

# Louisburg Speaks <sup>KS</sup>

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June-July 2023



*Louisburg's Independence Day celebration is a quintessential small-town celebration with fun for everyone.*

## Freedom Fest celebration on tap July 4

Plan to celebrate Independence Day at Lewis-Young Park on July 4 for the annual Freedom Fest.

The celebration begins at 6 p.m. July 4 at Lewis-Young Park when the gates open for an evening of music, food, fun, games, prizes and, of course, a fireworks show brought to you by the Louisburg Fire Department.

The Middle Creek Opry Band will provide the musical entertainment for the event, singing a variety of toe-tapping music.

Three food trucks will provide tasty eats: Papa Scott's Street Eats, KC Deyas and The Funnel Cake Truck.

Area bakers will want to pull out their

special recipes for the All-American Bakeoff sponsored by the Louisburg Recreation Commission. Watch the LRC's website and Facebook for more information.

In addition, area businesses, organizations and churches will have booths with giveaways and/or activities for the kids.

Kids will enjoy free rides on the American Legion's kiddie train. They also will want to save their dimes and pennies and buy a ticket, or better yet an all-you-can-ride wristband, to have fun on the inflatables. Tickets are \$1 each, seven for \$5 or the all-you-can-ride wristband for \$10.

Adults will want to stop by the registration table and sign up for door prizes donated by area businesses and organizations, which will be given away throughout the evening.

The Boy Scouts troop #101 color guard will present the nation's colors just before 7 p.m. with the singing of the national anthem.

The Boy Scouts will also be collecting free-will donations at the entrance to the park. This offering, along with financial donations from area businesses, help offset the cost of fireworks.

Those attending the celebration are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.



**Mayor**

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**Ward 1**

Scott Margrave  
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**Ward 2**

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**Ward 4**

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**At-Large**

Steve Town  
stown@louisburgkansas.gov

**City Hall**

Nathan Law  
City Administrator  
215 S. Broadway  
Louisburg, KS 66053  
913-837-5371  
www.louisburgkansas.gov  
Hours: 7 am - 4:30 pm  
Monday-Friday

**Police Department**

Chief Josh Weber  
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](mailto: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.

# MAYOR'S MINUTE

## Louisburg is a busy place

The month of May has provided a wonderful start to summer and I hope this finds you enjoying all that summer offers.

### SUMMERTIME ACTIVITIES

The Louisburg Aquatic Center is open for daily swim and available for party rentals. Local businesses are offering summer programming and outdoor events, and people are traveling through on their way to summer destinations. I hope everyone has a summer of safe and memorable fun!

Travelers have already noticed road construction at the intersection of K-68 and U.S. 69 highways.

### SIGNS & COMMUNICATION

The Planning Commission is busy coordinating with KDOT to provide for improved signage to help guide drivers through the area. Improved lighting coming into town is also an ongoing conversation, as we want passersby to feel drawn into our little town to enjoy all we have to offer.

A main topic brought to my attention as the Mayor is of improved communication with the public. As you know, Louisburg doesn't have a newspaper devoted to just our town, however the City does try to keep the Miami County Republic abreast of important notices from Louisburg, and works to keep the official Facebook page updated with helpful information about meetings, emergencies, construction notices, etc. This publication of the Louisburg Speaks is sent to residents 6 times a year and contains more information, as well as contact information for the City.

The Council has recently approved a digital sign to replace the antiquated City Sign at the edge of the Cemetery on Amity. This will prove to be a good way to communicate more efficiently with the public.

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

As I write this, I am excited about

new business prospects in the works currently! I am hopeful that these business plans come to fruition very soon, and we can begin announcing those plans and help draw business into town. Our City is both supportive of local businesses and grateful for the treasured businesses who serve the needs of our town. If the City staff or City government can be of any help to you as a business owner, please reach out to City Hall with your questions and feedback.



**DONNA COOK**

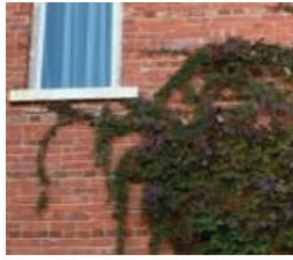
### THANK YOU

I would like to personally extend my gratitude for local businesses, patrons, and supportive community members who pull together to make our town a great place to live, work, and visit. I am aware that not everything will always go as planned from time to time. I am committed to making sure that Louisburg is a welcoming place for all, and that as a Mayor I am responsible for the behavior of City staff. I am proud of the efforts we have made to ensure that living in Louisburg is a happy choice, and that visitors to our town feel safe and welcome. Thank you all for your part in that as well!

