



The Official Newsletter of The City of Audubon Park



Michael P. Scalise, Mayor
Carl R. Reesor, Chief of Police
Stephanie Lee, City Clerk

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MAYOR SCALISE'S MESSAGE

Portions of this Newsletter were originally published in June of this year and uploaded to Audubon Park's website. Important information is being reprinted in this issue for those of you who do not have access to the Internet or didn't get a chance to see it. In the past, we have traditionally printed four Newsletters per year. We are still producing four per year; however, only two will be printed for home delivery. All four will still be uploaded to our website. We will try to repeat important information in the printed versions for all residents to review.

Again, Audubon Park suffered significant storm damage for the fourth time since 2005. In July of 2005, we had a windstorm similar to the storm on August 13th. Also, there was the windstorm in 2008 and the ice storm in 2009 (both causing significant damage). After each storm, everyone pulled together; and we got the City back in shape in no time. I want to compliment Audubon Park's Police and Works Departments and everyone who helped out in getting the streets cleared as soon as possible. Camp Taylor Fire District helped out significantly, and LG&E replaced a lot of poles and lines. Especially, I want to compliment the citizens of Audubon Park. When the storm hit Saturday, many people were already clearing up storm debris that night; and they had their property back to normal by Sunday night. Not only did homeowners clean up their storm debris, but they also went from neighbor to neighbor and helped out where needed. Yes, there are some larger trees that will take awhile to clear; but, as this is written about a week later, the Park is just about

back in shape. Audubon Park defines "community". We don't wait for someone else (whomever that might be) to take care of our problems; we handle it ourselves and help our neighbors. Thank you to everyone.

Did You Know...

There has been a strong demand for more information about Audubon Park and how it is managed. In response, we will try to address questions and concerns in the upcoming Newsletters.

- Audubon Park employs only six full-time Officers at the present time. All others are either part-time, in training, or in Code Enforcement. Audubon Park is authorized to have up to 14 Officers.
- The 6 full-time Officers may receive a take-home car and up to \$500 per month for gas. These Officers are paid \$12 per hour and are given \$330 per month for health insurance (which they must seek out and purchase on their own).
- Part-time Officers are paid \$11 per hour and receive no benefits or a take-home car. If they choose, they may receive a take-home car; but in return, they do not receive hourly pay.

"Provided as a service to our neighbors"

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- Audubon Park currently has a contract to patrol Parkway Village for full Police coverage for \$55,000 per year. The Police also have a contract with Audubon Hospital and are paid a monthly fee for this coverage.
 - The Audubon Park Police also receive Federal overtime funds to patrol the Preston Highway and Poplar Level corridors (\$12,000 per year for gas, overtime, and equipment). This allows the City to provide better coverage for the area and allows for overtime and added patrols.
 - Audubon Park is mandated to provide 24/7 coverage by Police. Audubon Park tries to have at least two Officers on duty per shift. In the event of an accident or apprehension of a criminal, one of the Officers is required to remain with that individual until a formal statement or booking has been completed. If only one Officer was available per shift, this would leave the City unprotected and liable for failure to protect as mandated by law. Louisville Metro provides only secondary coverage of Audubon Park.
 - Audubon Park's Police Department is one of 64 accredited Police Departments out of 440 in Kentucky. This accreditation means that the department has received and met all standards; and in addition, this also lowers the City's liability insurance by 20% (a \$17,000 annual savings to the City).
 - Audubon Park and the Police Department are audited annually by the Kentucky League of Cities. Our City is one of only two in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to get a 100% certification in its Audit.
 - Many have commented on the number of Police cars up near City Hall. The majority of these cars have over 200,000 miles on them; and they are kept as backup vehicles. The Command Post bus parked next to the City Hall garages was donated to the City and is valued at \$130,000. This Command Post vehicle is available in the event of an emergency and allows the City to function if City Hall and the Police Department were damaged by some natural disaster.
 - Audubon Park Police Officers have countywide jurisdiction by statute to come to the aid of citizens anywhere (and arrest if necessary) as are all Police Officers in the Commonwealth; therefore, their cars may be found anywhere in the metro area (with their primary patrol area being Audubon Park and its surrounding areas).
 - In the event that residents need Police assistance after normal work hours or on weekends, please call the Sheriff's Office at 574-5471 and ask the Dispatcher to contact the Audubon Park Police.
 - The Chief of Police is paid only one salary even though he assists in the day-to-day management of the City in the absence of the Mayor.
- OTHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
- The City of Audubon Park has approximately 1600 residents.
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“Provided as a service to our neighbors”

- Newsletters are now available quarterly on the City's webpage and are delivered to all residential homes twice per year. The average cost of the home-delivered Newsletters is \$400 each time they are delivered.
- The City's website is being updated for free by Mayor Scalise's daughter as noted at the March 2011 City Council Meeting. She is a web designer by profession, and the City is fortunate to have this service provided by a professional and at no cost.
- Interest has been expressed in having a Farmer's Market or other City-wide events such as a 4th of July parade or an Easter egg hunt. While many such ideas may have merit, any event such as these being held within City boundaries and making it open to the entire community implies sponsorship by the City of Audubon Park. With today's litigious society, the City would be potentially liable if anyone was hurt during one of these events. Audubon Park does not have the financial reserves to pay for a lawsuit; thus, liability insurance is required to indemnify the City *each* time such an event is held. Groups such as the Garden Club are required to provide insurance for their City-wide events like the Dogwood Festival and the Arts and Crafts Festival. While the proposed ideas listed earlier are appealing, the City cannot afford the financial liability to sponsor and/or purchase insurance for them under the current tax structure.

Farmer's Market Update:

We have tentatively found a location for the Farmer's Market just outside the City limits; however, we are still looking for a volunteer to handle the duties of managing the project. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mayor Scalise.

AUDUBON PARK GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Joanne Bader

Festival of the Dogwood – Drowned But Not Out!

This year's opening ceremony for the 40th annual Festival of the Dogwood fell victim to the recent heavy rains causing it to be moved to the Fourth Presbyterian Church on Preston Highway instead of Wren Park. While the move may have cut down on attendance at the opening ceremonies, it did not dim the stunning beauty of the Dogwoods in the park. There were several visitors during the weekend that dodged intermittent rain showers to stroll or drive through the Park. Natalie Scharre, a longtime Garden Club member, was still able to "light" the Dogwoods in Wren Park through the miracles of modern technology (and helpful Audubon Park Public Works staff...). Those who attended the ceremony at the church enjoyed wonderful music by the Rascals of Ragtyme which were graciously sponsored by Metro Councilman Jim King. A great crowd showed up Sunday afternoon for the annual concert by the River Cities Concert Band at Audubon Baptist Church. Many thanks go to Carol and Louis Korb for sponsoring that concert!

The Garden Club would like to thank all Park residents for lighting up their trees and flowers during the festival. We were blessed that nature cooperated by having the Dogwoods and Azaleas at their peak during that weekend! We also would like to thank the Audubon Park Police for their help with the festival and especially the Public Works staffers (Jason Payne and Austin Poppe) for their help in setting up in Wren Park and at the church. Maybe next year, we can get all the stars to align and have stunning weather as well as stunning trees during festival weekend....

Audubon Park Garden Tour

The 10th annual Garden Tour was held on one of those glorious early summer days with plentiful sunshine, cool temperatures, and a lovely breeze! Over 140 residents and visitors came out to tour the seven neighborhood gardens and the newly planted Pope Memorial Rain Garden in Curlew Park. There was a wide variety of gardens (from shade gardens,

to roses and hostas, to perennial gardens) showcased. One stop on the tour (the home of Carolyn and Joe Dawson) also graciously provided a tour of their lovely home. The Dawson's home was prominently featured in the *Courier-Journal* in a two-paged Features spread the week prior to the tour. Local resident and artist, Nancy Zinner, also spent time in several of the gardens painting the landscapes. All in all, it was an absolutely perfect day for the Garden Tour; and some visitors noted that they come year after year because of the friendliness of the neighborhood along with the beauty of Audubon Park!

The Garden Club would like to thank those residents who spent so much time preparing their gardens for the tour, served as hosts/hostesses, and educated those who visited about their specific plantings. Many were also generous in donating seeds or starts of specific plants to tour participants. ***Special thanks to Ann and Buddy Hurst, Regina and Mark Hymer, Mark and Vanessa Hillerich, Joe and Carolyn Dawson, Edith Owen, Janice and Mark Wiseman, and the Craft Family for allowing us access to their gardens.*** The club also appreciated the efforts of all the residents that spruced up their yards prior to the tour (giving the entire neighborhood a well-tended appearance).

Proceeds from the tour exceeded \$1,400; and the money will be used for tree maintenance in Audubon's parks and along city easements. We hope you and your friends will mark your calendars for next year's tour on Saturday, June 23rd!

