


The Official Newsletter of The City of Audubon Park

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Issue 87

September 2019

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR WILLIAMS

Tony Williams

There is currently a large scale neighborhood utility easement tree pruning project underway that started on September 3rd by LG&E and sub-contractors of LG&E. It will take several weeks beginning with the lines along Hess Lane working south covering the lines from Robin to Cross Bill. After that they will work from the Cross Bill/Chickadee intersection out to Poplar Level Rd. Each of the sections should take approximately 2 weeks to complete and the overall impact on Audubon Park will be limited to approximately a month. LG&E will be contacting affected properties via mailer, door hanger notice, e-mail or phone.

New, taller utility poles may also be added in certain problematic areas. If you receive damage from any part of this process, call the LG&E customer service line at 502-589-1444 to register a concern. You may also contact Matthew Wiczorek, who is the head utility arborist for this project with questions. Matthew can be reached at 502-544-3455 or Matthew.Wiczorek@lge-ku.com.

Some recent tree pruning along the railway was performed during the month of August, affecting the rear yards of a few residents on Robin Road. That

particular job was by Norfolk Southern, and not LG&E. If you live on Robin Road and have a damage claim to submit regarding your rear yard property damage, the agent for Norfolk Southern is Brian Carr and he can be reached at 502-775-4972.

I'm excited to share that the City's Forestry Code is nearly complete after years of work and the remaining code of ordinances is currently being updated to conform to the last 23 years of both new state law and ordinances passed by the City of Audubon Park. Similar projects are also under way targeting the City's employee handbook, new resident welcoming packet, and City Hall building maintenance. Small beautification efforts will also continue.

The fiscal year 2020 budget, which began July 1st, is basically a stay-the-course plan, with some resources added for reforestation, community activities, and supplemental road repair funds. Another phase of road paving should start in the Summer of 2020 after all bids have been received. Oriole Drive will be the first repaving project in this next phase along with another road or two, based on both the severity of repairs and the allocation of funds. More details regarding road paving will be shared at a later date.

Our 5th Annual Auktoberfest will be on September 28th from 4PM to 9PM in Oriole Park. Please see the enclosed flyer for more details. When City events like

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Auktoberfest come up, we need *your* help to pull them off, so please volunteer here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945a8a62faaf-e3-audubon4>

I am very pleased at the continued effort of our entire police department is making at community policing. The Independence Parade seemed to have set a new record for attendance. The August 28th meet and greet cookout was also a huge success and the "citation" program for children wearing bike helmets was very well received. I'm looking forward to seeing what surprise costumes our finest will have in store for us on Halloween.

Something new we will be trying this year is a City-wide yard sale where residents will host a yard or garage sale on their own property from 8AM to 2 PM on September 28th. 57 residents have already signed up to participate and hundreds of shoppers are expected to stop by our neighborhood. This will not count against your yearly yard sale allotment if you choose to be a seller. If you would like to participate and you have not signed up online, please contact City Hall and provide us with your address. We would also like feedback after this event to determine if the City will continue to have a City-wide yard sale in the future.

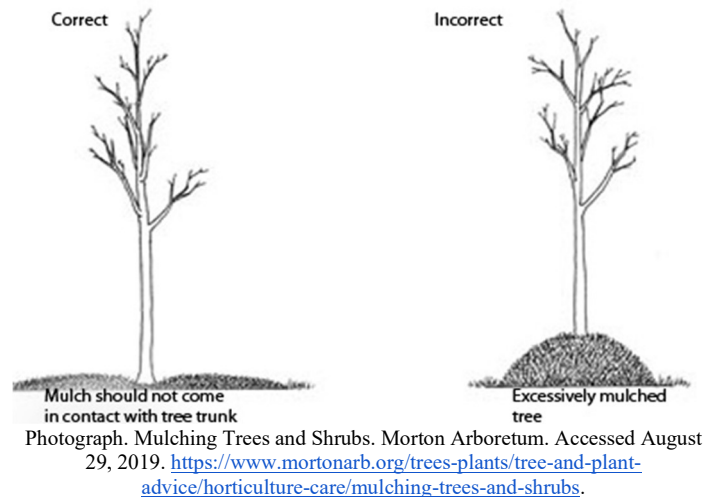
Once again, I thank you for your continued confidence and support as we work together to continue to move our great City forward. Have a safe and fantastic fall!!!

FOREST BOARD NEWS

Michael Blum- Chairperson

With fall quickly approaching, I hope that we all will be enjoying the beauty of the changing leaves in the coming months. As those leaves fall to the ground, homeowners often pile the leaves around the trunk of trees, thinking this natural mulch will serve as a benefit to their trees. While leaves do serve as a great natural mulch as our forest floors show, the piling of leaves around the base of trees can actually be detrimental to the long term health of our urban tree canopy. With

any mulching material, whether that be leaves, pine bark, or hardwood mulch, piling mulch around the trunk of the tree should be avoided. Such techniques, which include volcano mulching, can lead to fungal growth and rot of the tree's trunk, which will lead to a weakened tree and premature death. Instead, mulch should be applied in a thin layer of about two to three inches extending to the tree's dripline, which is defined as the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy, from which water drips onto the ground. Proper tree mulch is shown in the graphic below provided by Morton Arboretum.



In addition to the falling leaves, the cooler weather of late fall brings about one of the best times of the year to plant new tree seedlings. If you are interested in planting a tree in the street easement in front of your house this fall or next spring to add to the future fall beauty of our neighborhood, please contact chairperson Michael Blum through email, phone call, or text message at Michael.blum13@gmail.com or 502-396-4029.

Lastly, the Forest Board has been busy at work over the summer developing material to update the City's Forest Board webpage. We have nearly completed writing the content for the web page and plan to begin work with the city web page designer to implement the new pages over the coming months. We hope that these updates to the webpage will provide homeowners with a source of information that will

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continue to help build the health of our urban tree canopy while also answering many common questions. Be on the lookout for notification once the new webpage is up and running. As always, if you are interested in joining the Forest Board, please contact me at the contact information listed above.

AUDUBON PARK POLICE

Major Teddy Laun



What a fantastic time of year! School is in session and the kids are excited to see old friends and make new ones. I'd like for all of us to help the kids have a great year by remembering a few safety tips and following a few rules. Many children in the area walk to school. If you are

traveling in the City, pay attention to the 25 mph speed limit and watch for children in the roadway. Parents, consider placing something reflective on your child's clothing or backpack to help make them more visible to motorists. Every school year, we receive complaints from residents on Oriole Drive and Chickadee Road near Hess Lane. These are not authorized as drop off or pick up points for the nearby schools. Please, do the courteous thing and use the areas designated by the schools for drop off and pick up of your student. We also receive complaints about school buses speeding and motorists passing school buses while they are loading or unloading. You will see your Audubon Park Police Officers monitoring these situations and issuing citations as appropriate. Nothing is more important than the safety of our kids.

If your child will be home alone after school, make sure they know safety rules such as:

- Do not open the door to strangers.
- Know what to do in the case of emergency.
- How and when to call 911 for help.
- Know the rules on using social and digital media for kids and install parental controls.
- Consider installing motion activated video doorbells and other devices that notify you

when your child is home safely from school and other activities.

During the summer months, your child may have received a "citation" from one of your Audubon Park Police Officers for wearing a helmet while riding their bicycle. The Audubon Park Police Department has partnered with AAA East Central in the Helmet Smart program for the first time this year. It is a great way for officers to have a positive interaction with kids and foster long lasting relationships with the residents. Each "citation" includes a coupon for a McDonald's Happy Meal and an entry for a Helmet Smart Prize Drawing that can be mailed in to AAA East Central. Unfortunately this program ended in August but the officers had a lot of fun with the program and we are pleased to see so many children wearing their helmets in Audubon Park.

Look for Police Department updates on the Audubon Park Police Department Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AudubonParkPoliceDepartment/> and if you ever need us immediately, please call the Jefferson County Sheriff Dispatch at (502)574-5471.

HELLO - WHO'S THERE?

Chief Mike Minniear

Audubon Park continues to attract talented people, in both its resident volunteer officials and its employees. The bad news is, this creates turnover, as people of this caliber are actively sought in other challenging assignments. The good news is, we've been very fortunate in finding equally skilled and motivated replacements. Don Passafiume and Mike Murdoch are the latest additions to our police force you should meet:



Don Passafiume was born and raised in the Hikes Point area of Louisville, Ky. He attended St. Xavier HS and graduated in 1986. Don briefly attended the University of Kentucky and JCC. He started his

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career in Law Enforcement with the Louisville Police Department in the Spring of 1991. Don was a field training officer and worked in the old 5th district, 1st District, and 6th Division. He retired as a Senior Patrol Officer in December 2011. Don is one of the few police officers that have spent their entire police career riding a beat.

After retiring from the Louisville Metro Police Department, Don moved to Shelby County and worked for the Shelby County Sheriff's Office for two years and then worked another two years with the United States Marshal's Service until 2017. Don also does volunteer work at Assumption High School where his wife, Angela, is the Athletic Director. He was such a great volunteer that Assumption brought him on as a paid employee at "The Assumption Green."

