

Louisburg

Speaks ^{KS}

inside this issue:

- Fire hydrant painting, headstone cleaning
- Bits & Pieces
- Citizen survey
- Mayor's Minute
- Calender

June-July 2024



Fireworks lit up the sky at Lewis-Young Park during last year's Freedom Fest celebration in Louisburg.

Grab the kids, your lawn chairs and blankets and head on out to Lewis-Young Park for the annual Freedom Fest celebration July 4.

The fun starts at 6 p.m. with great food, fun activities for the kids and musical entertainment before fireworks light up the sky around 9:30 p.m.

Taking the stage this year and performing good ol' toe-tapping classic country music will be Jim Winters and

the Back Road Aristocrats with special guests Three Trails West.

Several area organizations will have or will sponsor booths with games for the kiddos, face painting and give-aways including water, snow cones, popcorn, cotton candy, homemade cookies and more.

The local American Legion will be giving rides to the little ones on their Legion train.

The event is free with a free-will dona-

tion taken at the gate to help offset the cost of the fireworks. Area businesses generously support the fireworks fund. It will cost about \$9,000 to produce the fireworks show this year.

There are a few items at the celebration that will require money to include the food trucks: KC Deyas, Whildin's Weiners and The Funnel Cake Truck and the inflatables. Inflatables tickets are \$1 each, seven for \$5 or the all-you-can-ride wristband for \$10.



Community service projects will paint fire hydrants, clean headstones

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
stownd@louisburgkansas.gov

In late July, members of the Louisburg High School football team will take on two community service projects — painting fire hydrants in need of a fresh paint job and cleaning headstones in the old section of the Louisburg Cemetery.

If you have a hydrant in your yard that you think should be placed on the list, please email Jean Carder at jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov. Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse will be working with the players to show them the proper way to paint the hydrants. He noted that residents who might have hydrants in their yards are asked to keep flowers, ornaments and other decorations at least three feet from the hydrant and hydrants should be visible up to 500 ft. away.

The community service projects are part of the team's week-long camp activities. The players will be divided into two groups with one group painting targeted hydrants and the other group working on cleaning headstones. A local monument installer will be on hand to train the players in the proper way to clean the headstones.

The players will paint as many hydrants and clean as many headstones as possible and as long as supplies last.



This headstone in the old cemetery was cleaned during a restoration project last year.

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.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

As the Mayor of Louisburg, I would like to thank everyone for the great camaraderie that we show our residents in time of need. Louisburg is a great community and we seem to always pull through in times of need for our citizens.

I know I keep asking for ideas for the city, where should we be spending your hard earned tax dollars? Please let us know either by emailing your council person: Scott Margrave — Ward 1, Tiffany Ellison — Ward 2, Clint Ernst — Ward 3, Kalee Stone — Ward 4, Steve Town — At-Large or myself. (Email addresses can be found in the first column of page 2 of this newsletter or on the City's website under the Government tab and the Mayor & Council page.) Your governing body represents all citizens. So reach out to whomever you choose. Also, a survey is going out for your suggestions for the Farmers Market block? (S. First and Mulberry)

Some events that are coming up are: Fishing Derby at the City Lake on June 15, Freedom Fest on July 4th with live music plus vendors, and the American Legion along with the American

Legion Auxiliary are already starting to work on Labor Day festivities.

By now I think everyone knows we have a new Mexican restaurant, El Potro on the east side of town on Amity, but for those that don't, venture out or get on Facebook; you should go check it out. The person that owns the corner of 1 S. Broadway where the used car lot used to be has mentioned he is working hard on getting a restaurant started with site plans, etc. It will be casual dining with pizza and burgers with new menu items introduced on a monthly basis. By this fall they want to have renovations started.

Everyone have a great 4th of July and attend the Freedom Fest at Lewis-Young Park. I'm afraid the hot weather is going to return. Stay cool.



DONNA COOK

Donna

BITS 'N PIECES

Copper/Lead Survey

Did you miss filling out your lead & copper survey? There's still time to get it turned in although you have missed out on the chance of a utility bill credit for your participation.

The City is collecting this information to comply with regulations from the KDHE and EPA.

The winners of the \$50 utility bill credit from the completed surveys were Randall H., Andrew H., and Karen M. Congratulations!

Check the City's website for the survey if you have not completed it yet.

Citizens Academy

If you have a love for history and you've always fancied being a sleuth, you can combine the two during Louisburg's Historic Preservation Commission's upcoming Citizens Academy.

The commission will host the third Citizen Academy on Saturday, June 29 at City Hall, 215 S. Broadway. During this event, volunteers will learn about historic preservation and how preservation efforts can help the City.

For this year's Academy, there will be two sessions with Session 1 at 10 a.m.-noon and is designed for those who are brand new to historic preservation. Session 2 will take place from 1-3 p.m. and is designed for those who have attended previous sessions, providing more in-depth information and opportunities for analysis.

Space is limited. Check the City's website and Facebook page for more details to sign up.

Paws at the Pool

Hey, doggies! It's your turn for a swim party at the LAC.

Paws at the Pool is planned for Tuesday, Aug. 15. To participate, dogs must have a city dog tag. Tags can be purchased at City Hall during regular hours 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. A copy of the pet's current rabies certificate is required to purchase the tag. Tags are \$3 for a spayed or neutered pet. Non-spayed or neutered dogs are not allowed to participate in the dog swim.

Pet owners must provide a signed Paws at the Pool waiver and provide a rabies certificate to gain admittance to the dog swim. Times for the event are 5:30-6 p.m. for small dogs 15" under 25 pounds and from 6:15-7:15 for dogs over 25 pounds. Pet siblings should swim during the large dog time. Each dog must have an adult handler. Pet owners will not be allowed to swim or wade in the pool. Pool toys for the dogs will be provided.

Complete rules and the waiver are available on the City's website.

Free smoke detector program

The Louisburg Fire Department is reinstating a program to install smoke detectors in homes that might not have a

working smoke detector.

The smoke detectors will be installed by the volunteer members of the Fire Department. The program will target senior citizens and persons whose children might qualify for free or reduced lunches at school, although no income statements will be required. This is a continuation of a grant program from 2019 that saw the fire department install about 30 to 40 smoke detectors.

"We really want to focus on getting working smoke detectors in the homes of folks that can't otherwise afford them or might have difficulty in installation," Chief Gerald Rittinghouse said.

Like the previous program, detectors will be installed on a first-come, first-served basis until funding runs out. The program is open to residents of the City of Louisburg.

If you would like to be considered for a smoke detector, please contact City Hall at 837-2324 or email Jean Carder at jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov.

Aquatic Center holiday closing

The Louisburg Aquatic Center will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 4 for the Independence holiday.

Fireworks illegal inside City limits

Residents are reminded that fireworks are illegal inside the city limits by City Code. This includes firecrackers, sparklers, Roman candles and any other similar type of combustible or explosive device. Louisburg police have the discretion of ticketing any offender. Be safe this year and enjoy the fireworks show at Lewis-Young Park July 4.

Introducing...

A new face can be seen at City Hall. Peter Yazbec joined the staff as the new Public Works Director.

In his new role with the City, Yazbec's main responsibility will be to plan, direct, manage and oversee activities, projects and operations of the Public Works Department including street maintenance and construction, building maintenance, utility services and systems, and coordinate assigned activities with other city departments and outside agencies.

He comes to Louisburg from Edwardsville where he served in roles at Public Works/Parks Director and Police.



**PETER
YAZBEC**

Promotions

Several City employees have recently been promoted. Ben Miller has been promoted to Public Works Supervisor and Brian Joeckel has been promoted to Public Works Lead. And in the Police Department Lt. Dave Sander has been promoted to Captain. Congratulations!

City to survey residents on “Farmers Market block”

City of Louisburg officials are asking city and area residents to complete a survey on potential uses for the “Farmers Market block”, the city-owned square at S. First and Mulberry that once housed the town’s elementary school until 1977.

Included in this year’s budget is funding to construct a downtown pavilion. City officials have looked at the quarter block behind Fox Hall as one potential location. This pavilion could be available for a farmers market but would not be

limited to just that use.

Before making any further decisions on a pavilion, City Council asked to have area residents surveyed for their opinion.

Please complete the following survey and return it with your next utility bill or drop off at City Hall at any time. The survey may also be found on the City’s website.

Respondents are asked to only complete one survey per person.



1) Are you a customer of either Farmers Market?
 1-5 times per season 6-10 times per season almost every weekend I don't visit a Farmers Market

2) Infrastructure improves includes basic physical structures such as parking, sidewalks, lights, etc. What infrastucture improves could the City make to improve the Farmers Market block?

3) A park amenity can include items such as benches, play structures, picnic tables, shelters and trails. What other amenities could be added to the rest of the space in that block that would invite people to the area?

4) Yes, I am intersted in improvements to that block.
 No, I am not interested in improvements to that block.
 I have no opinion.

Additional comments: _____

I am a resident of the City of Louisburg
 I live in USD 416
 I live elsewhere

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

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

Louisburg City Council
 6:30 pm Monday, Aug. 5
 City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Convention & Tourism Committee
 6:30 pm Wednesday, Aug. 14
 City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

City Hall closed in observance of Independence Day
 Thursday, July 4

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

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

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

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

Fox Hall/Cemetery Board
 6:30 pm Monday, July 22
 City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Aquatic Center Closes
 noon, Saturday, Aug. 10

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

Convention & Tourism Committee
 6:30 pm Wednesday, July 10
 City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission
 6:30 pm Wednesday, July 31
 City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

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

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

Paws at the Pool
 Tuesday, Aug. 13