



The Lion Pages

The Newsletter for University City Businesses
Spring 2014



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Green News

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

On April 26, 2014, the DEA will provide a safe, convenient and responsible way to dispose of prescription drugs. Website:

www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

Used Cooking Oil Recycling Ace Grease Service (AGS) will help you make the planet greener by giving you top dollar for your used cooking oil. Pickup is documented, to keep your business compliant with environmental regulations. Website:

www.acegrease.com

Coming to Olive Boulevard...



Olive Commercial Marketing Website

In keeping with the City's Comprehensive Plan Update of 2005, as well as the resulting emphasis on the revitalization/redevelopment of Olive Boulevard, a marketing website will be created to support the leasing and sale of real estate along the Olive Boulevard Commercial Corridor.

The objective of the site is to provide entrepreneurs, retailers, real estate brokers and others with up-to-date information on commercial space availabilities, as well as demographics and information about current tenants. This will be a sister site to The Loop's website, www.LeaseTheLoop.com. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for design of the Olive website will be issued soon and it is expected to be completed in Summer 2015.

Commercial Façade Improvement Program

Recognizing the positive impact building façade improvements could have on the overall appearance, quality and vitality of a commercial district, the City of University City will be launching a Commercial Façade Improvement Program for buildings along the Olive Boulevard Commercial Corridor. Matching grants are available for up to \$15,000, or 50% of the project cost—on a reimbursement basis—for the rehabilitation of commercial building facades in the Olive Boulevard Pilot Program area (from Midland Boulevard to Woodson/McKnight Roads).

Proposed projects must be in compliance with the Olive Boulevard Design Guidelines (2009) and include landscaping elements. Funding is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. To sign up for application materials, e-mail rlai@ucitymo.org or call 314-505-8502.



Royal Banks : Fifty Years of Service in U. City!

Established on Olive Blvd. fifty years ago by a group of local businessmen, **Royal Banks of Missouri** offers a full range of services to individuals and business clients. Royal Banks is locally-owned to this day, with seven locations in the St. Louis area. It offers many services online, including personal banking, home equity, commercial lending and mortgages. Its mission is "to demon-

strate its commitment to its clients and communities, through the principles emphasized

daily by its team members." Royal Banks is proud of its record of performance as one of the region's strongest and most stable financial institutions. For information about services and products, contact Don Reeves at (314) 212-1539 or don.reeves@royalbanksnet.com.





Ackert Park Skilled Care Community Earns Coveted Five-Star Rating!

Ackert Park SCC earned 5 stars for Quality Measures and 4 stars overall, in Nursing Home Compare's recently released ratings. The Quality Measures rating is based on resident assessment data, which indicate how well the nursing home is taking care of resident needs. This information is used to individualize care plans for each resident.

Ackert Park SCC—University City's only 4-Star community—provides medically advanced rehabilitative care in friendly and comfortable surroundings. The staff was honored for their hard work in the delivery of quality care at a celebration on Friday, February 7th. Ackert Park is located close to the intersection of Leland and Vernon, in the Parkview Gardens Neighborhood, and is home to 75 residents. Come by for a visit and get to know your neighbors!

Major Project Updates



New Goodwill Store

Artist's rendering of a new 14,400 sq. ft. building to be constructed on Olive Blvd., west of Hanley.



New Walgreens Store

The new store, located at Delmar Blvd. and Delcrest Dr., is expected to be opened in Spring 2014.



The Lofts of Washington University

This mixed-use development, located in The Loop, will include student housing, an international grocer and a 24-hour diner.



Firehouse # 1

This new city firehouse at Westgate and Vernon was completed recently and is in service.



Vanguard Crossing at Delmar and 170

This 200-unit apartment was completed recently. Apartments are available for lease. Website: vanguardcrossing.com



The Loop Trolley

Construction of the 2.2-mile trolley project is expected to begin in Spring/Summer 2014. The route links the Forest Park History Museum to The Loop.



AW Health Care: Hometown Success!

AW Health Care, headquartered at 7208 Balson Avenue (at Midland Blvd.),

has been serving residents of University City and the larger St. Louis/Illinois metro area since 2001. AW, which stands for "Aging Well," was started by three Russian women (Irina Bursak, Susan Bursak and Julia Escandon-Rozin) who immigrated in their youth. Because all three women worked while attending St. Louis University, they wanted assurance that their grandparents were being well-cared-for during the day. As a result, the women started AW Health Care with a focus on specialized medical and healthcare services for elderly residents that aren't native English speakers.

Today, AW ranks 25th on the St. Louis Business Journal's list of the largest women-owned businesses in the area. It serves over 500 patients and has over 400 employees, with branch offices in Wentzville, South St. Louis County and Collinsville, Illinois. AW strives to serve people from all backgrounds who want to age well. While the majority of its patients today are native English-speakers, it retains a specialization in quality home care services for patients that speak other languages such as Russian, Chinese, Croatian and Spanish.

This is a success story right here in our own community! To learn more, call Diane at (314) 330-7992 or visit www.awhealthcare.com.