Don and his wife currently live in the Jeffersontown area where they raised their four children. They are proud grandparents of two grandsons who were born seven weeks apart. Don is an avid fisherman and enjoys yoga and working out. His other love is his family and taking care of his grandsons.



Mike Murdoch was born in Peoria, IL. He moved with his family to Louisville, KY when he was in the 5th grade. Mike attended Jefferson County Public Schools and graduated from Southern HS in 1995. Mike began his career as a

first responder with the Okolona Fire Department and then in 1995, he became a dispatcher with Louisville Police Department. He also served a short time as a dispatcher with the Shively Police Department.

In 2001, Mike joined the ranks of sworn police officers when he was hired by the Pioneer Village Police Department. Mike moved from Pioneer Village to Hillview Police Department in 2002 and remained there for nine years. After serving at the Hillview Police Department, Mike was hired by the Bullitt County

Sheriff's Office. Mike worked his way through the ranks at the Sheriff's Office and served as a detective for several years. Mike attended the FBI National Academy in 2018. He recently retired as a Captain from the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office in April of this year.

Mike and his wife Kelly currently live in Shepherdsville where they raise their four children. Mike is an avid camper and enjoys riding his motorcycle. He enjoys spending time with his family and they take frequent trips to Florida.

AUDUBON PARK GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Joanne Bader

Celebrating Audubon Park's 90th Birthday with a Retrospective Look at Our Community with Dr. Tom Owen

The Audubon Park Garden Club was first organized in 1929. Its mission is "to encourage all residents of Audubon Park to promote, through cooperation, the improvement of Audubon Park as a garden and bird center and to participate in local, state, and national garden and horticultural programs." Over the years, members of the Garden Club have been instrumental in beautifying Audubon Park's many decorative flower beds and in promoting tree planting and tree diversity in the five communal parks. As mentioned in the last newsletter, while we know the Garden Club turns 90 this year, no one has been able to determine its actual birthday. So the Garden Club decided to celebrate this milestone twice – first in May at our annual Spring Luncheon and again at our annual Fall Dinner in October with the program "***Remembering Audubon Park 1929-2019'***".

Dr. Tom Owen is a well-known historian in Louisville and also serves as the Archivist at the University of Louisville. What many may *not* know is that Dr. Owen spent his early years living on Robin Road in Audubon Park and had other family members who lived in our city. So he is uniquely qualified to

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speak to the history of Audubon Park in its early days through to the present.

This event is being held at Audubon Country Club on Thursday, October 10th at 5:45 p.m. A chicken buffet including salad, dessert and tea/coffee will be available at a cost of \$25 per person. Reservations are non-refundable and are required for the event by October 1st. Reservations can be made by calling Grace Worful at 375-9041; please leave your name and phone number if you reach her voicemail. Payment for the dinner program should also be made by October 1st with checks payable to "Audubon Park Garden Club" which can be dropped off at or mailed to: 1218 Falcon Drive, Louisville KY 40213. We hope to see many old and new Audubon Park residents at this event which promises to be very interesting for anyone who loves our city!!

New Slate of Garden Club Programs to begin in September

The Garden Club hosts a monthly program series from September to May (excluding January). These monthly programs are open to all residents and their guests and are held at Audubon Park City Hall, 3340 Robin Road, beginning at 1 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Membership is no longer restricted to Audubon Park residents only and we even have 7 men who have joined the club and brought many different talents and perspectives to our group! If you know of anyone interested in joining the Garden Club, please have them contact Membership Chair, Janet Shumate, at 636-0111 or Club President, Jane Jonczy, at 239-4468 for more information. Membership in the Garden Club is \$30 per year (or \$55 per year for couples).

A full listing of Garden Club Programs for the upcoming year can also be found on the city's webpage: www.audubonparkky.org in the Garden Club heading under the Community tab. Below are the upcoming programs for the rest of 2019; 2020 programs which

will begin in February will be listed in the December newsletter.

Monday, September 9, 2019: "*Hemp*" with guest speaker Cathy Nichols, the Executive Director at Farmington Historic Plantation, 3033 Bardstown Road. Those interested in attending should meet at City Hall at 12 noon to carpool to the site. This should be a very interesting program with all of the current "buzz" about hemp as a new cash crop in Kentucky!

Thursday, October 10, 2019: "*Remembering Audubon Park 1929-2019*" with guest speaker Dr. Tom Owen, Archivist at the University of Louisville and also a noted Louisville historian. This meeting is the Club's annual Fall Dinner and will be held at Audubon Country Club, 3265 Robin Road at 5:45 p.m. Reservations are required and there is a fee for dinner. Contact Grace Worful at 375-9041 for reservations or additional information.

