

Louisburg Speaks ^{KS}

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February-March 2024

Water leaks interrupt service



Here's a look into the pit that was dug to make repairs to the 24-inch water distribution line near the water treatment plant.

A water leak at the Marias Des Cygnes Public Utility Authority in early February forced water conservation efforts for the City of Louisburg. The Authority is the jointly operated water treatment plant owned by the cities of Louisburg and Paola and is located on the Marias Des Cygnes river.

The leak occurred in a 24-inch line that feeds water towers in both communities. Water treatment employees, City of Louisburg public works employees and a contractor worked all day Thursday, Feb. 1 and Friday, Feb. 2 to make repairs. Special equipment, provided by the contractor, was needed because the line was so large. Repairs were finished Friday evening and regular service resumed.

Water treatment plant officials said Louisburg residents and businesses did an outstanding job of conserving water to prevent the City's towers from running dry.

City officials appreciate everyone's cooperation in these conservation efforts.

This leak followed on the heels of a leak at Amity and Aquatic Drive that also involved a multi-day fix.

Both leaks were attributed to dry conditions and the very recent extremely cold weather and then warmer temperatures that causes the ground to shift and creates the breaks.





Mayor

Donna Cook
dcook@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 1

Scott Margrave
smargrave@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 2

Tiffany Ellison
t Ellison@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 3

Clint Ernst
cernst@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 4

Kalee Stone
kstone@louisburgkansas.gov

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

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

Hometown Hero banners spaces still available

There are still spaces available to honor local military heroes through the Hometown Hero flag program in Louisburg.

The banners honor those Miami County residents who have served in the country's military.

The banners hang during Memorial Day and Veterans Day in downtown and along South Metcalf.

The banners are \$75. The current banners will hang through May 2025.

More information on ordering the banners can be found on the City's website.

The banners are sponsored by the Louisburg American Legion and City of Louisburg.

This Hometown Heroes banner honors John P. Hand, the first Louisburg area resident killed during World War I and for whom the local American Legion chapter is named.



JOHN P. HAND

Army

**1917-1918 - killed in action
WWII**

Pool season starts soon

It's time to dig out the flip flops and sunscreen as pool season is three short months away. The pool opens for its 26th season at noon, Saturday, May 25. The pool closes for the season at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10.

POOL PASSES

Pool passes are \$30 per person and can be purchased online through the LAC Marketplace starting March 1. Look for a link on the City's homepage. Children 2 and under and patrons over 65 get in free but seniors must have a pass to gain admittance. Seniors can pick up their free passes at City Hall beginning May 6. New this year will be an ePass option in which an ePass is emailed to the recipient and stored in the Apple or Android wallet app.

POOL PARTIES

The pool party agreement form is available on the City's website under the Aquatic Center department page. Pool parties should be reserved through City Hall at least two weeks prior to the party date. Reservations for pool parties will begin April 12. Party cost is based on the number of guests. Additional guests over the party package will be billed at \$5 per additional person. Pool parties range in price from \$250 for 10-50 persons to \$400 for 150 or more guests.

The pool may be reserved for parties from 8:30-10:30 p.m. on Fridays and from 8-10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Parties are not considered scheduled until payment is received. Pool parties can be scheduled from June 8 through July 28. Last year, the aquatic center experienced staffing shortages for pool parties. This year renters will be notified within a minimum of one week and up to two weeks of their party date if a staffing shortage puts their party in jeopardy. If a party has to be canceled, the rental fees will be returned by check to the address on the rental form.

More information on the Aquatic Center will be available in the next newsletter.

Citywide clean-up days coming

PARK SPRUCE-UP

The annual city parks spruce-up day is planned for Saturday, April 13. Anyone that would like to volunteer for this event is asked to meet at City Park, S. Fifth & Vine at 8:45 a.m. The crew will work from 9 a.m. to noon.

This work is organized by the Louisburg Ministerial Alliance and includes spreading mulch in planting beds and under playground equipment, raking leaves and picking up sticks, trimming bushes, power washing picnic tables and other chores.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring shovels or pitchforks, rakes, pruners and leaf blowers. Volunteers will be divided into groups to complete the work in various city parks.

HOME BUDDIES

Also on April 13, volunteers will do clean-up work in the yards of senior

citizens as part of the Home Buddy program. This program matches senior citizens with volunteers to help with outdoor work like cleaning out flower beds, raking leaves, picking up sticks and similar chores.

Senior citizens who want to take advantage of this opportunity, should contact City Hall at 837-2324 to be placed on a first-come, first-served list. Youth organizations from the high school assist with this program. This allows them to earn community service hours.

CITYWIDE CLEAN-UP

The citywide clean-up day in which residents can put any unwanted items to the curb for trash pick-up will be able to do that on Saturday, April 27.

This event is for city residents only. Items should be at the curb by 6:30

a.m. Small items should be contained in bags or boxes. Refrigerators or freezers must be emptied, with doors removed and locked or steel banded and turned face down. Doors or lids of other large appliances should be secured to prevent children from playing in them.

Items that will not be picked up include brush and limbs, regular household trash and hazardous waste like paint, thinners, varnishes, pesticides, oil, gasoline motors, tires, batteries and demolition or construction material.

The Miami County Landfill will offer free dump days in 2024. Check the County's website for details.

This service is for city residents only. Commercial and business accounts are not eligible and this includes Rockville Ridge and Wea Creek apartment locations.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

I'm hoping winter is on the downhill slide. The bitter cold/snow/ice has had people acting grumpy except for the kids/adults out playing in the snow.

GROWING LOUISBURG

It is the beginning of the year and it seems like I have the same thought as the year before — Which direction does the City want to grow? It is not "Do we want to grow?" because Overland Park is on our door step, and I would like for our City to be ahead of the game.

I made a visit to Humbolt, KS, which is smaller than Louisburg, to talk to them on how they turned their city around. *The New York Times* listed Humbolt as one of 10 must-see spots in the United States. When I first heard that, I thought why? My thought is if Humbolt can do that so can Louisburg. It does take time and effort and we have lots of committed people in this community, we need to all be on the same page and not lots of committees trying to accomplish the same thing.

DOWNTOWN ART

What does everyone think about murals on buildings? We have a couple, along with a few painted doors. I would love to see more painted walls/doors and use them for a drawing card to get people to come to Louisburg but I'm an artsy person. The new Convention and Tourism Board is working on ideas to get our community flourishing. It takes more than a board of people to get a town revitalized. This is a team effort with not only citizens of Louisburg but the community as well.

STORMWATER

I know we have stormwater issues; they cost a lot of money. My goal is to work on them a step at a time. Maybe we can't do a million dollar project all at once; however, we should look at breaking it down into smaller projects then eventually it is all finished.

SIDEWALKS/TRAILS

There are several grants that have been identified that help with this.

The Governing body will be discussing how to apply for them if it is feasible for us. I don't want to commit to a grant if there are strings attached.

WELCOME TO THE NEW

One good plus for the community is our new electronic city sign at the cemetery. It allows us to post more events than previously and we can do it from city hall and not standing on the back of a pickup truck.

The new True Value is a big plus for our community. Hopefully by the next newsletter, I can report on more businesses opening.

Everyone have a great beginning to spring.



**DONNA
COOK**

Donna

Fourth graders learn about local history

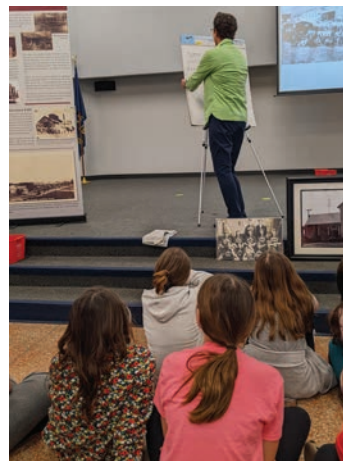
Fourth graders at Broadmoor Elementary School spent Kansas' birthday, Jan. 29, learning about the history of the state and the community.

City communications coordinator Jean Carder had the privilege of sharing some of the early history of Louisburg with the students.

The students learned about the name change of Louisburg from Little or New St. Louis to Louisburg. The town's name was changed because the railroad thought the town's name was too easily confused with St. Louis.

Students also made parfleches, a Native American suitcase or backpack, that contained beef jerky, sunflower seeds and dried fruit; items that would have been common when Native Americans moved into the area in the early to mid 1800s.

K-State Research and Extension agent Franny Eastwood talked to the students about the importance of wheat in Kansas. The children completed a hands-on activity of making — and of course — sampling the wheat bread with butter and honey.



Broadmoor Elementary fourth-graders participate in a discussion during a presentation of the history of Louisburg as part of the a Kansas Day celebration at the school on Jan. 29. Photographs of early Louisburg were shared with the students.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Fox Hall/Cemetery Board

6:30 pm Monday, Feb. 26
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, Feb. 28
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, March 4
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board

6:30 pm Monday, March 11
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Convention & Tourism Committee

6:30 pm Wednesday, March 13
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, March 18
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission

6 pm Tuesday, March 19
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, March 27
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, April 1
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board

6:30 pm Monday, April 8
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Convention & Tourism Committee

6:30 pm Wednesday, April 10
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, April 15
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission

6 pm Tuesday, April 16
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Fox Hall/Cemetery Board

6:30 pm Monday, April 22
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission

6:30 pm April 24
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Citywide Clean-up Day

6-11 a.m. Saturday, April 27