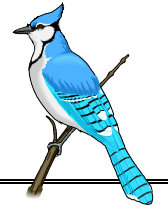


The Official Newsletter of The City of Audubon Park



Michael P. Scalise, Mayor
Carl R. Reesor, Chief of Police
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City Council:
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Patrick Kehoe Gary Vogel

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MAYOR SCALISE'S MESSAGE

THE END OF AN ERA

Audubon Park's Police Chief, Col. Carl Reesor, has announced that after 30 years of dedicated service (24 years as Chief) to the City of Audubon Park, he will be retiring on December 14, 2011. This is an end of an era for many in Audubon Park. Many of you have grown up knowing Col. Reesor as the Chief of the Audubon Police Department, and he has befriended many of the City's residents.

Col. Reesor has upgraded the department from a three-man, part-time operation with a minimum of technology and equipment, to a fourteen Officer, full-time, full-service Police agency with state of the art technology. He has overseen many changes to better the City and to gain the respect of Police agencies across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

In 2005, Audubon Police became one of only a handful of departments in Kentucky to be accredited by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police. This was a monumental task with a requirement of meeting over 100 professional standards as put forth by KACP. In 2010, Audubon Police received its second five-year accreditation from KACP by maintaining those professional standards.

During a recent ceremony honoring Col. Reesor for his many years of service, Louisville Metro Mayor Greg Fischer commented that he wished the Louisville Metro Police Department could operate in the same fashion as the Audubon Police Department.

This is a great compliment to Chief Reesor's leadership and dedication to the City.

Although we will greatly miss Col. Reesor's leadership and many years of knowledge, we wish him the best in his retirement.

NEW BEGINNINGS...

I would like to welcome Jeffrey Cox as our new Police Chief. He will become acting Chief on December 9th and, he will be sworn in to the position of Chief of Police on December 11th. Mr. Cox's career in law enforcement started with his being a County Corrections Officer. In 1996, he became a Police Officer excelling through his years of service to become Chief of Police with the Brandenburg Police Department in early 2000. During this time, he became a Certified Police Officer, and he has been a Certified Firefighter with over 20 years of volunteer service. In 2003, he accepted a position with Audubon Park as a Patrol Officer and worked in the Criminal Investigations Unit. In 2004, he returned to the Brandenburg Police Department as Chief of Police. In 2011, he left Brandenburg to return to the Audubon Police Department as a Major where he was assigned as Operation's Commander. After accepting the position, he moved to the Louisville area. Mr. Cox said he loves the community and looks forward to serving the residents of Audubon Park, and he said he has already met several of the great people in the community with hoping to meet many more. He can be contacted at City Hall or via email at chief@audubonparkky.org.

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The Passing of Long-Time Resident Bill Rodman

We would also like to express our condolences and sympathies to the family of Bill Rodman. He was the City Engineer for many years, and he last served the City in 1994. He will be greatly missed.

Did You Know...

We have received a lot of positive feedback regarding the recently added "Did You Know" section in the Newsletter about the Police Department; therefore, we will continue to focus on specific issues and concerns in upcoming Newsletters on other topics relating to City management and policies. (Please note that the information listed in this online version of the Newsletter will be repeated in the March issue that is delivered to all homeowners ensuring that all residents are given the opportunity to be informed.)

Neighborhood Soliciting and Permits

- **Religious groups** are allowed to come into Audubon Park to distribute information about their faiths under the 1st Amendment of the Constitution (which guarantees the right to free speech); HOWEVER, they are required to register with City Hall prior to coming into the City so that the Police and City Hall will be informed of their presence.
- No **businesses** are allowed to solicit within Audubon Park's boundaries – period. If you invite a business to come to your home that does not fall under the no-solicitation policy; however, flyers left on door knobs, in mailboxes, or roving salespeople are unlawful. **Please call City Hall if you notice these practices occurring and Police Officers will inform them of our Ordinances.** Businesses such as cable, pizza companies, or yard services, etc. trying to solicit are normally given a warning first and then they may receive a citation for violating City Ordinances for subsequent violations. They may also be fined up to \$1,000 or jailed for repeat violations.

- **Non-profit groups** such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or other various charities are allowed to come into the neighborhood; but they are required to get a permit first (which is provided at no charge at City Hall) for activities such as Scouting for Food, charitable walk/runs, etc.
- **Yard Sales** held within Audubon Park require the homeowner to first get a permit from City Hall which can be obtained at no cost. Residents may only hold ONE yard sale per year, and the sale must be held in the rear of the property. Only one sign announcing the event is allowed, and the copy of the permit must be attached to the sign. Signs should not be put on poles or trees (against both State and City law) and in doing so subjects the homeowner to the possibility of citation and fines. Signs cannot be placed on any easements either.
- Permits are required for **auctions or estate sales** within Audubon Park. The fee for this type of permit is \$100/day.
- **Political, advertising, or business signs** are discouraged with the exception of for sale or for rent signs which may be displayed on the resident's private yard (not the easement).

Other Miscellaneous City Information

- Did you know the Audubon Park Police provide **a free House/Business Watch** for all businesses and homeowners within our City boundaries during vacations, etc.? For businesses (including those located on Preston Highway from the railroad trestle to the entrance to North Audubon), they pay taxes and license fees to Audubon Park. For homeowners, this is a terrific service in providing extra security for your

home and property when you are out-of-town.

- During a House/Business Watch, Police personnel will check doors and windows as well as the perimeter of the building at least once per shift.
- To set up a watch for your property, please call City Hall during regular office hours (Monday - Friday, 8 A.M. – 4 P.M.) at 637-5066 or call the Sheriff's dispatch at 574-5471 after hours, weekends, holidays, etc. Dispatch will take the information and pass it along to the Audubon Park Police.
- **Parking tickets** are considered City of Audubon Park citations, and the fines associated with them go into the City's coffers.
- **Speeding tickets** (as well as other moving violations such as running a stop sign, a tail light out, etc.) are State citations and are handled by Jefferson County Court. All fines associated with moving violations are paid to the Commonwealth of Kentucky – not Audubon Park!
- Excerpts of the most common Ordinances for Audubon Park were bound and distributed to homeowners in 2009 (a small blue paperback book). If you did not receive a copy of the booklet (e.g. are new residents), additional copies are available at City Hall.

AUDUBON PARK GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Joanne Bader

An Audubon Park Christmas....A Community Celebration

This year, the Garden Club invites you to find the holiday spirit at an Open House at City Hall on Sunday, December 11th, from 6 - 8 P.M. While still encouraging the residents of Audubon Park to light up and decorate their homes and yards with seasonal decorations to delight neighbors and visitors driving through our historic community at Christmastime, the Garden Club is changing the focus of their annual Christmas celebration to one of fellowship and community spirit. The traditional house/door/nativity contest awards are being replaced with door prizes to those residents who visit the Open House. To encourage fellowship with your neighbors, the Garden Club will also provide sounds and tastes of the holiday with hot cider, coffee, and cookies. Many door prizes will be awarded throughout the event. Additional information has been circulated to residents via a flyer to area homes; but, residents are asked to light up their homes by Saturday, December 10th. Please come meet and greet your neighbors as we welcome the beginning of the Christmas season!

Arts and Crafts Festival Results

Audubon Park's 40th Annual Arts and Crafts Festival enjoyed a largely wonderful Fall weekend with perfect weather on Saturday and dry, cool weather (after a very early shower that thankfully ended just prior to the start of the festivities) on Sunday. Although the total number of vendors was down slightly from previous years, there were many new, high-quality artists and craftsmen with a wide variety of wonderful items for sale. There was also lots of good music, food, and fellowship for all who attended. This year's profits were just over \$3,000 (which is primarily returned to the Audubon Park community through expenditures for park maintenance and fertilization and plantings in the community's garden spots).

The Garden Club would like to thank all of the residents of Audubon Park who helped volunteer or donated items to the Audubon Shop, Sweet Shop, or

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Food Booth (all necessary to make the Festival a success). Special thanks are extended to the Audubon Park Police and Maintenance staff for their hard work during the Festival along with Frank's Meats, Kroger, McDonald's, Wal-Mart, and Wendy's for their donations of food and soft drinks.

Upcoming Garden Club Programs

The Garden Club had a very successful September meeting where residents and other interested guests were invited to learn more about the Garden Club and Audubon Park's Forest Board. Since that meeting, the Club has welcomed five new members! We are always looking for more people who enjoy gardening and/or are interested in helping to maintain and beautify Audubon Park.... **Please keep in mind that membership is no longer restricted to only Audubon Park residents....If you know someone interested in joining the Garden Club, please have them contact Club President, Gene Stotz, at 634-4921 or Membership Chair, Marjorie Davis, at 636-2132.** Monthly club programs are open to any residents and their guests; and unless otherwise noted, they are held at Audubon Park City Hall, 3340 Robin Road, with meetings beginning at 1 P.M. and followed by the featured program. Upcoming programs include:

Monday, January 9, 2012: "*Going Green in the Garden*" - with guest speaker Jacquelyn McGrail who is a Master Gardener, Landscape Design Consultant, and immediate 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 program will be held at the winter luncheon sponsored by the Garden Club at Audubon Baptist Church, 1046 Hess Lane, and starts at 11 A.M. Guests are welcome to come to the free luncheon, but reservations are required and available by calling Cheryl Westbay at 634-1239 or Ann Dyer at 634-3058.

Monday, March 12, 2012: "*Invasive Plants – Beware!*" - with guest speaker and Garden Club member Cheri Powell. This program will be held at

the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue, across from the zoo. The program begins at 1 P.M.

Wednesday, April 11, 2012: "*Viewing of Derby Hats*" - This program will be conducted during the Spring luncheon and will be held at Audubon Country Club, 3265 Robin Road, beginning at 11:45 A.M. There is a fee for the luncheon, and reservations are required. Please contact Cheryl Westbay at 634-1239 or Ann Dyer at 634-3058 for more information.

Monday, May 14, 2012: "*The Floral Clock and Rose Gardens*" - This program involves a trip to the State capital at Frankfort. There will be carpooling from City Hall at 10 A.M. with lunch following the tour of the gardens and clock.

The Passing of an Audubon Park Legend: Ethelyn Maxwell

Audubon Park has lost another of its major supporters – Ethelyn Maxwell. Ethelyn, a resident of the City for nearly 60 years, was recognized and loved by all who had the good fortune to know her. Along with Sara Pope, she was a steward of the urban canopy in Audubon Park (fostering diversity in new tree plantings always with an eye to adding new textures and colors as well as introducing native tree and ornamental varieties that would thrive in our soil and expand the canopy). She was frequently seen hand-watering new trees and loved to share her knowledge of them. She was a fierce proponent of proper mulching (not volcano-style!)

In addition to her prodigious tree knowledge, Ethelyn was known for her love of birds. She believed in a holistic approach to gardening and bird stewardship (appropriate for those of us living in a bird sanctuary!). This incorporated specific trees and plantings in her gardens to provide food and shelter for the bird population. She was infamous for her many feeders in her backyard (which didn't discriminate between birds and squirrels)... Much of her knowledge of birds, trees, and flowers was self-learned through reading since her childhood in Virginia.

Ethelyn personified the Garden Club. She loved to pass along her knowledge, and many current

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members often cited Ethelyn as a major reason they joined the Club. She was generous in sharing her knowledge, her plants, and was delighted in the success stories of those who transplanted her bounty. Her twinkle, ever-present smile, and southern grace and charm will be much missed; but, she has left her legacy throughout Audubon Park for generations to come....

The Christmas Rose

Another seasonal favorite at this time of year is the *Christmas Rose*, also known by its botanical name "*Helleborus niger*". This flowering plant often blooms at Christmastime (although its flowering season runs from December to April), with blooms lasting for several weeks providing color and cheer during the Winter. According to legend, the Christmas Rose bloomed outside the stable at Bethlehem despite the fact that the plant in actuality is not native to the Holy Land! The legend notes that a little girl that visited the stable to see the Christ Child was upset because she had no present for the baby. Her tears landed in the snow, and a nearby angel showed her the flowers poking up through the snow (which she then offered as her gift).

The flowering plant with beautiful, white petals is propagated both for potted plant and cut flower production. It is native to Southern and Central Europe (especially in the Alps region). It is a durable, cold-hardy plant that thrives in partially shaded, moist soil.

Some fun facts about the Christmas Rose.... They are poisonous and were used in ancient times as a medicine to cure worms in children. The seeds are spread by snails that eat the oil coating on the seed and carry it in their slime trails. The *hellebores niger* gets its name from its black roots. It is also sometimes called the Easter Rose because of its long blooming season.

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. With the time change, 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.

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- 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 Spring plantings. The Forest Board meets at City Hall the second Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. (with the exception of December).
 - 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.; and the City does not have a drop site for storm debris.** 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 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.