

Louisburg Speaks ^{KS}

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Reservations now accepted for City parks facilities

It is now possible to reserve amenities and areas that are part of the City's parks for a small fee. This includes the shelter house at Ron Weers Park, two shelter houses at Lewis-Young Park and the bandstand at City Park.

The Louisburg Park & Tree Board worked on drafting a parks reservation policy for a few months and recently recommended the policy to Council for final approval.

The new policy allows for the exclusive use of certain park amenities when a rental is secured. Residents are still welcome to use any of the parks facilities free of charge at any time unless a reservation has been secured through City Hall. In the event of a reservation, the renter has exclusive use of the area/shelter reserved.

The shelter at Ron Weers Park is available to rent in four-hour increments for \$25. The hours available are 8 a.m. to noon; noon to 4 p.m. or 4-8 p.m. The facility is also available to rent all day from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. for \$50.

The shelter's restroom key may also be checked out for a \$25 deposit. The deposit will be returned once the key is returned.

The City Park bandstand and shelter houses at LYP are available for \$10 per day.

Camping is also available at LYP with rates based on number of campers and whether the campers live in the USD 416 area or are out of the area.

Residents may make a park reservation on the City website under the "I Want To" tab and select Parks Facilities Rental.

Baseball, softball, soccer and flag football fields at LYP are also available for rent. Scheduling and rental for those fields are processed by the Louisburg Recreation Commission. There is a fee structure for field rental.

The complete policy and fee structure is available on the City's website.



The Ron Weers Park shelter house is just one of the City's parks amenities that is available for rental.

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Hours: 7 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Police Department

Chief Tim Bauer

209 S. Metcalf Rd.

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-3191

Fire Department

Chief Brad Seely

205 S. Metcalf Rd.

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-4700

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

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

Residents surveyed on leaf removal

The City Council is looking at options for leaf removal within the city limits.

During the past year, council members have heard various complaints and concerns about burning inside the city limits and the health issues that burning creates for some residents.

Currently, open burning is allowed inside the city limits on Fridays and Saturdays when wind speeds are between 5 and 15 mph. A burn may not be started between two hours before sunset until one hour after sunrise. City residents are also asked to call the Miami County Sheriff at 913-294-4444 option 4 to check weather conditions each time they conduct a burn.

City staff presented the City Council with several options on leaf removal at a meeting in late January. Some of the

options included purchasing a truck with a vacuum that would be used to remove leaves that had been raked to the curb. Another option discussed was to have a trash dumpster available for residents to haul and dump their leaves into and the dumpster would then be hauled to the landfill. The last option would be to create an area at the City's brush dump on S. Rogers Road that could be used to house the leaves until they could be burned. Some of these options would have varying costs associated with them.

Each city household is asked to complete a survey that is included in this newsletter or is available on the City's website: www.louisburgkansas.gov.

The Council will use this feedback to determine if a city leaf removal program will be pursued.

Riding the rollercoaster

Being mayor sometimes feels like riding a rollercoaster; there are times that are very exciting and fun and there are times that a person has to hang on tight since it feels like the car is going to run off the track or go upside down.

I enjoy listening and talking with others as we set and accomplish goals to make our city a better place to live and grow. Council members will have a workshop in late April to formalize next year's goals for the City. It is an exciting process in which the council will come together in order to prioritize what we feel is most important for the City to accomplish next year.

Some of these goals include more street lights at crosswalks, better house numbering, continued sidewalk growth and potential pool enhancements. These are the fun times to be on the rollercoaster and it brings back good memories of riding the rides and

attending a fair. The time when it feels like the ride is going to run off the track is when we receive complaints that are unreasonable. I do not mind complaints that help to bring about change or provide a differing

of opinion. The unreasonable part, for example, is when someone complains about a speeding ticket they received when they know they were speeding. As long as the rules are clear it is hard to fault someone for doing their job.

All in all, it is an exciting time to be Mayor and most of the time I enjoy the rollercoaster ride. But I am glad that City Hall doesn't sell cotton candy or funnel cakes.



MAYOR'S
MINUTE

Marty Southard

Be safe, call before you dig

If you have a spring or summer-time project that includes digging, you are encouraged to call 811 Dig Safe before you dig.

This free service will mark any utilities in your yard and help you avoid costly disruptions to utility service or injury to you or those around you. It can also help you avoid footing the bill for repair costs if you do hit a utility.

Homeowners or contractors should always call Dig Safe before any outdoor project that involves digging that may include constructing a deck, fence, outdoor water feature and even a mailbox or planting trees or shrubs.

The depth of utility lines can vary and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area.

After placing a call to 811, the Dig Safe operators contact local utility companies who then mark utility lines. This process generally takes three to four days. Even if you've used Dig Safe in the past to mark utility lines, you should do this each time you dig as lines could shift due to time, erosion or root structure growth.

Utility marking can even be requested online at www.kansasone-call.com.



Residents should always call Dig Safe before making improvements that involve digging.

Citywide clean-up

City residents are encouraged to deep clean their closets and search the far corners of garages for items that can be set out for citywide clean-up day.

This event, for city residents only, is Saturday, April 27. Residents should have their items to the curb by 6:30 a.m.