Be in The Loop!
Go to VisitTheLoop.com &
LeaseTheLoop.com

"One of the 10 **Great Streets** in America."
-The American Planning Association

Business Financial Assistance

Contact Doug Rasmussen
St. Louis Economic Development Partnership
314-615-3956
DRasmussen@stlpartnership.com

Don't Miss the U City/ Chamber of Commerce

Olive Business Forum

Thursday, March 13

This event will focus on major activities and initiatives on the Olive Boulevard corridor.

Time and location are TBD.

For more info, contact Ray Lai at 314-505-8502 or rlai@ucitymo.org

New Businesses (Sept 2013 - Jan 2014)

Blue Bird the Boutique - 6355 Delmar Blvd.
Community Response Independent Living Program, Inc. - 6744 Olive Blvd.

DCT Services LLC - 8671 Olive Blvd. Rear

Fluer de Lou LLC - 6346 Delmar Blvd.

Gateway Digital Studios - 7247 Olive Blvd. Unit B

Little Caesars - 6953 Olive Blvd.

Master Touch Barber Shop - 7588 Olive Blvd.

Naturally Perfect Candle Co. - Home-Based
P.Y.G.O. Ed-U-Tainment Group - 6826 Olive Blvd. Unit A

R & R Counseling Center for Hope, LLC - 7281 Olive Blvd.

Star Karaoke and Cafe - 1179 N. McKnight Rd.

UCity Nights, LLC - 7555 Olive Blvd.

WJR Construction Co. LLC - Home-Based

Chamber News

universitycitychamber.com
Facebook: U. City Chamber of Commerce



New Executive Director

The Chamber is pleased to introduce its new Executive Director, **Anne Carr**. Anne has a background in marketing and communications, an MBA and an MA in International Business, and experience in business ownership. She can be reached at the Chamber's new office at 7700 Olive Blvd. 63130, 314-337-2489 or at executivedirector@universitycitychamber.com.



Upcoming Events

Open House Happy Hour - Thursday, Feb. 20, 4:30 - 6:30 pm at new Chamber Office, 7700 Olive Blvd. Meet the Chamber's new Executive Director, network and have a drink and appetizers.

Small Business Workshop: Legal and Accounting Issues - Tuesday, Feb. 25, 9 am - 12 noon at U. City Library

Coffee and Conversation about Bitcoins - Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:30 - 9 am at Meshugga's Café

Lunch -- Thursday, March 13, 11:45 - 1 pm hosted by U. City High School

Small Business Workshop: Focus on Advertising - Thursday, April 24, 9 am - 12 noon at U. City Library

Trivia Night - Tuesday, April 1, 7 - 10 pm at Christ the King Church; cash prize and door prizes; \$10/person (\$80 per table)

Power Networking - Wednesday, April 30, 7:30 - 9 am with members from 3 other chambers of commerce. \$15

A Taste Of U. City - Thursday, May 8 at Heman Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. \$15 for business owners/employees

Cardinals Game - Saturday, May 17; \$20 tickets on sale soon!

For more information about any of these events, contact Anne at 314-337-2489 or executivedirector@universitycitychamber.com.

Permit Statistics (Sept 2013 - Jan 2014)

Owner-occupied Occupancy Permits	143
Rental Property Occupancy Inspections	1786
Rental Property Occupancy Permits	1128
Commercial Occupancy Permits	28
Vacant Building Registrations	61
Demolition-Residential	4
Building Permits — New Residential	16
Building Permits —New Non-Residential	6

Special Business District and Chamber of Commerce Contact & Meeting Information

The Loop
Special Business District
General Meeting
2nd Tuesday of every month
9:00 am at Blueberry Hill
Contact: Kristin Sylvester
(314)727-8000
www.VisitTheLoop.com

Chamber of Commerce
Open board meetings
3rd Tuesday of every month
8:00 am; 7700 Olive Blvd. 63130
Contact: Anne Carr
(314)337-2489
executivedirector@universitycitychamber.com

**Economic Development
Retail Sales Tax Board**
Quarterly Meetings at 4 PM:
2/20, 5/15, 8/21, 11/20
and as needed at
Heman Park Community Center
email rlai@ucitymo.org for info.
Or call 314-505-8502

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“Legal and Accounting Issues” Tuesday, February 25

Topics include systems for incorporating your business, confidentiality and non-compete agreements, legal pitfalls, how to choose the right accounting software, payroll and tax concerns, and how to prepare a first-year budget. Local attorneys and certified public accountants will serve as presenters.



Free
From 9 AM to Noon
At University City
Public Library
6701 Delmar Blvd.
**Pre-registration
Required**
Register at U. City
Library, on-line at
www.universitycitychamber.com or by calling
314-337-2489.

“Focus on Advertising” Thursday, April 24

Learn ways to better target where, when and how often you advertise. Ad professionals and artists from Heeley Creative and the Brighton Agency will share their expert advice about how to design an effective ad. Bring along one of your own for a critique from the professionals!

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The Newsletter for University City Businesses



Department of Community Development
6801 Delmar Boulevard
University City, MO 63130
Phone: (314) 505-8500
Fax: (314) 862-3168

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