

# Louisburg Speaks <sup>KS</sup>

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June-July 2021

## Old tires, milk jugs become new tables

If having a picnic on an old tire doesn't sound appetizing, you might want to think again.

New picnic tables made of recycled tires and plastic milk jugs were delivered to the city in late May. The eight tables are located at Lewis-Young Park near the concession stand. One of the eight tables is handicap accessible.

The recycled tables made their way to Louisburg as part of a Waste Tire Grant program through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The City applied for the 50 percent matching grant to replace the vintage tables at the park.

The tables are manufactured by Champlin Tire Recycling, Concordia, Kan., and its outdoor furniture division, Back Atcha Outdoor Furniture Products.

Each table contains the equivalent of 20 passenger tires and 3,840 empty gallon plastic jugs, like milk, orange juice or tea containers, according to a Champlin Tire Recycling representative.

"These new tables are a great example of how recycling can take care of our environment and even small-scale differences can have a big impact for future generations by diverting trash from our landfill into useful products,"

says Mayor Marty Southard.

There are many uses beside recycled tables for old tires. When it's time to change a tire, there is often quite a bit of rubber left, according to the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Inc. This is excellent material to create new products from swings to playground mulch to safer, more durable highways. In 2016, 136 million tires were processed by the U.S. recycling industry, according to the ISRI. The rubber is processed through shredding knives or cryogenic freezing then crushing before going into products like synthetic turf fields or roofing tiles.

In 2016, 1.2 billion pounds of crumb rubber including 92 million used tires were used to create new products like new tires, playground surfacing, equestrian mats, rubberized asphalt and more. About 70 million tires were used to create that crumb rubber that became playground surfaces, synthetic turf infill and other products. About 20 million tires morphed into road embankments and other products for civil engineering projects.

Recycling tires is also good for the environment and the wallet, says the ISRI. Using recycled rubber in molded plastics reduces greenhouse gases from 25 percent to nearly 80 percent when compared to using virgin plastic resins. The economic impact of tire and rubber recycling is \$2.47 billion.



*Tires and plastic jugs are recycled to make these new picnic tables at Lewis-Young Park.*



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**City Hall**

Nathan Law  
City Administrator  
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913-837-5371  
www.louisburgkansas.gov  
Hours: 7 am - 4:30 pm  
Monday-Friday

**Police Department**

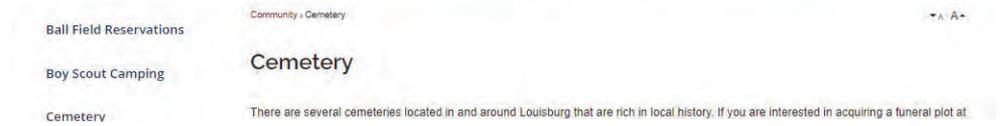
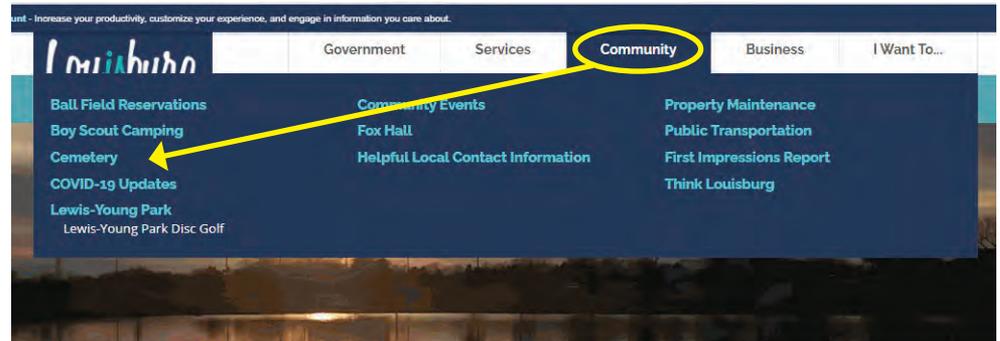
Chief Tim Bauer  
209 S. Metcalf Rd.  
Louisburg, KS 66053  
913-837-3191

**Fire Department**

Chief Gerald Rittinghouse  
205 S. Metcalf Rd.  
Louisburg, KS 66053  
913-837-4700

# Cemetery records just became more user-friendly

Thanks to an assist from staff at Dengel & Son Funeral Home, burial records for the Louisburg Cemetery are now available on the City's website. Also online are maps of the original section and the new section of the cemetery. While the burial records are current, the maps were last updated a few years ago. Work will start soon to update the maps. These new features should aid family members in locating graves and for genealogists researching family history.



Information on the Louisburg Cemetery can be found on the City's website under the Community tab.

## MAYOR'S MINUTE

### Independence Day unites us all

On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, a Founding Father from Virginia, proposed that the colonies declare independence, but this wasn't voted on until July 2, 1776.

John Adams wrote July 2 "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other" (History.com). Obviously we celebrate this country's birthday on July 4 when the Declaration of Independence was ratified.

I have read that John Adams would turn down invitations to speak at July Fourth events because he thought it was the wrong day to celebrate. It's amazing when you think about how brave the founding fathers were to take such a leap of faith and set up such a framework that we are still following 245 years later. I've often written in past Mayor's Minutes how I worry that we don't really compromise much on the national level

anymore but I won't digress into that in this article.

I want to stay focused on the fact that we all should be extremely proud to live in this country and be able to celebrate together. I do hope local politics always looks at ways of compromise instead of ways to destroy each other.

Louisburg, along with many other communities, enjoys celebrating the Independence Day holiday. The Freedom Fest committee works throughout the year to set up a spectacular July 4th celebration for this city and it gets better and better each year. I hope the citizens can celebrate that we are all Americans in spite of any political differences. Maybe we can start a trend and try to make John Adams happy and celebrate from July 2 to July 4.



**MARTY SOUTHARD**

Louisburg Speaks is published six times a year by the City of Louisburg for its residents. Please direct questions or comments to jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov

The City of Louisburg requires building permits. Please call the Building & Zoning Department at 913-837-5811 before beginning any construction project.

# Policy creation, enforcement

In the last Government 101 article we talked about the reasons for trading off the benefits of living in an organized society with the expectations brought by policies. Knowing that there are policies, the next question might be, "Who enforces those policies?"

Policies, rules, laws; the various tradeoffs in an organized society may be enforced by varying levels of government, including: Federal, State, County, or City. At the City, various departments may be charged with enforcement.

City Hall staff may help oversee enforcing building codes by issuing permits, but a City building inspector will make sure a project is built to code. Building codes are adopted locally by the City Council but the current versions are created by an International Codes Council, based on current material and safety recommendations.

Similarly, many of the traffic and public offense codes may be based on Kansas law, but two annual manuals summarize those state laws, and the City then adopts those manuals. Once those two manuals are adopted, the

Louisburg Police Department enforces those laws by warning against wrong behavior or using more strict methods.

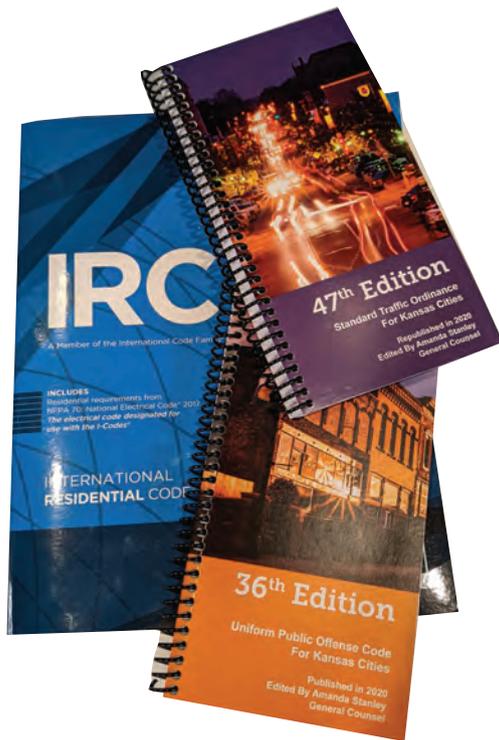
## HOW ARE POLICIES CREATED?

These various policies are typically approved by ordinance, which "codifies" or makes the policy into local law. At the City the process is: an ordinance is drafted and introduced to the Council, any needed changes or amendments are discussed and made to the ordinance, then the ordinance is voted for approval by Council. If the ordinance receives a majority vote, then it is considered approved. All ordinances are required to be published at least one time, usually in the official City newspaper, and are considered official at that time. The term "codifies" means that the policy-made-law is incorporated into City Code.

## WHO CAN INTRODUCE OR REQUEST A POLICY?

Policies may be introduced or requested by any number of individuals or groups. Sometimes a policy or concern is presented at a Council meeting by a scheduled visitor and Council may direct staff to draft an ordinance for consideration. Similarly, staff may attend a training where a policy is discussed and introduce the information to Council for consideration. Sometimes Councilmembers may bring up a topic or concern and direct staff to research and return information, which may include drafting a policy and an ordinance. Local governments have some degree of flexibility in the process of how policy and local laws are introduced, but there is a standard process for approving ordinances and creating local law.

When a policy-made-law is finalized, the establishing language will usually include a section that states what staff member or department is responsible for enforcing that law. There is also a section that states what the penalty is for violating the local law, which may include fines or even more strict methods of enforcement. If there is no separate penalty listed for that specific law, empowering appropriate employees or departments to enforce the local law.



*The Uniform Building Code, the Standard Traffic Ordinance and the Uniform Public Offense Code are some policies that governments follow.*

## New policy for city brush dump

The City of Louisburg brush pile, located south of town on Rogers Road, is only open to residents of the City of Louisburg. The City Council at a May meeting banned commercial contractors from using the site, even if they were hired by city residents. Only brush may be taken to the site. Grass clippings are not allowed. Violators may be prosecuted.

## City goes livestream

City meetings are moving to livestream options beginning in July. The Council approved the purchase of equipment to be able to provide livestream options. The City's website and Facebook will have more information available in late June on how to watch the meetings.

## Last day at the pool

The Louisburg Aquatic Center will close for the season at 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15.

## Paws at the Pool

This year's Paws at the Pool will be Tuesday, Aug. 17. Small dogs will swim from 5:30-6 p.m. with large dogs, 50 lbs. and over, swimming from 6:15-7:30 p.m. All dogs must have a City dog tag to gain admittance.

Cost of the City dog tag is \$3 for a spayed or neutered pet and \$5 for a non-spayed or non-neutered pet. Proof of the pet's rabies vaccine is also required.

## Free PPE, supplies

PPE, including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and disposable and multi-use gowns, and cleaning supplies including bleach, disinfectant and wipes, are available for free for county businesses, non-profits and churches. Please contact Mark Whelan, Miami County Emergency Management Coordinator, at 913-294-3232, ext. 206 or [mwhelan@sheriffmiamicountyks.gov](mailto:mwhelan@sheriffmiamicountyks.gov).

Thanks to many businesses and organizations there are lots of fun activities at Freedom Fest for all ages to enjoy.



## Mark your calendars for Freedom Fest celebration

Freedom Fest returns to Lewis-Young Park this Independence Day.

The gates to the park open at 6 pm with the national anthem and color guard at 7 p.m. Music will be provided by the Middle Creek Opry Band. Fireworks will begin at dusk.

New this year will be the Freedom Cornhole Tournament. The entry fee is \$20 for a two-person team. Half of the tournament fees will go back to the Freedom Fest fund and the remaining purse will be split between the top two teams.

Start times will be based on the number of teams in the tournament. Team registration is due Thursday, June 24. Teams should register at City Hall. A bracket will be available on the City's website Monday, June 28.

Several businesses and organizations

will have booths set up, some with games or activities for the kids.

Door prizes will be handed out throughout the evening.

The Louisburg Lions Club will again be handing out free watermelon slices. The Lions are also donating bikes that will be raffled for kids who sign up while at the park. Kids must be present to win a bike.

The American Legion will be bringing their kiddie train for rides for the kiddos.

Most everything during Freedom Fest is free but bring some extra money for the food trucks and inflatables.

The BBQ Shack and Papa Scott's Street Eats food trucks will both be serving up tasty food starting at 6:30. The Funnel Cake Truck will also be there serving up sweet treats.

Inflatables will be available for the kids for a small charge. Tickets are \$1 each, seven tickets for \$5 or an unlimited ride wristband for \$10.

Louisburg High School junior and select choir member Bella Feikert will perform the national anthem. American Legion members will provide the color guard.

The highlight of the evening will be a fireworks show conducted by members of the Louisburg fire department. The light display will take place about dusk.

A free-will donation will be taken at the gate to help defray the cost of the fireworks.

While there are a few of the new recycled picnic tables at the park, festival goes are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or a blanket.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Louisburg City Hall closed for Independence Day, Monday, July 5**

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Tuesday, July 6  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway  
*meeting moved to Tuesday*

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, July 7  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Park & Tree Board**  
6:30 pm Monday, July 12  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, July 19  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Recreation Commission**  
6 pm Tuesday, July 20  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Planning Commission**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, July 28  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 2  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, Aug. 4  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Park & Tree Board**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 9  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Aquatic Center closes for the season**  
5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 16  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Paws at the Pool Tuesday, Aug. 17**  
Small dogs: 5:30-6 pm  
Large dogs: 6:15-7:15 pm

**Louisburg Recreation Commission**  
6 pm Tuesday, Aug. 17  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Planning Commission**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, Aug. 25  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Fox Hall Board**  
5 pm Monday, Aug. 16  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

*An updated calendar as well as agendas and minutes for city meetings can be found at [www.louisburgkansas.gov](http://www.louisburgkansas.gov) under the Agendas & Minutes icon.*

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