



# INSIDE

the School District of University City

A publication for and about the staff of the School District of University City

January-February 2011

## Centennial Celebration kicks off on Feb. 21

The School District of University City will kick off its centennial celebration on Monday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the McNair Board Room.

Travel back in time to February 21, 1911 as we re-enact the public meeting that officially organized the school district. Guest speakers will include current school leaders and descendants of

the District's founders, as well as student

participation in the re-enactment. There will be birthday cake to celebrate our 100th birthday! This will be just one of the exciting events occurring throughout 2011 to mark this historic milestone. More information will be forthcoming about other centennial activities. Questions? Call 314/290-4016 or e-mail [lruddell@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:lruddell@u-city.k12.mo.us)



## Redesigned District website launched

A redesigned and restructured District website at [www.ucityschools.org](http://www.ucityschools.org) launched over winter break. A website redesign is always a work in progress for a little while, even after officially launching. Feedback is appreciated if there is additional information you think should be added to improve the site for parents, staff and/or community members.

To share your suggestions, contact Linda Russell, director of communications, at [lruddell@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:lruddell@u-city.k12.mo.us) or 314/290-4016.

## School board filing update

Candidate filing closed on Jan. 18. The School District of University City has three Board of Education seats available for a term of three years for the General Municipal Election on April 5, 2011. Because there is an equal amount of candidates as available seats, there is no need to hold an election. Incumbent candidates Stacy Clay and Rod Jennings will be sworn along with new candidate Rick Salamon at the first meeting in April 2011. For details, contact Charlotte Tatum at [ctatum@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:ctatum@u-city.k12.mo.us) or 314/290-4003.

## School Calendar Revised

As a result of inclement weather resulting in schools being closed on December 16, 2010, and January 11, 20 and 21, 2011, the 2010-2011 school calendar has been revised as follows:

- May 19, 20, 23, 24 and 25 will be regular school days;
- Thursday, May 26 will be an early release for high school exams;
- Friday, May 27 will be the last day of school and an early release for PreK-8 record day and high school exams;
- Monday, May 30 is Memorial Day, a national holiday. Schools and offices are closed.
- Tuesday, May 31 will be the last contract day for teachers.

In the event of future school closings, further revisions will be made.



## Need a computer and didn't get one last year?

The School District of University City has again partnered with WITS (Web Innovations & Technology Services, Inc.) to provide low-cost, refurbished (used) computers to District families and staff with prices starting at only \$60 for a desktop computer and \$125 for a laptop.

If interested, submit a request form (available at <http://tinyurl.com/WITScomp0211> or school office) to your school's main office by Friday, Feb. 18. Once this information is received by WITS, a representative will contact you to discuss further details. Appointments will be made for pick up.

All questions about this program should go directly to WITS at 314/382-1650.

## Returning Artists

University City High School alums Peter Martin, '87, and James Smith, '92, have been selected as the 2011 Returning Artists. They will be visiting schools throughout the District and community during the week of Feb. 7.

A public reception is planned for Wed., Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. in the UCHS library. This event is free and open to the public.

The Returning Artist series is sponsored by the University City Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters and coordinated by Diane Davenport.

## Nomination deadlines extended

Applications for the School District of University City's recognition awards, including Teacher of the Year (ToY), Educational Support Personnel of the Year (ESPoY) and PACEsetter are being accepted and deadlines are fast approaching.

- ToY and ESPOY nomination deadline has been extended to Friday, Feb. 4.
- PACEsetter nomination deadline has been extended to Monday, March 21
- UCHS Hall of Fame nominations have been extended to Monday, Jan. 31, for 2011 inductions.

Nomination forms are available in schools or at <http://tinyurl.com/UCNom0111>. For information about the recognitions or the selection process, contact CarolAnn Cole at 314/290-4019 or [ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us).

## Arts & Education Campaign

The District's annual campaign for the Arts & Education Council will begin on Feb. 23. This annual campaign helps local arts organizations provide arts enrichment opportunities for students across the St. Louis area. Look for more information and pledge cards soon.

Questions, Call 314/290-4016 or email [lrussell@u-ctiy.k12.mo.us](mailto:lrussell@u-ctiy.k12.mo.us).

## BEYOND OUR WALLS

**Colleen Hagen and Nichole Martineau** were named 2010 Herskowitz Award winners.

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Spring UCEF cycle grant

application deadline is extended to noon on Monday, Jan. 31.

Applications are available at <http://tinyurl.com/UCFgrantAps>.

### Returning Artists Public Reception

will be held Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m. in UCHS library honoring James Smith, '92, and Peter Martin, '87.

**Centennial Kickoff** will be Monday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., McNair Board Room

**Seussical the Musical** will be held on Friday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 26 at 2 and 7 p.m. in the UCHS auditorium.

**The Miracle Worker** will be presented by the UCHS Black Mask Drama Club at 7 p.m. on April 15 and 16 in the UCHS Lecture Hall.

**UCEF Progressive Dinner** has been scheduled for Saturday, April 16. More details will be available soon.



## Take-It bookshelves need K-8 books

Start the new year by cleaning out your, or a friend's, shelves. Find a new home for children's books that are no longer being read and help stock the "Take It" bookshelves in our elementary schools and Centennial Commons. Book donations are accepted throughout the year, but there is currently an urgent need for replenishment.

Donations may be sent to the communications office in the McNair building or delivered directly to Ellen Bern at 7001 Washington Ave.

Call 314/721-1841 if you have any questions about the "Take It" bookshelves.

## Community involvement in our schools

Have you worked with a local business or organization to enhance learning in your classroom or school? The District wants to highlight these learning opportunities. E-mail information to Linda Russell or CarolAnn Cole.

## U-City Birder's Club continues

The University City Birder's Club, coordinated by Nikki Davenport, still welcomes new members. Upcoming Saturday events include:

Feb. 19 - 9-11:30 a.m. – Various Locations - Great Backyard Bird Count

March 12 - 10-noon – World Bird Sanctuary - Birds of Prey

April 16 - 8-10:30 a.m. – Forest Park - Warblers

April 23 - 1-3 p.m. – TBD

May 14 - 1-3 p.m. – TBD - U-City Birders Birding Festival

For more details, call 314/290-4013 or email [ndavenport@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:ndavenport@u-city.k12.mo.us).

## Need assistance?

If you are in need of special accommodations or assistance in order to participate in a school- or district-sponsored event, contact Erie Gonzalez-Rubio, operations supervisor, at 314/290-4004.

## What's happening in the District?

For the latest information on events and activities, visit the District's webcalendar (Calendar of Events tab) at [www.ucityschools.org](http://www.ucityschools.org).

Applicants for admission or employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral, and all professional organizations that have entered into agreements with the School District of University City are hereby notified that our School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns regarding the application of this notice may be referred to our School District's Compliance Coordinator for civil rights laws, Dr. Darryl O. Cobb, Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources, 8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130, phone (314) 290-4021. Any person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under Title VI (race/color/national origin), Title IX (sex), the Age Discrimination Act (age), Section 504 (disability), or Title II of the ADA (disability), may contact the Office for Civil Rights, Region VII, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO 64114; phone (816) 268-0550.

## RESOURCES

**THE CITY** of University City's official website is [www.ucitymo.org](http://www.ucitymo.org). However, to learn more about what's happening visit Mayor Shelly Welsch's Bulletin Board website at [www.ucitymo.com](http://www.ucitymo.com).

**U. CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY** has a strong "kids" section. The youth services department offers links for homework help, youth events, book clubs and more at [www.ucpl.lib.mo.us/](http://www.ucpl.lib.mo.us/).

**NEW IDEAS** to add creativity to your classroom or lesson: [www.busyteacherscafe.com](http://www.busyteacherscafe.com) or [www.thecornerstoneforteachers.com/](http://www.thecornerstoneforteachers.com/).

**GLUE CONTAINER** Recycling Program: Drop collection is scheduled for April 22-25. Details at [www.elmersgluecrew.com](http://www.elmersgluecrew.com).

### TEENTRIBUNE &

**TWEENTRIBUNE** are accepting 100-word essay entries from grades 3-12 for cash prizes. Post and vote at [www.tweentribune.com/who](http://www.tweentribune.com/who) by Friday, Feb. 11.

Have a resource to share? Email [ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us).

INSIDE the School District of University City is published 11 times per school year during the first week of each month except July and emailed to all staff with District e-mail addresses. Building secretaries are asked to post the current issue for all staff to read.