Garden Club Officers

The Garden Club would like to thank outgoing Club President, Betty Weise, for presiding over the Club for the past four years. Betty is being succeeded by Gene Stotz as Club President and the other officers remain in place for the coming year: Margaret Tanguay – First Vice President, Mary Miller – Second Vice President, Betsy Maxwell – Recording Secretary, Nancy Zinner – Corresponding Secretary, and Janet Shumate – Treasurer. All of these officers do a fantastic job in keeping the Garden Club functioning smoothly, and their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Arts and Crafts Festival – September 17th-18th

The 40th annual Arts and Crafts Festival will be held the 3rd weekend in September. The festival takes place in Oriole Park and will be Saturday, Sept. 17th, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Sunday, Sept. 18th, from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. Once again, there will be many vendors offering artwork, homemade crafts and holiday decorations, jewelry, and toys. In addition, the Garden Club sponsors a sweet/bake shop, food booth, and the Audubon Shop with numerous "used treasures". They also sponsor musical entertainment on Saturday by the father/son duo, The Burgards, and on Sunday by the Louisville Dulcimer Society.

Volunteers are needed to help work in the food booth (please call Mary Miller at 635-7322 or Gene Stotz at 634-4921 if you can work) and in the sweet shop (call Cathy Lally at 634-9646 to volunteer and/or donate pies, breads, cookies, brownies, cakes, or other sweet treats). Please don't forget to remember the Audubon Shop when you are cleaning out your basement, attic, closets, or garage over the summer. The Shop is always looking for new or used items in good condition such as books, household items, games, toys, sporting equipment, dishes, jewelry, potted plants (please label), etc. Please contact Leah Netherland at 638-8919 if you have items to donate or can volunteer to work. All proceeds from the Audubon Shop benefit the Garden Club, and they in turn return the profits to projects benefiting Audubon Park such as the community flowerbeds or park fertilization. We hope everyone will come and bring your family and friends to make this a fun and success festival!

Upcoming Garden Club Programs and New Evening Program

September brings the start of the Garden Club's monthly programs. All programs are held at City Hall, 3340 Robin Road, at 1 P.M. unless otherwise noted. All Park residents and their guests are welcome to attend. **Please note that the September meeting will be held in the evening to accommodate those who cannot attend programs held during the day. This will be an introductory meeting to provide information for those wanting to learn more about what the Garden Club does and/or for those possibly interested in joining.**

Please keep in mind that membership is no longer restricted to Audubon Park residents only....If you know someone interested in joining the Garden Club who cannot attend the September meeting, please have them contact Club President, Gene Stotz, at 634-4921.

Monday, Sept. 12, 2011: "Getting Acquainted: What the Garden Club Does for All of Us" - with speakers from the Garden Club and Audubon Park Forest Board. This meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M. in the Party Room of Audubon Woods Condominiums, 1300 Cardinal Drive. We encourage all residents and their guests to come to learn more about the Garden Club, and the evening session was specifically designed to accommodate those who work during the day.

Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011: "An Evening with Ken Schulz" - the annual Fall dinner featuring speaker and former WHAS-TV Meteorologist Ken Schulz. The dinner will be held at Audubon Country Club, 3265 Robin Road, at 5:45 P.M. Please contact Cheryl Westbay at 634-1239 or Ann Dyer at 634-3058 for more information or reservations.

Monday, Nov. 14, 2011: "New Ideas for Holiday Décor" - with guest speaker (Park resident and owner of Schulz's Florist) Debi Rush.

January 9, 2012: "Going Green in the Garden" - with guest speaker Jacquelyn McGrail (Master Gardener and past President of The Rambler Garden Club).

Monday, February 13, 2012: "A Whole New Idea of What Parks Can Be" - with a guest speaker from 21st Century Parks. This meeting is the Winter luncheon, held at Audubon Baptist Church, 1046 Hess Lane, at 11 A.M. The potluck luncheon is free, but reservations are requested and can be made by calling Cheryl Westbay at 634-1239 or Ann Dyer at 634-3058.

Monday, March 12, 2012: "Invasive Plants - Beware!" - presented by guest speaker (Club member) Cheri Powell at The Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Ave., at 1 P.M.

Garden Tidbits

- Don't forget that Audubon Park traditionally lights up and decorates for the holiday season the second weekend of December (Dec. 9th - 11th) during the Christmas Community Celebration. (More information will follow at a later date.)
- Deer have been seen with more frequency in the Park. Please do not honk at them as they have been known to panic when startled (such as the incident that occurred during the Garden Tour).
- Park resident and Garden Club member, Dr. Anne Bobigian, has been recognized in Kentucky for her work in reintroducing the American Chestnut tree to the region. She is in charge of data management for the many young, disease-resistant seedlings that are being planted throughout the State. Many residents may not realize that Audubon Park has several of these small trees planted along Cardinal Drive.

The African Violet

The African Violet, also known by its botanical name *Saintpaulia*, is a common flower found in the home and is much loved for its simple beauty. The flower originally was found in the tropical rainforests of northern Tanzania, and they retain their need for warmth and high humidity to flourish. The flower was discovered in 1892 by Baron Saint Paul, a German Diplomat, who sent a specimen to his father who was a noted horticulturist in Germany.

The African Violet has become a well-loved houseplant because it is easy to grow if given the proper conditions (a well-shaded location out of direct sunlight yet with bright, indirect light). African violets like humidity but do not like overwatering or water on their leaves. In fact, once watered (preferably through the bottom of the pot), the plant should be allowed to dry out before re-watering. They like to be moist but not wet. The plants also prefer fairly constant temperatures, typically 70-75 degrees during the day, and no less than 60 degrees at night. Flowers can easily be propagated by rooting a single leaf in African Violet potting mix or in peat moss-based potting soil (light and uncompacted). These plants also benefit from fertilization two to three times per year, and there are special fertilizers for the African Violet.

Although many think of the African Violet as purple, it also comes in other colors such as pink, mauve, white, blue, or bicolor and can have either single or double flowers.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- There is no parking permitted on the street or on parking pads between 2 A.M. and 6 A.M. There is also no parking permitted on the grass. Please inform guests to your home of this important information. As always, please watch your speed and be on the lookout for walkers and joggers. Night and early morning joggers and walkers are encouraged to wear light or reflective clothing.
 - Building, Tree, and Yard Sale permits are issued through City Hall. If you have a project in mind, a tree you would like to trim or remove on the easement, or if you would just like to have a yard sale, please call or come by City Hall for more information on obtaining a permit.
 - Please report any street lights that are out or malfunctioning to City Hall at 637-5066. The information provided will then be forwarded on to LG&E for repair.
 - **With regards to pets, please keep in mind that your neighbors do NOT want your pets wandering in their yard or on the roadway in front of their houses leaving unpleasant surprises or attacking the pets they may have. Please pick up after your pets and make sure they are under control at all times and are not running around loose. We have also received complaints at City Hall of barking dogs and of cats on the prowl. Please try to keep your pets from disturbing your neighbors or the bird population in the area.**
 - In keeping with the beauty of the neighborhood, please try to avoid having yard signs placed on your property. Please keep in mind that if a yard sign is placed on the easement, it will be removed by the City.
 - Please do not park your vehicle alongside another vehicle on the roadway. In doing this, it makes it dangerous for others to try to get through.
- Please discourage children and others from climbing in trees in the various City parks due to safety issues and damage possibilities.
 - Just as a reminder, request form applications and information regarding the Memorial Tree and Bench Programs are available at City Hall.
 - New residents are encouraged to visit City Hall to obtain a New Resident Guidebook.
 - Please keep in mind that information regarding Ash Trees and the Emerald Ash Borer are available at City Hall.
 - The Forest Board is currently looking for easement tree sites for Fall plantings. The Forest Board meets at City Hall the second Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M.
 - In relation to garbage collection, the collection days in the City are Tuesdays and Fridays. The yard waste and recycling are on Tuesdays only and are to be placed at the curb. **Please keep in mind yard waste must be bundled and not to exceed 48 inches in length (logs will not be accepted). These requirements also remain the same when there is debris from storms, etc. The City does not have a drop site for storm debris or any extra pickups scheduled; however, Waste Management has been picking up as many items as possible that are properly bundled, cut to the proper length, etc. Due to the severity of the recent storm, they informed us that they had ten trucks in Audubon for the first scheduled pickup following the storm.** Household garbage is collected at the rear of the house. Yard waste and recycling should **NOT** be placed at the street earlier than the evening before collection. We have had several complaints of residents leaving garbage containers out at the street. Please make sure containers are stored in their proper place near your home. If you have had problems with containers being placed back where they came from, please contact Waste Management.

Please see the following holiday schedule:

For Labor Day week (September 5, 2011), all collections will be one day later. For Thanksgiving Day (November 24, 2011), Friday

collection will be moved to Saturday. For Christmas Day (December 25, 2011), there will be no change in service for that week.

If your garbage is missed, please contact Waste Management at 966-0117.