

Louisburg Speaks ^{KS}

Coronavirus information, assistance in Louisburg

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Coronavirus is sweeping the globe and no area is immune to the novel virus.

The Miami County Commission and Health Officer issued a stay-at-home order March 25 that is effective for 30 days or until April 23, about the same time this newsletter will be distributed to city utility users.

While there are lots of unknown surrounding this virus and the COVID-19 disease that stems from it, the Louisburg area has geared up to provide information and assistance that might still be needed after the stay-at-home restriction is lifted.

LOUISBURG HELPING LOUISBURG

The Louisburg Ministerial Alliance has established Louisburg Helping Louisburg to assist those who have had their work hours cut, lost their jobs due to layoffs, been furloughed or had positions eliminated.



Louisburg Helping Louisburg

If Louisburg area residents need help paying for groceries, utilities or rent, they can reach out to the Ministerial Alliance at these churches: Faith Chapel, 837-2108; First Baptist Church, 837-4393; First Christian Church, 837-4760, Immaculate Conception Church, 837-2295; Journey Church, 913-777-1885; Louisburg Baptist Temple, 837-2979; or Louisburg United Methodist Church, 837-2374.

The Ministerial Alliance is also accepting cash donations to reach as many in need as possible. Contact one of the churches to provide a donation.

The City of Louisburg is assisting the Ministerial Alliance in getting the word out to residents on this program. The City also has a web page dedicated to COVID-19 updates.

Let's hope by the time utility users read this, the pandemic has passed and life is returning to normal.

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Tornado awareness

While spring in Kansas brings blooming flowers and growing grass it also brings the threat of severe weather.

While severe weather can happen anytime, the peak months for tornadoes are March through June.

The average tornado lasts less than 10 minutes and travels about 3.5 miles.

Residents are encouraged to have a severe weather/tornado plan that includes knowing what to do in the event of a tornado and where to seek shelter.

LOUISBURG SHELTER

A public shelter is available in Louisburg at the Fire Station, 205 S. Metcalf Road. The shelter is open in the event of a tornado warning. The shelter, located in the basement of the station, has a lift for those persons unable to navigate the stairs. Dogs and cats are welcome but must be contained in a kennel the entire time.

Parking is located behind the station and residents will enter

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Mayor

Marty Southard

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City Hall

Nathan Law,

City Administrator

215 S. Broadway

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-5371

www.louisburgkansas.gov

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 Gerald Rittinghouse

205 S. Metcalf Rd.

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-4700

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.

Tornado

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through the door on the southeast side of the building.

It's a good idea for persons that might need to use the shelter to have a shelter bag filled with a few days supply of any necessary medication, bottles of water and energy snacks such as protein or fruit bars, dry cereal or granola, dried fruit, peanut butter and if you have a infant or toddler have food and supplies for their needs. If you are brining a pet, bring food for pet. A blanket and pillow may be a good idea too, along with your phone charger, Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse said. The fire department will not be able to provide water and food for persons using the shelter. Rittinghouse said it's best to plan to be in the shelter for a few days in the event a tornado does strike the city.

The National Weather Service encourages everyone to have a plan in the event they are caught in threatening weather. The NWS suggests:

• **Stay Weather-Ready:** Listen to local news, NOAA Weather Radio or use an emergency alert system to stay updated about

tornado watches and warnings.

• **At Your House:** If a tornado warning is issued, go to your basement, safe room, or an interior room away from windows.

• **At Your Workplace or School:** Follow your tornado drill and proceed to your tornado shelter location quickly and calmly. Stay away from windows and do not go to large open rooms such as cafeterias, gymnasiums or auditoriums.

• **Outside:** Seek shelter inside a sturdy building if a tornado is approaching. Sheds and storage facilities are not safe. Neither is a mobile home or tent. If you have time, get to a safe building.

• **In a vehicle:** If in a vehicle it is best to drive to the closest shelter. If there is not time, either get down in your car and cover your head, or abandon your car and seek shelter in a low lying area such as a ditch or ravine.

Rittinghouse encourages parents to make sure their children know what to do in case they are by themselves either at home or outside. He said it's always a good idea to practice your plan.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Class of 2020 is resilient bunch

When we look back on this time of global pandemic and try to explain it to future generations, what will we say? How do you describe it?

Over the past few of weeks, I have had email discussions with several class of 2020 students. Initially, a few of them wanted to focus on the loss of their senior year and how some of the typical rites of passage, such as graduation, prom and senioritis are gone. Most of them understand that extraordinary steps had to be taken by our governor and school district in order to try and control the spread of this virus. I was impressed they understood they are getting ready to embark on a new chapter in their lives that will be bigger than the rites of passages that they may miss. This just shows how resilient members from the class of 2020 are at

this point. This quote from Elizabeth Edwards seems to fit the situation well.

"Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good."

It will be exciting to see some of the great things accomplished by the graduates. The possibilities are endless. I am positive they will continue to dream and strive toward their goals since they have already proven they can deal with setbacks and adversity. Congratulations class of 2020, when you become famous do not forget your hometown mayor.



MARTY SOUTHARD



Coronavirus pandemic willing, the Louisburg Aquatic Center will open for the 22nd season at noon, Saturday, May 23 and run through Sunday, Aug. 16.

Pool season right around the corner

The sale of discounted pool passes has been extended from April 23 through May 15 due to the countywide stay-at-home order because of the pandemic.

Pool passes are discounted 10 percent during this time. A family pass for a Miami County family of four is \$90 and \$22.50 for each additional person added to the pass. An individual pass is \$54.

An out-of-county family pass for four is \$108 and \$27 for each additional person added to the pass. Individual passes are \$58.50.

Passes may be purchased at City Hall once the building reopens to the public. Passes may be purchased at the pool but persons are encouraged to pre-purchase.

Work at the pool this spring includes new guttering and slide painting and gel-coating.

Another change this year will be entry to the pool. Guests who are paying cash or wish to purchase a pool pass will enter the pool at the usual gate. Guests with pool passes will now enter through the gate on the other side of the front gate worker on the south side of the main entryway. There will be a self scanner that allows guests to scan their own pass card.

Swim lesson sign-ups are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2 at City Hall. Mail-in registration is available on the Louisburg Barracuda website, the group who conducts swim lessons.

This & that

Census

The census is still on although delayed a bit because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Residents are encouraged to complete their census as soon as they get the invitation in the mail.

Louisburg residents with a P.O. Box will not receive a mailer but will get information at the door by a census worker once the health threat has passed. These residents may still complete the census before receiving the invitation.

The census may be completed at my2020census.gov or calling 844-330-2020. Information is also available in other languages.

Cemetery clean-up

All grave sites at the Louisburg Cemetery should have all items removed by May 1 in time for mowing season. This includes all flowers, decorations, or anything not attached to the monument or in a monument vase.

Any items not picked up will be disposed of by cleaning crews after that date.

Pet licenses

Residents are reminded that all dogs living inside the city limits are required to have a dog tag per city code.

Dogs are to be registered annually with the owner's name, address and name, sex and the pet's description.

Tags are \$3 for a spayed or neutered pet and \$5 for a non-spayed or non-neutered pet. A copy of the dog's rabies vaccine is also required. Tags may be purchased at City Hall.

Dogs of pit bull or pit bull mix breed are prohibited inside the city limits. This includes the bull terrier; American pit bull terrier; American Staffordshire terrier or any dog which has the appearance or characteristics of one of these above-mentioned breeds.

Coronavirus pandemic

The Coronavirus pandemic that caused a Miami County stay-at-home order to be issued March 25 and expire April 23 has caused lots of uncertainty in the area. The best way to stay informed about City closures, openings and other information is to follow the City's Facebook page or watch the City's website for up-to-date information. The information in this newsletter was current when it went to the printer in late March.

New playground equipment was installed last month at the Louisburg Aquatic Center thanks to a grant by the manufacturer.

In late 2019 the City Council approved the Move With Us matching grant that deducted \$25,000 from the price of the equipment.

The structure is ADA accessible and includes four slides and various climbers that challenges strength, agility, balance and problem-solving skills. With

two 6-ft. slides and two 8-ft. spiral slides, the structure provides three different sliding experiences — a fast straight slide, a wavy slide and two spiral slides. The climbing pod steps, dynamic discs, takitiks bow climber and the taktiks trail tower are mostly rope-based climbing structures that move and twist slightly as children climb. The climbing components all connect and create one continuous pathway of play.



A new playground was installed at the Louisburg Aquatic Center in March.

The ground cover will be ADA accessible engineered wood fiber. Two handicap parking spots will be located in the pool parking lot near the structure with a sidewalk running from the parking area to the playground.

The site was chosen as it was flat and there was paved parking nearby for easy access. Locations closer to the pool have water drainage issues and could be problematic if the pool is expanded in the future.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Louisburg Planning Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, April 29
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Swim Lesson Sign-ups
8:30 am-12:30 pm Saturday, May 2
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, May 4,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board
6:30 pm Monday, May 11,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, May 18,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission
6 pm Tuesday, May 19,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, May 27,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, June 1,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board
6:30 pm Monday, June 8,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm, Monday, June 15,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission
6 pm, Tuesday, June 16,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, June 24,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Last day to purchase pool pass for 10% discount - EXTENDED
Friday, May 15

POOL OPENS!
Noon, Saturday, May 23

City Hall Closed for Memorial Day observance
6:30 pm Monday, June 8,
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.louisburgkansas.gov under the Agenda & Minutes icon.