Monday, November 11, 2019: "*Hostas*" with guest speaker Dr. Anne Cartwright from Hostas of Kentuckiana. This program will be held at Audubon Park City Hall at 7 p.m. The Garden Club is trying to host some programs each year during the evening to be more welcoming to residents who are unable to attend daytime programs due to work or family obligations. Please feel free to invite your friends or neighbors to this event!

Fall Brightside Clean-up to be Held October 19th

The Garden Club sponsors two annual clean-ups under the auspices of Brightside; Garden Club member, Marie Eff, coordinates these events held in April and October. The fall clean-up is scheduled on **Saturday, October 19th at 9 a.m.** with volunteers gathering at the Preston Street entrance to Audubon Park. We hope that many residents will show up to clean up and beautify the City's western entrance on Preston

Highway at Audubon Parkway. In the spring, those volunteers collected eight bags of trash including debris from under the railroad overpass and we hope even more will turn out to participate in keeping our signature entrance to Audubon Park looking its best – especially now the entrance columns are lighted and new landscaping is in place. Gloves and t-shirts will be handed out to volunteers and students needing service hours are welcome! Also volunteers are encouraged to bring rakes, brooms and other trimming garden tools to help in the clean-up.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

In addition to community calendars, event notices, meeting schedules, and official information, the entire City Code of Ordinances is available on the Web site, *AudubonParkKY.org*, with provisions on parking, permit requirements, nuisance abatement, and all the rest. Please visit often!

- Speed limits and other traffic control measures are strictly enforced, for your safety and security. The City speed limit is 25 mph.
- There is no parking permitted on the street between 2 AM and 6 AM. There is also no parking permitted on the grass. Please inform visitors of this important information.
- Pets must be leashed or otherwise under their owner's absolute physical control when outside. The return of spring birds is a special reminder to keep cats and others from straying. We now have Dog Waste Stations at each of our parks so please use them when dog walking, *and picking up after your pets.*
- Building permits are issued through City Hall and the form can be downloaded from our website under "Building Permit." If you have a project in mind, please call or come by City Hall for more information on obtaining a permit.
- Yard sale, parades, use of public parks, and other general permits can be applied for online at the

"Permit Form" section of our website. Final permits are issued through City Hall. Please call or come by City Hall for more information on obtaining a permit.

- There is a link at our website under "Links" where you can report any streetlights that are out of order directly to LG&E for repairs under "Streetlight Outage Online Form."
- Permits are required for any work on city street easement trees including pruning or removal. Permits allow for the city to confirm tree companies are insured and to ensure the work being done will contribute to the overall health of our urban tree canopy. If you are unsure if your tree is in the easement, contact our Code Enforcement Officer Otto Mock at Audubonparkcodeofficer@gmail.com or 502-554-6105.
- Going on vacation? Leaving town for business? Whatever the reason may be, being away from your home for any length of time can lead to anxiety if you have security concerns. The Audubon Park Police Department House Watch program is designed to provide you with peace of mind by placing your address on a stepped-up patrol list for those living in the City limits of Audubon Park. Officers in your area will be instructed to keep a close eye on your property and to conduct area checks more regularly while you are away. There is a link at our website under "Form/Signups" where you can complete a house watch request. <https://www.audubonparkky.org/house-watch-request.html>
- There is a link at our website under "Links" where you can "Report A Problem" to MSD regarding stormwater waste issues.
- A resident Code Enforcement Complaint Form is located at the website so concerned residents can electronically report garbage, debris, graffiti, abandoned vehicles and property, parking, and overgrowth violations. Our Part-Time Code Enforcement Officer is Otto Mock and he can be reached at Audubonparkcodeofficer@gmail.com or 502-554-6105.

- Please discourage children and others from climbing trees in the various City parks, out of concern for both safety and potential damage.
- Information regarding ash trees and the emerald ash borer is available at City Hall, and on the Forest Board's archive Web site, *TreeCommittee-APKY.org*.
- Waste of all types – garbage, recycling and yard waste – is collected on Tuesdays (with occasional exceptions for holidays which is usually a day or two later). Garbage is picked up from behind your house, while yard waste and recycling items are to be placed at the curb. Do not place garbage at the curb as only yard waste and recycling are to be placed at the curb. Be sure to report any missed collection to City Hall.
- Please wear reflective clothing or other reflective gear – or, better still, carry powered lights – if you are out running, biking or walking in reduced light. It can be very difficult to see you if you are wearing dark clothing! Please take personal responsibility for your safety so accidents don't occur – you may be harder to see than you think!
- MSD offers rate assistance for senior citizens that are age 65 or older, have a gross annual income of \$35,000 or less and are both Louisville Water and MSD customers. An application can be made for a 30% discount on wastewater charges and the EPA surcharge by calling 502-540-6000.
- Audubon Park has a Little Free Library located at the intersection of Wren and Audubon Parkway. The Little Free Library is a book/magazine/DVD/CD exchange for adults and children where you are free to drop off or take materials located in the outdoor book holder. The library steward is Amanda Thompson. If you have questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to call, text or email her at 502-931-0790 or amt924@hotmail.com.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Andrew Klump



During the most recent election cycle, it became apparent that the residents of Audubon Park are concerned with the success and development of businesses along our western border of Preston Highway. Fortunately, businesses have recently opened, increasing the attractiveness and walkability of our lone commercial district. To spur connection between our community and our businesses, this spotlight article will showcase one of our Audubon Park businesses each quarter. Hopefully upon reviewing their stories, products, and services, you will consider supporting our local Audubon Park businesses, fostering the creation of an encouraging economic environment, heightening our standard of living.

Pure Power Solar



My name is Nick Hartnett (right). Myself and my business partner, Michael Palazzo (left) started this company 2 years ago. We both

were born and raised in Audubon Park, and we have come back to our roots to make the park home to our business as well. Solar is the most affordable it has ever been, and most systems we install will see a full return on their investment in less than 10 years, with every aspect of the system guaranteed for 25 years. If you plan to stay in your home for a good amount of time it is a no brainer.

At Pure Power Solar, we focus on giving people energy independence. Most homeowners will spend between \$40,000-\$80,000 on electricity over the next 25 years without ever thinking twice about it. We do not have

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to swipe our card everytime we turn on a light so we don't realize the massive amount of money that will be spent powering our home over the years. Pure Power Solar is here to inform people that there are ways to avoid this inevitable expense.

There are many deadlines for solar approaching at the end of the year that will have a large effect on the local industry. If you have ever considered going solar, the numbers will never look better than they do between now and the end of the year. We provide free information to all homeowners who may be curious to see what a solar project would look like for their home.

If you would like to get more information you can reach out to myself, Nick, at (502) 356-1806. I will design a proposal and find a time to stop by your home and review it in person. Also feel free to stop by the office at the corner of Audubon Parkway and Preston Highway during normal business hours.

COMMUNICATIONS

The City is committed to a maximum flow of information and civic dialogue, and has a variety of platforms for these purposes:

- This quarterly **newsletter** with updates, reports and discussions of City programs, events, services and facilities. The newsletter is published on the Web site, social media, email subscriber list, and now delivered 4 times a year in print.
- The **Web site**, *AudubonParkKY.org*, which is the City's open archive of municipal reference data – organizational, historical, fiscal, legal, and social. Links are also provided to the other media listed.
- **Two Social media** pages on Facebook are in use to make announcements, schedule activities and events, exchange ideas, and promote dialogue: **Audubon Park City Hall**, the main civic page and **Audubon Park Police Department**, focusing on law enforcement and public safety. Be sure to like

both pages in order to receive communication from them. *Audubon Park Residents, Friends of Audubon Park, and Friends & Residents of Audubon Park* are not official Audubon Park Facebook pages.

- **Nextdoor** is social networking site that brings back good old-fashioned neighborhood chatter between your neighbors across the street and you. It puts you in touch with folks down the block and even people a few miles down the road. Nextdoor is also like Facebook, where you can scan through your contacts' posts and photos, and you can post your own messages and photos. You might alert those neighbors to prowlers you spotted in the neighborhood. Your neighbors might recommend a good plumber or mechanic. They could also tell you about yard sales or appliances they're giving away. Or you can alert them to a stray dog you found.
- An **email subscriber list** distributing the newsletter and notices of City activities and events. Please sign up on the Web site, under the Resident Information tab, at "Audubon Park News."
- **ReachAlert** is an urgent notification system, with email, text or voicemail options, for emergency and other alert messages. Please subscribe to this system, on the same page, at "ReachAlert."
- The variety of regular public Council and board meetings are listed on the **Web calendar**.
- Or, just dropping by **City Hall**, for information or an informal chat.

Please take advantage of all these resources for civic awareness and engagement.

State law also requires ordinances and some other official notices to be published, either by newspaper, or first-class direct mail. With current newspaper circulation, and rates, mailings are a much better choice – so you may see things like this delivered from time to time. Some notices may also be published online at our website www.audubonparkky.org

Always be sure to let the mayor or your favorite council member know your thoughts and ideas!