### BACK IN THE SADDLE

You may have noticed that I have been MIA for a few meetings recently. I have been focusing on some health issues that arose last Fall, and am currently well on my way to a full recovery! I am glad to be back in the saddle, working for the people of this great town. We are barely a month away from celebrating the Independence of this great nation and I look forward to seeing each of you at Freedom Fest on July 4th at Lewis-Young Park!

*Donna*



*From the number of entries it looks like area residents had fun with the first ever History Hunt scavenger hunt in May in downtown.*

## Historic Preservation plans Citizen Academy; names winners, answers of History Hunt

History lovers will want to participate in a unique way to learn more about Louisburg's history at a Citizens Academy event later this summer.

This event, sponsored by the Louisburg Historical Preservation Commission, will be from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Aug. 12 at City Hall.

Volunteers will learn how to assess Louisburg's downtown buildings and search for architectural items of historical significance. Those attending will be split into teams and take a walk through downtown with each team assigned a building to review and evaluate for historical clues. At the end of the walking survey, academy members will meet again

at City Hall to discuss their finds and to learn how to log them into the state's historical inventory database.

Space is limited. Sign-ups to attend the academy will be available on the City's website mid-July. Watch the City's website or Facebook page for more information.

### HISTORY HUNT WINNERS, ANSWERS

Congratulations to the winners of May's History Hunt, also sponsored by the HPC.

Joey, Phoenix and David were all winners and have been contacted about their prizes.

The answers to the scavenger hunt can be found on the City's website in the Newsflash section.

## New picnic tables in city parks

New picnic tables popped up at area Louisburg parks in early June.

The eight tables, made from recycled tires and plastics, were made possible with a grant through the Waste Tire Grant program, a part of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The City applied for the 50 percent matching grant to add tables to

City Park, the Aquatic Center park and the new pavilion at Lewis-Young 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 company representative.

One table is located at the pool playground, three at City Park and four at the new Lewis-Young Park pavilion.



*This picnic table, made of recycled products, is wheelchair accessible and is located at the playground at the Aquatic Center.*

## Early trash pick-up

The trash contractor moved to its summer work schedule in mid-June. City of Louisburg residents should have their trash to the curb by 6 a.m. Trash employees are trying to beat the heat with the early start.

## Budget work

City Council and staff are working on the 2024 City budget. Budget workshops are being planned and information on those can be found on the calendar at the bottom of the homepage on the website. The calendar is searchable by activity so be sure to select "government meetings" in the search parameters. The public hearing on the budget will likely be in August with the Council approving the budget soon after that.

## Hometown Hero banners

At least 20 additional Hometown Hero banner spaces will be available, with the local American Legion, Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion organizations committing to purchasing additional banner brackets to hang on streetlights on the recently reconstructed S. Metcalf Road in town.

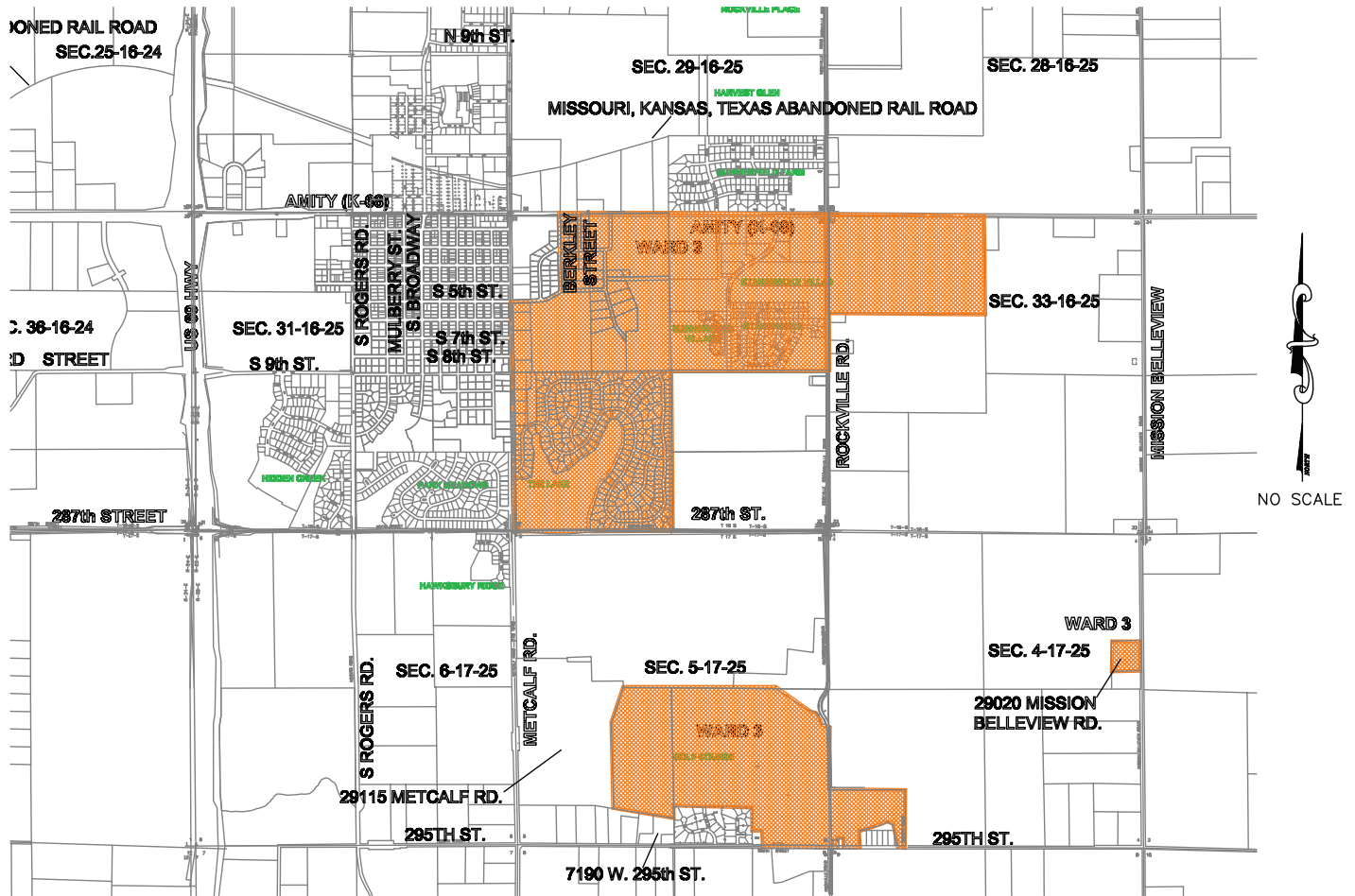
Even more spaces may be available after current banner holders have the option to renew their banners.

Banners hang for 2023 and 2024 Veteran Day holidays and 2024 and 2025 Memorial Day holidays. After that, banners are returned to their families as the harsh Kansas winds are hard on the banners.

Applications for the new banner honorees will be accepted starting Friday, June 23. Application forms can be found on the City's website or at City Hall. Banners are \$75. Additional instructions for photos, honoree bios and payment can be found on the application.

If there are more applications than available banner spaces, a drawing will be held to select those who will be added to the Hometown Hero banner program. That drawing will be conducted at City Hall in mid-July.

More information on the banner program is available on the City's website in the Newsflash section.



## Ward 3 map

In response to a request by a resident, ward maps will be published in the next few issues of Louisburg Speaks. This image shows the boundaries of Ward 3. All ward maps may be found

on the City's website under the Government tab and Ward Maps page. Located on the Ward Maps page is a written description that provides boundaries of each ward.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**City Hall closed in observance of Independence Day**  
Tuesday, July 4

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, July 5  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Park & Tree Board**  
6:30 pm Monday, July 10  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, July 17  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Recreation Commission**  
6 pm Tuesday, July 18  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Planning Commission**  
6:30 pm Wednesday, July 26  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Fox Hall/Cemetery Board**  
5 pm Monday, July 31  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 7  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Citizen Academy**  
10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Aug. 12  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Aquatic Center closes for the season**  
5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12

**Louisburg Park & Tree Board**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 14  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

**Louisburg Recreation Commission**  
6 pm Tuesday, Aug. 15  
LRC Board office, 105 S. Fifth St. East

**Louisburg City Council**  
6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 21  
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

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

**City Hall closed in observance of Labor Day**  
Monday, Sept. 4