Small items should be contained in bags or boxes. White goods, scrap iron and metal will be picked up. Refrigerators or freezers must be emptied, doors removed, locked or



Citywide clean-up is a service provided by the City of Louisburg with the local refuse company.

otherwise made so they can't be opened and turned face down.

Items that will not be picked up include regular trash, brush, limbs, leaves, tires, batteries, demo or construction material and no hazardous waste like paint, pesticides, oils, gasoline motors. To dispose of those items contact the Miami County Sanitary Landfill at 913-294-2674.

CALENDAR & REMINDERS

- Citywide clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, April 27.
- National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27 at the Louisburg Police Station.
- Discounted pool passes are available at City Hall through April 30.
- Louisburg Aquatic Center opens for the season, noon, May, 25.
- City offices are closed for Memorial Day, May 27.
- 24th annual Fishing Derby, 7-11 a.m. Saturday, June 15, Ron Weers Shelter/City Lake. Kids 16 & under can compete for prizes.
- Mark your calendars for Freedom Fest, July 4 at Lewis-Young Park. Watch for more details.
- Annual dog tags are required for all dogs living inside the city limits. Tags are \$3 for a dog that is spayed or neutered or \$5 otherwise. A copy of the dog's rabies vaccine is required. Tags may be purchased at City Hall during regular business hours.

Getting to know.....

Louisburg Aquatic Center

Warmer weather is right around the corner and thoughts are beginning to turn to summer fun at the swimming pool.

The Louisburg Aquatic Center has something for everyone. The pool features a zero-depth entry to make it easy to get into and out of the pool. This area is also the place where toddlers and small children play under two spray towers and large umbrella.

The middle section of the pool ranges from 3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet 6 inches and provides space for swim and play. This section tapers into the 12 feet 6 inch deep end that features a diving board and drop slide.

An open slide and closed slide that drop swimmers into a 3 feet 6 inch slide pool offer fun for swimmers 42 inches or taller.

Swimmers under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult at the pool.

Lap swim is offered from 8-9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For the second season water aerobics are offered from 7-8 p.m. each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. These classes are taught by instructors from the Louisburg Athletic Club.

Group swim lessons are offered in three sessions during the summer Monday through Friday. The first session is June 3-14; the second session is June 24-July 5; and the third session is July 15-26. A parent & tot class is offered July 8-12. The Louisburg Barracuda swim team manages the group lessons. Swim lesson sign-ups will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 24 and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April, 27.

Information on private lessons taught by lifeguards will be available at the pool after opening day.

The pool opens for the season Memorial weekend, at noon Saturday, May 25. The pool closes for the



Lounge chairs surround the zero-depth entry at Louisburg Aquatic Center. Right: Swimmers enjoy the deep end of the pool.



season at 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11.

The severe weather/lightning policy calls for the pool to close in the event of lightning within 10 miles of the facility or if another threatening storm is in the area. Guests will be asked to clear the pool and deck area and will be directed to shelter in the bathrooms. Guests may only leave the pool if they have a ride and may not loiter outside the pool.

Pool users are encouraged to watch the City of Louisburg's Facebook page. Any early closing will be posted there.

Pool passes are available at City

Hall for a discount until April 30.

Passes may be purchased at City Hall until the pool opens and then can be purchased at the pool. Credit cards will be accepted at the pool this year for pool passes or admission fees.

The Louisburg Barracudas have swim team practice Monday through Friday mornings from 6-10 a.m.

Pool parties are also available. Rental information is on the City's website or call City Hall to schedule your pool party.

The three large umbrellas will be replaced this summer.

Louisburg wants your opinion!

CLOSE-KNIT • CLOSE TO EVERYTHING

The City Council would like residents to provide feedback on potential leaf pickup programs, some of which are mandatory per residential household. The Council is exploring options to provide for leaf pick-up in lieu of residential leaf burning.

Please fill out this survey and return with your utility bill by May 10 or you may fill out the questionnaire on the City's website: www.louisburgkansas.gov/

Residents are asked to only fill out one survey per household.

Property Address: _____

1. How willing are you to pay a mandatory \$2 each month per household for leaf pick-up in which residents would rake leaves to the edge of the street and a vacuum truck would pick up the leaves?

- Very willing
- Somewhat willing
- No opinion
- Somewhat unwilling
- Very unwilling
- I am not interested in a leaf program

2. If you answered the above question as *very willing* or *somewhat willing*, would you rather be billed monthly as part of the utility bill or be assessed through property taxes?

- Monthly bill
- Property tax

3. As a second alternative to the street side pick-up, how willing are you to collect and haul your leaves to a central facility located on city property. This mandatory service would cost residences \$1.50 per household per year.

- Very willing
- Somewhat willing
- No opinion
- Somewhat unwilling
- Very unwilling
- I am not interested in a leaf program

4. As a third alternative, how willing are you to rake and haul your leaves to the City's burn site located on S. Rogers Road at no anticipated cost to residents.

- Very willing
- Somewhat willing
- No opinion
- Somewhat unwilling
- Very unwilling
- I am not interested in a leaf program

Additional comments: