kitchen."

At the same time, **Frida's** will shift culinary gears from vegan to flexitarian. "A lot of our clientele already eats fish, but they may not eat dairy," Kwan says. "They eat steamed vegetables, but they don't eat fried. People may call us a vegan restaurant, but to me, **Frida's** is a healthy restaurant, a lifestyle restaurant, and that won't change."

Some of the older, less popular items will likely disappear from the menu to make way for new items. "**Frida's** has been doing well for over a decade, so we can't rock the boat too much," Kwan notes. "Some of our guests come in three to five times a week. When menu items drop off, we still run them as specials, which keeps everybody happy."

Possible additions include a salmon burger, cod with tomato relish, cauliflower puree with salmon and grilled asparagus, and mahi mahi with pineapple salsa and coconut rice. Kwan sums it up, saying, "There won't be a lot of fish, but the menu will be different. Think traditional meals, spun in a healthy direction."

Upcoming FenceTalks (2022 updated)

- 6/15/2022 (Summer Activities issue)
- 9/15/2022 (Annual Picnic & Halloween issue)
- 11/15/2022 (Luminaria & Progressive Dinner issue)

Info You Can't Live (Here) Without: Calendar 2022-2023

* denotes a UHA-sponsored event.

** denotes a UHS1 event.

Recurring

Saturdays (April 10-Dec 11, closed Nov 27) - UCity Farmers Market 8:30a-12:30p, The Loop, behind 6655 Delmar Blvd.

2nd & 4th Monday (monthly) – UCity City Council meeting (virtual until it isn't) (always on the 2nd Mondays, but 4th Mondays meetings are cancelled for July, August, & December, best to check in advance at 314.505.8605) (times: generally Study Sessions begin at 5:30p followed by Regular Meeting at 6:30p)

First Saturday – Artist Market Pop-Up, Live artists creating their work. Come watch. Componere Gallery of Art, 6509 Delmar Blvd. 11a-8p. www.componere.com

8/28/2021-1/22/2023 – The St. Louis Sound Exhibit, Missouri History Museum. A 6,000-square-foot special exhibit that explores the history of popular music in St. Louis from the dawn of recorded sound in the late 1800s to the turn of the 21st century. Nearly 200 artifacts are on display from important venues, local legends, and national stars like Ike & Tina Turner, Miles Davis, Chuck Berry, Nelly, the “Velvet Bulldozer” Albert King, the “Black Venus” Josephine Baker, and the *original* “king” of pop music, Scott Joplin.. <https://mohistory.org/exhibits/st-louis-sound>

11/1/2021-10/31/2022 – Gateway to Pride Virtual Exhibit, Missouri History Museum. LGBTQIA+ communities have been contributing to St. Louis’s history for centuries. Now the *Gateway to Pride* virtual exhibit will begin to uncover the rarely-shared or often untold stories of St. Louis’s LGBTQIA+ communities.

<https://mohistory.org/exhibits/gateway-to-pride>

June

*6/15 – **FenceTalk Newsletter (2022, Issue 2, Summer Activities Issue)**

6/11 – Juneteenth II Celebration, The Loop, Noon-5pm, 5900 Delmar Blvd 63112 – art, music, and food

6/14- - UCity Summer Band Concert Series (returns), 7/26 Heman Park, 1028 Midland Ave (Tuesdays, 7p)

6/17 - Delmar Maker Fair, 5127 Delmar Blvd, 6-10p, The Delmar Maker Fair features local St. Louis makers selling their handmade wares up and down Delmar.

6/19 - Juneteenth (Federal Holiday) (observed on 6/20), see article this issue

6/26 St. Louis PrideFest (a LBGTQIA+ Festival) Parade, Market Street from 10th St to 18th St, begins at 11a

TBD - UCity Starlight Concert Series, Heman Park (thru August)

July

*7/3 – **Second Annual University Heights Bike Parade.** Bring your bikes (or trikes for the smaller set). Kicks off at **9:00am promptly** starting at corner of Trinity & Amherst. (Ed.: Yes, it’s not a misprint, 7/3)

*7/12 **UHA Board of Directors meeting**

August

*8/9 - **UHA Board of Directors meeting**
TBD - UCity National Night Out Against Crime

September

9/12 – UCity Bulk Items Pickup (East Zone, for the week of)

*9/13 - **UHA Board of Directors meeting**

*9/15 – **FenceTalk Newsletter (2021, Issue 3, Annual Picnic & Halloween issue)**

9/17 – 50th Annual Great Forest Park Balloon Race (The Glow on 9/16) 📍

TBD – UCity in Bloom Garden Tour and “Paint U. City” Plein Air Festival.

TBD – Plein Air Art Reception, outside Flynn Park School (west side), 5-7p

October

*10/2 – **The University Heights Annual Picnic (come join us for this traditional neighborhood gathering on a Sunday afternoon 4-7p) (rain date 10/9)**

*10/12 - **UHA Board of Directors meeting**

*10/31 - **Halloween (6-8p) (Great Pumpkin Awards for decorations) (it’s on a Monday night this year)**

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

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

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University Heights Association (UHA) Board of Directors (the neighborhood association representing our community)

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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

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)

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